

**Minutes
Public Safety Committee
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
4:45 p.m. – Courthouse Conference Room**

Approved

Present: N. Shinagawa, J. Dennis, B. Robison, P. Stein (arrived at 4:50 p.m.)
Excused: L. McBean-Clairborne
Staff: P. Meskill, Sheriff; P. Buechel, Director of Probation and Community Justice, A. Bonavia, District Attorney's Office; J. Mareane, County Administrator; S. Cook, Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives-to-Incarceration Advisory Board; M. Pottorff, Legislature Office

Call to Order

Mr. Shinagawa called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.

Minutes Approval – November 1, 2010

It was MOVED by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Robison, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the minutes of November 1, 2010. MINUTES APPROVED.

Mr. Stein arrived at 4:50 p.m.

RESOLUTION (DOC ID: 2158): APPROVAL OF AMENDED BYLAWS – CRIMINAL JUSTICE/ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION ADVISORY BOARD

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Dennis, Member
SECONDER:	Brian Robison, Member
AYES:	Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis, Brian Robison, Peter Stein
EXCUSED:	Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice/Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory (CJA/ATI) Board desires to amend its bylaws to more accurately reflect the County Legislature's advisory board attendance policy and more accurately designate its appointed membership pursuant to the New York State Executive Law under which it operates, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the bylaws for Criminal Justice/Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board, as amended and adopted by the CJA/ATI at their November 22, 2010, meeting, be approved,

RESOLVED, further, That a copy of the amended bylaws shall be kept on file with the Clerk of the Legislature and the Chair of the CJA/ATI Board.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

Report from the Department of Probation and Community Justice

Ms. Buechel reported on the following:

- Tompkins County applied and received a driver's license scanner. This is a device that is used by establishments that serve or sell alcohol and can tell if the bar code information matches what is on the license. Northside Liquor and Spirits was the recipient of the scanner and has begun using the device; she will be checking in with them in the next few weeks to see how it is working. Ms.

- Buechel said Northside Liquor and Spirits was chosen because of its volume of liquor sales, particularly to students, and because they have been proactive in trying to identify false licenses.
- On December 4 the Probation Department held a 2½-hour training session for Magistrates on technology and supervision of offenders. There were eight judges in attendance at that training and they were very interested in the GPS component, ignition interlock system, urine panel testing screening, SCRAM, and other programs. She said the training went very well and thinks there will be more interest in using that as an alternative-to-incarceration. Ms. Buechel will be looking for funding because the Department has used all of the funds in the budget line.

Report on the Governor's Legal Indigent Board

Mr. Mareane reported he is one of nine appointees to the Governor's Legal Indigent Defense Board. The Board has an ambitious mission of improving the quality of public defense in New York State. It intends to do this by creating an office that will look at the quality of public defense in every county in New York State. It is expected it will vary widely from county to county and generally be found to be of very poor quality. Mr. Mareane said a statement was made by the Chief Justice of the State who heads the Board that in some places the quality of defense is so bad it is worse than having no defense at all. The second step is to figure out what kinds of measurements can be developed that can measure the quality of indigent defense so that it can gauge how a county is performing. The third step is to determine how the State should use its grant monies as an incentive counties that are not doing well.

Mr. Mareane said right now Tompkins County receives a \$400,000 block grant from the State for the indigent defense program; however, there are problems with this due to the maintenance of effort requirement. Although there will be some maintenance of effort requirements, the current system will no longer be used. He said the block grant program will change to a competitive grant program over a period of four years. The basis of the competition will be quality of service factors, but they will also be looking at a way that will not penalize counties that already have a high standard of quality. Mr. Mareane said he will be stressing this to the Board because Tompkins County has a high quality program and should not stand to lose funding to other programs that have not performed well.

The next meeting of the Board will be December 9th.

Report from the County Administrator

Mr. Mareane reported the CAD/RMS system has been installed over the last two days and things are going well.

Report from the Sheriff

Sheriff Meskill reported the Sheriff's Office has been very busy on the law enforcement side, particularly with assisting the Village of Trumansburg with a homicide case and software installations.

Appointments

It was MOVED by Mr. Robison, seconded by Mr. Stein, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the following appointment(s):

Advisory Board on Indigent Representation
Kelly A. Damm - term expires December 31, 2013

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Heather L. Bissel - term expires December 31, 2013
Deborah L. Dietrich – term expires December 31, 2013

Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives to Incarceration Board
Linda Riley – Director of Community Services per Mental Health Law, term expires December 31, 2013
Susan Cook – County Attorney’s Office, term expires December 31, 2013
Tammy Baker – Mediation Services, term expires December 31, 2013

STOP-DWI Advisory Board
Sonya Seamon – Restaurant/Taverns/Hotels, term expires December 31, 2013

Emergency Communications Review and Oversight Committee
Edward Abruzzo – New York State Police, term expires December 31, 2013
Jason Fulton – Citizen, term expires December 31, 2013

Traffic Safety Board
Fernando de Aragon – MPO, term expires December 31, 2013

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Pottorff, TC Legislature Office