

Criminal Justice Public Safety Committee Zoom Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020

Present: Chairman Pete Walrod, Vice-Chairman Loren Corbin, Supervisor Fred Lawrence, Supervisor Joe Ostrander

Also: Mark Scimone, Robert Mascari, Tina Wayland-Smith, Jeff Aumell, Joanne Miller, Todd Hood, Robert Lenhart, Samantha Field, Dan Degear, Frank McFall, Cliff Moses

Absent: Supervisor T.J. Stokes

Called to Order by Chairman Pete Walrod at 10:02 a.m.

Assistant District Attorney – Robert Mascari

- DA Bill Gabor virtually in court currently.
- Aggressively handling all cases. Zoom meetings set up with victims.
- Staff has laptops and ability to connect from home. Business going on as usual; use Zoom for staff meetings and attorney meetings. Try to quickly address anything they have.
- Gabor forwarded their plan for soft reopening to Mark.
- Likely won't be any jury trials for the rest of the year because of social distancing.
- Skype for arraignments has been great; able to get everyone on the computer and to show up. Attorney can talk to defendant. Have a couple of kinks to still work out.
- Projections for Town Court Systems to open is in mid-June. Need to work out protocols.
- Very good shape on speeding tickets. For the first quarter of running the Traffic Diversion Program processed close to 500 tickets; took in around \$82,000. Even with courts closed, continue to process tickets. No court dates and have seen a drop in the last few weeks by about 40%.
- Mascari thanked Frank McFall on 911 calls and CAD abstract requests under the Discovery Law. Appreciate how he's responded back so quickly.

Probation Director – Joanne Miller

- All officers are working remotely and have access to email and case management software. They will go in occasionally if they need to print anything, sign anything or have anything notarized. Phones are forwarded to personal cell phones or County cell phones.
- Probationers are reporting via phone, email or a program from the State called Caseload Explorer Check-in. Officers set up a schedule for the Probationers to report and then they need to answer questions which officers can review.
- Drawback of not being in the office is people are not getting drug and alcohol tested.
- Investigations and reports are being completed and sent off to the courts.

Sheriff – Todd Hood

- Open with pistol permits now from 8:00 a.m. to Noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays for amendments only. Hoping to get all pistol permits up and running as soon as possible.
- Setting up video conference room in the jail. Going to take a room and make it exclusively for arraignments and conferences with a good camera system in there. Would be good if we can do video arraignments.

- Road patrol has their own virtual sheriffs room where officers can go anytime day or night and talk to each other in their patrol cars through video; roll calls done remotely and can get information before they go out for their shift.
- Need to get waiver for hiring process for the jail. Have six open positions and want to get them filled. Doing waivers during MAC meetings, so get in writing with justification to Mark and he will review with MAC.
- Frank McFall set them up with notification system to get texts of all major incidents all over the County. Doing it with command staff right now. Will do test run with it and then offer to other people in department and possibly other departments. Thank you to Frank for setting that up. Will look into getting it added to DA's too.

Undersheriff – Robert Lenhart

- Getting NY PAUSE alerts to the sheriff's office which is complaints going to NYS about social distancing. Sending deputy for some of it, some going to Public Health to address and some going to Mike Sudol for codes issues or licensing. Not getting a ton in Madison County. No push back from anyone. NYS Police will assist if we get inundated.

Emergency Management Director – Dan Degear

- Shared map of active total cases and graph of total cases, resolved cases and active cases in Madison County that are tracked every day. Also shared graph of Regional approach which has some missing data as some counties were not posting numbers regularly, graph of Madison County new positive per day cases and Madison County test results graph.
- EOC has been activated in response to COVID-19. Put in place command structure using unified command where Eric Faisst from Public Health and Dan are unified command with four main sections operating which are operations, logistics, planning and finance sections. Mike Sudol and Doug Shattuck are handling logistics which means distributing any PPE. Struggle getting PPE but we have not run out. John Baratinni is working with Jennifer McGohan in Public Health on planning doing response and recovery. Recovery now is focal point. Tricia Wiley is working from home providing administrative support. Hired two interns; Dan's son Nate and John's daughter Grace. Working on plan development and face shields.
- 911 is doing fantastic job. Did hire freeze which prevented hiring of an Assistant Director. Have plan in place when things get back to normal.
- Office construction for EM is temporarily on hold.
- Never activated the EOC for this length of time. First time operating a JIC; has been great.
- Command meeting every morning, seven days a week with EOC, Public Health and hospitals via Zoom. State calls 3-4 times a week, EM staff meets every day at 4:00 p.m. and MAC every day at 4:30 p.m. Team keeping in constant communication. Public Health and Sam doing amazing job.
- Starting to do distributions of cloth masks and hand sanitizer. Three towns moving toward four that will do this in coordination with a dairy giveaway. The schedule is out there and there are some more towns coming on. Also coordinating with the schools to push the stuff out through their lunch deliveries. So far Hamilton, Morrisville, Cazenovia and Brookfield have signed up. Made sure first responders had what they needed first.
- Some towns are gearing up to get the highways back going. Spring storms will be coming, so getting them back to work will be important.

911 Director – Frank McFall

- Comparing first of March until now between this year and last year. Down 2,200 CAD incidents between last year and this year. Call volumes are down for same time period.
- Sending information to State daily. State 911 Coordinator's Office has asked us to send them call volumes; both telephone and dispatched incidents. Total and how many related to COVID.
- Entering calls under NY PAUSE facemask and NY PAUSE gathering. Gathering going out under name and number to law enforcement agencies. Facemask logging but not dispatching to law enforcement agencies; referring them to Public Health or logging them and advising people.
- Still doing EMD protocols which help tell the difference between a COVID case and not so they can send out as universal precautions for PPE to first responders.
- Send lots of emails to staff and they make it work; doing a great job on the floor.
- Working on continuation of operations and protocols which seem to change every day. Constant communication between emails and calls with other counties both in consortium and state-wide call they do once a week. There has been a lot of cooperation from State on 911 level.

County Attorney – Tina Wayland-Smith

- Department working with all other departments.
- On MAC call every day.
- Sam, Dan, Eric and their departments are doing an outstanding job.

Public Information Officer – Samantha Field

- Has a great team from all different departments.
- Trying to drive the message home as best as they can.
- If any of the towns or villages need anything they are trying to get them as much as they need as well so if there is anything, please let them know.
- Did webinar for Northeast region with FEMA and the International Emergency Management and they were talking about best practices. Everything they mentioned for best practices is exactly what we are doing so that was nice to see.

County Administrator – Mark Scimone

- Everyone is working hard at the County, and doing a great job. Proud of workforce and department heads.
- Call center has been going well.
- Volunteers have been fantastic too and done a great job.

Adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tricia Wiley on behalf of Chairman Pete Walrod.