

MINUTES

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Verkey, Verno, Deming, Kolczynski and Groat, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, Coroner Phil Pettine, Probation Director Mark Ameele, Public Defender Andy Correia, Sheriff Barry Virts, District Attorney Mike Calarco and Emergency Services Office Representatives George Bastedo and Jim Lee. Supervisor Crane was not present for the meeting.

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

During March the Coroner's Office handled 17 cases. The County Treasurer requested both Coroners keep track of the hours they work. Mr. Pettine questioned why, as he and Mrs. Isaac have been on call and taking cases during the hours that fit into their schedules; this system is working out well. Mr. House said he could understand why the information might be needed if the Department was audited. Mr. Verkey noted these are elected officials and should not need to keep a time sheet. Mr. House said he has not discussed this issue with the County Treasurer; however, would do so.

Mr. Pettine updated members on a recent meeting held with representatives of Rochester Regional Health. Many issues were discussed, including, but not limited to, morgue space and how doctors at Newark-Wayne Community Hospital can contact County Coroners. The meeting was well attended and continued to build on the good partnership between the County and Rochester Regional Health.

Mr. Lockhart noted the County's centralized arraignment court is now in operation; he believes changes can improve the local criminal justice system. He has had an opportunity to review language on new State legislation relating to bail reform and initially this also looks like a benefit to the system.

Mr. Lockhart updated members on the Pre-Trial Diversion Program. The Diversion Program provides intensive counseling and case-management services to offenders ages 16 and older, with a goal of reducing the client's risk of future arrest. The program is voluntary and involves the client spending time in weekly counseling sessions and attending to their specific treatment needs. The Diversion Program is funded through the Youth Bureau and United Way. The program receives strong support from local courts and served 72 clients in 2018, with anticipation of exceeding 100 this year. All counseling is done on a one-to-one basis. Mr. Lockhart reported the recidivism rate following the first two years of program completion is under 10%. The Diversion Program has been shown to reduce local criminal justice cost, reduce the jail population and help clients obtain gainful employment.

The monthly activities report for the Public Defender's Office was reviewed. At the end of March the Office had 608 open cases. Mr. Correia said he did not see funding in the Governor's budget for representation his Office provides State parolees; in the past the Office was reimbursed 33% of their cost for these services. He will re-check the budget for inclusion of these funds.

Mr. Correia presented a transmittal requesting authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a three-year contract with West Publishing for electronic research access through Westlaw Next

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and for specified legal publications for a price of \$44,896. Grant funding will pay for approximately half of this cost. Approved 4-0.

Mr. Correia said he was present for the first request of a Public Defender at centralized arraignment court. There will be a learning curve here for people working with the new system, especially magistrates. Except for emergency arraignments, all local court arraignments will now go through centralized arraignment. The only other exception is if local police departments happen to arrest someone at the same time there is court in session in their jurisdiction, and the defendant can be brought in while a Public Defender is present in that court.

The monthly report for the Probation Department was reviewed. There were two non-secure bed days served during March. The Office has 612 individuals under supervision at this time, 41 active PINS cases and 14 participants in the electronic home monitoring program. Investigations were ordered on 43 individuals during March and collections in the first three months of the year totaled \$73,620.

Out of state travel requests were presented for one Probation Officer to attend a Digital Forensics Analysis Course in Ohio from May 6th-8th for a price of \$800 and to attend a Digital Forensics Analysis Automated Forensic Tools Course in Delaware from May 19th-23rd for a price of \$850. Approved.

Mr. Calarco introduced the District Attorney Office's new Investigator to the Committee, former Wayne County Sheriff, Dick Piscioti.

Mr. Calarco presented a transmittal requesting authorization for the District Attorney to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Wayne County Action Program to utilize office space in their 30 Church Street Building. The space will be used to house the Office Investigator until space within the Hall of Justice can be found. No fee is being charged for use of this space. Approved 4-0.

Mr. Correia noted the Public Defender's Office will not have adequate office space in the next few years with grant funds allowing for additional staff.

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

--Authorization to amend the County budget to carry over remaining 2018 State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program Funds in the amount of \$2,426. These funds will be used for purchases made on qualified expenses. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend the County budget to carry over remaining 2017 State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program Funds in the amount of \$42,488. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend the County budget to carry over remaining 2018 Stonegarden Grant Program funds in the amount of \$11,892. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend the County budget to carry over remaining 2017 Stonegarden Grant Program funds in the amount of \$10,718. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to advertise for bid a transport van inmate separation insert. Approved 4-0.

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--Authorization to modify the County budget for the purchase of two vehicles at a cost of \$56,840. The Sheriff noted the price of new SUVs was higher than budgeted and this transfer is necessary to purchase and equip the cars. The majority of the needed funds will come from the County's contingency account. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to purchase two canines for the Sheriff's K-9 Unit for a price of \$16,000. These dogs will replace two dogs in the Unit that have aged out. The K-9 Fund will pay this expense. Approved 4-0.

A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned this afternoon for the new centralized arraignment court. Sheriff Virts commended the work put into this project by Lt. Ambeau and Undersheriff Fosdick. He believes this program, and the soon to be implemented cashless bail program, will reduce the number of inmates in the County Jail.

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

- Corrections: During February there were 56 males and 6 females committed to the County Jail. Six males and three females attended parenting class and inmates provided 1,764 hours of labor in the County Jail. The Office collected \$61,975 in bail and fines from 21 inmates during the month.
- Activities: There were 85 motor vehicle accidents in the County during February with 9 persons injured. The Office process 12 pistol permits. The Civil Office processed 90 papers and 72 Family Court papers.
- Town/Village Summary: During February 779 jobs were assigned, 4 DWI arrests, 5 criminal and 39 vehicle and traffic arrests were made. At the end of February there were 340 sex offenders living in Wayne County.
- Tickets by Town: During February there were 275 tickets issued, the majority in the Towns of Lyons, Ontario and Sodus.
- Court Security: A total of 2,428 individuals entered the Hall of Justice through the magnetometer during the month.
- DWI: Seventeen arrests were made by all agencies during February.
- Overtime: Staff worked 3,629 hours of overtime.

Run, Fight and Hide Training will take place on April 18th from 7:00 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Ohmann Theatre; this event was well attended last year.

The Sheriff has been working with the Public Works Department to have security planters placed in front of the Jail. The planters will be maintained by inmates.

Channel 13 did a tribute to Chief Deputy Steven Sklenar for his 45 years of service to the Wayne County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Verno noted Wayne County's low rating in a recent statewide health survey. One item he questioned were the number of individuals the survey counted as arrested for felonies in the County. How these numbers were collected is not known.

The monthly activities report for the Emergency Services Office was distributed with the agenda. A second review meeting was held with the Department of Homeland Security regarding accreditation of the Department; the goal is to obtain accreditation in 2019. Lake Ontario is nearing flood stage; main flooding concerns are in the Village of Sodus Point and Blind Sodus Bay. The Emergency Services Office is prepared to react should flooding occur. The Office was

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awarded a Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant. The Newark communications site is up and running, the Wolcott project received final sign-off regarding the possibility of Indian artifacts on the site; ground breaking will take place in the near future. The location of towers in Ontario and Macedon have yet to be determined. The public launch of the Text to 911 Program will be operational by the end of May. The theme of the program is "call if you can, text if you can't". The multi-purpose vehicle has responded to several incidents. The report included a list of meetings and events attended by Mr. Bastedo and staff.

Mr. Maybee was not available for today's meeting a report on the CAD system will be e-mailed to members.

An out of state travel request was presented for a 911 Supervisor to attend a National Emergency Number Association Training in Orlando, Florida, from June 15th-19th for a cost of \$2,351. Mr. House stated he did not sign off on this request as he did not support the location or cost of the training. He questioned if other training opportunities were available at a closer location. Mr. Verno said he appreciated national trainings and the expertise they have to offer, supporting the request. Mr. Bastedo said the employee applied for \$1,729 in grant funds to pay for a portion of this training expense. After additional discussion, it was agreed Mr. Bastedo would return with this request in May, if grant funding is received.

The following transmittals were presented for the Emergency Services Office:

--Authorization to purchase a maintenance contract on the Verint Recorder System for a price of \$11,470. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with BOLDplanning for continuity of operations planning for Wayne County Departments at a cost of \$42,600. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Fitch and Associates for the development of a Wayne County Emergency Medical Services System Study for a price of \$49,200. Mr. Lee noted two bids were received; Fitch submitted the lowest bid. Mr. Lee said he sent both bid responses out to the EMS Study Committee; however, did not receive any response back. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to award BOLDplanning the bid for preparation of the Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan update at a cost of \$74,250. The FEMA mitigation grant will cover the entire cost of this Plan, with the County responsible for \$24,750 in in-kind services on the project. After review, it was agreed this transmittal would be re-worded into two transmittals and presented to the Board under Rule 14. The first transmittal will authorize acceptance of the FEMA grant, the second will authorize the awarding of the bid.

--Authorization to amend the Emergency Management budget to pay the unbudgeted higher cost of vehicles. Two utility vehicles were included in the budget to be replaced; however, the amount budgeted is short by \$8,378. It was agreed the type of vehicles to be purchased, Ford Escapes, would be added to this request. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for Wayne County Technical Decontamination and Hazard Assessment Team members to drive County vehicles. Mr. Bastedo said this would include the multi-purpose vehicle

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that was recently put into service. These individuals would be subject to following the County's insurance requirements regarding driving a County vehicle. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to oppose the elimination or reduction of emergency medical services Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement. The request was pulled, as these items remained funded in the State's 2019-2020 budget.

--Authorization to adjust position titles within ALS Services and amend the County budget. Mr. Lee recommended three Adjunct ALS positions be abolished and three ALS Technician Substitute positions created. He believes this change will better serve the Unit and save on overtime costs. Approved 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7th at 8:30 a.m.