

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

September 20, 2012

PRESENT:

**Roy Brown, Chairman
William Hughes, Jr.
Jeffrey Nayer
Jeffrey Braley
Valerie Bertram, non-voting member**

ABSENT:

**Kevin McDonald, notified
Matt Murell, notified
John Porreca, Sr., notified**

ALSO PRESENT:

**Gail DiCosmo, Clerk
Robert Lopez
John Howe
Sheriff Harrison
Michael Benvenuto
Thomas Lanphear
Arlene Levinson
Paul Czajka
Dennis McEvoy
Ronald Knott
Sarah Sterling**

PRESS: 1

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 5:59 PM.

911: R. Lopez

Information/Discussion/Resolution Request: Discussion on adopting a local law to impose a wireless surcharge on wireless communications service not to exceed .30 cents per month.(Home Rule resolution #96-2005, County Law 308-S*2)

Since 1990 we have had a landline surcharge that was put in place to assist us to pay for the costs associated with obtaining, operating and maintaining the telecommunication equipment and telephone services needed to provide an enhanced 911 emergency telephone system (County Law 303). We all know as technology evolves people migrate to the new technology. This has caused the revenues from the landline surcharge to diminish. Some people switched to VOIP phones to reduce costs, some just solely to cell phones. In 2011 we collected a total amount of \$162,427.01 which includes a wireless reimbursement from NYS of \$33,119.00 for answering wireless calls. Each year the total amount drops as people switch to wireless devices. However our costs to maintain our systems each year go up. In 2009 the revenue for landline surcharges was \$175,623.52 but it didn't include VOIP surcharges which was implemented in 2010 but took a while to get 100 percent compliance due to the numbers of pop up companies. In 2011 our expenses to maintain our existing systems was about \$301,065.99(911 Lines, 10 digit lines, Viper phone system, CAD, Map, EMD interface, Maps, and recorders.) This included maintenance, software replacement, and help desk. What it didn't include is any new hardware or new technologies like next generation 911. Our current hardware has been in service 24 hours a day 7 days a week since 2008 and needs to be replaced. In 2013 budget request I have asked for replacement of this hardware which amounts to about \$420,000.00. We are one of five Counties that do not collect a surcharge. The definition of "Eligible wireless 911 service costs" related to a surcharge shall mean costs eligible for reimbursement and shall include the actual costs incurred by the locality related to the design, installation or maintenance of a system to provide enhanced wireless 911 service, including, but not limited to, hardware, software, consultants, financing and other acquisition costs.

The State of New York collects a surcharge on wireless cell phones and I have included some information related to those surcharges.

- 1. NYS will collect an estimated \$210 million dollars this year on the \$1.20 surcharge.**
- 2. Most counties except 5 have the additional 30 cent surcharge and that money goes directly to the counties.(Monroe, Columbia, Oneida, Lewis, & Jefferson)**

3. The surcharge is mostly kept by NYS and approximately \$85 million is diverted directly to the general fund and does not go to any kind of 911 operations.
 4. \$25.5 million goes to the NYS Police even though most counties dispatch for the state police for free.
 5. \$1.8 million goes to the revolving loan fund.
 6. \$10.2 million goes to the Dormitory Authority to pay off the bond from the Phase II wireless and is paid in 2014 or 2015 I can't recall which.
 7. The state shares \$9.3 million a year directly to counties. There is an approved list of expenditures the counties can use this money for. There is a formula that distributes that money. In 2011 we received \$33,119.00.
 8. This past year for the first time there was a \$20 million dollar grant program and 17 counties received money. There were however many more applications requesting more than \$68 million dollars. They told us what we could apply for (radio only) and the application was 54 pages.
 9. There is now a new pool of money \$45 million dollars broken down into two pools of \$36 million only for radio and \$9 million for actual PSAP equipment. Everyone did the 54 page application again for the \$36 million and is waiting to hear awards hopefully in end of September.
- A motion by J. Nayer, seconded by J. Braley to move forward on the 30 cent surcharge, carried. One (1) opposed.

