

Public Safety Committee Minutes  
April 12, 2011 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Barrett, Grattidge, Hargrave, Jenkins, Veitch, Wright, Southworth and Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Daniel Butler, Animal Shelter; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services, League of Women Voters; Press.

Chairman Wormuth called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Jenkins the minutes of the March 8, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Butler said that with the new shelter it is expected that the number of animals will increase for the first six or eight months. Currently the shelter is receiving on average three animals a day, which is what you would normally see in the summer months. The annex is doing fine and homes are being found for a good number of the animals, he said. Five animals were submitted to the lab, with 0 testing positive for rabies. The animals are moving now, and there have been a couple of incidences of rabid animals in the county.

Mr. Butler said the annual dog walk will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Saratoga County Fair Grounds. He reported that the incentive was received from NYSERDA in the amount of \$39,957.

Mr. Butler requested a transfer from the trust fund of \$83,000 to purchase a one ton van that is on state contract and equipped to transport the animals and supplies to the Annex and at a cost of \$19,957, and an adoption trailer that will be used for off site adoptions at a cost of \$38,000. The trailer is self contained with air conditioning, a water supply and holding tank, and will hold up to 16 animals. Mr. Butler said the annex does a very good job of being out into the public and this is just another good opportunity to get the animals in front of the public. A cart trailer was purchased under a grant for the County Animal Response Team, and will be used when needed.

Mr. Butler said he would like to hire a relief Veterinarian for times when a staff Veterinarian is not available and to assist in the spay and neutering of the animals at a cost of \$25,000.

Mr. Hargrave asked how much money was in the trust fund? Mr. Butler said after all expenses are paid there will be a remaining balance of approximately \$235,689.

**A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Barrett to authorize the transfer of \$83,000 from the Animal Shelter trust fund. Unanimous. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent said the radio project is moving along well. The installation of all the new radios in EMS units have been completed. Work continues to finalize the installation of the new dispatch consoles at the Sheriff's Department and work will begin this week to

install fire radios at the fire service. Everything should become operational by June, he said.

Mr. Lent said his office received a formal application from AT&T Wireless to use the Lake Luzerne tower. They have submitted the paperwork, and the documents are in the process of being reviewed.

Mrs. Wormuth said that she and Ms. Daly met with AT&T representatives in order to move forward. She said this is one of the first sites that they are looking at co-location on, primarily due to the lack of consistent cell service. There was an agreement that was drafted by then County Attorney, Mark Rider, as this was not only a priority for the county, but for AT&T as well.

Mr. Lent said the reverse 911 system was used during the washout on North Shore Road to alert the general public about the situation so they could re-route. The reports were very positive from the people who got the calls, and the system worked very well.

Mrs. Wormuth said now that the road is open she would like to have a workshop meeting with the committees, involved towns and Supervisors to see if there was anything that could have been done different or better. There is always an opportunity, and if we let that go too far we miss that, she said. She said she would like to invite the supervisors from the adjoining towns, as well as the members from Public Safety, Emergency Service and DPW who worked on the project.

Mr. Tremblay said it was a moderate month for the Fire Training Center use. There was a Firefighter 1 course that finished up with another one that started right away in Ballston Spa and Malta. They both had an attendance of 26 when they started, and the Firefighter 1 course finished up with 18 completing the course. There was a Basic Wildland Fire Suppression course that was full with 36 in attendance. The Fire Officer 1 course was held at the Malta Ridge Fire Station with 21 completing the course.

There were two incidents for the month. The first was a structure fire in the town of Ballston on March 8<sup>th</sup> and a second was a motor vehicle accident on North Shore Road in the area of the Conklinville Dam.

**On a motion made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom