

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

November 7, 2023

The regular meeting of Public Safety, Probation, Office of Emergency Services, Coroner, and Stop DWI was held in the Legislative Conference Room at the Ronald E. Dougherty Office Building, 56 Main St., on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 2:30 PM.

Present:

Keith Flesher	Chair, Public Safety
Barb Roberts	Legislator
Marte Sauerbrey	Chair, Legislator (<i>in at 2:38</i>)
William Standinger	Legislator
Dale Weston	Legislator
Brian Cain	Director, Probation
Sheriff Gary Howard	Sheriff's Office
Corinne Cornelius	Deputy Director, Emergency Services
Mike Simmons	Director, Emergency Services

Guest:

Pete DeWind	County Attorney
Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk
Curtis Hammond	EMS Coordinator, Emergency Services

Absent:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of October 3, 2023 minutes:

Legislator Roberts made the motion, seconded by Legislator Standinger, to approve the October 3, 2023 Public Safety minutes, as written. Motion carried.

PROBATION – Brian Cain:

FINANCIAL:

- 2023 Budget is on track. Expenditures are at 75% of the budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Entry doors – IT is going to be updating with new card entry devices.
- Buddi contract – approved by the County Attorney's Office. Services include monitoring services for Probation.
- Community Engagement – the Probation staff participated in Trunk or Treat at the Nichols Fire Department.
- Staff – Retired Probation Supervisor, Teri Rosenberger returned as a PT Supervisor and Patrick Van Durme has accepted the Probation1 position.
- Training – Sydney Blinn and Briana Ward graduated from Fundamentals of Probation on November 3rd.
- Juvenile Delinquency Services - one juvenile appearance ticket was received in October. Toal 12 JDATS were received this year.
- Electronic Monitoring – one person is being monitored by phone app; 2 individuals are monitored with the ankle monitor.
- Community Service – the Weekend Work Program continues to operate every weekend.
- Pre-Trial Release - 17 people are in this program.

- Court Ordered Investigations – there are 41 cases.
- Violation of Probation - 15 defendants are in violation.

PERSONNEL:

- One vacant Probation Officer position
- One vacant Sr. Probation Officer position
- One vacant part-time Supervisor position – (filled now with the hiring of Terri Rosenberger)
- One unfunded Probation Officer position

RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution to Amend the Contract Between the Tioga County Probation Dept. and Buddi US, LLC
A resolution was presented requesting approval to enter into a contract with Buddi US, LLC.
- Resolution to Approve and Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOW) with IPPC Technologies for Sex Offender Monitoring
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to enter into a MOU with IPPC Technologies for sex offender monitoring.
- Resolution to Approve a Contract between the Tioga Co. Probation Dept. & the Family & Children’s Counseling Services to Provide Adult & Juvenile Sexual Offender Assessment and Treatment Services in the Journey Project
A resolution was presented requesting approval to contract with the Family and Children’s Society in 2024 at an amount of \$123,840 annually.
- Resolution to Contract with National Test Systems for Instant Urine Tests and Lab testing
A resolution was presented requesting approval to contract with National Test Systems to purchase instant testing supplies and lab services.

(Committee agreed to move resolutions forward)

OFFICE of EMERGENCY SERVICES – Mike Simmons:

FINANCIAL:

- Budget is on track.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Communications Project:
 - Change Order #4 to cover the construction of tower sites and shelters (4 tower sites, as well as Prospect & Round Top) is in the works. This will increase the contract by \$5,650,000. Director Simmons has the change order with pictures if they want to look at it.
 - There are grant money requirements that need to be met for Dispatch. We are required to meet state standards and have policies and procedures in place, which we currently do not have. Director Simmons stated we are doing closest car concept, however, policies for calls, such as open line calls, hang up calls need written policies. The Sheriff said that Dispatch has met accreditation standards set by the State so he doesn’t know what other requirements they would need and that hang up calls are covered. Director Simmons was told that we do not have written standards. The Sheriff suggested that they sit down and take a look at what procedures are needed on Thursday. Director Simmons said the State is not pressing us for anything now, he was bringing it up since we have \$10 million in grant money, and we need to make sure we are following their rules. The Sheriff will get the

standards for accreditation so they can be matched to the State's requirements. Legislator Flesher said if they are in place that's great; if not let's correct it. Deputy Director Cornelius noted that we are getting a new grants representative and they may require it.

- Cad Project:
 - Troop cars are still not online. Jeremy has reached out to the State IT Department and the connectivity is still not there. Chair Sauerbrey said Jeremy reaches out to them daily. Legislator Roberts asked what you do if they do not work. It was explained that they poll the cars and they need to give their info over the radio which creates extra work for the dispatchers and increases response time. Legislator Weston asked about utilizing grants so we do not lose the money. Director Simmons explained we requested extensions on some of the grants. If a project was to run over, we would not be given extra money. The targeted grant has been changed at the State level so \$3 million is the maximum amount given. Legislator Flesher will reach out to Legislator Mullen for State contact info and try to contact someone at the State to resolve this issue.

