

Public Safety Committee Minutes
July 12, 2011 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Barrett, Grattidge, Hargrave, Jenkins, Kinowski, Veitch, and Wright; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Paul Parker, Emergency Services; Tom Salvatore, John DeMartino, Coroner; John Adams, Probation; John Ciulla, Public Defender; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Helen Cranshaw, Margot Ammon, 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. Kinowski the minutes of the June 14, 2011 meeting were approved. Mr. Grattidge abstained – as he was absent from the meeting.

Mr. Adams said there is new money for counties for the State Fiscal Year of April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 for the purpose of reducing detention usage. The funding allocation for Saratoga County is for \$66,294. There is \$57,811 for the period of 8/1/11 – 3/31/12 would be for Berkshire Farms Stepping Stone Program. They would be involved in cases that would be likely to go to detention or youth that have been arrested and are already in detention. There is another component that is currently not in Saratoga County is electronic monitoring. This would give the family court judges an option of using electronic monitoring as an alternative to detention. The total amount for this program would be \$8,483 and provided through KMG Monitoring Service. Mr. Adams said there was a very fast turnaround on this money, and a plan had to be submitted to the State by June 30th in order to access the funds. The Commissioner received notification on July 8th that the plan had been approved, he said.

Mr. Adams said this year the 2011-2012 State fiscal year, which would run through March 31st, the allocation amount is 100% of allocation. The 2012 – 2013 would be 62% of the allocation, so they would be looking for matching funds should we decide to continue the program.

Mr. Kinowski asked, in the first year who will do the cost analysis of the savings? Mr. Adams said the State prepares a formula that determines, based on the numbers that they have, the detention allocation. The allocation normally goes through the Department of Social Services for monitoring of that. Mr. Adams said Probation would have to take a look at their own prior years of experience to determine whether they would want to continue these programs.

Mr. Hellwig said once the money is gone the program might not continue. Part of the justification for doing this is to keep the youth in their homes. Based on some of the information there may be savings associated with this option as opposed to having them placed in a facility.

Mrs. Wormuth said there might not be an increase if we find the program to be successful because right now we are paying for youth to be in secured detention. If this works and we are

keeping them out of the secured detention at \$500/day, and doing this which is even less, even with the 38% match we may break even or save money. Mrs. Wormuth asked if an analysis would be done between now and the March 31, 2012 deadline? Mr. Adams said yes.

A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve contracts with Berkshire Farms, and KMG Monitoring Services and accept \$66,294 for the Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program. Unanimous.

Mr. Ciulla said the Aid to Defense Grant is an annual grant that comes from the State for certain violent crimes and criminals. The projection for next year is to have a grant for \$15,500, which is approximately a 5.8% cut from last year. Due to changes and delays in the email system his office was advised to submit the grant based on last years grant. However, the State has indicated that the new Governor is going to be changing the requirements in the contract to have more performance measures. Mr. Ciulla requested that upon approval from the committee he would like to have the opportunity to review the contract as well as the County Administrator.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Hargrave to approve an Aid to Defense Grant in the amount of \$15,500 upon the approval of the county Administrator and review from the Public Defender. Unanimous.

Mr. Salvatore, County Coroner, said that in 2009 Russell Peacock was appointed as a Deputy County Coroner. Mr. Peacock can no longer perform the services and Mr. Salvatore is requesting approval to appoint Susan Hayes-Masa as Deputy County Coroner at a cost of \$100/case, plus mileage.

A motion was made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve appointing Susan Hayes-Masa as Deputy Coroner at a rate of \$100/per visit plus mileage. Unanimous.

Mr. Salvatore commended the Hazardous Materials Team for their extensive training to provide services to the county.

Mr. Butler said there were 313 animals brought to the shelter for the month of June. The months of May through October are usually the busiest months of the year for the shelter, he said. There were 14 animals that were submitted to the rabies lab with zero testing positive. One Hundred and twenty three dogs and cats were spayed and neutered.

Mr. Butler said bids went out for the adoption trailer ranging from \$31,000 to \$101,000, and the bid for \$31,000 was accepted. Three quotes were received for the fenced exercise yards. The Animal Shelter will be entering into a contract with a company and it is expected by the end of July the project will begin, and it is expected that the Cart Trailer will be fully equipped by the end of the month.

Mr. Lent said he was advised by Miller Mannix that it appears our eminent domain law suite is at an end.

The County EMS agencies were cut over to the new radio system on June 27th, and by all reports it was very successful. On July 18th the fire service will be cutting over, which is the final leg of services that plan to use the system, he said.

Mr. Lent said in the past few months they have detected what appears to be a person or persons unknown trying to break into a couple of the transmitter sites. Mr. Lent said he has contacted a security company about putting some electronic surveillance equipment at the site, which can be routed over to the microwave network to see what the cost would be.

Mr. Lent said after many discussions on the use of the radio sites by potential wireless carriers, the first carrier to express interest in co-locating was AT&T at the Lake Luzerne site. They have come forward and made an application, and they have done all the technical things that they are supposed to do, he said. Mr. Lent has been working with the County Attorney to work out the language of the agreement, which was approved by the County Attorney's office last week. Mr. Lent requested approval for the first co-location agreement with AT&T.

A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Barrett to authorize an agreement with AT&T for a co-location at the Lake Luzerne radio tower in return for a one-time payment of \$25,000. Motion Passed. Mr. Veitch abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

Mr. Tremblay said there were a couple of State Fire Training Courses that began in June beginning with the Firefighter 11 course and a basic Rescue class that was conducted at the West Crescent Fire Station.

The county Fire Investigation Unit handled seven calls in the month of June including one fatal fire. The hazardous Materials response Team held two training sessions and one response.

There were two incidents for the month: A hazardous Materials/ Chemical Suicide in the town of Stillwater and structure fire in the Town of Milton.

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom