

MINUTES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Present: Via ZOOM Supervisor Verno, in person Supervisors VanLaeken, Bender, Donalty, Miller, Chatfield and Eynor, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, District Attorney Mike Calarco, Assistant District Attorney Christine Callanan, Coroner Keith Benjamin, Probation Director Mark Ameele, Public Defender Andy Correia, Assigned Counsel Representative Bruce Chambers, Sheriff Robert Milby, Emergency Services Director George Bastedo, 911 Project Manager Jim Lee and Purchasing Agent Kaleigh Flynn.

Minutes from the July 5th Committee meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Calarco introduced Ms. Callanan to the Committee. He then presented the following transmittals:

--Authorization to set the salary for the Second Assistant District Attorney at \$96,055. Mr. Calarco noted the required experience needed for the Office's felony prosecutor position. Mr. House informed the Committee the salary request was reviewed and approved by the Pay Plan Committee and County Administration. Approved 4-1, Supervisor Donalty opposed the request due to the salary level.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign necessary paperwork for approval and acceptance of a Division of Criminal Justice Services Discovery Reform Grant in the amount of \$311,561. Funds are to be utilize to cover expenses related to new Discovery Laws that were enacted in 2020. Approved 5-0.

The monthly report for the Public Defender's Office was included with the agenda. Over 120 cases were opened during the month, bringing total cases in the Office at the end of July to 436. Reimbursement claims for State Indigent Legal Services expenditures were made on five contracts totaling over \$196,000.

The following transmittals were presented for the Public Defender's Office:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Aguirre Language Services for the provision of interpretation services. Mr. Correia stated this service is needed both in office, in the jail and in court on specific cases. This vendor was obtained after a proposal was put out for interpreting services. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to modify the Public Defender's budget, to create a Grade 8 full-time Assistant Public Defender position, authorize hiring the position and add certain other approved Hurrell-Harring Year four revenues and expenses. A letter received from NYS Indigent Legal Services stating

PAGE 2

approval of Wayne County's year four budget plan for the Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring was included with the request. Additional funds received will be utilized to create the new position, purchase furniture and computer equipment for the new staff member and six laptops for inmates in the County Jail--to allow them access to legal information that is on line. Mr. Correia noted all costs related to this request are reimbursable. 2022 is the final budget year when additional legal staff are being requested for the Department with grant funds; however, in the fifth and final year of the Hurrell-Harring grant, a request will be made to add to the Department's administrative staff. He reviewed discussions at the recent employee retention and recruit of attorneys meeting. There is a shortage everywhere of attorneys and salaries that are being offered to experienced attorneys when candidates are available need to be competitive. Supervisor Verno questioned the purchase of laptops for inmates and he wanted to make sure there was a sunset clause for any position or program added with grant funds. Mr. Correia said this particular grant contract states the County is not obligated to continue any program without the continuation of grant funding. The request also noted a future contract needed with a transportation vender to assist Public Defender clients getting home from their arraignments or jail, or to an in-person court appearance or meeting with their Public Defender. Approved 5-0.

The monthly report for the Coroner's Office was distributed with the agenda. During July County Coroners were called out 15 times and requested seven autopsies. Mr. Benjamin said delays in autopsy reports continue from the Monroe County Medical Examiner's Office; this is due to lack of staff.

The monthly report for the Probation Department was reviewed. Mr. Ameele noted 21 youth were placed on Electronic Monitoring during July in lieu of detention, no youth were in non-secure detention during the month. There were three Persons In Need of Supervision cases opened along with three Juvenile Delinquent cases. Staff were ordered to perform 18 investigations in July, supervise 518 probationers, monitor 257 ignition interlock systems and 21 community service referrals. The Department received nearly \$92,000 to date from various revenues. The \$12,725 collected in July for restitution will go directly to victims.

The following reports were presented for the Sheriff's Office:

- Corrections Division: During June there were 34 males and four females committed to the Wayne County Jail, one boarded in inmate from Cayuga County and four individuals due to parole violations. The Facility held eight church services during the month and 16 BOCES classes. The Jail took in \$7,350 in bail and \$154.57 in fines during June. The number of inmate visits for medical care was at 476; this is very high.
- Activities: During June there were 12 private attorney visits to inmates, 10 Public Defender visits, 15 Pre-Trial Release contacts and two Probation Officer visits. The Sheriff's Office responded to over 2,000 complaints during the month. Road Patrol made

PAGE 3

one DWI, 56 criminals and four vehicle and traffic arrests. Deputies responded to 94 motor vehicle collisions resulting in 15 persons being injured. The Records Division processed 41 pistol permits, the Civil Division processed 109 papers, served 87 Family Court papers and performed 11 evictions.

- Village/Town Summary: There are 366 registered sex offenders living in the County, 25 of these individuals reported to the Jail for verification and 67 were verified for residency at their home.
- Tickets by Town: During June there were 134 tickets issued by Deputies, the majority being in the Towns of Macedon, Ontario and Williamson.
- Overtime: Staff worked 3,767 hours of overtime during the month, the majority for staff shortages in Road Patrol and the Jail, training and special details.
- Court Security: 2,401 individuals entered the Hall of Justice through the magnetometer in June.

