

**REGULAR MEETING OF
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Ontario County Safety Training Facility
February 25, 2013 2:00 P.M.**

Committee Members	Others Present
Samuel Casella, Chairman	John Garvey, John Marren, Undersheriff Tillman,
Mary Luckern	R. Michael Tantillo, Leanne Lapp, Alice Haskins,
John Champlin – Necessarily Absent	Jeff Rougeux, Dru Malavase, Steve DeChick, Betsy Landre
Norm Teed – Necessarily Absent	Jeff Harloff, Halle Stevens, Mary Gates, Ray DeRuyter
Robert A. Green, Jr.	
Donald Ninestine	

The Public Safety Committee met in the Ontario County Safety Training Facility on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 200 p.m. for a regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting was chaired by Supervisor Ninestine.

Approval of Minutes:

Supervisor Teed moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 4, 2013, amended to reflect the weekend high of jail inmates should read 227, not 22 and correction of the word Necessary to Necessarily Absent.

Supervisor Ninestine declared Chairman Casella necessarily late. He entered the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

District Attorney:

Mr. Tantillo requested authorization for a budget transfer related to the purchase of law enforcement equipment.

Mr. Tantillo presented a personnel request to the Committee. He advised that ADA Kirk Hazen, who has done a good job over the years heading up the DWI Enforcement Program, is stepping down in the middle of April after 22 years. He is very thorough, very diligent, and has tried many of these cases. Mr. Tantillo plans to assign another office person to this program to keep things moving along. A new attorney will be hired at the entry level, Step 1, to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Hazen’s retirement. Mr. Tantillo would then like to elevate an existing ADA, Jason McBride, to an upper level tier. Mr. McBride has over a year with Ontario County and prior to that he was an ADA for eight years in Monroe County, rising to the level of Deputy Bureau Chief for Violent Felonies and Child Abuse. He has tried many violent crime cases and has brought his skills to Ontario County. Supervisor Ninestine advised that Management Compensation has approved these requests.

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

Jail:

So that the District Attorney can be present before having to leave today’s meeting, Chairman Casella requested permission for Chief Haskins to address the Committee regarding discussions at the recent Magistrate’s meeting. Ms. Haskins spoke of the issues that Ontario County is facing with overcrowding in the Jail. The Jail has received a second variance this year to co-mingle adult inmates and minors, and they are

only allowed three per year. This past weekend, four females had to be housed out. There are a number of reasons for the overcrowding. There is a back log of people awaiting trial. One person has been here 525 days, the shortest on the list is 227 days. More are sentenced for longer periods at local time. There were 28 inmates this weekend doing intermittent time. Weekends also include Drug Court sanctioned people. There is not adequate housing for weekend inmates. Much of this is precipitated by inmates with mental health issues. People with mental issues cannot be double celled. Currently, there are 68 inmates that have mental health issues. The facility was built with 24 cells to accommodate mental health inmates. These are some of the things contributing to the overcrowding issue.

Chairman Casella stated this is just a condensed version of the Jail problems. At the Magistrates meeting, the Justices had another observation. They don't often get to have these discussions except at the Magistrate's meeting. Chairman Casella would like the Public Safety Committee to create a working group to address the overall issues of overcrowding in the Jail. It is reaching very serious proportions. This will also help address some of the concerns of the Magistrates. They were supportive of this working committee. Chairman Casella felt the committee should be comprised of Chief Haskins, the County Administrator or Deputy County Administrator, representatives from the offices of District Attorney, Public Defender, and Probation; Mental Health, a local Judge (if allowed by Judiciary), a County Court Judge, a representative from the developmentally disabled community (on as needed basis) and a Public Safety Committee member.

A lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Garvey stated that one of the difficulties in dealing with the closure of mental health facilities and people that self medicate; they ultimately end up institutionalized at county jails across the country. He is willing to help but has concerns that corrections and ATI might not be able to solve these problems. Chairman Casella concurred that mental health is a large issue, but only part of the problem. The hope is that something better will come of this. Chief Haskins agreed with the need to proceed as well. Supervisor Champlin will chair the working committee. An official committee name will be determined at the first meeting.

STOP-DWI:

Ms. Malavase requested authorization for a Budget Transfer to repay the Fund Balance from STOP-DWI Fund Balance for the end of 2011 shortfall.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Ms. Malavase. Supervisor Champlin seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Ms. Malavase requested authorization for the acceptance of a Grant from the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Board for Motorcycle Safety Program. The department had prior approval to apply for the grant. She thanked Ms. Gates and Ms. Stevens for their assistance.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Ms. Malavase. Supervisor Teed seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Planning:

Ms. Landre requested authorization for Award of Bid for the 911 Center Work Stations and Next Generation 911 Switch Replacement Project. An RFP was sent out for ergonomic work stations and Xybix Systems Inc. was the low bidder. They met the specifications and are \$40,000 under the budgeted amount.

Supervisor Champlin moved approval as requested by Ms. Landre. Supervisor Luckern seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Ms. Landre requested authorization for payment of invoices as listed below.

- A. Harris Corporation, Invoice No. S000000313 for \$759,857.79
- B. Harris Corporation, Invoice No. S000000341 for \$11,910.00
- C. Harris Corporation, Invoice No. P000000431 for \$882,953.14
- D. Logiflex, Invoice No. F-277738 for \$14,870.00

Supervisor Green moved approval of the above four items as requested by Ms. Landre. Supervisor Teed seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Ms. Landre also advised that a letter was sent to Supervisor Fafinski from the New York State Department of Homeland Security advising of a grant award to Ontario County in the amount of \$2,202,885.00 for equipment function and interoperability of the radio system. This will result in the creation of a new Capital Project.

