

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

June 2, 2020

The regular meeting of Public Safety, Probation, EMO, Stop DWI, Fire, & Safety was held in the Hubbard Auditorium, at the Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building, 56 Main Street, Tuesday, June 2, 2020, which started at 2:30 PM and ended at 3:30 PM.

Present:

Dennis Mullen	Chair, Public Safety
William Standinger III	Legislator {Committee Member} <i>Arrived @ 2:35 PM</i>
Edward Hollenbeck	Legislator {Committee Member}
Dale Weston	Legislator {Committee Member}
Gary Howard	Sheriff, Sheriff's Office
Joy Bennett	Director, Probation
Mike Simmons	Director, Office of Emergency Services
Bob Williams	Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Services

ABSENT: Marte Sauerbrey, Chair of the Legislator

GUESTS: Drew Griffin, Info Tech (*Via Zoom Monitor*)
Via Zoom None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis pandemic, the Public Safety Committee was not able to meet in person since March. For the months April and May, the committee only had to email their reports to the County Legislature.

The *March 3, 2020* minutes was accepted with no corrections or changes

Motion by: Dale Weston to accept the March 3, 2020 Minutes.

Second: Ed Hollenbeck

Carried

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – Mike Simmons:

Mike Simmons submitted the Office of Emergency Services report to the legislative members prior to the meeting. Report is attached.

BUDGET:

- Mike stated that they are within Budget.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorization to Contract with NYSTEC – Radio Consulting State Interoperable 18 Grant.

Mike stated that Pete DeWind and Marte Sauerbrey have already approved this contract.

The Legislators present have no problem with moving this resolution on; committee agreed to move this forward.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Attended monthly meetings via conference calls due to COVID-19 – State Emergency Management and Bob's mortuary conference call.
- Grants – same as it was in March.
- Waverly Radio Project –
- HazMat Team – no calls.
- Fire Investigation Team – 4 calls
- Search and Rescue – no calls
- EMS – classes are on hold. Fall EMS training program suspended due to budget cuts.
- Interoperable Fire Radio System – the logging recorder is working as of yesterday (June 1st).
- Fire – Tri-County worked on the system and corrected the audio problem. All state fire classes have been cancelled.
- EMO – since early March, the COVID-19 emergency has been working closely with numerous agencies to provide guidance, personal protective equipment, and other supplies to agencies who are in need during this emergency. Bob Williams has been very busy putting these together especially with the nursing homes (Elderwood). Supplied to the following: Corners and undertakers and Greater Valley EMS;
- EMO Budget cuts – EMS Program - \$20,000 EMT instructors' budget; EMS Coordinator Position \$11,000 – this position can be eliminated now until when things are back up. Training \$6,000; Software expense \$500.00 - old firehouse supplies; EMS Training - \$4,500; can save \$35,000 due to declining EMS volunteers. Regionalized system – share ambulances with each departments in a centralized area. The future will change with more paid staff then volunteers.

PROBATION – Joy Bennett:

Joy Bennett, presented the following information to the committee. Report is attached.

BUDGET:

Received directive to cut 10% from expenses and reviewed with Jackson. Explained to him that Probation is a mandated service for the county to provide and that state aid to the Department covers 9% of the budget, the remaining 91% is county cost-taxpayer funded.

Explained that cutting portions of the Probation budget will affect other departments. For example, eliminating ATI programing will affect the Sheriff's Department (Jail classifications) and eliminating the new JSSP contract will affect DSS-Foster Care budget. Probation will try to cut the budget \$26,630 as requested but will have to cut some services. A few of the cut services being considered will be:

- 55% cut to urine testing program
- 60% cut to automobile fuel
- 25% cut to county cars
- 100% cut to polygraph services for sex offenders
- 100% cut to Smart Mobil program
- 50% cut to electronic monitoring program
- 100% training budget

County Legislator Dennis Mullen stated that he is willing to advocate for any program that helps save money with another county department. County Legislators Mullen and Hollenbeck asked that Joy present

this information on Thursday, June 4th at the work session meeting with the full county legislature. She will need to come up with figures regarding the impact by the Sheriff's Office and DSS if she cuts the programs (ATI and JSSP).