Sheriff Milby presented a transmittal requesting authorization to accept a K9 ballistic/stab protective vest from Vested Interest In K9s. The donation has a value between \$1,724 and 2,283. Approved 5-0.

Two new recruits left employment with the Sheriff's Office. Efforts continue to have the Office appropriately staffed. At this time 12 recruits have signed up to enter Police Academy next year. Sheriff Milby reported there currently are three vacant School Resource Officer positions.

The monthly activities report for Emergency Services was distributed with the agenda. Mr. Bastedo informed Supervisors the Annual Public Official's Conference/Tier III Training is scheduled for September 27th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at his Office; he will send out formal invitations in the near future. Lake Ontario remains higher than last year, but still not at the flood stage. The vendor working on the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan Update submitted their document to the State for review/approval. 911 Communications continues to struggle with staffing shortages. E911 call statistics were sent to Supervisors prior to the meeting.

Mr. Lee informed Supervisors the lease the County made for a tower site in the Town of Walworth was originally for five years, with renewable five-year leases. The County has not been keeping up to date with formally renewing the contract. Mr. Lee reviewed this issue with the County Attorney, who made the recommendation to send a letter to the Town of Walworth stating the County's intention to renew their tower lease under the same terms with the municipality.

The Wayne County Emergency Medical Services Transportation Agency Implementation Plan was reviewed by Mr. Lee. He stated the current EMS transportation system is collapsing and is no longer a reliable resource to have a timely response for emergency medical needs. The number of service calls received for Wayne County ALS service between 2017 and 2020 has doubled. There are not enough workers or money in the system to keep it operating efficiently and

PAGE 4

effectively as it should. The Board of Supervisors was provided with a copy of the proposal and requested to submit any questions or concerns prior to today's meeting. Mr. Lee stated the Plan would be a living document, subject to change as needed for improvement. The upfront capital cost is considerable; however, the operational cost of the system will decrease as the number of calls increases. Supervisors were reminded the County will not be turning off ALS services currently officered by municipal EMS agencies in the County. Mr. Lee stated the need for a uniform/efficient EMS transportation response system throughout the County. The County system will provide back-up for transportation agencies in the County. The goal of the Plan is to provide a 15-minute response time for all calls. Supervisor Miller questioned if individuals who currently volunteer for their municipal ambulance service could volunteer for the County's service. Mr. Lee said he would find a way to make this happen. He is hopeful all positions for the County system will be filled by providing staff with ongoing internal training, making a commitment to providing competitive wages, having full-time positions with benefits, prioritizing advancement of employees and establishing adequate organizational support.

Mr. Lee stated the existing County Fly Car System will not go away; but stay in place as needed. The Plan is proposed to occur in two phases. Phase 1 would be funded in 2022 and 2023 and implemented in 2023. This would include construction of operational bases in the northern and southern parts of the County. Phase 1 is projected to have a capital cost of \$4.15 million. Supervisor Verno stated \$1 million in ARPA funding has been appropriated to this program. Phase 2 would be funded in 2023 and implemented during 2023 and 2024. This Phase would have the construction of additional operational bases in the east and west quadrants of the County. The purchase of land for the bases, if needed, the procurement of two transport capable ambulances and purchase of equipment needed for ambulances in the service will be made during this phase. Mr. Lee stated the importance of on-duty supervision at all times, with a Supervisors being on-duty 24/7. Each ambulance would require two full-time staff members and a Program Supervisor. Mr. Lee said he would return to this Committee and the Board for each action that is required under the Plan.

Mr. Verno noted there are other municipalities in the State that have their own ambulance response systems. Mr. Lee informed the Committee the next Emergency Medical Services Transportation Agency Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for August 17th. If any Supervisor have questions or concerns regarding the Plan, he requested they make contact with him. Mr. Bastedo complimented Mr. Lee for all the work he put into developing an EMS Transportation Plan for the County.

Supervisor Miller left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

The following transmittals were presented for Emergency Services:

PAGE 5

--Authorization to adopt the Wayne County EMS Phase 1 Capital Plan and authorization to amend the budget. Phase 1 will include an approach for implementing the emergency medical service transport system and include the establishment of two bases of operation and the procurement of ambulances and equipment for service at each of the two bases. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to adopt the Wayne County EMS Transporting Agency Implementation Plan. Mr. Bastedo noted the County's EMS Project Oversight Committee has met several times for review and input on the Plan. The Plan sets forth the establishment of four bases of operation, to result in a system that will function with existing EMS agencies to provide increased coverage to all areas of the County. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with Finger Lakes Communication for software and technical support and service to the 911 Zetron Dispatch System for a cost of \$22,230. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create two full-time 911 Dispatcher positions and four part-time 911 Dispatcher positions. Mr. Bastedo said there would be no additional cost to the budget, as there continue to be many vacant positions, allowing for unexpended personnel expenses. He believes this action will help with training and retention in the Department. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to set the salary for the Deputy Director of Disaster Preparedness at Grade 9. Mr. Bastedo noted the salary was reviewed and approved through the County's Pay Plan Committee. Approved 3-1, Supervisor Donalby opposed the request based on the salary for the position.

The meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th at 9 a.m.