

MINUTES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 1, 2021 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Eynor and Lasher, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake and Insurance Specialist Brian Sams, via ZOOM Supervisors Verkey, Bender, Jacobs, Groat and Miller, Emergency Management Director George Bastedo, Coroners Phil Pettine and Keith Benjamin, Probation Director Mark Ameele, Public Defender Andy Correia, Pre-Trial Services Director Martha Bailey and Sheriff Barry Virts.

Minutes from the January 4th meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Benjamin informed the Committee there were 10 autopsies requested in December. He noted recent news stories regarding the under reporting of COVID-19 deaths at nursing homes around the State. The Center for Disease Control developed the death certificate form. There is a specific line on the form that request the place of death. If an individual dies in a hospital that is the place of their death. There is also a place on the certificate to indicate if the individual transferred from another facility prior to being placed in the hospital. Deaths are not being counted twice.

Included with the agenda was the monthly Probation Department activities report. During January, there were 27 non-secure detention bed days served by two youth and one new Raise the Age case. There were 20 court ordered investigations and staff supervised 489 cases, not including 29 Electronic Home Monitoring and 207 Ignition Interlock cases. From December 25th – January 22nd there was \$8,923 collected in restitution, fines and fees by the Probation Department.

The Probation Office filled the new position of Clerk/Typist. The position was created after the positions of Account Clerk and Senior Account Clerk were eliminated. Mr. Ameele said he is working with the Information Technology Office to have the Probation Office go paperless.

The monthly report and annual report for the Public Defender's Office were included with the agenda. As of January 22nd the Department had 620 open cases and submitted five claims for reimbursement totaling over \$132,500. All positions in the Public Defender's Office are now filled. Mr. Correia reported the Governors austerity 2021-22 budget shows complete funding of Hurrell-Harring.

The Annual Report for the Public Defender's Office was received and filed. The Department operated on a budget of \$1.68 million with revenues of \$565,444, the majority through Indigent Legal Services. The Report detailed each employees work responsibilities along with programs operated through the Department. There were 30 parole revocations clients during 2020, 12 new appeal cases and 742 separate Centralized Arraignments held. The Department's

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Investigator worked on 148 cases in 2020 and the Sentence Mitigation Specialist on 56 attorney requests. The Office opened 1,650 cases, with 390 of these handled by privately retained lawyers or assigned out of the Office due to conflicts of interest.

Mr. Correia presented a transmittal requesting authorization to pay the annual Public Defense Case Management Maintenance and Support Agreement of \$5,000. Approved 5-0.

The Committee received and filed the Annual Report for Wayne Pre-Trial Services. The Agency interviewed 197 defendants with 194 released to the Pre-Trial Program. There were 19 defendants who participated in the Enhanced Pre-Trial Release Program, which coordinates alcohol/drug evaluations, mental health evaluations and treatment recommendations and implementations for participants. Electronic Monitoring was a new program for Pre-Trial in 2020 with 17 participants. It is estimated Pre-Trial saved incarceration costs to the County in excess of \$738,000 through their programs. There were 10 participants ages 16-21 in the Pre-Trial Diversion Program in 2020 and 10 in the Adult Diversion Program; these numbers were down due to the closure of courts during the year. Diversion Programs provide counseling to defendants to address issues they have in an effort to reintroduce them back into the community as good citizens. In 2020, the Pre-Trial Homeless Program had four participants ages 16-20.

Mr. Eygnor informed the group George Bastedo received recognition from the International Association of Emergency Managers by being among a group of professionals who have maintained their certified emergency manager's designation.

