

Public Safety Committee Minutes  
December 10, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Rowland; Supervisors Tollisen, Jenkins, Lucia, Southworth, Veitch, Sausville, and Grattidge; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Steven Bayle, Public Defender; Jim Murphy, District Attorney; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Lucia the minutes of the November 12, 2013 meeting were approved.** Mr. Tollisen abstained.

Mr. Dorsey said the county is required by County Law to have an Indigent Legal Services Plan for criminal court defendants and litigates for family court. The current plan provides for Public Defender services together with an assigned council plan. On a rotating basis, whenever the court has a conflict representing clients they assign it out to the Article 18B, which sets forth the County's obligation to provide legal services to those who can't afford it. He said in order for the county to amend the plan to allow for a Conflict Defender, which is a part of the county 2014 budget, it is required that the county approve the Bar Association Plan to provide Conflict Defender Services. Last month the Bar Association adopted an amendment to its own Legal Indigent Services Plan to include Conflict Defender Services in Saratoga County for 2014.

Mr. Dorsey said the resolution that will need to be adopted this month will be to incorporate the Bar Association's Conflict Defender amendment into the County's own Indigent Legal Services Plan. The county is required by County Law 722 to provide Indigent Legal Services through three different means or any combination thereof, one of which would be Public Defender Services; Private Legal Aid Services, which the county does not utilize; and the third is through a County Bar Association Plan to provide Assigned Council Services and/or Conflict Defender Services. Now that the Bar Association has a revised plan to provide for Conflict Defender Services, the county can now incorporate that into its own plan and include those services in the 2014 budget.

**A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve a resolution amending the county's Indigent Legal Services Plan and to incorporate the amendment into the Saratoga County Bar Association's Indigent Legal Services Plan to provide Conflict Defender Services. Unanimous.**

Mr. Schreiber requested approval of a Conflict Defender grant. He said the grant is a rolling three year grant that will be used to enhance indigent legal representation in Saratoga County. The approximate total is \$211,602.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve a three year rolling Conflict Defender Grant to enhance Indigent Legal Services in Saratoga County. Unanimous.**

Mr. Bayle requested a resolution to accept an Ignition Interlock State Grant in the amount of up to \$44,745, for the period October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. The grant reimburses for monitoring of offenders that are ordered to have an Ignition Interlock Device on any car that they own or operate. The reimbursement rate is at a rate of \$110.21 per offender. Last year, up through September 30<sup>th</sup>, there were 321 offenders, he said. Based on those numbers the trend is slightly down with estimated revenue for this period of time of \$44,000.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a resolution to accept an Ignition Interlock Grant from the State in the amount of \$44,745 for the period 10/1/13 through 9/30/14. Unanimous.**

Mr. Tremblay said a copy of the Emergency Services report was emailed to all committee members for their review.

Mr. Murphy said the State in the last couple of years has gone to requiring Law Enforcement Agencies across the state to record statements or confessions of defendants provided to Defense Attorney's. He said the county for a long time, through the Public Safety Committee, has been providing law enforcement through the DA's office. The IRA Court System is already in place in the Towns of Wilton, Malta, Clifton Park, Saratoga Springs, Waterford, Mechanicville, The Child Advocate Office, District Attorney's office and the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Murphy requested approval of a grant to include South Glens Falls Police Department in Moreau and the Village of Ballston Spa Police, which are two additional units that will add on IRA Court rooms.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Jenkins to approve a \$10,000 Legislative Grant from the NYS Office of Criminal Justice Services. Unanimous.**

Mr. Murphy requested approval to enter into a contract with Office Data Systems, Inc. to provide Digital Recording Equipment to record and prepare statements from Criminal Defendants at a cost of \$18,800.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve entering into a contract with Office Data Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$18,800 to provide Digital Recording Equipment to record and prepare statements from Criminal Defendants. Unanimous.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom