



MINUTES
JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 5:30PM (VIRTUAL)
Live Stream Link: <https://youtu.be/z3JCPNCK1NQ>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Ben Vitale, Chair called the meeting to order 5:31

MEMBERS: Legislators Keith Batman, Elane Daly (Vice Chair), Michael Didio, Timothy Lattimore, Heidi Nightengale, and Hans Pecher

EXCUSED: Batman and Nightengale

OTHERS: Legislators Tricia Kerr, Mark Strong, Chief Assistant County Attorney Rich Graham, Sheriff Brian Schenck, 911 Administrator Denise Spingler, EMO Director Dale Currier, Youth Bureau Director Lloyd Hoskins, Probation Director Jay DeWispelaere, Computer Systems Technician Dan Lovell, and Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Amanda Morgan

MINUTES TO APPROVE: June 9, 2021, Motion by Pecher, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.

Motion by Pecher to approve appointments, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS:

PROC

Angelo Messina, 110 Eastwood Ave, Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/20 – 12/31/24 (reappt)
Patrick Burns, 10 Ketchell St., Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/21 – 12/31/24 (reappt.)

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Denise Spingler (911) –**
 - **Discovery**
 - Cases coming in as high priority (7-10/day)
 - Several applicants from Indeed
 - One qualified / certified by Civil Service Commission
 - **Telephone Upgrade**
 - Completed June 17th
 - Huge thanks to the IT team for their assistance with the project
 - **Quality Assurance**
 - 6 QA audits
 - 23 EMD reviews
 - *severely low numbers due to vacations / phone upgrade / discovery workload
 - **Grants**
 - PSAP 20 – 179,043 (personnel / operating costs)
 - SIEC 20 – awaiting award announcement
 - **Aging equipment**
 - Continuing to have issues with HVAC / UPS / generators / radio equipment
 - Reviewing expenses anticipated for 2022 budget

Motion by Pecher to bundle JP 1 & 2, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.

911:

7-21-JP-1 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Cayuga County 911 Administrator to accept a Public Safety Answering Point Grant awarded by the Office of Interoperable Communications (OIEC). The grant will be used to offset personnel expenses and operating costs associated with 911 Center.

7-21-JP-2 Authorizing the Chairperson of the Legislature to sign a one year contract with Eaton Corporation for the maintenance of the UPS at the E-911 backup center

- **Lloyd Hoskins (Assigned Counsel/Stop DWI) –**

The Assigned Counsel office is pleased to update the committee with the following items:

- There were **64** “in person” arraignments at the Centralized Arraignment Program for the month of June. The Assigned Counsel office calendared fifteen attorneys to cover the 7am and 7pm arraignments. The attorney cost associated with CAP for June was \$8,500.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.* Of the 64 arraignments, 25 (41%) were for town/village courts, 37 (58%) were for Auburn City Court and 1 (1%) was for County Court. 30 (47%) defendants were released (ROR) and 34 (53%) defendants were held on bail or held for other reasons.
- There were **55** Counsel at First Appearance for Auburn City Court and **9** Counsel at First Appearance in town/village courts. The Assigned Counsel office calendared fourteen attorneys to cover the “on-call” arraignments. The attorney cost associated with Counsel at First Appearance for June was \$6,750.00. *These expenses were paid from an ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grant.*
- The Assigned Counsel Program made attorney assignments to **54** defendants in Auburn City Court and **22** defendants in justice courts for June. A total of **32** assignments were made in Family Court.
- The June 2021 assigned counsel payments for legal and professional services was \$85,892.70. The assigned counsel payments for parole revocations and appeals was \$600.00.
- Cayuga County has been selected as one of fifteen counties for continued three year funding of our Counsel at First Appearance and Centralized Arraignment Programs. This funding has been authorized by the Office of State Comptroller, Indigent Legal Services, and the Division of Budget. This funding will total **\$651,516.30**.

• **Dr. Adam Duckett (Coroner) – No updates**

• **Jon Budelmann (District Attorney) – No updates**

• **Dale Currier (Fire/EMO) –**

HIGH PRIORITY

EMO STAFF – We are pleased to announce the arrival of Runty Ingerson as the new EMO Administrative Officer. He brings years of focused experience and education in business administration and emergency management. Please stop by and introduce yourself if you get a chance.

EMS TRAINING

- a. A NYS EMT Refresher class has just completed their training. The roughly 20 students are now completing their final written examinations which are now done online at a time and place of the students’ choosing. To date, about 80 percent of the students have taken the test and passed.
- b. An application for conducting an EMT refresher class is being filed with the NYS Department of Health. The projected dates for the class is late August, 2021 through to the third week of December. We anticipate a full class as we believe many EMTs are nearing the end of the certification extension they received due to COVID pandemic.

GRANTS

- a. SPECIAL EVENT PLANING – “INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS” and SYMPHONY – EMO has been working with NYS, County and local public safety agencies to gather information on availability to provide on-site support to host a somewhat delayed fireworks event on August 8, 2021. Each of these agencies is needed to confirm their availability and level of capability and capacity in order for the County to file the required permit documentation with the NYS Dept. of Health. Public safety staffing, particularly emergency medical services personnel [EMTs and Paramedics], is still a significant challenge for paid and volunteer agencies. The NYS Dept. of Health Part 18 Mass Gathering permit application was filed with NYS DOH on 7 July, 2021.
- b. GRANT COORDINATION and FOLLOW-UP
EMO staff is still working to get FEMA grants back on track so that we do not lose funding. One previous project, payment for a 2-day Swift Water Rescue Team Training Exercise, had to get cancelled at the last minute due to environmental conditions and timing to meet grant requirements. We made a last- minute request to DHSES to change our spending category. The request was granted and we used over \$31,000 to support technology upgrades in the Sheriff’s Department vehicles
- c. The updated FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan has passed the first review at the NYS DHSES. It is now with FEMA for review. We are seeking the County’s required share of the project through in-kind service contribution by the County and municipalities. This will allow us to collect about \$84,000.00 from the grant.

MEDIUM PRIORITY

1. EMO provided an Incident Command System Refresher training for Sheriff’s department supervisors. ICS training and use is a requirement to get FEMA and DHSES public safety grants.
2. FIRE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP UPDATE - The Fire Advisory Board membership has been updated.
3. COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING - EMO staff are no longer conducting asymptomatic testing. We do have materials staged at Cayuga Community College in case there is a timely need for a testing clinic – for the college’s staff and students and the public.

OTHER ACTIVITIES - Month of June, 2021:

Operations Report - Month of June 2021

- Coordinators: Dispatched 11 times to assist Incident Command on Emergency Scenes.
- Fire Investigations: Dispatched 2 times to assist in finding Cause and Origin of 1 structure fire and 1 vehicle fire.

- Special Operations/TECH Rescue: Dispatched 2 times to assist local Fire Departments with Patient removal from their residence.
 - CISM Team: 1 call - Put on stand-by for a tragic medical call within the County.
- **Jay DeWispelaere (Probation) – No updates**
 - **Brian Schenck (Sheriff) –**
 - Members of the Sheriff’s Office participated in the second annual Getting to Know You event in partnership with the Harriet Tubman Center for Justice and Peace in June. Representatives from our local social justice organizations, the Auburn Police Department, and community leaders joined us for conversation and lunch as we continue to build personal relationships.
 - We are currently struggling with recruiting for Registered Nurses in our Jail Medical Division due in part to a critical shortage of nurses. We are working on strategies to contract for the services to outside sources as we work to address this issue.
 - Educational services, CHAD drug and alcohol treatment, peer services, and limited programming remain available in the jail. We are working to establish a specific area in the jail for those working on addiction recovery to be housed together.
 - Four unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) were placed into service. The drones will be used for search and rescue operations as well as support from the air when needed.
 - Custody Officers Julie Hewitt and Thomas Dunham graduated from our inhouse 12-week Basic Custody Academy. They are currently working in the jail completing their field training program. Deputy Christopher Walser with the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office did attend our training class and graduated as well.
 - K-9 Pitt and Deputy Slobe graduated from a 9-week course to prepare them for patrol service provided by the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office. In a few weeks they will return for an additional 6-week certification training program in narcotics detection.
 - At the time of this report we are housing 157 total inmates in our jail. Of those inmates, 33 are Federal board-ins, 18 NY State Parole Violators that are facing new charges, and 10 Parolees that have been detained for violating their Parole.
 - We continue to partner with Nick’s Ride for Friends, the Cayuga County Drug Free Coalition, and the HEALing Communities Study to engage the public at local events to secure and dispose of dangerous unneeded prescription medication, provide drug prevention, treatment, and peer support information, and provide the opiate overdose reversal medication Naloxone. On July 24 we will be hosting an event in the Village of Union Springs from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Union Springs Fire House.

RESOLUTIONS:

SHERIFF:

- 7-21-JP-3 Authorizing the Sheriff to fill one vacancy Custody Officer Corporal Position in the Custody Division of the Cayuga County Sheriff’s Office and resulting backfill position. **Motion by Daly, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.**
- 7-21-JP-4 Authorizing changes to the 2021 Cayuga County Compensation Plan to reflect salary increases of certain non-bargaining positions in the Cayuga County Sheriff’s Office. **Motion by Pecher, 2nd by Didio, all in favor.**

Motion by Pecher to adjourn at 6:06PM, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.