

# Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee

Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2020

PRESENT: Chairman Pete Walrod  
Vice Chairman Loren Corbin  
Supervisor Joe Ostrander  
Supervisor Fred Lawrence (via Zoom)  
Supervisor T.J. Stokes (via Zoom)

ALSO: Board Chairman John Becker  
District Attorney William Gabor  
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell  
Emergency Management Director Dan Degear  
Emergency Management Planner Mike Sudol  
EMS Coordinator John Barattini  
Director of 911 Frank McFall  
Sheriff Todd Hood  
Probation Director Joanne Miller  
Treasurer Cindy Edick  
Public Information Officer Samantha Field

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Walrod at 9:00 a.m. in the Chambers.

## **Minutes:**

The minutes of the July 23, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Vice Chairman Loren Corbin and second of Supervisor Fred Lawrence.

## **Probation:**

Probation Director Joanne Miller presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

### **Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget - Budget Transfer for Position Vacancies**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Ostrander.

### **Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Medlab, Inc. for Toxicology Screening Services**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Lawrence.

Probation Director Joanne Miller stated that her office is working in two teams; they are alternating working in the office and working remotely.

Miller said that they have resumed home contacts as of July 1<sup>st</sup> in which they are conducting outside. Will start those who are high risk as of September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Seeing steady numbers for juveniles, including Raise the Age. Usually see about 50-60 juveniles per year and as of the end of June, have seen around 22-23.

Miller informed the Committee that the supervision population is high. As of right now, they have about 330 people.

Miller mentioned that NYS funding of the Ignition Interlock grant will not decrease. Potential for cuts of up to 20% in other state aid including the Probation Block

grant, which is approximately \$140,000, ATI grant and Raise the Age funding.

Miller announced to the Committee that Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> was Roger LaTour's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the County.

#### **Sheriff's Office:**

Sheriff Todd Hood presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

##### **Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Chittenango Central School District for the Use of Special Patrol Officers**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Ostrander.

##### **Authorizing Participation in a Federal Traffic Safety Grant and Modifying the 2020 County Budget - Traffic Safety Coordinator**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Walrod and second of Corbin.

##### **Authorizing Participation in a Federal Grant and Modifying the 2020 County Budget - Police Traffic Services**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Ostrander.

Sheriff Hood informed the Committee that he was really short staffed in the jail with Corrections Officers. He said they are currently down nine staff with two more coming and is asking for three positions. He feels he will be in trouble. Hood said there are six people in the Corrections Academy now.

Hood said he is also down one position on road patrol.

Sheriff Hood mentioned that they did an evaluation of vehicles, and want to get rid of two Impalas.

Hood discussed some camera issues and said he would like to switch some around in the jail. He is looking for two extra cameras as well.

#### **District Attorney :**

District Attorney William Gabor said they have been very busy with the backlog of four months of inactivity.

Currently business as usual except for trials.

Gabor discussed that he had an alternate proposal for the Traffic Diversion Program. The original proposal was approved with this Committee but was not approved with the Government Operations Committee. Gabor withdrew the resolution when he saw the pushback. Gabor said there are 20 DA's offices who use a private contractor to run the program. DA Gabor has an alternative proposal and said the income would remain the same. Diversion Management LLC can run the program and would be willing to start in two weeks. Sheriff Hood agreed that we should keep the program and revenue and said it was a very beneficial program. Board Chairman John Becker and Chairman Pete Walrod supported the alternative proposal and said to bring a resolution to the Government Operations Committee and Board.

#### **Emergency Management:**

Emergency Management Director Dan Degear presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

##### **Authorizing the Participation in a Federal Department of Homeland Security Grant and Modifying the 2020 Adopted County Budget**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Ostrander.

**Authorizing the Participation in a Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant and Modifying the 2020 Adopted County Budget**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Walrod and second of Stokes.

**Designating Disposal of Obsolete and/or Surplus County Personal Property**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Stokes.

**Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget - SICG Grant**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Becker and second of Ostrander.

Degear shared a copy of the 2021 proposed budget for the department with the Committee. The goal is for a 0% increase over 2020.

Continuing with fire training.

Emergency Management supported Cazenovia with standoff a few weeks ago providing light towers.

Degear stated that we are starting to move back into COVID meetings with Public Health weekly in anticipation of a second wave this fall.

Looking into the possibility of buying a used loader for the Training Center that has the ability to move large items.

The Sheriff's Office has a pick-up truck that is used just for fuel. Degear said that we will replace our current pick-up truck with that one.

Degear informed the Committee that the Lion's Club is donating a hydrogen peroxide decontamination unit to our department.

EMS Coordinator John Barattini discussed with the Committee the Certificate of Need (CON). COVID has done a number on EMS. Normally there are around 9,000 calls per year and with COVID, those calls were cut in half. Call volume and revenue went down. Barattini said there is also a personnel shortage in EMS. The objective of a CON is to help agencies survive and continue service. The County would like to move forward with a CON, but needs to have a Medical Director in place to proceed. Board Chairman Becker said to start the search for a Medical Director and Supervisor Corbin seconded the motion.

Board Chairman Becker commended the 911 staff for everything they do for the County, and Chairman Walrod asked 911 Director Frank McFall to pass along the Committee's appreciation for what they do as well.

**Other Committee Business:**

A copy of the Assigned Counsel 2021 Proposed Budget had been provided to the Committee, and First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell stated that there were no changes and it was the same as last year.

Aumell informed the Committee that he had received an email earlier that morning stating that Madison County would be issued a 3<sup>rd</sup> Counsel at First Appearance (CAFA) grant for a three year term.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Board Chairman Becker to enter into executive session at 10:54 a.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Chairman Walrod seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Board Chairman Becker to exit executive session at 11:02 a.m. Vice Chairman Corbin seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

**Preferred Agenda:**

The Committee unanimously approved including all resolutions in the Committee's Preferred Agenda on a motion of Corbin and second of Ostrander.

**Adjournment:**

The Committee adjourned at 11:02 a.m. on the motion of Chairman Walrod and second of Supervisor Ostrander.

**Next Meeting Date:**

Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tricia Wiley on behalf of Chairman Paul H. Walrod.