

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

February 16, 2012

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Gail DiCosmo, Clerk
Robert Lopez
Arlene Levinson
William Black
Michael Benvenuto
Dennis McEvoy
John Leonardson
Paul Czajka
Thomas Lanphear

PRESS: 1

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

The first order of business: Chairman Brown asked the consensus of the committee whether or not Dept. Heads who had no business to address, do they have to come to the committee meeting? The committee felt they do not have to attend. The 2nd address was once the Dept. Head presents his/her agenda, do they have to stay, all agreed, they can leave after their business is done.

Chairman Brown informed the committee he will be on vacation for 10 days, in case of any emergencies contact Supervisor McDonald and/or Supervisor Murell.

Other business : Chairman Brown addressed the committee on the Past Chairwoman of the Public Safety Committee, Valerie Bertram, can sit on the committee as a non-voting member, be included in Executive Sessions, whereas the Chairman would decide if deemed necessary. The Committee all agreed.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Sheriff Harrison (T. Lanphear presented)

.2 Expenditure – (3) Chevrolet Tahoes and (2) Chevrolet Impalas, at a cost not to exceed \$158,991.50, these vehicles must be order by March 3, 2012 for State Contract, motion by J. Braley, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr.

Out of County Inmate Report: January 2012 billing \$10,305.00, YTD \$10,305.00

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: P. Czajka

The DA had no business to conduct but came to formally thank Chairman Brown on the move taking place at the 325 Bldg. Stating Chairman Brown took charge to get the move in place.

PROBATION: M. Benvenuto

I would like to thank the Board for recently passing Resolution# 71-2012 which was approved by this Committee in January. Resolution# 71-2012 mirrors the resolution prepared by the NYS Council of Probation Administrators Policy and Research Committee regarding mandate relief to county Probation Departments. I have forwarded copies of our Columbia County resolution to NYSCOPA and the NYS Association of Counties for submission to the State Legislature's Public Safety Committee.

Please be advised that I have a meeting scheduled with Denise Saunders, Coordinator of the Dr.

Stephen & Suzanne Menkes Child Advocacy Center for Columbia and Greene Counties. I will be touring the facility with Greene County Probation Director, Alan Frisbee, and expect to discuss including probation as a formal partner agency of the Child Advocacy Center and Child Abuse Response Team.

Please see the NYS Criminal Cases Supervised Report as of January 22, 2012. Once again Columbia County Probation is one of only 18 county departments (out of 62) whose numbers increased within the past two years (Jan. '10 – Jan. '12). The state average is -3.6%. This report also reflects a surge in Greene County Probation supervision numbers over the past few years. Last year's report showed our department's numbers had increased 31% between June '09 and June '11. These statistics do not necessarily reflect any crime wave; instead I believe they reflect an increased local reliance upon probation as a criminal sanction.

CONFLICT DEFENDER & 2nd ALTERNATE CONFLICT DEFENDER: J. Leonardson & D. McEvoy

J. Leonardson is preparing his 2011 report, and D. McEvoy distributed his monthly activity report.

PUBLIC DEFENDER: A. Levinson

Distribution of January 2012 monthly report.

Distribute 2011 UCS 195 report.

Resolution Request: Amending .4 of the 2012 budget to include \$19,500.00 for an investigator in the Public Defender's Office or to create a position under .1 as determined by the Controller and the County Attorney's Office. This position would be on a contractual basis pursuant to Indigent Legal Services, and this is reimbursable, Chairman Brown informed A. Levinson this is subject to approval by the Budget & Salary Committee, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell to move to Budget & Salary.

A. Levinson will have her Year End Report finished for the March 2012 meeting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: W. BLACK

Update on FEMA:

Long after coming to Greene County's rescue after Tropical Storm Irene, Columbia County is being told by FEMA that it won't accept the expense accrued from doing work in our sister county. According to B. Black, a variety of County Officials, FEMA in an October kickoff mtg. that directed them how to bill their expenses, the federal representative told the county FEMA would tend to the expenses. That would have divided the bill up with 12.5 percent to Columbia County 12.5 percent to NYS and 75 percent to FEMA. So the county compiled all our cost and gave them to FEMA, B. Black stated after 3 months they came back in and they changed the people and all of a sudden we were told we have to bill the county which we provided the service for. Greene County is one of the three (3) counties that Columbia lent a hand to. Schoharie and Delaware also benefited from the county's handiwork. B. Black included that we lost valuable time. We have had our numbers together since October, if we had billed FEMA, we probably would have been paid by now. Just today we submitted our bill and now Greene County has to submit their bill, in all reality, we have lost six months, and we are extremely upset about this. Our FEMA representative the county started with in October was reappointed to another area and the new representative advised the Columbia County Highway Dept. B. Kelleher that FEMA changed its position and that Columbia County would now have to bill all the counties that it helped during Irene individually. This means the towns would have to bill them, the county would have to bill them T. Lanphear stated. We would get reimbursed from the counties over there and then the counties themselves would have to submit to FEMA for reimbursement. Greene and the additional counties privy to Columbia's help will now have to pay for 100 percent of the work supplied by Columbia County and eating 12.5 percent of the reimbursement. Chairman R. Brown stated the whole ordeal is

disappointing and it was unfortunate that Columbia is being put in a situation where it has to bill those it intended to help. Chairman Brown said he is working on getting Greene County Chairman of the Legislature, Wayne Speenburgh, B. Black and himself together to find a way that they can avoid costing Greene the additional 12.5 percent that it will take on by Columbia County's bill. We are appealing the decision that they (FEMA) change our agreement to see if we can get it reversed. Chairman Brown is not confident that they will reverse it, so we have to sit down with FEMA and hash this out and find out what it all means. The whole issue of changing the reimbursement schedule so that we pay Columbia County and then we seek reimbursement from the feds, that's new.

DWI: J. Shufelt (submitted agenda but could not make it)

This was a request from the Columbia County Sheriff's Dept. to purchase from DWI funds (no cost to the County):

New Toximeters and Calibration Equipment and Purchasing ALCO SENSOR FST, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Porreca, Sr., One (1) abstained.

911: R. Lopez

Information: On February 6th I attended a Southern Region 911 Coordinators Meeting in Poughkeepsie NY. The focus of the meeting was Address Data for Next-Generation 911.

The New York State Office of Cyber Security (OCS) is embarking on a major project to create the detailed Geographic Information System (GIS) data needed for Next-Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) dispatch. NG911 systems, unlike current 911 systems, are not configured around wired telephone service, but rather use Internet protocol to support new types of communication to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), including text messaging, photos, video, or automated sensors, in addition to wired or wireless phone calls.

To locate a caller and identify corresponding responders, current systems primarily use lookup tables to match a caller's phone number to a street address. In NG911 systems, the lookups are done via GIS based on latitude/longitude coordinates transmitted from the network or wireless device. In order for the PSAP to determine the address of the transmitted coordinates, as well as the relevant police, fire, and EMS zones, caller coordinates are used to drill through GIS data layers and make a "spatial match."

The transition to NG911 presents significant challenges because address data is not uniformly available across the state and, where it exists, is not sufficiently accurate to support NG911.

OCS received grant funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to create address data in support of mapping broadband availability. In an effort to leverage these funds to support the transition to NG911, OCS has conducted outreach to the 911 community. Given that the community recognizes the lack of uniformly good data and many counties pay local telephone carriers to license address lookup data, the initial response has been positive.

The project will have two phases:

- Phase 1 will be to use the grant funds to contract for assistance in taking state and locally available data and establishing accurate address points at structures.

• Phase 2 will involve working with NENA (the national 911 standards-setting organization) to improve its standards for supplemental address points (e.g., secondary entrance points, driveway locations, sub-unit addresses in the same structure). It is anticipated that adoption of these standards could also be promoted through the Office of Interoperable Emergency Communications (OIEC) grant process to enable counties to fund data collection and maintenance.

As the improved data becomes available, OCS intends to assemble a “NG911 GIS data bundle” of existing OCS products (aerial imagery, streets, and boundaries) and addresses so that all PSAPs will have consistent, high quality data. This will be far less costly than the current scattered, uncoordinated approach to supplying data and will permit smooth handoffs when calls are transferred among PSAPs. In addition, the address data can support a myriad of other government services when made available to other agencies. New York is positioned to be the first state to establish statewide NG911 GIS data.

Conference Objective Form:

Request for up to four (4) Emergency Dispatchers attend PowerPhone’s course in Protecting Law Enforcement Responders. With high-risk law enforcement related 9-1-1 calls dispatched daily, it is essential that focus on officer safety is continuously reinforced. As a 9-1-1 call taker, you are a vital link in the emergency response chain and the lifeline to responding officers. Consequently, you must educate yourself about the dangers they might face and how to best minimize those risks. This course will be held on April 11, 2012 in Grafton, Ma. The cost is \$209 per person. Total up to \$836.00, Balance in my Education Line is \$5000.00. Each Year Emergency Dispatchers are required to complete a minimum of 21 hours of training, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Porreca, Sr., carried

Conference Objective Form:

Request to attend Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Safety Communications Supervisors on March 14, 2012 @ State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany, NY. There is NO FEE for this Course, motion by K. McDonald, seconded by M. Murell, carried.

This course provides Public Safety Communications managers with the crisis communications skills needed to effectively respond to media and public inquiries regarding 911 center operations, as well as to communicate effectively within their chain of command during emergency situations.

Agency Data:

Call volume for January was 4,698 calls.

In January Columbia County 911 dispatched:

1,054 EMS Agencies

293 Fire Agencies

1,128 Police Polls

441 Public Service Calls which includes (Controlled burns, Highway Dept calls, Power Company, Phone Company, Cable Company, Addressing etc.....)

FIRE COORDINATOR:

Forwarded to committee, the Fire Coordinator job duties as set forth in the County Fire Mutual Aid Contract, this was requested from committee at last month’s meeting.

Chairman Brown updated the committee on Fire Advisory Board mtg: Qualifications have been sent for the position of Fire Coordinator position, also they have been sent to Civil Service. Informed committee as to Emergency Management, Fire Control all are to be under Homeland Security.

With no further discussion, a motion to adjourn at 7:00 PM by K. McDonald, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

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Kevin McDonald

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William Hughes, Jr.

John Porreca, Sr.

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