

REGULAR MEETING OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Ontario County Safety Training Facility
April 28, 2014 2:00 P.M.

Committee Members

Theodore Fafinski, Chairman
Gregory Bendzlowicz
Charles Evangelista
Robert Green
Kristine Singer
Margaret Hilton

Others Present

John Garvey, Sheriff Povero, R. Michael Tantillo,
John Sheppard, Tom Harvey, Jeff Harloff, Leanne Lapp,
Leslie Hickey, Dru Malavase, Alice Haskins Cathy Bentzoni,
Steve DeChick, Mary Gates, Halle Stevens, Deb Trickey,
Jeff Rougeux, Ginny Gumaer-Muller, Carla Jordan,

Guests:

Judge Lew, Judge McGuire, John Champlin

Approval of Minutes:

The Public Safety Committee met at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility on Monday, April 28, 2014. Supervisor Fafinski called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Supervisor Singer moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2014. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Champlin Commission:

Mr. Champlin spoke to the Committee, giving them a brief history and overview on how the Commission was formed. Chief Haskins reviewed the handout given to the Committee which outlined the findings, Jail classification requirements, and recommendations. Some of the recommendations include review of specific cases to try and speed up the legal process, Federal grants, the hiring of a consultant to compile data for the programs they are looking at. Mr. Rougeux stated that Probation is looking for three new positions, two Sr. Probation Officers and one Probation Officer. One Sr. Probation Officer would work with mental hygiene court; the other Sr. Probation Officer would work with the client all the way through their sentencing. A Probation Officer would work on pre-plea and pre-trial sentencing investigations/reports, which take a lot of time to compile. This might save 1,700 jail days if the reports were completed one week earlier. Judge Lew is reviewing the cases of nine defendants that have been over 200 days in Jail. A few trends have emerged. They would like to try and eliminate these long stays. A lengthy discussion period followed with Committee members giving their input. Regarding additional staffing in Probation, Ms. Gumaer-Muller said that right now with the high case load per Probation Officer it is difficult to give any more time to clients. Mr. Garvey stated a summer intern will be dedicated to additional data collection on the Jail issues. He will be working with the District Attorney and Public Defender Offices to move forward and also to insure the severely ill elderly inmates receive the care they need.

District Attorney:

Mr. Tantillo requested authorization to apply for a grant from New York State Office of Victim Services. The grant provides for 80% funding for the Victims Assistant Coordinator position.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Mr. Tantillo. Supervisor Singer seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Planning:

Mr. Harvey requested authorization for payment of L.R. Kimball Invoice No. 524344 for \$4,114.02 (CP5-2013).

Supervisor Evangelista moved approval of the payment as requested by Mr. Harvey. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Ms. Jordan addressed the Committee to request authorization to contract for Professional Consultant Services – Sheriff’s Office Firing Range Analysis. The recommended vendor is T.Y. Lin International. Ms. Jordan reviewed the scope of work that will be completed and the options that will be considered. Mr. Harvey said there is guidance from the EPA about the environmental issues; standards and reclamation use for the site that is published by the DEC. T.Y. Lin’s proposal includes soil boring, samples and lab work analysis that is required. This will help give a clear picture of the extent of any contamination and issues going forward. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Ms. Jordan. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

STOP-DWI:

Ms. Malavase requested authorization to apply for a grant from NYS STOP-DWI Foundation to Supplement Existing Funding for DWI Crackdown Special Patrols and Drug Recognition Expert Overtime Callout. The County is required to apply yearly for this grant (\$21,432) through the STOP-DWI Foundation. It is for high visibility road checks and saturation (DWI) patrols, and Drug Recognition Evaluation call outs. She stated the grant was very advantageous last year to the STOP-DWI budget as well as enhanced amount of hours paid for, that otherwise would have been County paid. Sgt. Frasca from the Sheriff’s Office had done an outstanding job in coordinating the crackdowns, which are on specific holiday dates as the grant requires. There were 100 DRE evaluations completed last year in Ontario County and Ms. Malavase commented that this was a spectacular accomplishment. This year, the Sheriff’s Office two DRE officers have already completed 20 evaluations.

Emergency Management:

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board.

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for reappointments to the Fire Advisory Board.

Supervisor Singer moved approval of the above two items as requested by Mr. Harloff. Supervisor Green seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for a budget transfer to reallocate funding in the FY10 LEMPG Grant to Purchase a Weather Bug Alert System. This weather station would be mounted on the training center.

Supervisor Evangelista moved approval as requested by Mr. Harloff. Supervisor Singer seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero and Mr. Harloff requested authorization to apply for Grant from State Homeland Security Program. Mr. Harloff stated this is a perpetuating grant and a certain percentage is allotted to law enforcement, which would be 25% this year. May 7 is the deadline date. He advised that the HSP portion would be used toward the UHF Simulcast paging system. Sheriff Povero said that the law enforcement portion will have certain criteria to adhere to if the grant is approved. At that time, they will look at what can be purchased in conjunction with the new emergency communication system. This grant normally does not fund any positions but possibly can back fill on overtime and training. An enhanced communication system interoperable with other counties is one possible use for grant funds.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Mr. Harloff and Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Office of Sheriff:

Sheriff Povero requested authorization to apply for a grant from the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association for Impaired Driving Crackdowns. This organization reached out to Ontario County and advised the County it was eligible to apply for \$25,000. It is in the County's best interest to try and secure these funds. Sheriff Povero reviewed the specifications of the grant. It is non-repetitive and a county match is not required. Sheriff Povero stated the paperwork had to be filed by last Friday to meet the deadline and due to Committee cycle there was not an opportunity to bring it to the Committee before filing.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero requested authorization for an agreement with Beth Humby, LMSW, for Art Therapy Program at the Ontario County Jail. The cost of the services is paid for through inmate commissary services. The profit from commissary services has to be used exclusively for the rehabilitation of inmates, with the overall objective to reduce jail recidivism.

Supervisor Singer moved approval as requested by Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Green seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero requested authorization for a Renewal of Bid for the Purchase of Inmate Sundries, with the Bob Barker Company. The County is obligated under minimum standards, as set by the NY State Commission of Correction, to provide certain sundry items to inmates when they are admitted.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Singer seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero requested authorization for a Renewal of Bid for Law Enforcement Accessories and Leather Goods to three companies that submitted bids for leather good items used by Correction and Police Officers. This is the first of two twelve-month renewals.

Supervisor Evangelista moved approval as requested by Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero requested authorization for a Budget Transfer for the Replacement of a marked sedan. On February 1, a Deputy driving in a snow storm went into a ditch due to slushy road conditions. The vehicle sustained heavy damage. The County's self-insurance will cover a portion and the rest will come directly from the County to cover the cost of the vehicle.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Sheriff Povero. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Povero requested Mr. DeChick to update the Committee on air medical services. Recently, Mercy Flight gave a presentation to the Committee. Life Net of New York requested a brief meeting to introduce their organization and Mr. DeChick, Mr. Harloff, and Ms. Trickey met with them. Life Net is putting a base in Seneca Falls, with a helicopter, and will provide the same level of service as Mercy Flight. Mr. DeChick provided the Committee with a map showing known landing zones or firehouses used as landmarks to illustrate flight distances from Seneca Falls as compared to the flight distances from the Mercy Flight hanger at the Canandaigua Airport. Overall, it was found that Life Net is closer to the eastern side of Ontario County. Mr. DeChick provided a draft policy for the Sheriff's Office that addresses air medical services. Life Net would be the primary contact for the east side and Mercy Flight would be the primary contact for the rest of the County. Sheriff Povero stated this is consistent with the "closest car concept" that is used now in other emergency responses. Discussion followed. Mr. DeChick said that both companies have agreed to back up each other if one was not available. Weather can also be a factor in being able fly out from the base and on to trauma centers. The Committee was supportive of the policy.

Sheriff Povero reviewed the current Jail population. There are 216 inmates housed today and the weekend high was 224. There are 45 females incarcerated, six are Federal inmates. Sheriff Povero congratulated Chief Haskins and Lt. Minute for their efforts in working with immigration in securing an arrangement with them to transport the ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) individuals from the eastern part of the state to our facility when female beds are available. The six females will be housed for a short time and more will be brought in when bed space is available. This will generate revenue. The male Pods 7 and 8 are at double bunking status. Discussion followed. At the next meeting, information will be provided on the length of inmates in jail and their status. As requested, information will also be provided on overtime, the portion of mandated overtime and the criteria used to mandate.

Sheriff Povero said that pharmaceutical drop off this past Saturday, April 26, netted 799 pounds of unwanted medications. Three hundred forty-two vehicles passed through the drop off area. The next event will be June 14 at the Clifton Springs hospital.

At 3:23 p.m. Supervisor Singer moved to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Bendzlowicz seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Hudson
Confidential Secretary