

MINUTES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 3, 2019 8:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Verkey, Crane, Verno, Deming, Kolczynski, Groat, Emmel, Baldrige and LeRoy, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, County Auditor Kristen Scott, Coroners Phil Pattine and Sandy Isaac, Clerk to the Coroner Keith Benjamin, Probation Director Mark Ameele, Public Defender Andy Correia, County Attorney Dan Connors, Sheriff Barry Virts, Emergency Services Office Representatives George Bastedo, Jim Lee, Dylan Maybee, Rick Bond and Greg DeWolf.

Minutes from the December 4th Committee meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Ameele informed Supervisors a telephone conference is scheduled on January 7th with the State regarding Raise the Age Legislation; he is hopeful the State will inform Wayne County at this time that their plan for implementation of the new Legislation has been approved. Social Services Director, Shelly Bentley, agreed to be on the oversight committee for Raise the Age and will now be attending all local and State meetings with Mr. Ameele. Supervisors were informed, since the Legislation went into effect in October, Wayne County has not had a youth go through the new program.

The monthly activities report for the Public Defender's Office was presented. There are currently 595 open cases in the Office. Mr. Correia noted there have been more serious/violent crimes committed in Wayne County during 2018 than in other years.

Mr. Correia presented a transmittal requesting authorization to set the salary for an Assistant Public Defender at \$63,860. He noted this individual has been on the job for six months and successfully completed their probationary period. This attorney performs counsel at first appearance duties and her salary is paid for with grant funds. The request was reviewed by the Human Resource Office. Mr. Correia stated when this employee was hired it was stated they would receive a pay increase after completing their probationary period. Mr. Groat said would like to see this items placed on the agenda of the Managerial/Confidential Salary review Committee's agenda. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Benjamin informed Supervisors there were 22 deaths since his last report. He reviewed specifics of many cases. Both new Coroners attended State mandated Coroner 101 Training. Mrs. Isaac said she and Mr. Pattine are working together to learn the process of the Department.

The following monthly reports were presented by the Sheriff"

- Corrections: During November there were 69 males and 14 females committed to the County Jail along with 15 inmates boarded in from areas counties. There were 22 private attorney visits during the month, 25 visits by the Public Defender's Office and 9 visits by Pre-Trial Services. The Facility collected \$13,400 in bail and nearly \$74 in fines from 20 inmates. The Jail served 7,967 meals during November. Sheriff Virts stated health care cost of parole violators is a huge cost to the County; he would like to see the State reimburse counties for this expense.
- Activities: There were 160 motor vehicle incidents investigated during the month, 6 DWI arrests, 78 criminal and 57 misdemeanor and felony vehicle and traffic arrests made by

PAGE 2

- Deputies. The Pistol Permit Unit processed 32 pistol permits in November and 62 amendments. The Civil Division processed 96 papers and served 64 Family Court papers.
- Town/Village Summary: At the end of November there were 358 sex offenders living in Wayne County. During November 162 motor vehicle collisions occurred, resulting in 19 injuries.
- Tickets by Town: During November there were 276 tickets issued; the majority in the towns of Ontario and Lyons.
- Overtime: 2,647 hours were worked during November. Sheriff Virts said the Office is still experiencing staff shortages and major crimes take up a lot of resources.
- Court Security: During November 2,880 individuals from the public entered the Hall of Justice.
- DWI: 12 arrests were made from all agencies. The State approved the County's 2019 Stop DWI Plan.

The Sheriff presented the following transmittals:

--Authorization for the Sheriff's Office to partner with the National Child Safety Council to provide child safety materials at no County cost. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Sheriff to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Wayne County Youth Advocacy Program for the provision of operating a disciplinary re-education offender program at the County Jail for a price of \$10,000. The cost is paid for with Inmate Commissary Funds. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Sheriff to sign a memorandum of understanding with Wayne County Action Program for the provision of offering a parenting skills education service at the County Jail for a cost of \$10,000. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with NMS Labs for the provision of processing toxicology samples for the Coroner's and Sheriff's Offices. Whichever Office utilizes the lab's service will cover the cost. Sheriff Virts reported his Office still has cases from 2017 ad 2018 that have not been received back from the former vendor for toxicology services--Monroe County Laboratory. He stated that laboratory was paid to do the work and should do it. Approved 5-0.

The Sheriff said his Office has teamed-up with the Emergency Services Office for utilization of a drone. He noted the many purposes this technology can be used for. Grant funding is being utilized to provide training; the Sheriff would like to have a team of seven County staff members trained on usage of the unit.

The Committee was informed, the Finger Lakes Law Enforcement Academy selected Sheriff Virts to be their 2019 Chairman.

The following transmittals were presented for the County Attorney's Office:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Victor Chambers to act as Assigned Counsel Administrator for a price of \$75 an hour—not to exceed \$16,000, and an additional \$15,000 to pay the cost of a data entry operator. The New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services has approved distribution of funds that will pay these expenses. Expenses for data entry are subject to County audit. Mr. Correia noted the State Office of Indigent Legal

PAGE 3

Services wants to have data collection for all municipalities and will supply funds to get past records up to date and current record entered. Wayne County has records for assigned counsel services dating back to 2017 that have not been entered into the system. Once caught-up on cases, Wayne County's system should be functional and meet standards set by the State for grant recipients. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Victor Chambers to act as Assigned Counsel Administrator for appellate cases at a cost of \$75 per hour. Approved 5-0.

The monthly activities report for the Emergency Services Office was reviewed. During December the Office had a site visit in relation to State grant funds they received; in response to their visit, Mr. Bastedo will be presenting a transmittal to have a grant management policy resolution established. The Text to 911 System has been turned on and successfully tested. 911 successfully operated out of the Back-up Center on December 13th. The report also included a list of meetings and events attended by staff during the month.

Supervisors were reminded the Wayne County Public Officials Conference will be held on the 23rd of this month.

Mr. Maybee reviewed services requests to Hexagon on the CAD/MDT/RMS Project since the last Committee meeting. The WebMRS Committee will have their next meeting on January 10th. Sheriff Virts stated the system purchased by the County was a mid-market solution; he said the County should be sure they are not paying Hexagon for research and development they will utilize on future jobs, while working on the Wayne County system.

The following transmittals were presented for the Emergency Services Department:

--Authorization to apply for Public Safety Grant programs, a list of grant applications that will be submitted was included in the request. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to create and fill the positions of two full-time ALS Technicians for a proposed cost of \$128,425; the amount is included in the County's 2019 budget. Mr. Lee reviewed the increasing work load and the need to place additional staff in the eastern section of the County. Efforts are constantly being made to strategically position vehicles in the County when there is a call out. Approved 5-0.

The Radio Committee is looking at sites for a new tower on the west side of the County. The Office is waiting for a final report on the significance of artifacts found at the proposed Wolcott tower site; this report should be available prior to next month's meeting.

Mr. Lee reported the Marion ambulance has done a better job than usual in answering off hour calls.

Supervisor Miller arrived at 9:20 a.m.

--Authorization to create a Public Safety Dispatcher position for Wayne County 911 at a cost of \$58,899. The new hirer will have to be trained for six months and there are funds in the 2019 budget for this expense. Approved 5-0. Mrs. Crane questioned if property insurance is lowered when public safety systems are improved. It was stated ISO ratings are based on statistics and information related to property owner safety.

PAGE 4

The new Emergency Support Vehicle has arrived. Mr. Bond presented preliminary layouts for lettering on the vehicle. The cost to letter the exterior of the vehicle is \$2,900. The Committee approved Mr. Bond's lettering suggestions.

--Authorization to adopt a countywide Department of Homeland Security grant management policy. A State Auditor recommended the County adopt a formal policy regarding State and Federal grant handling procedures. The language in this policy was provided by the State. Approved 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, February 5th at 8:30 a.m.