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Courts in the 6th Judicial district have "opened up" but in reality things are still very restricted. Court staff is still working at 50%. The public is not allowed in any courtrooms. County Court is holding hearings via Skype. In Justice Courts, court staff can report but there are no calendars as of now.
- Court Annex Security – having some pushback from Court security about allowing probationers back in the space. OCA security officers are still working at 50% staffing. There are two teams, each team works two weeks, then is off two weeks. Everything is by SKYPE or telephone. Security is thinking the county should operate under the same restrictions as the courts are. IT ordered cameras for Probation but they are on backorder. Monday, June 8th we have five VOP cases scheduled via SKYPE in Tioga County Court. We are successful doing these.
- Department staffing – all Probation staff are back in the office space full time. On June 1st, we started bringing the probationers back into the office space. We are targeting high and medium risk cases for the month of June. Low risk cases will continue to report via telephone and computer. We are limiting the number of appointments per day and spacing them out so there will be no more than eight people in the waiting room at one time. Masks are being handed out if a probationer reports without one (bag of masks out near the Court Security desk).
- Ce Check In software via Caseload Explorer – is being utilized for probationers with a valid email. This software paid for by the state. Probationers are directed to log in via this software from their phone or computer, answer some questions and take a photo. The software puts the response in the Department's software system and flags cases based on the answers. For Juveniles, we are setting up ZOOM meetings, if the parent allows the app to be downloaded to their phone or the juvenile's phone.
- State Budget passed on April 1, 2020.
- Received no JD Appearance tickets in May.
- No New information to date on the Raise the Age (RTA) funding for State Fiscal year 2020-2021. The current program year ended March 31, 2020.
- Decision Points – due to COVID-19, is on hold.
- WWP/Community Services – due to COVID-19, is on hold.
- Victim Impact Panel – we are reducing the number of attendees to allow for social distancing, a session is scheduled for June 17, 2020.
- Probation Officer is out on medical leave until July. He is receiving medical treatment outside of NYS.

SHERIFF – Gary Howard:

Sheriff Gary Howard, presented the following information to the committee. Report is attached.

Budget:

- Expenditures are on target for five months; revenues are at \$287,010, which is 50% of the budget. Inmate boarders account for \$64,997 (four months revenue). We still have one inmate housed at Monroe County.

Highlights:

- Civil – All positions filled. Civil states have to wait until the end of August to issue eviction notices.
- Corrections – three vacant positions: two (2) Corrections Officers, and One (1) part-time cook position. Two (2) CO's awaiting medical retirement.

- Road Patrol – One Deputy out on 207C medical leave. One Deputy retiring in June. School Resources Officer contract with the Spencer Schools has been cut due to COVID-19.
- E911 Communications – Currently two (2) positions to be filled.
- Labor issues – TCCA negotiation are in a stall. Also, have Road Patrol and CSEA due this year.
- Litigation Issues – none at this time.
- Average daily inmate population for the month of April 30 and May was 29.
- Will have five Deputies retiring this summer.
- Pistol Permits – by appointment only.
- No visitation in the jail. Need to come up with a plan. Can supply face masks for them.
- Budget cuts – gas fuel due to the COVID-19. Steve DuVarney will be retiring in June. He has agreed to come back part-time (increase are part-time head count) and work a couple of shifts. Will get with Bethany (@ Personnel) to work this out. Salary and Contractual is where will be cutting. We will met our 10%.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Legislators present went into Executive session at the conclusion of the Public Safety Committee meeting at the request of Sheriff Howard.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Kallin
Secretary to the Director of Probation
June 2, 2020

TCOES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT FOR MAY 2020 June 2, 2020

Budget: Within Budget - See attached spreadsheets

Resolutions: Enter into contract with NYSTEC

Monthly Activity:

1. Monthly Meetings Attended
 - a. Daily State Emergency Management Conference Call
 - b. OFPC Conference Calls
 - c. County Leaders Meeting Call

2. Grants
 - a. SHSP18 – I am Responding Program
 - b. HMEP18 – Approved
 - c. SICG18 – Formula Grant – Approved - put a portion towards Motorola down payment
 - d. SHSP19 – Received
 - e. EMPG19- Received
 - f. SICG19 – Formula - Applied

3. Other Emergency Services Activities
 - a. Waverly Radio Project – Still working on project – will utilize Southern Tier Fiber Network from 911 Center to Village of Waverly building, then microwave from there to Round Top Park tower.
 - b. HazMat Team – 0 Calls
 - c. Fire Investigation Team –4
 - d. Search and Rescue – 0

4. EMS
 - a. EMS Classes on Hold for unknown period of time
 - b. Fall EMS Training Program suspended due to budget cuts

5. Interoperable Fire Radio System
 - a. Our office has been working with Mr. Kevin Karn, a consultant from the New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation. Resolution to sign contract with NYSTEC presented.
 - b. The logging recorder will be completed this week.

6. Fire
 - a. Radio system continues to have issues with the audio, making it difficult for field units to understand dispatchers. Tri-County reports that they are working to resolve the problem but this far have been unable to diagnose the issue. Still working to identify the problem. Tri-County worked on the system 5/28/2020 and corrected audio problems.

 - b. All State Fire Classes have been cancelled.

7. EMO
 - a. Since early in March, the COVID-19 Emergency has required that we spend nearly all our time. Office of Emergency Services has received and distributed personal protective equipment and testing supplies all agencies who were identified as COVID19 emergency responders and agencies.

Office has been working closely with numerous agencies to provide guidance, personal protective equipment, and other supplies to agencies who are in need during the emergency.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FINANCE/LEGAL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -20 AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT
WITH NYSTEC - RADIO CONSULTING
STATE INTEROPERABLE 18 GRANT

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Office of Emergency Services has a need to upgrade and replace its current radio communications system due to poor performance issues; and

WHEREAS: The Director of Emergency Services would like to contract with NYSTEC at a cost of \$49,992.18 for the period June 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS: NYSTEC is listed on the Office of General Services Administration contract; and

WHEREAS: There are sufficient funds in account A3415.540140 IO18F (contracted services) State Interoperable Grant18 Radio & Equipment; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Chair of the County Legislature is authorized to execute a contract between Tioga County and NYSTEC upon review by the County Attorney.

Public Safety Committee Meeting
Probation Department Report
June 2, 2020

Article I. Budget Status:

Received directive to cut 10% from expenses and reviewed same with Jackson. Explained to him that Probation is a mandated service for the county to provide and that state aid to the Department covers 9% of the budget, the remaining 91 % is county cost-taxpayer funded.

Explained that cutting portions of the Probation budget will affect other departments eliminating ATI programing will impact the Sheriff's Department (Jail classifications) and eliminating the new JSSP contract will impact DSS- Foster Care budget. We will cut the budget \$26,630 as requested but will have to cut some services. A few of the cut services will be:

- 55% cut to urine testing program
- 60% cut to automobile fuel
- 25% cut to county cars
- 100% cut to polygraph services for sex offenders
- 100% cut to Smart Mobil program
- 50% cut to electronic monitoring program

Issues:

1. Courts in the 6th Judicial district have “opened up” but in reality things are still very restricted. Staff is still working at 50%. The public is not allowed in any court rooms. Court hearings are virtual via SKYP in County Court, however, if a defendant does not have an email address, cases are being scheduled months out. In Justice Courts, court staff can report but there are no calendars as of now. CAP Court is continuing.

We have successfully sent Justice Court violations of probation to the County Court and had the county court accept jurisdiction and hold hearings via SKYP.

We are still working out issues of completing an investigation on a defendant housed in the jail as well as documenting what warrants have been re-activated. And the process for new warrants.

2. Court Annex Security – having some pushback from Court security about allowing probationers back in the space. They are upset at having to screen DMV people going to the Clerk’s office. OCA security officers are still working at 50% staffing. There are two teams, each team works two weeks, then is off two weeks. The Courthouse is open for 50% staff

but the public is not allowed in. There are no in-person hearings. Everything is by SKYP or telephone. Security is thinking the county should operate under the same restrictions as the courts are.

3. Department staffing: All Probation staff are back in the office space full time.
 - a. We will begin bringing probationers back into the office space on 6/1/20. We are targeting high and medium risk cases for the month of June. Low risk cases will continue to report via telephone and computer. We are limiting the number of appointments per day and space them out so there will be no more than 8 people in the waiting room at one time. We have asked probationers not to bring family members or children to the office. All parties must wear masks, hand sanitizer is provided.
 - b. We have successfully implemented CE Check in software for all probationers with a valid email. Probationers are directed to log in via this software program from their phone or computer, answer some questions and take a photo. The software puts the response in the system and flags cases based on the answers to the questions.

We have successfully implemented Zoom meetings for all juvenile cases. This software has to be loaded as an app on the phone or computer and allows us to have real time visual conferencing.
 - c. We have ordered camera/microphone are all pcs but these are still on backorder.
 - d. We are back out in the community making home checks on probationers that do not have a valid phone number or email to contact them at.
4. Juvenile Delinquency Services: We received no JD tickets in May, we will have two youth reporting in June per conversations this week with LE.
5. No new information to date on RTA funding for State Fiscal year 2020-2021. The current program year ended 3/31/20.
6. E- Connect: In May we screened 0 youth.

