

Public Safety Committee Minutes
October 8, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Rowland, Veitch, Sausville, Rowland, and Grattidge; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Jim Murphy, District Attorney; Oscar Schreiber, Public Defender; Tina Potter, Social Services; Deborah Oligny, Animal Shelter; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Steven Bayle, Probation; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Tom Salvadore, Susan Hayes-Maza, Coroner; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; League of Women Voters; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the August 13, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Bayle requested a resolution to continue the STSJP programs. This is a program that has been in effect since 2011, designed to reduce detention and provide alternatives to detention and placement. By having these programs in place, the County will save money compared to the alternative of sending these youth to detention and placement. Placement out of the home for a juvenile in a facility averages \$125,000/per year per youth.

The STSJP programs include providers such as, Berkshire Farms; KMG Monitoring Service; and CAPTAIN Youth Shelter for a total cost of approximately \$174,200/yr. The program is administered through the Probation Department with pass through funds received from the Department of Social Services.

Mr. Bayle said the STSJP programs for the past year were run with contracts that began October 1, 2012 and ended September 30, 2013. Funding was only included in the Probation Department's budget for the first nine months of the year, and a request is being made for a budget amendment to appropriate \$43,500, which is the amount necessary to carry out the October through December 2013 portion of the requested 15 month provider contracts.

Mrs. Wormuth said the Probation Department is requesting a resolution to accept \$174,200 in State Aid into the 2013 budget for the supervision and treatment of juveniles program.

Mr. Hellwig said the request will be to accept the entire grant, but the budget will only be amended for the portion that will be used this year and the balance will be for 2014.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Rowland to approve authorizing acceptance of a New York State Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) grant in the amount of \$174,200, authorizing provider contracts through December 31, 2014, and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Salvatore requested approval for a contract with Saratoga Hospital. He said this year the Coroner's office is quite a bit above the minor contract limit of \$10,000. He said the current rate is \$135/day for rent and use of the Saratoga Hospital morgue when autopsies are performed, but by using Saratoga Hospital instead of Albany Medical Center the savings would be \$600.

Mr. Hellwig said the County has historically had a contract with Saratoga Hospital which has been adequate for the past 18 years. Late last year Mr. DeMartino became ill, so the oversight of the expenses related to the use of the hospital never got resolved. Historically, what would happen if there was a problem with a contract, the department head would come to the Board and request approval of expenses above and beyond. Currently the Coroner's office owes \$16,000 with three or four months left in 2013. Mr. Hellwig said the Coroner's office needs approval to pay for the autopsies for 2012 that exceeded the contract amount by \$6,000. The estimate for 2013 is approximately \$25,000. The new contract, based on discussions with the County Attorney will be tied to a rate rather than a fixed amount, since the volume is an unknown quantity from year to year.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve entering into an agreement with Saratoga Hospital for the use of the morgue to perform autopsies at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 annually, and to amend the budget thereto. Unanimous.

Mrs. Oligny requested an extension of the \$25 adoption fees for cats at the Animal Shelter to December 31, 2013. A copy of the Animal Shelter monthly report for August and September was distributed to all committee members for their review.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Lucia to approve the extension of a \$25 adoption fee for cats at the Animal Shelter to December 31, 2013. Unanimous.

Mr. Lent said the Microwave system for the radio system went out to bid, and for the next three years the contract has come down \$6,000 from the original pricing. The price will be \$36,000 per year for eight microwave sites, and when the Lakeview site is brought on line it will add an additional \$3,500 to that figure, but will not be until sometime in 2014. The vendor is RS Telecom, from Rutland, Vermont.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve a renewal contract with RS Telecom, Inc. for the repair and maintenance work on the public safety radio system at an annual cost of \$36,000, plus \$3,500 for each additional site. Unanimous.

Mr. Lent said resolution 160-10 was the original microwave vendor agreement, where in both the bid specs and in the contract there was a call for the phase in of multiple sites at different times because of the warranty. There was a price on that and those bids did come in on contract and were paid for, he said. Unfortunately, the resolution that was adopted by the Board didn't include that language. After consulting the County Attorney and Auditor it was

decided that the resolution should be amended to include the authorization for additional sites at the contract price of \$4,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve an amendment to resolution 160-10 to include the authorization for additional sites at the contracted price of \$4,000. Unanimous.

Mr. Tremblay gave an update on the monthly Fire Training Report that was emailed to all committee members for their review.

Mr. Schreiber distributed copies of the 2014 proposed Conflict Defender budget to all committee members for their review. He said if a Conflict Defender Office is approved it will save approximately \$100,000/yr.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Lucia to approve a new Conflict Defender Office to be funded fully in 2014 by a State Grant in the amount of \$147,422. Unanimous. (Committee Approval Only)

On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Rowland the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom