

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 15, 2007 – 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Trottier; Supervisors Connors, Grattidge, A. Johnson; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jim Murphy, District Attorney; Bob Murphy, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Sheriff Jim Bowen; Undersheriff Michael Woodcock; John Mazur, Fire Advisory Board; Mark Hoppe, Blue Wing; Paul Parker, Malta; Press

Chairman Trottier called the meeting to order.

Mr. Grattidge moved to approve the minutes of the January 9th meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.

Sheriff Bowen distributed copies of his report on Commission On Inmates' Collect Calls comparing 2005 with 2006 and the results of their January monthly checkpoints and the Plate Hunter results by town for January.

Mr. Lent distributed copies of his February report and reviewed its contents: Spruce Mt.-Relocation Project; APA Permit Process Closure; Ice Storm Follow Up; and New Radio System.

Mr. Lent said the National Weather Service, as of 2:30 p.m., is predicting 18" to 36" of snow for Saratoga County, and on Thursday, there will be 30 to 50 mph gusts. He said he faxed this information to the appropriate agencies.

Mr. Johnson asked where we were with Reverse 9-1-1. Mr. Lent stated American Emergency Notification has our contract, and their attorneys are working through the details. I expect that to be moving very quickly, he said. He stated this will probably be April. Some of the groundwork has already been done on the project, he said.

Mr. Tremblay distributed copies of and reviewed the Fire Services Report for January.

Mr. Grattidge asked how the fire training building was coming. Mr. Tremblay said it is on schedule for mid-March. Once construction is done, there will be a review of its use with the departments, he said.

Mr. Parker said he is chairman of the Subcommittee of Recruitment and Retention of the Fire Advisory Board. He said he would like to have a committee to meet with Albany County to discuss ways for recruitment for volunteer ambulance and fire departments. He distributed copies of a Recruitment and Retention Point Paper with ideas formulated by the subcommittee. Chairman Trottier appointed Mr. Lent and Mr. Tremblay to be a part of this along with Mr. Grattidge and Mr. Johnson. He requested them to move forward on this and to bring ideas back to this Committee. Mr. Johnson mentioned some

of these points would need State legislation. Mr. Parker said they didn't want to limit themselves to ideas.

Chairman Trottier asked how the Committee felt with having a joint meeting with the Buildings & Grounds Committee regarding an Emergency Operating Center. Mr. Johnson said there was talk on having a feasibility study done. Mr. Tremblay said this has been in discussion for a couple of years. Sheriff Bowen said a new Public Safety Building is needed at the County Farm that would bring us all together. We need certain meetings under one roof and be able to coordinate. Our present Communications Center is really cramped, he said. He said their building should be strictly jail. He said a new building should have a room for Fire Chiefs, Board of Supervisors, National Grid, and all of the equipment should be there to operate efficiently instead of where we are. He recommended there be a joint Committee meeting with the Buildings & Grounds Committee on this matter. Mr. Tremblay mentioned the present training classroom is not big enough, and office space is needed for the classroom teachers. A lot of needs could be combined into one unit, he said. Sheriff Bowen said we realize all departments are crowded, but a plan of this nature should be discussed.

Mr. J. Murphy requested a **resolution Recognizing National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 22 – 28, 2007**. He said there will be a candlelight vigil on April 22nd at the Presbyterian Church in Saratoga Springs. Two people getting awards this year are Pat Goia, of Parents of Murdered Children, and Beverly LaBarge, a retired Crime Victims' Advocate. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Connors seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. J. Murphy requested a **resolution to accept a grant from DCJS in the amount of \$18,075**. He stated this is new money and will be used to offset ADA's student loans. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Sheriff Bowen requested a **resolution to accept a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$98,400**. He said the money will be used to purchase two Suburbans, light bars and equipment for detecting drugs. **Mr. Connors moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. B. Murphy distributed copies of the 2007 STOP-DWI Program Budget totaling \$394,529. He said a preliminary budget is sent to the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee in November. After our budget is adopted, we have to send this budget back to the State with a resolution, he said. We have been fortunate the last couple of years that the revenues have exceeded our expenditures because of the cooperation of the Public Safety Committee, Traffic Safety Board and our advisory group, he added. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve the 2007 STOP-DWI Program Budget. Mr. Johnson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent stated the contract with Chazen for the new radio system will need to be amended. He stated \$8,800 is needed for a boundary survey for Fraker Mt. and \$1,100

for additional photo simulations for amending the permit application for APA. **Mr. Connors moved to approve this amendment to the Chazen contract. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent said we would like to move forward with contracts with our consulting team, Blue Wing, and Mr. Hoppe put together a project budget that will take us through 16 months of the project to a specific point. There are unknowns whether we will buy off State contract or a bid. We have enough of a project ahead of us to keep going and retain Blue Wing, he stated. Mr. Hoppe distributed copies of and reviewed their System Design and Implementation Services Proposal. He discussed Phase 1 – System Specifications (\$188,000) and Phase 2 – System Request for Proposal, Procurement and Award (\$73,000) for a total cost of \$261,000. Mr. Johnson asked if this has been budgeted, and Chairman Trottier said yes. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve going forward with this contract to keep this project going. Mr. Connors seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lent requested a contract with Chazen Companies to provide engineering services relative to site preparation for the radio system. He stated they did all of our engineering and permitting on the APA sites. He said they estimated 18 months at a cost not to exceed \$275,000. Chairman Trottier asked how many new sites there are, and Mr. Lent said probably seven, and that includes a rebuild. He said the funding in the Capital budget. Mr. Hellwig said funding was set aside a number of years back, and this will allow the money to be used. Mr. Rider asked if this was a lump sum contract. Mr. Lent said no, it is time and material. **Mr. Johnson moved to approve this contract. Mr. Grattidge seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Tremblay requested an agreement with Stratton Air Base to provide and accept mutual aid assistance. He said he has talked with the County Attorney about this. **Mr. Grattidge moved to approve authorizing this agreement. Mr. Connors seconded. Unanimous.**

On a motion by Mr. Connors, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann