

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 19, 2012

PRESENT:

**Roy Brown, Chairman
Kevin McDonald
William Hughes, Jr.
Matt Murell
John Porreca, Sr.
Jeffrey Braley
Jeffrey Nayer
Valerie Bertram, non-voting member**

ALSO PRESENT:

**Gail DiCosmo, Clerk
Michael Benvenuto
Arlene Levinson
Thomas Lanphear
Sheriff Harrison
Jim VanDeusen
Rob Lopez
Paul Czajka
Robert Gibson
Paul D'Onofrio
PJ Keeler
John Leonardson
Dennis McEvoy
Gary Mazzacano
Sarah Sterling**

PRESS: 1

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Public Defender: A. Levinson

Distribution of November and December 2011 monthly reports with review.

Fire Coordinator: J. VanDeusen

Conference Objective Form: 19th Annual Haz-mat Seminar, February 17th – 19th in Montour Falls, NY, cost is 200.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Interviewing will begin for open County Fire Instructor position, 3 resumes with 1 from out of County, permission given to start interviewing, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell, carried. J. VanDeusen will bring to the February Committee meeting the “Duties of the Fire Coordinator”.

Conflict and 2nd Alternate Conflict Defenders: J. Leonardson & D. Mcevoy: Briefed the committee on an overview of what they do and they are extremely busy.

Probation: M. Benvenuto

Two of my newest Probation Officers attended training Saturday January 14th in the use of OC (Oleoresin Capsicum) pepper spray and the Use of Force Continuum at the Columbia County Sheriff's Department. This training was rescheduled from last November. They attended said training with the Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy. Both Officers passed their training and testing with flying colors (and painfully blood shot eyes).

Two (2) documents created by the New York State Council of Probation Administrators for dissemination to the NYS Legislature in 2012. Both documents are related to a significant drop in probation state aid over the years, and the subject of probation unfunded mandates and regulations. These documents are created with the support of the New York State Association of Counties. I thought that this information might be helpful to share with the new Public Safety Committee.

Resolution Request: Resolution calling on the Governor and the State Legislature to Enact Legislation that will bring mandate relief to Probation Departments, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by K. McDonald, carried. Refer to Finance.

E911: R. Lopez

Information: I want to make you aware that I will be hiring a part time temp relief Emergency Dispatcher. This will be to replace another hired in September of 2011 who left at the end of December 2011 to take a full time job in Virginia. We currently have a **Resolution 203-2003 to maintain a pool of six (6) Emergency Dispatcher PT** (part-time temp relief) at a salary of \$12.98/hr to \$16.28 depending upon experience to be determined by the director. This position is included in the pool of six dispatchers available to cover shifts ultimately helping to reduce overtime. No budget amendment necessary. Currently have one in training.

R. Lopez also distributed to the Supervisors who have an expressed interest in receiving notification when emergencies occur in the County by way of your cell phone or alphanumeric pager. He requested to fill out the information and return the form to him.

Emergency Management: Lt. Lanphear and W. Black

Hazardous Mitigation Planning Grant availability: permission to send out the letter of intent, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried. Also T. Lanphear asked for the Supervisors to look for the Adoption of the Mitigation Grant (2009) in your Town Halls.

Discussion changing of the phone service and data connection with Tech Valley, three (3) different prices for different work to be done under (contracts): there will be a saving of \$200.00/month. Once the installation is done there will be a direct line to Hillsdale. These upgrades are with MIS and the PSB.

- 1) Symantec GSA Schedule: \$1,095.00
- 2) Add and Upgrade T24 SAS: total \$4,084.60
- 3) GSA upgrades and installation: \$2,648.11, motion to approve by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by
- 4) J. Braley, carried. The purchases will be paid by Emergency Management.

T. Lanphear informed the committee the NY Alert Program is available, if you would like to sign up for that, contact him.

Emergency Management: W. Black

W. Black informed the committee on a new law to have NYS takeover major incidents from the Counties. W. Black feels the team here in Columbia County does a great job and response time would be much quicker to continue the County to do it, he is requesting the County Attorney's Office to draft a letter to the Governor opposing this takeover, motion by J. Nayer, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

Fire Advisory Chairman: G. Mazzacano

The Columbia County Board of Supervisors has asked the Fire Advisory Board to re-submit three (3) names to the Public Safety Comm. for the position of Fire Coordinator. G. Mazzacano will bring the recommendations back to the Public Safety Comm. in March.

EMS: PJ Keeler

The process of the CON is completed, submission has been sent to the State.

Columbia County Sheriff: D. Harrison, Jr.

Resolution Request – Authorization to fill the vacant appointed budgeted position of Deputy Director of Emergency Management with an annual salary not to exceed \$4,000.00, due to the resignation that was effective November 8, 2011, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by K. McDonald, carried. Refer to Budget & Salary, if approved forward to Finance.

Conference Objective Request Form: 2012 Explosives Detection Canine Handlers, February 29th through March 1st in Saratoga Springs, NY, at no cost to the County, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Conference Objective Form – Annual Winter Training Conference for Sheriffs, 1/24/2012 –

1/27/2012, in Albany, NY, \$75.00 total cost, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Porreca, Sr., motion carried.

Out of County Inmate Report: Billed out through December 2011, \$544,380.00.

A motion to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:15 PM by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

REASON: to discuss personnel issues.

A motion to return to REGULAR SESSION at 7:55 PM by J. Porreca, St., seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

District Attorney: P. Czajka

Resolution Request was reviewed and approved in reference to security in the 325 Columbia St. Bldg, sending this request to the next committee which is Public Works, which costs should be presented by R. Pinto in reference to the work to be done, if approved then to Budget & Salary Committee, if approved refer to Finance, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by K. McDonald, carried.

With no further discussion a motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM by M. Murell, seconded by K. McDonald, motion carried.

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