

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

March 6, 2018

The regular meeting of Public Safety, Probation, Office of Emergency Services, and Stop DWI was held in the Legislative Conference Room at the Ronald E. Dougherty Office Building, 56 Main St., on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 2:40 PM.

Present:

Dennis Mullen	Chair, Public Safety
Edward Hollenbeck	Legislator
Marte Sauerbrey	Chair of the Legislature
William Standinger	Legislator
Dale Weston	Legislator
Joy Bennett	Director, Probation
Sheriff Gary Howard	Sheriff's Office
Mike Simmons	Director, Emergency Services
Bob Williams	Deputy Director, Emergency Services
Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services

Absent:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Legislator Weston made a motion to approve the minutes of February 6, 2018; seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck, and so carried.

PROBATION:

Joy Bennett, Probation Director, presented the following information to the committee. Reports are attached.

Budget:

- On track.
- Ford Escape was ordered by Gary Hammond.

Issues:

- Raise the Age Legislation:
 - Director Bennett and Commissioner Yetter gave an overview on Raise the Age legislation and how AO youth will have to be sent to Specialized Secured Detention Facilities, which currently do not exist, and how each county must provide access to a facility.
 - Tioga is looking at two options to provide access to this service:
 1. Hillbrook Secured Detention Facility is looking at becoming a Specialized Secured Detention Facility. They hope to have an MOU with other counties in the central region. They hope to get OCFS approval to bill directly for their services.
 2. Finger Lake consortium, a group of 10 counties plan to hire a consultant and work out a location and plan for an SSD in the Finger Lakes Region. Current cost to buy into this plan is \$14,000, which can be 100% reimbursed via RTA funding . There are 10 counties right now that are expressing interest. Placement in an SSD

encompasses a small number of children, however, we have to have a place for them.

- If one of the juveniles are sentenced to up to 365 days they will serve their time in the specialized secured detention facility, which will be very costly to our county.
- Discussed a recent scenario of housing out a 14 year old juvenile.
- The Committee agreed to move forward with looking at this as an option.
- Succession Planning Class is scheduled for March 21st.
- T4C (Thinking for a Change) – Director Bennett has been trying to bring this program to our county for years.
 - Trinity CASA is working with the Jail; ACBC is offering education groups for family member of addicts.
- Leandra's Law Plan was modified and sent to the county attorney for review.
- Department Chargebacks for Labor for the Public Works Mechanic – would be \$1,200 for 2017. Probation has a lot of older vehicles which require continual maintenance. Legislator Mullen stated this item is still up for discussion and is on the legislative workshop agenda.

Personnel:

- One unfunded Probation Officer position exists.
- One Probation Officer resigned on 2/27/18; Requested Personnel to canvas for possible candidates.

Resolutions:

- Appoint Members to Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board
A resolution was presented appointing members to the ATI Board.
- Resolution to Approve Continued MOU Between Tioga County Probation Department and Smart Start
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to contract with Smart Start.

SHERIFF:

Sheriff Howard presented the following information to the committee. Reports are attached.

Budget:

- Expenditures are on track; YTD Revenues are \$61,581.

Personnel Items:

- Civil – all positions are filled.
- Corrections – all full-time positions are filled; 9 part-time Correction Officer positions exist.
 - There will be one retirement at the end of the month.
- Road Patrol – All full-time Road Patrol Deputy positions are filled.
 - Currently have one Deputy in the police academy and another Deputy will start her academy in April in Broome County.
 - 2 Unfunded Road Patrol positions are vacant.
- E911 Communications – currently have one full time vacancy.

Resolutions:

- Fund Sheriff's Grant – NYS Police Traffic Services Grant
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to appropriate this grant in the amount of \$17,775.

Labor Issues

- None to report.

Litigation Issues

- No updates to report.

Other:

- Backup E911 Project – moving the backup center to the Carmichael Hill radio tower site should be completed in the spring. The Sheriff discussed some of the construction details, such as well, septic and layout of the building.
- Safety in the Schools – the Sheriff attended Senator Akshar’s panel discussion. The Sheriff had received some requests for School Resource Officers. A meeting with school officials is scheduled for March 13th at the Sheriff’s Office. Currently we have uniformed Deputies, on a rotational basis, stopping at the schools unannounced to do a walk through of the school buildings and grounds. Discussed the staffing needs to have Resource Officers in the school each day.
- Active Shooter drills are scheduled for some of the schools, as well as, the 56 Main St. County Office Building.
- Average daily inmate population was 73 for the month of February.
- ATI Crew – performed work at Newark Valley Fire Dept., Southside Fire and Campville Fire Departments. As well as snow removal and painting at the HHS Building.
- Law Enforcement Intermunicipal Agreement for Special Detail Deputies Performing Mutual Aid Police Duties in Schuyler County – the county attorney’s office has reviewed and approved this contract. The Sheriff needs to have legislative approval to accept this contract. A motion was moved by Legislator Hollenbeck to approve the acceptance of this contract; seconded by Legislator Weston, and so carried. The Sheriff will forward a copy of these minutes to Schuyler County.

OFFICE of EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mike Simmons, OES Director, presented the following information to the committee. Report is attached.

Budget:

- Expenditures are on target.

Resolutions:

- Amend Comprehensive Emergency Plan (CEMP) to Include Animal Emergency Plan
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to amend the CEMP to include an animal emergency plan.
- Create a County Animal Response Team (CART)
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to create a county animal response team.

Grants:

- SHSP15 & SHSP16 – Fiber optic cable project
- EMPG16 – being used toward salary reimbursement
- EMPG17 – grant was awarded; no expenditures thus far
- SHSP17 and SLETTTPP17 – grant was awarded. Quotes for radios are being obtained.
- HMPG – grant was awarded. Tetra Tech was selected as the contractor.
- HMEP – grant was awarded. The RFP is being reviewed by the County Attorney.

- SICG12 – Interoperable Grant – Project has been completed and the final paperwork has been submitted.
- SICG16 – Interoperable Grant – This grant is being utilized to cover coverage from the SICG12.
- SICG17 - Interoperable Grant – Applied for this grant, awaiting award notification.
- SICG18 – grant has been announced, but, not released by the State.

Emergency Services Activities:

- Ice Jam – gradually melted on its own without incident.
- Water/Well Gas Pocket – received notification of a well that was making noises. NYSDEC mitigated the fire by plumbing a vent and the well still continues to vent gas.
- Search and rescue in Campville due to a missing 21 year old with disabilities.
- Stagecoach Gas – working on conducting a multi-agency drill.
- “I am Responding” Dispatching Program – looking into purchasing this program for use by all county fire departments. Researching this to see if we could utilize SHSP grant money towards this.
- Met with Waverly in regards to their radio problems. Looking at the possibility of utilizing Chemung’s tower or Guthrie’s tower by Roundtop Park.
- Working on the transition to NY Alert.
- Met with Doug Camin about an app that would utilize the county website and could be accessed via a smartphone.
- Fire Communications System – current low band VHF radios have been discontinued. Need to develop a plan to replace all the fire equipment to a different band frequency. Looking at the possibility of transitioning within 5 years.
- Transition to Office of Emergency Services – met with county EMS and fire organizations and so far reorganization has been received in a positive manner.
- ATI Crew – Officer Schreiner and the crew helped to set up the American Red Cross Shelter and did a great job.

Fire Investigation Team:

- Responded to a Barn Fire on Oak Hill Rd. in Barton and a car fire in Spencer.
- Turnout gear and coveralls are aged and should be replaced. We do not have funds in our budget to cover this. We will get proposals and Director Simmons will bring them to the committee for discussion.

ADJOURNED:

Motion to adjourn meeting at 4:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Rockwell

Diane Rockwell
Secretary to the Sheriff

3/6/18