Resolution Request: Authorizing the Emergency Management Grant Administrator to accept the FY2012 HazMat Grant Program totaling \$53,500.00 with no match from Columbia County, or Greene County(Regional Partnership). I am additionally requesting authorization to disperse such grants in accordance with State Homeland Security Guidelines, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, motion carried.

Grant used for Regional capability enhancement, and to provide for maintenance of our existing ones.

Resolution Request: Request to enter into an agreement with the United Way Northeast Region 211. The purpose of the agreement is to establish protocols for Emergency calls to be transferred from the 211 information line to 911. County Attorney's Office to review agreement for approval, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, motion carried.

Conference Objective Form:

Requesting permission to attend the NYS 911 Coordinators fall Conference held on October 10-12. This year it's being held in Poughkeepsie, NY the cost for the three day conference is \$65.00 which has been budgeted. A0-3E-3022-4150-E4000 balance \$5000.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, motion carried.

Agency Data:

Call volume for August was 5,281 calls.

In August Columbia County 911 dispatched:

1150	EMS Agencies
382	Fire Agencies
1204	Police Polls

Fire Coordinator: J. Howe

The Fire Coordinators Office has attended 13 meetings and 3 multiple alarm fires during the last month.

Fire schools continue to be well attended. Since Jan. 1st, 18 schools have been conducted, graduating 325 students representing 7017 student hrs.

I have contracted with Mayday Training of Colonie to conduct an 8hr. course to be held in Chatham on November 12th and 15th. This program is being funded in partnership with The Columbia County Fire Chiefs Assoc. and The Columbia County Firefighters Assoc.

This office in partnership with The Firefighters Association of the State of New York will be hosting two 90 minute programs, to help enhance the fire departments recruitment and retention efforts. The programs will be October 9th @ 7pm at the Kinderhook station and October 27th @ 9:00 AM at the Livingston station.

Conference Objective Form:

Approval to send three Fire Investigators to the Annual Fire/ Arson Seminar at the Fire Academy on November 7, 8 & 9, the cost is \$327. My training budget line is currently \$6,292.15, motion by W. Hughes, Jr. , seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Probation Department: M. Benvenuto

Resolution Request: In accordance with policy, as disseminated by Controller Caponera, I am submitting a Resolution Request for an internal budget transfer. I have a budget line item that has exceeded the 2012 budget amount by \$63.00. I will be making a budget neutral transfer from the Service/Repair .4 line item (which has not been used at all this year),motion by J. Braley, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

I have previously prepared and submitted my 2013 Probation/ATI budget. The proposed overall budget is slightly less than 2012, prior to any CBA raises being applied for 2013. I have projected 2013 revenue equal to 2012.

