

Public Safety Committee Minutes
August 8, 2017 – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Paul Lent; Supervisors Preston Allen, Vince DeLucia, Jack Lawler, Peter Martin, Dan Pemrick, Tim Szczepaniak and Kevin Tollisen. Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; J. Wes Carr, STOP DWI; Oscar Schreiber, Public Defender; Carl Zeilman, Michael Stanley, Emergency Services; Jason Hayes, Animal Shelter; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, the minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Lawler, to authorize the acceptance of an additional \$5,000 in STOP-DWI grant funding for Crackdown Patrols and Activities and amending the 2017 budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Carr said that the funds were left over funds not used by other counties, he applied for and was awarded the additional \$5,000. The funds will be used toward the July 4 and Labor day crackdown period, activities during this period include increased DWI patrols and checkpoints. Mr. Lawler commended Mr. Carr for taking the initiative to apply for the funds.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, to authorize the acceptance of state aid in the amount of \$211,602 from the Office of Indigent Legal Services, Distribution No. 6, for the contract period of January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2018. The motion passed. Mr. Tollisen recused himself from the vote.

Mr. Schreiber said that this is an overlapping grant in the amount of \$70,540 per year for three years. Mr. Schreiber said that the social worker in his office has been a great success and has worked very closely with probation and drug court.

Mr. Schreiber said that the Legal Services Bill passed and got signed into law by the Governor with some changes. Between now and April 2023, \$250M will be split between 57 counties. Mr. Schreiber will be in touch with the committee members and will have an interview in Albany in September, he plans to request between \$1M-\$2M per year so that the Public Defender's office will be self-funded by the State. Mr. Schreiber said to inform him of any recommendations on how to better the Public Defender's office through state funding.

A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, to authorize an amendment to Resolution 110-2017 to clarify the grant funds received were Statewide Interoperable Communications Round V grant funds and providing for a budget amendment in the amount of \$874,563 to improve the 800 MHz radio communications and infrastructure. Unanimous.

Mr. Zeilman said that the wording "Round V" was omitted in the previous resolution.

Mr. Lawler thanked the Sheriff, his staff and Emergency Services for their help in his town's recent switchover from PD Dispatching to consolidating with the County. The transition was seamless.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, to authorize a re-appropriation of unspent Round III Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant in the amount of \$17,558.29 and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Zeilman said that the funds will be utilized on the radio system and maintenance.

The Animal Shelter monthly report was previously distributed by email. Mr. Hayes said that the numbers are consistent with where they were last year. Adoptions and spay and neuter numbers are up from last year. No rabies cases were reported. Mr. Hayes said that they have not seen any additional signs of feline distemper, the staff has been maintaining protocol. The outbreak of feline distemper stopped adoptions and accepting cats temporarily. Mr. Hayes said that they had planned to participate in a clear the shelter day, however they opted now to participate due to the outbreak of feline distemper. He said that they plan to request a fee reduction in September.

A motion was made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, to authorize a transfer of funds from the Animal Shelter Trust TTA57A Fund and amending the budget in relation thereto. The motion passed. Mr. Lent was opposed

Mr. Hayes said that the request for funding is in the amount of \$97,000 and will be used to offset operational costs. Last year the transfer request was \$99,000. Mr. Hayes said that there is currently around \$200K in the trust fund. Mr. Lent said that historically he has had a problem with some of the transfer requests from the trust fund. Mr. Lent said that last year a sub-committee looked into the use of trust fund monies, Mr. Allen said that it does not state what the funds should be used for. Mr. Pemrick asked why these funds are not budgeted annually. Mr. Lawler said that Administration has the difficult task of reducing each departments budget requests to meet with the Board's expectations for spending. Mr. Lawler said that as he understood, the purpose of the trust fund was for items above and beyond the basic supply needs of the Animal Shelter. Mr. Lent said that when building the new animal shelter, the trust fund was used for pay for upgrading the dog cages to larger cages.

Mr. Szczepaniak reported that he has been speaking with residents in the Village of Ballston Spa, residents from the vicinity of where the Kesselring Site transportation will be happening. He said that it has been a positive experience and the residents appreciate the communication. There will be a lot of activity over on Eastern Ave with the rail spur.

On a motion made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board