

# **Criminal Justice, Public Safety and Emergency Communications Committee**

Meeting Minutes  
September 17, 2020

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

**ALSO:** County Administrator Mark Scimone  
First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell  
Emergency Management Director Dan Degear  
Director of 911 Frank McFall  
Sheriff Todd Hood  
Probation Director Joanne Miller  
Public Information Officer Samantha Field

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Walrod at 9:04 a.m. in the Chambers.

## **Minutes:**

The minutes of the August 20, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved on the motion of Supervisor Fred Lawrence and second of Vice Chairman Loren Corbin.

## **Probation:**

The Committee reviewed Probation's proposed 2021 budget. Probation Director Joanne Miller stated that it remains flat or reduced a little. In revenue, Miller said that three lines are State Aid funded and that they have been told by State Aid to expect cuts. The Block grant has been \$139,770 and would be \$111,816 for 2021. A vacant Probation Officer position wouldn't be filled. Miller noted that drug testing supplies went up as well as telephone and cellular expense based on what has been used so far.

## **Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Joe Ostrander to enter into executive session at 9:09 a.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Vice Chairman Loren Corbin seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Chairman Pete Walrod to exit executive session at 9:20 a.m. Vice Chairman Loren Corbin seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

## **Sheriff's Office:**

Sheriff Todd Hood presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services and Modify the 2020 County Budget -**

### **SLETPP Grant**

Discussion: Vice Chairman Corbin asked if this three year grant was prorated or if it could be used all in one year. Sheriff Hood said it could be used any way. The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and second of Lawrence.

### **Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Cleaning Pros**

Discussion: Chairman Walrod asked where the Children's Advocacy Center was located. Sheriff Hood explained that it was on Buyea Road in in the Town of Lincoln and said that when there is an investigation they help with children who are victims of physical and sexual abuse to help them deal with what they went through. Hood said a majority of it is grant funded. Sheriff Hood said he would give the Committee members a tour of the facility. Public Information Officer Samantha Field said that Spectrum did an interview on the CAC and that it was posted on the Madison County webpage.

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

### **Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 County Budget - OCFS**

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

### **Authorizing Acceptance of 2020-2021 OCFS Award**

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

### **Authorizing Acceptance of 2020-2021 OVS Award**

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

Sheriff Hood informed the Committee that 30 Sheriffs went to Saratoga to discuss what's going on in NYS. Hood said he called Assemblyman John Salka and would like a bill passed through on bail reform. Crime rates are up based on evidence. Hood said they are looking for a bill to be passed for repeal of bail reform and another bill that would do away with cash bail in NYS.

County Administrator Mark Scimone stated that they had an initial meeting with community leaders on Police Reform and the adoption of a plan by April 2021. Public Information Officer Samantha Field has put together a form for public comment which is located on Madison County's website and the Sheriff's page. Field noted that she had received a couple of responses so far.

### **Emergency Management:**

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

#### **Authorizing the Chairman to Renew an Agreement with Wilmac Business Equipment Co. Inc.**

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Corbin and

second of Ostrander.

**Authorizing the Chairman to Renew an Agreement with AK Associates (Kraus Associates)**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Dr. Kirby Black for Medical Director Services**

Discussion: Have had a lot of conversations on a Certificate of Need (CON) and where it is going. Receiving both positive and negative feedback. This could also be used for the Special Operations Unit of the Sheriffs as well. Dr. Black would be available to assist.

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

Emergency Management Director Dan Degear informed the Committee that a 911 cellular surcharge was added in the department's budget which brought it to \$136,058, which is a reduction of 8.44% below last year. This includes funding all positions and the replacement of two vehicles. Degear remains concerned regarding the 2021 PSAP grant which is budgeted as a \$163,000 revenue used to offset salaries in the 911 center. The grant has not been released by NYS as of yet and is late by several months.

Continuing to support Public Health with COVID testing. There is a site today in Hamilton and one tomorrow in Wampsville. Have ordered some equipment to set up a drive thru with testing and vaccinations; took an old trailer and repurposed it to support the testing.

Degear stated that a Purchase Order for the new radios is in the process and that we expect a six to eight week turnaround on these. Radio Subscriber Agreements were never fully followed up on when the system went live around ten or so years ago. We will be requiring a signed agreement prior to releasing any new radios.

Need to reconsider the 911 Deputy Director position to best fill the needs and personnel available to meet these needs. Have a possible candidate. 911 Director Frank McFall has put together a job spec which is being reviewed.

Held a COVID-19 mid-action review meeting. Went over the good and the bad and learned some things. The big takeaway was the need for training county-wide on incident command. This is on-line training given by FEMA. A few employees have taken the course.

**Other Committee Business:**

First Assistant County Attorney Jeff Aumell presented the following resolution to the Committee:

**Authorizing Participation in a State Grant and the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget - Hurrell-Harring Grant**

Discussion: This is a five year overall grant that is done year to year. We are on year three, which began April 1, 2020. The \$422,000 represents year two.

The Committee unanimously approved the resolution on the motion of Lawrence

and second of Stokes.

**Preferred Agenda:**

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

**Adjournment:**

The Committee adjourned at 10:24 a.m. on the motion of Stokes and second of Walrod.

**Next Meeting Date:**

Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

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