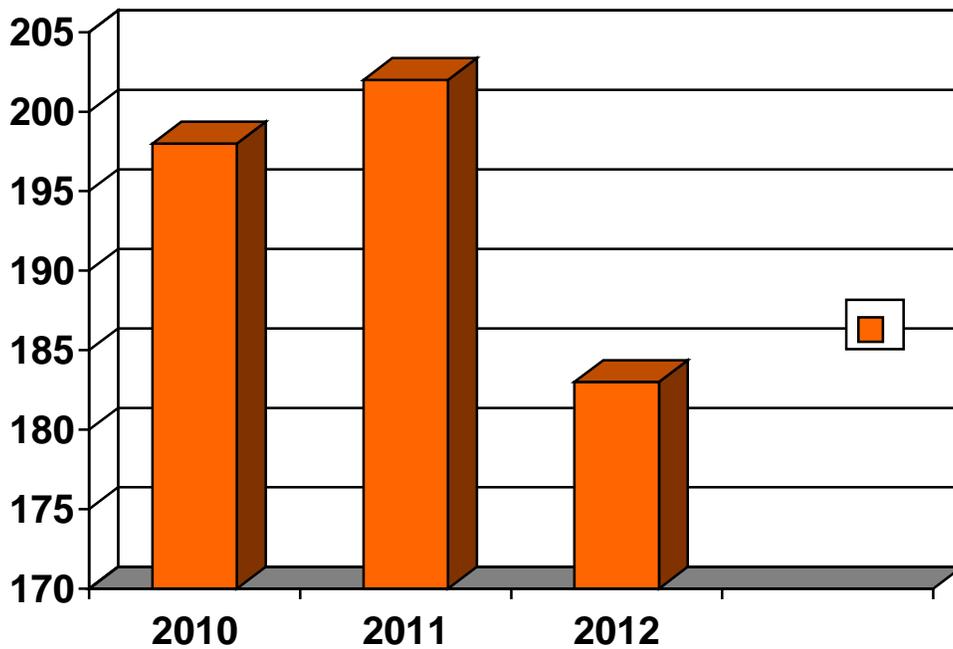
Two students from Columbia-Greene Community College have begun their field study programs at our department for the fall semester. They will be assisting with risk assessments, reports and interviews, as well as accompanying officers to court and on school visits.

Public Defender: A. Levinson

AUGUST TOTALS AND COMPARISONS

August 2010 Applications	198
August 2011 Applications	202
August 2012 Applications	183

Apps. Closed Active Caseload



Felony Cases	38	28	127
Final Parole Hearings	1	6	5
Parole Appeals	1	1	8
Criminal Appeals	0	0	7
Misd. & Viol.	89	101	707
Family Court	54	42	324
Family Court Appeals	0	0	6
TOTAL	183	178	1,184

Conflicted Out = 41 (Criminal: 27) (Family Court: 14)

Ineligible = 7 (Criminal: 4) (Family Court: 3)

Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Harrison, Jr.

Resolutions Requests:

Authorization to transfer a surplus vehicle to the Town of Austerlitz, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by R. Brown, carried. One (1) abstained.

Authorization for the Sheriff's Office to provide handgun qualifications annually to retired Sheriff's Office members pursuant to United States Law, motion by J. Braley, seconded by J. Nayer, carried.

Authorization to accept the Child Passenger Safety Seat Grant, award amount \$6,685.00 for the purpose of purchasing child safety seats and conducting community safety seat checks, 10/1/2011 – 9/31/2012, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Nayer, carried.

Authorization to fill one civil service part-time Communications Officer, due to resignation on October 1, 2012, per diem rate of \$12.98 - \$16.20, motion by J. Braley, seconded by J. Nayer, carried.

Conference Objective Form – Chemical & Less Lethal Impact Munitions Instructor Course, October 15 – October 16, 2012, Rockland County, Thiells, New York, \$820.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Conference Objective Form – NYS Sheriff's Association Sheriff's Secretaries Conference, October 22 – October 24, 2012, Saratoga, New York, \$495.20, motion by J. Braley, seconded by J. Nayer, carried.

New York State Accreditation : Every 5 years this is done, and the office did very well once again.

Out of County Inmate Report: YTD: \$319,185.00

Emergency Management Office: T. Lanphear

Resolution Requests:

Authorization for Columbia County HazMat Team and its regional partnership (Greene County) to submit a grant that has been allocated for the amount of \$23,000.00, the grant will provide for expanding our capabilities and to provide maintenance of current one, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Authorization to transfer funds within the Emergency Management Budget in the amount not to exceed \$12,824.44, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

Authorization to pay a yearly maintenance fee for the CP80 Plus Duplex Printer in the amount of \$1,278.00, motion by J. Braley, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., carried.

Conference Objective Form: three (3) attending the Sally-Port Users Group Conference in Albany, NY on October 16th-October 17th at no cost to the County, motion by J. Braley, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., carried.

With no further business a motion to adjourn at 6:55 PM by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, motion carried.