

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**April 18, 2013**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Daniel Kibler**  
**John Howe**  
**PJ Keeler**  
**Paul Czajka**  
**Sheriff Harrison**  
**Thomas Lanphear**  
**William Black**  
**Robert Linville**  
**Robert Lopez**

**PRESS: 2**

**Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM**

**Fire Coordinator-J. Howe**

The Fire Coordinators Office has attended 16 meetings and 6 multiple alarm fires. On Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> a brush fire in the West Ghent Fire District required a Battalion 4 response.

2013 schools have been well attended, with 12 schools completed to date, with 220 students graduating representing 5006 student hrs.

Resumes have been solicited by State Fire for the hiring of 2 and possibly 3 State Fire instructors for Columbia County; I am currently waiting for their results.

I am currently soliciting resumes for an open Deputy Fire Coordinators position that exist in Battalion 5 following the resignation of Deputy Tab Eigenbrodt. Interviews will be conducted after May 1<sup>st</sup> for this position.

**Conference Objective Form:** to send 4 members of our Juvenile Fire setter Assessment Team to the Fire Academy on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The members are Bill Hunt, Barbara Fischer, Beverly Shultis and Gary Grimes. The total cost is \$160.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by K. McDonald, carried.

Battalion meetings are being conducted beginning this week and concluding on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The Sheriff's Office, NYSP and Emergency Management have been invited.

**EMS:** PJ Keeler

**Resolution Request:** Authorizing the County of Columbia to retain the Pinsky Law Group for the purpose of applying for a Medicaid/Medicare provider identification number at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, motion by K. McDonald, seconded by E. Cross, motion carried. Refer to Budget & Salary for review, if approved forward to Finance.

**Probation:** D. Kibler

Ignition Interlock Device current total cases = 133 (64 Conditional Discharge and 69 Probation cases). The above figures indicate a steady increase in volume.

**Approval of the 2012 Probation Department Annual Report** previously submitted to the committee for review at the March Public Safety Committee meeting, motion to approve by M. Murell, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried. There were some questions as to whether there has been an increase in the number of JDs and PINS. Brief discussion.

I have received correspondence from a Danielle Benassutti seeking to be an intern with the Probation

Department. I will be working with the County Attorney's Office to assess suitability. If she is found to be suitable to work as an unpaid intern, I will ensure that she signs a written acknowledgement of uncompensated volunteer status, motion by J. Nayer, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried. W. Hughes Jr. expressed his interest in promoting this program to all county students also.

**Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Harrison**

**Resolution Request:** Authorization to fill one (1) vacant budgeted full-time female Corrections Officer at an annual salary of \$35,286.00, due to retirement, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by K. McDonald, motion carried. Refer to Budget & Salary, if approved forward to Finance.

**Conference Objective Form:** Police Firearms Instructor School in Westpoint NY, on May 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013, one attending at a total cost of \$1,764.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Porreca, Sr., motion carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Breath Analysis Operator Course, at CGCC Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy, on May 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3 attending, at no cost. Motion by M. Murell, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Breath Analysis Instructor Update Course, at Ulster County Sheriff's Office, May 13, 2013, 3 attending at no cost, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Braley, motion carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Regional Gang Training at the University of Albany, on May 24, 2013, Two (2) attending at a total cost of \$80.00, motion by J. Porreca, Sr., seconded by J. Braley, carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Emergency Mental Health Training at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Troy NY, on May 16, 2013, 3 attending at a total cost of \$477.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

**Out of County Inmate Report:**

March billed \$56,740.00, YTD \$157,540, over \$77,440.00 from last year.

**Public Defender: R. Linville**

**Conference Object Form:** Evidently Evidence III, on May 4, 2013 in Albany, NY, One (1) attending at a total cost of \$75.00, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Cross, motion carried.

**Resolution Request:** Authorization to fill the vacant budgeted position of a Part-time Public Defender III position at an annual salary of \$44,414.00, motion by J. Porreca Sr., seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

**911: R. Lopez**

**Resolution Request:** Authorization to declare the existing Point to Point communications equipment the existing 2.1Ghz from Public Safety to Austerlitz Tower will no longer be needed, and authorizing to declare this hop surplus, and accept sealed bids for the purchase of this point to point communications path(license) which is in accordance with county Code section 179. Also authorizing Director R. Lopez to accept the highest qualified bid, if any and award the sale subject to Board approval, minimum bid will be set at \$25,000.00, motion by J. Braley, seconded by J.Nayer, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

**Resolution Request:** Authorizing the Grant Administrator to accept the FY 2012 Emergency Management Performance Grant for the amount of \$28,049.00 and to disburse the funds in accordance with the grant once approved by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency requires a 50% match, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell, motion carried. Refer to Budget & Salary, then forward to Finance.

**Information:**

National Public Safety Telecommunicators week is April 14- April 20<sup>th</sup>. It is a time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public. It is a week that should be set aside so everyone can be made aware of their hard work and dedication.

**Agency Data:**

Call volume for March was 5,023 calls.

1102 EMS Agencies

333 Fire Agencies

1,081 Police Polls

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

**Scheduling of a Public Hearing on the Surcharge of Cell Phones for May 8, 2013 at 7:20 PM.**

Research was requested by the committee, AT & T and Verizon equaled up to be half families and half individuals.

**Emergency Management:** T. Lanphear & W. Black

**Conference Objective Form:** Social Media for Disaster Response and Recovery, in the training center in Oriskany, NY, one (1) attending on July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at no cost, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Cross, motion carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Emergency Operations Center course, Albany, NY on May 29<sup>th</sup>, one (1) attending at no cost, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

**Conference Objective Form:** Disaster- LAN for EOC Personnel in Albany, NY on May 30, 2013, one (1) attending at no cost, motion by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by J. Porreca, Sr., motion carried.

**Hazardous Mitigation Planning Grant:** renewal date is actually tomorrow, May 19<sup>th</sup> and at this point the towns have sent nothing in, W. Black stated he will get an extension and notify all Town Supervisors of that date. J Porreca hired an engineer to this plan. W. Black will be visiting Towns or set up a day to meet with towns to help fill out the forms. He will email all.

Also W. Black informed the committee on March 8, 2013 he was hit head on, and he wanted to thank the 911 Center, Fire & Rescue Squads and the Law Enforcement Agencies for a great job. It all happened the way it was suppose to. His On-Star made the call when he was unconscious.

Supervisor Porreca distributed to committee members a letter he received from NYSDOT about the bridge work on Rte. 23B which will occur under NYSDOT Construction Project- Bridge Deck Rehab at various sites throughout the Greater Capital Region. The Rte. 23B bridge project is located in the Town of Claverack (1/4 mile east of Spook Rock Road, A temporary bridge will be in-place for emergency vehicles only. This is to begin June 21, 2013. There are some concerns in reference to the detour; this is to the temporary courthouse and how to monitor emergency vehicles only.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:00 PM by J. Nayer, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

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