

**JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMITTEE MINUTES  
December 3, 2007**

**ATTENDANCE:** Hon. Legislator Raymond Lockwood, Chair, Hon. Legislator Stephen Cuddeback, Hon. Legislator Michael Lepak, Hon. Legislator Francis Mitchell, Hon. Legislator Linda Murphy, Vice-Chair, Hon. Legislator Christopher Palermo, and the Hon. Legislator David Pappert (arrived at 6:00 p.m.)

**EXCUSED:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Wayne Allen, County Manager, Hon. Legislator George Fearon, Chairman, Hon. Legislator Peter Tortorici, Hon. Legislator-Elect Michael Chapman, Hon. Legislator-Elect Roger Mills, Hon. Legislator-Elect Daniel Sincebaugh, Sheriff David S. Gould, Captain Donald Swain, NYS State Police, Mary Rogalski, Cayuga Counseling, George Daniels, Probation Director II, Lloyd Hoskins, Indigent Defendant Director, Brian Dahl, Emergency Services Director, Michael Hammon, Auburn Fire Chief, Michael Pawlenko, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, Steve Johnson, Information Technology Coordinator and Lisa Sigona, Recording Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:** Hon. Legislator Raymond Lockwood, Chair, called the Judicial & Public Safety Committee meeting to order on Monday, December 3, 2007 at the Cayuga County Office Building, Caucus Room 1, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor at 5:45 p.m.

**MINUTES TO APPROVE:** Hon. Legislator Lockwood asked for a motion to approve the Judicial & Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2007. Motioned by Hon. Legislator Cuddeback, seconded by Hon. Legislator Mitchell. All members present voted in favor of the motion to approve the minutes as is.

**APPOINTMENTS AND RE-APPOINTMENTS:** None.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**INDIGENT PAROLEE:**

1. Appointing Administrator Indigent Defendants, Part Time, and Setting Salaries for Administrator Indigent Defendants, Part Time, and Deputy Administrator Indigent Defendants, Part Time. **Motioned by Mr. Cuddeback, seconded by Mr. Lepak. Discussion: Annual one (1) year appointment. Mr. Pappert asked if salaries are in the 2008 Budget. Mr. Hoskins clarified yes, they are and at the 2008 compensation salary figures. Unanimously all in favor, passed.**

**SHERIFF'S DEPT:**

2. Authorize the Sheriff to Backfill a Court Security Officer Position (Special Patrol Officers) in the New York State Unified Court System in Cayuga County. **Motioned by Mr. Pappert, seconded by Mr. Cuddeback. Unanimously all in favor, passed.**
3. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to Accept a Grant from the New York State Sheriffs' Association's Sheriffs' Cooperative Traffic Safety Initiative. **Motioned by Mr. Cuddeback, seconded by Ms. Murphy. Discussion: Mr. Pappert had a question as to what expense line the money would be spent out of. He requested of the Sheriff to amend the resolution to include the budget line item the money would be spent from by the time the resolution was brought to the Ways & Means Meeting. Motioned by Mr. Pappert with amendment, seconded by Mr. Cuddeback. Unanimously all in favor, passed.**
4. **(Added 11-27-07)** Authorizing the Cayuga County Treasurer to Amend the Sheriff's 2007 Budget Line 3110 by Increasing Revenue and an Appropriation Line in order to Accept the Funds from a New York

State Homeland Security LETPP Grant. **Motioned by Mr. Cuddeback, seconded by Ms. Murphy. Unanimously all in favor, passed.**

**E911:**

5. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to Allow the Transfer of Monies within the E-911 2007 Budget. **Motioned by Mr. Cuddeback, seconded by Mr. Pappert. Discussion: Total transfer of funds \$12,000 (year end transfer). Unanimously all in favor, passed.**

**CEMO:**

6. Authorizing the Cayuga County Treasurer to Transfer Funds within the Cayuga County emergency Management (Fire) Budget 3410 from the .4 Contractual Line .410 to the Equipment .2 Line 3410.200 for the Purchase of Radio Equipment and Authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to Purchase the Radio Equipment. **Motioned by Mr. Pappert, seconded by Mr. Cuddeback. Discussion: This will help the Auxiliary Police and the Highlander Rescue Unit. Unanimously all in favor, passed.**

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:**

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE – Sheriff David S. Gould & Captain Donald Swain**

Captain Swain, NY State Police, attended this evening's Judicial & Public Safety Committee Meeting to voice his concerns over the automatic vehicle locator (AVL), and the mobile data terminals (MDT) that are only in County Deputy Sheriff vehicles at this point in time. The State Police are asking the County to provide eight (8) AVL's and MDT's for the State Police for the public safety of Cayuga County residents and Deputy Sheriffs. This will assist the 911 Dispatchers with the 'nearest car concept' and it will provide safety for all involved. Sheriff Gould and Hon. Legislator Lockwood, Chair of Judicial & Public Safety, are totally in agreement with Captain Swain that this is a necessity and that it will help Cayuga County in safety issues for the public and the Uniformed Officers involved, the 911 Dispatchers, and being in compliance with the closest car concept.

The State Police already have laptops in their vehicles, so the County will only need to supply the AVL's and MDT's and software at approximately an estimated cost of \$45,000. Mr. Fearon noted to the Committee that the standards of what Cayuga County Sheriffs have in their vehicles are standards done by Cayuga County, not by the State Police. When we enhance/change our system, we must include the State Police in the enhancements, etc.

Cayuga County's narrow band frequency was discussed and how the same frequency cannot work leading to having bleed-over's which makes it difficult for Wayne County. In 2013, everyone will have to go to the narrow band frequency. There was a question if 911 could check to see if another County was closer with a car, could they crossover into our County to help. New York State Troopers can cross county lines. Deputy Sheriffs cannot cross county lines.

**Motioned made by Mr. Palermo, seconded by Mr. Cuddeback to include the State Police and proceed forward to put AVL's & MDT's in for the State Police. The motion specifies it is for eight (8) cars. Discussion: The Committee would like Mr. Westphal to check into the liability for EMS, etc. on the AVL's and MDT's also.**

**Sheriff Gould was asked to investigate the cost of the equipment. The County shall be equipped 1<sup>st</sup> then the State Police, and finally smaller Police Departments. The City is not a big liability as the City Police are only approximately five (5) minutes away for backup.**

**Mr. Lepak had concerns that the State was asking the County to come up with more money and the County has even put on more Deputies but when the County has asked for more State Police in our area, we never seem to get any more State Police Officers to help out. Captain Swain told the Committee his area is short Officers in every station he has. The Committee discussed this and felt maybe the Committee needed to do a resolution asking for more State Police in the Cayuga County area, especially since the County is over 70 miles long. Captain Swan was asked to arrange a meeting with the State Police Major and the Legislators for additional State Police Officers.**

**It was decided the motion mentioned above is necessary for public safety. Unanimously all in favor, carried.**

**CAYUGA COUNSELING ANNUAL UPDATE – Mary Rogalski**

Ms. Rogalski brought the Committee up-to-date on eleven (11) months statistics regarding the 2007 Cayuga County Alternatives to Incarceration and Pre-Trial Release Update Plan, along with the minutes from the Advisory Board Meetings. Mr. Allen has the originals. This is an annual contract renewal. **Motioned by Mr. Cuddeback, seconded by Mr. Pappert to renew the contract with Cayuga Counseling. Unanimously all in favor, passed.** Ms. Rogalski asked Committee if she needed to attend the Ways & Means Meeting of December 11, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., Mr. Lockwood stated that it would not be necessary to attend.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES – Brian Dahl & Auburn Fire Chief Michael Hammon**

Auburn Fire Chief Hammon presented to the Committee along with Mr. Dahl, the proposed contract *“City of Auburn Assistant to the County of Cayuga Regarding Fire Investigations Occurring In The County”*. The County Manager has been asked that the contract include an amendment for allocation of funds in the 2008 budget to get the job done.

The City is not yet ready to take anything over at this time and is willing to offer an Investigator as needed. Chief Hammon reminded everyone that his staff is looking at the fires only for cause and origin. After that it is turned over to Police Agencies for further investigation and arrests if fires are suspicious.

Some discussion regarding the contract and costs were as follows: the County needs to look at our resources; recommendation to pass the fire investigation costs onto property owners to help offset the costs; the cost of a vehicle to transport fire investigators and equipment is \$75,000 and needs to be kept 20 years – long range planning; there could be a stipend system for people doing the work; or a turn-key system, where rates are set and to budget that year after year. Other discussions were in regards to flat fixed prices for investigations and it would be the best way to go with budgeting something now and working out the details. The fire investigators would be contractors. It was decided the Fire Investigative Team would be under the County auspices and the County would have to cover insurance coverage costs. The Contract with the City of Auburn Fire Company would be the cleanliest and easiest to go through. They have a bigger organization than we do.

**Motion made by Mr. Pappert, seconded by Mr. Palermo to recommend \$35,000 be earmarked in the contingency fund for fire investigations. Discussion: Mr. Mitchell felt that was a high figure and would like to see it reduced by 1/3<sup>rd</sup> and get more concrete data. Motion made by Mr. Pappert, seconded by Mr. Palermo to amend above motion to \$30,000. Unanimously all in favor, carried.**

Mr. Dahl updated the Committee that his office has been quite busy and they are moving forward. His office is helping with regionalization, State Grant, not to take over the grant but to help out with it. He informed the Committee that Ms. Denise Stayton, E-911 Administrator, is in Binghamton at a meeting. Mr. Dahl also discussed the need for Capitol H Project monies between \$75,000 to \$150,000 for a new highlander angle truck.

**TRAVEL REQUESTS:**

Probation Department – 4 requests

Emergency Management Services Department – 1 request

All travel requests were signed by the Hon. Legislator Lockwood and given to Mr. Allen for approval and processing.

**Next Judicial & Public Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 5:45 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hon. Legislator Lepak motioned to adjourn the Judicial & Public Safety Committee Meeting at 6:45 p.m., seconded by Hon. Legislator Pappert. All in favor of motion to adjourn passed.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Sigona, Recording Secretary*

Minutes Approved: 1.8.08