EMS:

Curtis Hammond, EMS Coordinator, gave an overview of methods to provide EMS coverage throughout the county at a reasonable rate.

- He has met with local ambulances to come up with a plan for the future and meets quarterly with EMS agencies.
- The biggest problem is NYS is going to be sunsetting advanced critical cares. There are a large number of providers who operate on that level of care. We will run into a problem that we will not have enough paramedics. Cost and time involved are the biggest obstacles. This is a statewide problem. Paramedics require 2,000 hours of training.
- Looking at how we supplement this system, it was suggested the best idea would be to have a fly car. There are 27 counties doing fly cars now.
- An idea would be to certify a couple of the Tahoes we have and purchase another Tahoe and equip it. We could also purchase a multi-purpose trailer. Mike and Corinne are EMTs. We would not add more payroll, just legalizing Tahoes.
- To purchase an ALS Tahoe you are looking at approximately \$200,000. In 2030 we could look at another paramedic fly car.
- Richford and Berkshire contract with Maine. Legislator Flesher said we need to start coming up with a viable solution now instead of waiting until 2030 and then being behind on things.
- Curtis suggested that the fly car would be the cheapest alternative now. Then in 2030 looking at a full-time ambulance with paid paramedic.
- Candor's operating budget is \$900,000.
- Legislator Flesher asked to Curtis to do a presentation at worksession to all of the legislators. Chairwoman Sauerbrey asked to have a succinct plan to present at the workshop on 11/21. Any plan would have to take place in 2025 for budgeting purposes.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

- Citizens Preparedness Class was conducted in Owego.
- I-300 Incident Command Course was held at the Public Safety Building.
- Threat Assessment Management Program:
 - RFP was put together.
 - Need to come up with an exercise utilizing TAM money.

FIRE:

- Chief's meeting was held at Owego Fire Department.
- Lockheed-Martin and Campville will be dispatched together. Testing of the radio will be done tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

PERSONNEL:

- None

RESOLUTIONS:

- Amend Resolution 291-19 Authorize Amended Agreement with Motorola Solutions Change Order #4
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to amend the Motorola Agreement with change order #4.
- Requesting Tioga County Office of Emergency Services be Allowed to Exceed Food & Beverage Purchase Guidelines
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to exceed the per event limit for food.

(Committee agreed to move resolutions forward)

SHERIFF – Gary Howard:

FINANCIAL:

- Revenues are at \$495,342 which is 90% of the budget. Inmate boarders are at \$254,139 which is 169% of the budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

- RFP is in for inmate Jail Medical
- Jail daily population for October was 47.

PERSONNEL:

- Update on Vacancies:
 - Civil:
 - One vacant part-time Civil Deputy position
 - Civil Law Clerk will be going on maternity leave next month
 - Corrections:
 - 5 Corrections Officer positions
 - 2 part-time Cook positions
 - No Corrections Officers are on light duty
 - 2 Corrections Officers are on military deployment
 - There were 2 Corrections Officers resignations
 - Road Patrol:
 - 2 vacant Deputy positions
 - One Deputy is currently on light duty
 - One Deputy graduated from the police academy
 - There are 2 unfunded Deputy positions – request being made to fund/fill
 - Communications:
 - 2 vacant E911 Dispatcher positions
 - Records:
 - All positions are filled
 - Administration:
 - All positions are filled

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorize Acceptance of 2024 NYS PTS Grant Appropriation of Funds & Modify 2023 Budget
A resolution was presented requesting approval to accept the 2024 NYS PTS Grant in the amount of \$12,540.
- Authorize Acceptance of the NYS 2023 PSAP Operations Grant and Modify 2023 Budget
A resolution was presented requesting approval to accept the 2023 NYS PSAP Grant in the amount of \$129,044.
- Amend Resolution 390-23 Authorize 2023-2024 Contracts with SADD School Associates
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to amend resolution 390-23 to reflect Michelle Varner as the SADD School Associate for Spencer Van Etten School District.

(Committee agreed to move the above resolutions forward)

- Reclassify and Fill Unfunded Vacant Positions and Abolish Positions
A resolution was presented requesting approval to reclassify a Road Patrol Sergeant to a Deputy Sheriff position and abolish one part-time Deputy Sheriff and abolish one part-time Cook effective January 1, 2024.
 - Sheriff said transports are a big issue. Probation Director Brian Cain went on a transport to help cover a warrant from North Carolina.
 - PT budget is \$119,000 over budget.
 - Berkshire Board is complaining there is not enough coverage in Berkshire.

Committee agreed to move this resolution forward, with the exception of Legislator Standinger who was not in favor of it).

CORONER

- Legislator Flesher presented a resolution for the Coroner's Office

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorize Contract Between Riverside Forensic Pathology, PLLC and Tioga County
A resolution was presented requesting authorization to enter into contract with Riverside Forensic Pathology, PLLC.

(Committee agreed to move resolution forward)

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Rockwell

Diane Rockwell
Secretary to the Sheriff
11/7/23