

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 14, 2010 – 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Barrett, Jenkins, M. Johnson, Veitch, Wright; Sausville, Southworth, Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Dan Miller, Emergency Services; Sheriff Jim Bowen; Undersheriff Mike Woodcock; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney. Tom Salvadore, Coroner; Paul Parker, Deputy Fire Coordinator; League of Women Voter Reps (2); Press

Chairman Wormuth called the meeting to order.

Mr. Veitch moved to approve the minutes of the November 9th meeting. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.

Sheriff Bowen stated they will be receiving two Homeland Security grants – one for \$33,200 to purchase a bomb sniffing canine, equipment and vehicle, and a grant for \$132,000 to purchase a terrorism I Robot that will go into a building during a terrorist situation and also for fire simulation training. Both of these grants are tied together. He said the fire simulation training trains officers, and it is very important for liability. This is over a week's worth of training. This will all make our County safer, he said. We can use this training with all other police departments, he stated. He requested a **resolution to accept the grants for \$166,000. Mrs. Johnson moved to accept these grants. Mr. Barrett seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Salvadore stated they use NMS Lab, out of Pennsylvania, to do all of their lab work for autopsies. We used to use Albany Med, but NMS is much quicker and as cost effective as Albany Med. We need an adjustment because we ran over our minor contract amount, he stated. We spent about \$12,000, and we will need about \$15,000 all together. He said the caseload this year is up, and there is no control. **Mr. Veitch moved to increase the contract with NMS Lab by \$5,000 above the minor contract. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Butler distributed copies of the Animal Shelter's November Report, and he briefly reviewed it. He mentioned 242 animals were received. This is the first month we have spayed and neutered the cats in the Shelter, he said. We will be doing the dogs probably at the end of the month, because we are

waiting for back ordered instruments. He mentioned there was one raccoon that tested positive for rabies in Clifton Park. He stated Dr. Blaisdell vaccinated 154 animals for rabies in the Shelter. Chairman Wormuth stated it is very nice to see this report, and we appreciate all of the efforts being done at the Shelter. Mr. Butler thanked the Committee for all of their support. Chairman Wormuth reported that the Animal Shelter project was \$345,000 under budget.

Mr. Lent requested renewing the agreement with Lyme Adirondack Timber Holdings of Fort Ann for a right-of-way and storage of equipment at \$675 annually. He said the money is in the budget. **Mrs. Johnson moved to authorize renewing this agreement. Mr. Barrett seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent distributed copies of the Public Safety Radio Project Status Report #10 for the Committee's review. Chairman Wormuth stated there is no budgetary impact for this reporting period.

Mr. Veitch asked how the Reverse 9-1-1 was going. Mr. Miller stated the contract was going out today. Chairman Wormuth explained this system is used to notify people in case of an emergency. A subcommittee was set up in order to look at providers who would allow us access to better technology and a better updated system, she said. We look forward to that coming to fruition, and she commended the subcommittee for a job well done.

Mrs. Johnson said a couple of months ago, this Committee talked about gathering information on policy of procedures for cell towers and what stipulations we would put into this policy. She asked about the status of that. Mr. Lent said he put together a licensing agreement that we can pass on to the carriers. We need some formal movement to adopt that, he said. He stated that he gets contacted frequently by carriers, but he is awaiting direction on how to handle that. Mr. Hellwig stated we want to make sure the agreement is consistent with the way the County conducts its business. We want to make sure questions are all answered before we came back to the Committee, as there are a few items not resolved, he said. I expect in January/February, it will be a done deal, he added. Chairman Wormuth said this is one of her outstanding issues in her annual report. Mr. Hellwig stated it helps offset our costs and investment in that infrastructure, but we just want to be careful about the details. Mrs. Johnson said the people in the north country are waiting with baited breath for the cell towers.

Mr. Tremblay distributed copies of the Fire Services Report for November which includes an article regarding an 82 year old fire victim in Mechanicville who was rescued with the help of a cyanide antidote kit.

Chairman Wormuth asked about the issues at the Fire Training Center. Mr. Tremblay said contractors are giving him pricing on the electrical repairs on the new building. He said he has talked to DPW and contractors about the old building. The new building still has work that needs to be looked at as well as the old building, but the new building will take priority, he said. Chairman Wormuth stated the health and safety of our volunteers who train there is of utmost importance.

On a motion by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann