

**Minutes  
Public Safety Committee  
Tuesday, September 7, 2010**

***Approved***

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Nathan Shinagawa	Chair	Absent	
James Dennis	Member	Absent	
Leslyn McBean-Clairborne	Member	Excused	
Brian Robison	Member	Present	
Peter Stein	Member	Present	
Pat Pryor	Temporary Member	Present	4:45 AM

Legislators: M. Lane

Staff: M. Lynch, County Administration; U. Mukherjee, Department of Probation and Community Justice; L. Shurtleff, Department of Emergency Response; A. McElwee, District Attorney's Office; M. Pottorff, Legislature Office

**Call to Order**

Mr. Robison called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

**Chair's Report**

There was no report.

**Changes to Agenda**

**Motion To:** Add the following items to the agenda:

- Budget Adjustment – Department of Emergency Response
- Resolution - Authorization to Accept Homeland Security Grants, Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Response

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Peter Stein, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

**Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Meskill distributed an update on the Re-Entry Program. He explained this is a voluntary program to enhance skills and abilities as they re-enter society. He said there have been a few individuals who have been re-incarcerated but thinks the program has been excelling in relation to trying to give people something extra to learn while they are in Jail and provide them with contacts to agencies prior to release.

Mr. Stein said he would be interested in seeing a comparison of re-incarceration rates of people from the same period of time who were not in the program. *He also asked that this be discussed again at the meeting in October.*

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Sheriff Meskill reported the current Jail population is 71, one female is boarded out because of a classification issue. He reported on the receipt of a Child Passenger Seat grant from the Governor's

Traffic Safety Committee in the amount of \$8,500 and a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services for the purpose of enhancing the Department's ability to collect DNA evidence in burglary cases.

**Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives-to-Incarceration Board**

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

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>WITHDRAWN/NOT FINAL</b>
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Questions arose concerning proposed changes to the bylaws; specifically, a reference to members being designated by the County Executive and this position not existing in Tompkins County. The item was withdrawn and will be presented at a later date when staff can attend and provide an explanation of the changes.

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**Appointment to Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives-to-Incarceration Board**

Gwen Wilkinson – District Attorney representative; term expires December 3, 2012.

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b> Peter Stein, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b> Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>AYES:</b> Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b> Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b> Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

**Department of Probation and Community Justice**

**RESOLUTION (DOC ID: 2182): APPROPRIATION FROM CONTINGENT FUND - REPLACEMENT PAY - DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE**

<b>RESULT:</b> <b>RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b> Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>SECONDER:</b> Peter Stein, Member
<b>AYES:</b> Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b> Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b> Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

WHEREAS, the Department of Probation and Community Justice had an employee out on disability for greater than two months in the Alternatives to Incarceration Program, and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Policy of Tompkins County allows for replacement pay to the Department from the Contingent Fund, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety and Budget and Capital Committees, That the Director of Finance is hereby authorized to make the following adjustment to his books for 2010:

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FROM:	A1990.54400	Contingent Fund	\$11,948
TO:	A3141.51000585	Probation Officer	\$8,504
	A3141.58800	Fringes	\$3,444

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**RESOLUTION (DOC ID: 2187): APPROPRIATION FROM CONTINGENT FUND -  
TERMINAL PAY - DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION AND  
COMMUNITY JUSTICE**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Peter Stein, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

WHEREAS, in the Department of Probation and Community Justice, one Keyboard Specialist retired effective July 31, 2010,

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Policy of Tompkins County allows for terminal pay to the department from the Contingent Fund, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety and Budget and Capital Committees, That the Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to make the following budget adjustment for 2010:

FROM:	A1990.54400	Contingent Fund	271
TO:	A3141.51000507	Keyboard Specialist	39
	A3142.51000507	Keyboard Specialist	154
	A3141.58800	Fringes	16
	A3142.58800	Fringes	62

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**Department of Emergency Response**

Report on Alarm System

Mr. Shurtleff, Director, said following the last Committee meeting he distributed a memo detailing the Department's position on wanting to discontinue the monitoring of fire alarm systems for a variety of reasons, primarily with regard to liability and manageability of the alarms. He said notification was also sent to approximately three dozen companies that install alarms stating the Department would no longer be accepting new accounts and was preparing to discontinue taking these alarms. There was no response received from those letters.

Mr. Shurtleff explained that alarms would now have to go to private monitoring companies and not directly to 911. He said the County is not compliant with national fire protection standards in actively supervising all of the alarms. He said the level of monitoring would not deteriorate but the cost for doing this would be assumed by those having the alarms. He said if the Department were to continue monitoring these alarms he would recommend a monitoring fee be established in addition to new personnel being added. Mr. Shurtleff said the Department will continue to monitor Personal Emergency Response Service (PERS) devices as well as County buildings; however, any non-County outside building would need to go with a different provider.

Mr. Stein questioned why the Department would continue to provide service to the PERS program. Mr. Shurtleff explained the program is very straight-forward and payment is based on a sliding fee scale. The majority of PERS clients now pay \$3-4 per month and the cost of going to a different provider would be beyond what most using the PERS system could pay. He also noted the Office for the Aging is contributing Rollover monies towards the upgrade of monitoring equipment.

Mr. Robison asked if the cost would prohibit any entities from using a private service. Mr. Shurtleff said it is unlikely. Mr. Stein asked if private companies would need to be licensed and how their performance is evaluated. Mr. Shurtleff explained that through the Code Enforcement process there are approved companies and a list of recommended vendors; there are also compliance standards that are in place. He said due to the large volume of alarms and changes in technology he believes it is in the best interest of the County to no longer answer those alarms that could be handled by private companies.

**BDGT ADJ./TRANSFERS REQ. ACTION (DOC ID: 2202): MISMATCH GRANT/FISCAL YEARS**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Peter Stein, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

REVENUE:	3410.44389	Other Public Safety Federal	\$220,500
APPROPRIATION:	3410.544	Program Expense	\$220,500

Explanation: Mismatch grant/fiscal years: Grant funds were accepted by Resolution No. 167 (2009) and adjustments made then to the 2009 budget. The receipt and expenditure of funds will occur in 2010 and an adjustment must be made accordingly in the current year budget. No fiscal impact.

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**RESOLUTION (DOC ID: 2200): AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Pat Pryor, Temporary Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Peter Stein, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Brian Robison, Peter Stein, Pat Pryor
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Nathan Shinagawa, James Dennis
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Leslyn McBean-Clairborne

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office and the Department of Emergency Response have identified available funding sources through the New York State Office of Homeland Security, and said funds may be applied to the current Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/Mobile Data System (MDS)/Records Management Systems (RMS) Project, and

WHEREAS, grants of \$ 63,500 through the State Law Enforcement Prevention Program (SLETPP), and of \$ 141,203 through the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) have been approved by the New York State Office of Homeland Security to assist in the procurement of CAD/MDS/RMS and

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for the related training expenses of these systems, and

WHEREAS, the Capital Project budget established for these systems anticipated and reflected these identified grant funds, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That Tompkins County accepts these Homeland Security Grants of \$ 204,703 for purposes of assisting in the CAD/MDS/RMS project procurement and training, and be it

RESOLVED, further, That the following accounts be adjusted accordingly:

Communications Capital Projects:

Revenue:	3412.44389 (Other Public Safety)
Expense:	3412.59239 (Construction Expense)

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Pottorff, TC Legislature Office