ATI Programs:

- ❖ Electronic Monitoring – 0 units in use.
- ❖ Community Service –No WWP crew since 3/1/20.
- ❖ Pre-Trial Release – Pre-Trial Release – 0 people in the program, no releases to the program by a Tioga County court since Bail Reform took effect on 1/1/20.

Juvenile Delinquency Services: 0 Juvenile Delinquency Appearance Tickets were received in May 2020.

YTD: 10 JDAT received to date in plus 1 case of direct file with the court, plus 2 cases handed down from Youth Part for a total of 13 cases to date.

Alternative to Detention Programing: Cayuga Counseling program for juvenile is operating and working with Tioga County youth. One part time employee is working the cases, the second position in the contract is currently unfilled.

Decision Points- This program for juveniles is on hold due to COVID-19

Court Ordered Investigations: 31 investigations for Tioga County courts (Criminal, Family and Surrogate) are due in the next 60 days.

Supervision: 293 cases ordered by Tioga County courts & Family Court

Violation of Probation petitions: 25 defendants have violation petitions pending against them in criminal & family court.

Personnel:

Still have 1 unfunded PO position

Have an Officer out on medical leave for two months. They will be receiving medical treatment outside of NYS.

Resolutions: None

Tioga County Sheriff's Office



DATE: May 27, 2020
TO: Sheriff Howard
RE: May 2020 Public Safety - Reference Notes

Personnel Issues:

1. **Civil Office**
 - a) All positions are filled.
2. **Corrections Division**
 - a) There are 3 vacant positions; one (1) Corrections Officer; one (1) part-time Cook; and one (1) Sergeant.
 - b) We have two (2) C.O.s awaiting Medical Retirement.
3. **Road Patrol**
 - a) We have (1) Deputy out on 207C medical leave.
 - b) A Deputy will be retiring in June.
 - c) A Lieutenant position will become vacant.
 - d) School Resource Officer contract with Spencer School has been discontinued due to budget cuts associated with the Coronavirus.
4. **E911 Emergency Communications Center**
 - a) Currently we have (2) positions to be filled.
5. **Administration**
 - a. The position of Undersheriff has become vacant and an eligible candidate has been found – resolution is attached.
 - b. The position of Captain will become vacant and an eligible candidate has been found – resolution is attached.

Labor Issues:

1. T.C.C.A. negotiations are in a stall.

Litigation Issues:

None at this time.

Budget:

1. We continue to have an individual inmate that is housed at Monroe County.
2. Expenditures are on target for five months; Revenues are at \$287,010 which is 50% of the budget. Inmate Boarders account for \$64,997 (4 months revenue).

Current Projects:

1. NICE phone recording system installation / training almost complete.

Miscellaneous:

1. Average daily inmate population for the month of April 2020 was 30 and May was 29.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize appointment and set salary for Undersheriff.
2. Authorize appointment and set salary for Captain.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -20 AUTHORIZE APPOINTMENT OF
UNDERSHERIFF
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WHEREAS: Legislative approval is required for any appointment to a non-union position within Tioga County;
and

WHEREAS: Due to a retirement, the position of Undersheriff within the Sheriff's Office became vacant on
May 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS: The Sheriff has identified a qualified candidate to appoint to the position; and

WHEREAS: During the June 4, 2020, Legislative work session, consensus was given to the Sheriff on the salary
offer for his selected candidate; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Sheriff is hereby authorized to promote Rich Hallett to the title of Undersheriff at an
annual, non-union salary of \$88,000 effective June 10, 2020.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -20 AUTHORIZE APPOINTMENT OF CAPTAIN – OPERATIONS OFFICER
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WHEREAS: Legislative approval is required for any appointment to a non-union position within Tioga County;
and

WHEREAS: Due to a promotion, the position of Captain – Operations Officer, within the Sheriff's Office, will
become vacant on June 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS: The Sheriff has identified a qualified candidate from the certified eligible list and would like to
backfill the position immediately; and

WHEREAS: During the June 4, 2020 legislative work session, consensus was given to the Sheriff on the salary
offer for his selected candidate; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Sheriff is hereby authorized to promote Shawn Nalepa to the title of Captain –
Operations Officer at an annual, non-union salary of \$83,000 effective June 10, 2020.