

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

JULY 13, 2000

NOON

SCOTT HEYMAN CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: G. Totman, B. Blanchard, N. Schuler, T. Joseph

EXCUSED: C. Evans

STAFF: P. Meskill, Sheriff; O. Mack, OAR; J. Miller, L. Shurtleff, Fire, Disaster and EMS; K. Smithers, Deputy County Administrator; J. Hughes, Assigned Counsel

GUESTS: D. Kiefer, Board of Representatives Member; D. Johnson, Ithaca Drug Court Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting opened at 12:02 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

- Resolution No. - Endorsement of Reorganization of Emergency Planning Committee and Revision of Administrative Manual Policy 01-19
- Resolution No. - Adoption of Amended Bylaws (Article II, Part 9) - Advisory Board on Indigent Representation
- Appointment - Advisory Board on Indigent Representation

MINUTES

It was Moved by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mrs. Schuler and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of June 8, 2000, as submitted.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

BUDGET TRANSFER – INFORMATION ONLY

FROM:	A1165.52206	Computer Equipment	\$200
TO:	A1165.52230	Computer Software	\$200

Explanation: To purchase web publishing software.

OAR UPDATE

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL GOALS

The Committee reviewed OAR's goals for the year 2000, these are on file with the original minutes. Mr. Mack stated that he has no reference point to begin with and based the goals and objectives on the 2000 budget and the agency's contract with the County.

Mr. Joseph stated that when he reviews goals he looks to see if they are compatible with what the Board wants from the agency and OAR's goals do that. He stated the goals reflect the services of the agency, not grandiose ideas for accomplishments.

Ms. Blanchard stated in prior years there have been questions about how much has been given toward restoration and asked Mr. Mack if he feels there will be some inroads in that respect with the goals that have been set. Mr. Mack stated the restoration piece is better served outside the jail and expanding transition services will help with this aspect. Currently, however, the agency does not have the funding or the personnel for such an expansion, but the Defender Based Advocacy Program is being proposed in the 2001 budget. Mr. Joseph stated everyone would like to see programs that help with rehabilitation and restoration, but the County has never funded them.

Ms. Blanchard asked if the number of bails projected for the year is consistent with 1999. Mr. Mack stated they are slightly lower than last year.

DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Smithers had not report.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

ELECTRONIC MONITORING UPDATE

Ms. Leinthall was unable to attend today's meeting. She did provide a written update stating the Electronic Monitoring caseload remains at 9-10 cases. She stated that one individual recently broke their leg and had to have their bracelet removed at the hospital. The Sheriff's Department was notified and authorized the removal of the bracelet and then notified Ms. Leinthall at home. She stated one individual cut their bracelet off and absconded the day they were supposed to enter rehabilitation. That person is still being sought by authorities. Ms. Johnson stated the bracelet was found by a passerby between Owego and Ithaca and they called the number on the back of the bracelet.

FIRE AND DISASTER

Mr. Miller stated the standby UPS system, which provides back-up power and acts as a stabilizer for the communications system has broken down. He stated his suggestion would be to purchase a new one using money from the maintenance account. The total cost would be \$3,283 and includes the cost of maintenance. He stated the system is working fine with a generator at this point, but has the potential of going down and then part of the County's communication system would be lost. It was the consensus of the Committee to approve Mr. Miller's request to purchase a new UPS system.

RESOLUTION NO. - ENDORSEMENT OF REORGANIZATION OF EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE AND REVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL POLICY 01-19

It was Moved by Ms. Blanchard, seconded by Mr. Joseph and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the policy as revised and submit it to the full Board for approval. It was Moved by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mrs. Schuler and unanimously adopted by voice vote to amend Resolution No. 184 of 1981 changing the title of Commissioner of Public Works to the County Administrator or designee and submit it to the full Board for approval.

WHEREAS, Tompkins County established a County Emergency Action Plan in 1983 that included the designation of a Disaster Advisory Committee, and

WHEREAS, recent national events have underscored the importance of community-wide emergency planning in order to coordinate and maximize local resources in the event of local disasters, and

WHEREAS, a commitment to County-wide emergency planning is evident, as exhibited by the large number of public and private officials from Tompkins County who recently participate in the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Integrated Emergency Management Course in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and

WHEREAS, a reactivation of the Disaster Advisory Committee as an Emergency Planning Committee will facilitate the planning process, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to have the Emergency Planning Committee responsible for both prospective planning and actual operational help during a local disaster, and

WHEREAS, a restructuring of the committee will ensure proper representation and input toward a Comprehensive County Emergency Management Plan, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the Board of Representatives endorses the reorganization of this Emergency Planning Committee and hereby updates Policy 01-19 to reflect the updated membership and its mission.

SEQR ACTION: Type II-20

RESOLUTION NO. 2001 FISCAL TARGET ADJUSTMENT; FIRE COORDINATOR AND SHERIFF

It was Moved by Ms. Blanchard, seconded by Mr. Joseph and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present.