The agenda included the monthly Emergency Management Services activities report. The State evaluated Ginna drill is scheduled for July 27th and the FEMA evaluated exercise for August 24th. Exelon, owners of the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant, continue with cost cutting measures. They are reviewing the relocation of some of their operations now located in Macedon. Mr. Bastedo said he would review these concerns in more detail with Mr. House. Lake Ontario remains below flood stage as of this morning. Mr. Bastedo said if REDI projects continue along the lakefront, they will make the area fairly self-protected. The Hazard Mitigation Plan Project is running on a new schedule, with towns, villages and County Departments participating. Pictometry would like to enter into a six-year contract with the County to update aerial photos of the County. Mr. Bastedo stated local assessors utilize this system often. He is in the process of working with the Purchasing Officer and County Administration to have a spring flyover performed; funding is in his budget.

The Committee was informed a request to purchase 911 call processing software will be made at the next meeting. Mr. Bastedo said there is a cost savings to have a five-year contract. Funding for the project with a one-year maintenance agreement is within the 2021 budget. If the Board prefers the five-year contract, the difference would need to come from fund balance or contingency. He will provide members with additional information on this issue prior to the next meeting for their review.

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Regarding the Radio Project, some funding for the Ontario and Macedon projects will have to come from County fund balance or contingency, as County cost project funds were removed from H Fund project accounts and placed into the County's fund balance.

The Sheriff's monthly reports were distributed with the agenda.

- Corrections Division: During December there were 27 males and four females committed to the County Jail along with two boarded inmates, nine parole violators and one State Ready prisoner. There were four visits by private attorneys, 10 by Public Defenders and 16 by Pre-Trial Release. The Jail collected \$2,560 in inmate bail and \$130.67 in fines during December. Inmates performed a total of 1,348 hours of work during the month.
- Activities: There were 98 crash investigations during December, 18 animal complaints, 287 minor crime and three major crime investigations. Five DWI arrests occurred during the month along with 45 criminal and 26 vehicle and traffic arrests. There were 120 motor vehicle collisions during the month resulting in 10 injuries and one death. The Records Division issued 64 pistol permits and 65 amendments. The Civil Division processed 38 papers and served 69 Family Court papers. Sheriff Virts will attempt to hold three gun safety trainings a month to keep up with the number of new gun permits.
- Town/Village Summary: At the end of December, there were 351 sex offenders living in Wayne County, 40 reported to the Jail for verification and 80 had visits at their homes.
- Tickets by Town: There were 357 tickets issued during the month.
- Court Security: During December 673 individuals entered the Hall of Justice through the magnetometer. Activity in the County Court system remains low.
- Overtime: A total of 2,475 hours of overtime was worked in December, the majority for staffing shortages in the Jail

The Sheriff presented the following transmittals:

--Authorization to hire two part-time civilian non-sworn Community School Safety Liaison positions through a Department of Justice of Community Oriented Police Services grant. The request was pulled to allow for additional discussion and review by administration.

--Authorization to purchase touchscreen software upgrades to the Black Creek Integrated Jail Management and Security System for a cost of \$50,495. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to modify the budget to pay for new vehicles in 2021. The 2021 budget estimated vehicles to increase four percent in price; however, they increased six percent. This resulted in an \$11,163 unanticipated costs. Funds will come from within the Sheriff's budget. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Sheriff's Office to enter into an agreement with Oak Park Marina for free boat space rental during 2021. Approved 5-0.

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--Authorization to amend the budget to carry over remaining 2018 Stonegarden Grant funds totaling \$30,217. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to amend the budget to carry over remaining 2019 Stonegarden Grant funds totaling \$85,718. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to amend the budget to carry over remaining 2020 State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funding in the amount of \$42,488. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to amend the budget to carry over remaining 2020 State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funding in the amount of \$40,571. Approved 5-0.

Sheriff Virts stated 50% reimbursement for the County's Marine Patrol 2020 cost of \$79,600 was submitted to the State. Chairman Miller and County Attorney Connors received the annual NYS Sheriff's Association telephone revenue letter. The Office received a \$10,000 donation for the K-9 Unit; funds will be used to purchase a dog kennel at the Sheriff's Office.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Monday, March 1st at 1:00 p.m.