Emergency Management:

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for a Budget Transfer for Transfer of Equipment to New Breathing Air Truck. The bid was mailed to five vendors and one responded back, Churchville Fire Equipment Corporation. Mr. DeRuyter stated \$10,500 is the cost of transferring the equipment to the new truck. \$900 would be the cost for the vendor to transport the equipment to and from their shop. The cost of the generator for the truck is out to bid. This is a separate project but part of the new truck. Mr. DeRuyter confirmed the bid was properly advertised.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Mr. Harloff. Supervisor Champlin seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for the establishment of pay rates for instructor services for members of the County's EMS agencies.

Supervisor Teed moved approval as requested by Mr. Harloff. Supervisor Green seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Harloff requested authorization for the Purchase of a Companion Animal Trailer. This project started after Hurricane Katrina. Ontario County was awarded a Regional Companion Animal Sheltering Equipment Grant per Resolution 154-2011.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Mr. Harloff. Supervisor Teed seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Harloff updated the Committee regarding a participating grant with Cayuga County. They are submitting the grant application for technical rescue. Cayuga County is the submitting partner and Ontario County is the participating partner.

Probation:

Mr. Rougeux requested authorization for acceptance of a grant with Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc. This is the remainder of the Juvenile Justice Grant that was received last year. It involves four more Circles/Counseling at other schools to include more youth. Safe Harbors provide all the materials. Supervisor Green stated he has worked with Safe Harbors. They do an incredible amount of work.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Mr. Rougeux. Supervisor Champlin seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Rougeux stated that effective June 1, 2013 there is a change in the Probation supervision role regarding minimum standards rules. Ontario County has already implemented some of these items. Officers are no longer overly supervising people. There are not any drug/alcohol conditions if clients don't have those problems. People are not kept on probation too long. There may be a need to have discussions with local Magistrates. Another item is the need for mental health help, with collaboration between mental health and criminal justice.

Also, all of Probation is to get out of the collection of fines and fees. It is an overwhelming process. He has talked with the County Clerk about overseeing fines and fees. Cayuga County Probation has just stopped doing this. It gives Probation more time to focus on other things. Despite the problems in Probation, Mr. Rougeux told the Committee he is very glad to be where he is. The Probation Officers are outstanding and very professional. The department works very well with the District Attorney and Public Defender offices. Discussion followed. Supervisor Ninestine expressed his concern with moving forward too fast with on a change with fines and fees. Mr. Rougeux advised that collecting DWI fines would still remain with Probation. There would also be jurisdictional issues to work out with the transfer of collection of some fees to other counties.

Mr., Garvey commended Mr. Rougeux on being innovative and bringing forth new ideas, helping Probation move forward.

Office of Sheriff:

Ms. Gates requested authorization for a contract with Health Trac MDTS for diagnostic imaging. They currently come to the Health Facility and would provide services to the Jail, which would be helpful with the Jail transportation issues.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Ms. Gates. Supervisor Teed seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Chief Haskins requested authorization for an agreement with Beth Humby, LMSW for an art therapy program at the Jail. Proceeds from the Commissary Account have to be used for non-profit items. Ms. Humby would come weekly to the Jail. This program helps inmates focus on responsibility and what life has become.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Chief Haskins. Supervisor Champlin seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Chief Haskins reviewed Jail Population. The weekend high was 238 inmates, with 56 females. Finding room for female inmates contributes to the problems. Currently, there are eight inmates whose medications are over \$1,000 per month right. One inmate's medications are \$8,000 a month. He was in State prison for awhile, was out on parole, immediately started selling drugs, and is back now with a B felony. This case will take a while to get through the court. In January, almost every single day an inmate was in the hospital. There are a lot of issues with drug withdrawal, overdoses prior to coming into the facility. One inmate received a Fentanyl patch during a contact visit, swallowed it and almost died. There are a many sick people in the facility and a lot of complications from that. There was additional discussion regarding the Jail situation. Supervisory Champlin asked about inmate insurance. Mr. Garvey will speak with John Parrott to see if there is something like this in the insurance industry. Chief Haskins mentioned the Affordable Care

Act. There is conversation that inmates may be covered. Supervisor Ninestine stated there should be a news release on Jail medical costs. Chairman Casella agreed this needs to be done.

Public Defender:

Ms. Lapp requested authorization for contract with Jerid M. Fisher, PH.D. for Forensic Neuropsychologist Services. He is an expert in brain injuries and illnesses. She does not use his services in every case but does use it periodically.

Supervisor Green moved approval as requested by Ms. Lapp. Supervisor Luckern seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Chairman Casella asked Ms. Lapp to update the Committee on the mental health meetings that she holds. Ms. Lapp advised that there is an upcoming meeting in March. They have been discussing taking the current drug court and making it into more of a multi tasking treatment court that can also deal with mental health issues, rather than starting a separate mental health court. The group is also looking at models around the state. There are other areas they need to talk about such as pre-trial issues and getting people into programs before their cases are resolved.

Ms. Lapp requested authorization to apply for a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Grant. She stated that she just became aware of this grant after a mental health committee meeting and would like the opportunity to apply. There is a match component. The deadline is March 25.

Supervisor Ninestine moved approval as requested by Ms. Lapp. Supervisor Champlin seconded the motion, carried unanimously.

Mr. Garvey requested the Committee move to Executive Session to discuss long term employment of an individual.

Supervisor Ninestine made a motion to move to Executive Session at 3:25 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Green, carried unanimously.

Supervisor Ninestine made a motion to close Executive Session at 3:35 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Green and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hudson
Confidential Secretary