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's 2001 Fiscal Target includes \$22,523 as payment to the Fire Coordinator for the following:

- a. Motorola Service for certain handheld radios & vehicle radios \$9,653
- b. Operational charge-back for microwaves, phones, consoles,
base stations, call checks, voting receivers, etc. \$12,870

and

WHEREAS, the radios covered by the \$9,653 have exceeded their useful life and should be excluded from the Fire Coordinator's service contract with Motorola giving the Sheriff the option of repairing a radio or replacing it as necessary, and

WHEREAS, the charging back of operational expenses to the Sheriff's Office has been in practice for many years and no longer serves any understandable purpose, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety and Budget and Fiscal Policy Committees, That the Sheriff's Office no longer be required to reimburse the Fire Coordinator's budget for operational expenses, and

RESOLVED, further, That there be a commensurate reduction in the 2001 Fiscal Target for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$12,870, and

RESOLVED, further, That the 2001 Fiscal Target for the Fire Coordinator be increased by \$12,870 to offset the loss of revenue from the Sheriff's Office charge-back payment, and

RESOLVED, further, That the Motorola Service Agreement be amended to exclude the fully-depreciated radios allowing the Sheriff to utilize the \$9,653 for either purchases or repairs and leaving a \$9,653 decrease in the Fire Coordinator's service contract costs with Motorola.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

ASSIGNED COUNSEL UPDATE

Ms. Hughes stated the Felony Drug Court Program has begun. The same attorneys cover both Ithaca City Drug Court and the Felony Drug Court. She stated it is unclear at this point how the Family Court Drug Treatment Program will be handled once it is up and running. She stated there are currently six felony drug court cases and it is hoped that this program expands with the new court administration coming in 2001. Ms. Hughes stated that there is currently one murder case underway that has an assigned attorney. The most recent murder case has a privately retained attorney at this point, but this may change given the amount of money needed to retain an attorney for a case of this magnitude.

Ms. Hughes introduced and the Committee welcomed Desiree Johnson, Ithaca Drug Court Coordinator.

RESOLUTION NO. - ADOPTION OF AMENDED BYLAWS (ARTICLE II, PART 9) - ADVISORY BOARD ON INDIGENT REPRESENTATION

It was Moved by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mrs. Schuler and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present.

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board on Indigent Representation wishes to change the number of individuals needed for quorum from seven members to a majority of the seated board members, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the following paragraph replace the language in Article II, Part 9., Quorum:

"A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of the seated board members."

RESOLVED, further, That the proposed amendment to the bylaws of the Advisory Board on Indigent Representation be and hereby is adopted, said bylaws are on file with the Clerk of the Board.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

APPOINTMENT

It was Moved by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mrs. Schuler and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the appointment of Emerson Mitchell to the Advisory Board on Indigent Representation for a term to expire December 31, 2002.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. - AUTHORIZATION TO UPGRADE AGREEMENT ON THE NYSPIN WORKSTATION

It was Moved by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Ms. Blanchard and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present.

WHEREAS, New York State has entered into an agreement with Annese & Associates, Inc. to upgrade all NYSPIN workstations, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to upgrade the NYSPIN workstation at the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office will be entering into an agreement with Annese & Associates, Inc. to upgrade the NYSPIN workstation, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office enter into a thirty-six month installment to upgrade the workstation,

RESOLVED, further, That no new funding or budget adjustment is needed.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

RESOLUTION NO. - AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY PROGRAM

It was Moved by Mrs. Schuler, seconded by Mr. Joseph and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office applied for grant monies from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee in the amount of \$12,230 to cover project costs for the Child Passenger Safety Program, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a grant from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee in the amount of \$12,230 (for a grand total of \$20,230) to cover project costs through September 30, 2001, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the County accept the grant of \$12,230 to be used for the purpose of the aforementioned costs,

RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance is directed to make the following adjustments to his books for 2000:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Revenue	A3113.42770	Other Misc. Revenues	\$12,230
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Appropriation	A3113.54319	Program Supplies	\$12,230
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SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20
JAIL STATISTICS

Sheriff Meskill distributed the jail statistics. They are on file with the original minutes. He stated the population is down in the jail, but he is paying for a lot of overtime because he has five female officers out on long-term disability.

DEPARTMENTAL GOALS

The Committee reviewed the Sheriff's 2000 goals, they are on file with the original minutes.

Ms. Blanchard asked what the process is for accreditation of the jail. Sheriff Meskill stated that the accreditation is a review by others to see if the agency is operating with specific criteria in place. He stated accreditation is applied for every few years and the last time the jail was accredited was in 1989. Sheriff Meskill updated the Committee on a recent report by the Commission of Corrections. The Commission is very happy with the jail operation and there are no objections in the report.

Mr. Joseph complimented the Sheriff on his goals stating the expanded goals include what will be done to make the community safer. Ms. Blanchard stated that emphasis on training is crucial.

Sheriff Meskill reported that a new officer will begin work next week. He stated the officer is Rape, Aggression, and Defense (RAD) trained and this is very helpful. He stated that the Domestic Violence Coordinator is paying for overtime and training of an additional officer. He stated baton training is being completed this week.

Ms. Blanchard asked what the general reaction is to training within the department. Sheriff Meskill stated that overall people are very happy. He stated the last two weeks of June were spent on Diversity training and this went very well.

Sheriff Meskill stated that the 2001 budget has been submitted. He reported he recently attended the Sheriff's Association's Summer Conference.

Ms. Kiefer stated that when the last Charter review was completed there was talk about the development of a job description for the Sheriff and asked if this has been implemented yet. Sheriff Meskill stated that it hasn't been put in place, but there has been talk in the State Legislature about having minimum standards for the job.

OTHER

Mr. Totman stated he has received questions from members of the community about the E911 Operations and Public Safety Building Space Study Committees and asked that monthly reports be given at future committee meetings. Ms. Blanchard stated that the Chair of the Public Safety Committee should also be a member of the Communications Capital Project Committee and she will ask Chair Mink to make the appointment at the next Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m. The next meeting will be held August 10, 2000, at Noon in the Scott Heyman Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Luu, Administrative Assistant, Board of Representative's office.