WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
October 14, 2026

Call to Order: Ways & Means Committee Vice Chairman Janice L. Burdick called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Committee Vice Chairman Janice L. Burdick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: C. Bessette, J. Burdick, K. Demick, G. Hanchett, S. Havey, D. Healy, B. Harris (Absent: P. Stockin)

Other Attendees: G. Barnes, B. Broach, A. Carrow, P. Curran, S. Decker, K. Hooker, J. Kelley, C. Knapp, K. LaForge, W. Meunier, J. Ricci, J. Ricketts-Swales, R. Whitney

Approval of Agenda

The Ways & Means Committee meeting agenda of October 14, 2026, was approved on a motion by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Ways and Means Committee meeting minutes of September 23, 2026, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried.

Approval of Audit

Committee members reviewed the October 14, 2026, audit of claims totaling $12,002,249.10 (including prepaid bills). A motion to forward the audit to the full Board for approval of payment was made by Legislator Hanchett, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Broadband Equipment Removal

County Administrator Carissa Knapp requested a resolution to transfer funds from the Contingency account to the E911 Repairs account to cover the cost of removal of broadband equipment that is no longer in use. Over the past several months, issues have arisen concerning abandoned broadband equipment located at various 911 tower sites. To prevent damage to the equipment and tower sites, we are requesting that the equipment be removed. The quoted cost from Patriot Towers for the removal of equipment is $59,409.

Budget Modification:

A1990.429	Contingency	($59,500)
A3112.411	Repairs: Personal Property	$59,500

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Demick, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Security Policy Update

Information Technology Director Keith Hooker requested a resolution to accept the Security Policy Writing proposal from M.A. Polce and authorize Chairman Harris to sign the proposal. He also asked for authorization of the following budget adjustment to the 2026 Budget. The requested modification will transfer funds from Contingency to the Central Service Computer account to cover the cost of updating the County's IT Security Policies.

Budget Modification:

A1990.429	Contingency	($7,520)

A1680.409 Fees $7,520

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

PUBLIC WORKS

Permission to Apply for a NYSDEC Grant for Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling-Recycling Coordination (MWRR) Grant

Mr. Windus requested a resolution authorizing him to apply for a Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling-Recycling Coordination Grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The grant amount is approximately $80,000. The purpose of applying for this grant is for reimbursement of up to 50 percent of the salary and benefits of the Allegany County Recycling Coordinator, and up to 50 percent of the costs for recycling education, promotion and outreach. Legislator Healy asked for confirmation that this is something we do every year. County Treasurer Jenna Kelley confirmed that it has been done annually. Legislator Healy remarked that it's good for County government and taxpayers. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Demick, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

PUBLIC SAFETY

Authorization to Apply for Solicitation of Interest (SOI) 2026-1 Criminal Wage Theft Investigations Grant Program

Acting District Attorney Degnan requested a resolution authorizing him to apply for the Solicitation of Interest (SOI) 2026-1 Criminal Wage Theft Investigations Grant Program. The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) announced a $5 million grant program designed to support District Attorneys in undertaking new criminal wage theft investigations. The program particularly encourages offices that have not previously pursued criminal wage theft cases to apply, aiming to help build their capacity from the ground up to ensure all New Yorkers are protected from wage theft. Eligible activities for this grant funding can cover operational costs, including staff time, overtime, new investigator or Assistant District Attorney positions, training, and equipment. The total maximum award is $500,000. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Contract Combining the Distribution and 4th Upstate Quality Grants through ILS-Public Defender

Public Defender Carter requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) combined Distribution and Fourth Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grants (Distribution 27-29), and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: CD27002 Contract Term: January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2029

A1170

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 1	January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027	$255,867.00
Year 2	January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2028	$255,867.00

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 3	January 1, 2029 – December 31, 2029	$255,867.00
Total Contract Amount		**$767,601.00**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Hurrell - Harring Extension-Public Defender and Conflict Defender

Public Defender Carter and Conflict Defender Michael Regan requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) extension of the Second Statewide Expansion of the Hurrell-Harring Grant, and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: CSTWIDE202 Extension Year Term: April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027

A1174

Office	Amount
Public Defender	$621,578.00
Conflict Defender	$499,672.90
Total Year 3 Contract Amount	**$1,121,250.90**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Demick, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Three-Year Contract for 4th Upstate Quality Grant-Public Defender

Public Defender Carter requested a resolution approving, accepting, and appropriating the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) Fourth Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant, and ratifying the prior or subsequent signature of the County Administrator or W. Brooke Harris, Chairperson of the Board of Legislators, on the grant contract, upon the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney, as follows:

Contract No.: C4TH602 Contract Term: July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026

A1170

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 1	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	$50,000.00

Grant Year	Term	Amount
Year 2	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	$100,000.00
Year 3	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	$100,000.00
Partial Year 4	July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	$50,000.00
Total Contract Amount		**$300,000.00**

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Authorization to Apply for a Grant from the Allegany Area Foundation

The Office of Emergency Management requested authorization to apply for a grant from the Allegany Area Foundation in the amount of $5,015.76 to fund the purchase of twelve (12) handheld GPS units, twelve (12) SD map/data card inserts, and seventy-two (72) NiMH or Li-Ion batteries. The intent of the purchase is to provide this equipment to the Allegany County Search and Rescue Team, which is overseen by the Department of Conservation Forest Rangers, and responds county-wide to instances of missing persons, typically in remote and wooded environments. The team requires the GPS units to effectively perform their duties, which include wayfinding, grid and linear search operations, and maintaining personal navigational awareness and safety. The Search and Rescue Team does not have the capacity to apply for the funding independently. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 379-23 was previously approved and budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $29,875. The relevant contract is #T190241, and the DHSES reference number is WM23190241. No money was spent in 2024-2025, leaving the whole grant amount of $29,875 to be reappropriated in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3674S ACSO HS SHSP FY 23 T#190241

Expenses

A3674S.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$29,875

Revenue

A3674S 4306.FY23	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 23	$29,875

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 149-23 was previously approved and

budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $26,887. The relevant contract is #T190104, and the DHSES reference number is WM22190104. The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3672S ACSO HS SHSP FY 22 T#190104

Expenses		
A3672S.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$14,030
Revenue		
A3672S 4306.FY22S	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 22	$14,030

The total grant is $26,887, less Police/Sheriff Equipment of $12,857 spent in 2022-2025, equals the remaining balance of $14,030 to be reappropriated. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Reappropriation of Unspent Funds from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office has requested a resolution to reappropriate unspent funds from the 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) Grant. Resolution No. 479-24 was previously approved and budgeted for this grant. The Sheriff's Office amount of the grant is $29,875. The relevant contract is #T190382, and the DHSES reference number is WM24190382. The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Reappropriations: A 3675S ACSO HS SHSP FY 24 T#190382

Expenses		
A36725.208	Police/Sheriff Equipment (for specialized response)	$28,475
Revenue		
A3675S 4306.FY24S	Fed Aid-Homeland Security SHSP 24	$28,475

The total grant is $29,875, less Police/Sheriff Equipment of $1,400 spent in 2025, equals the remaining balance of $28,475 to be reappropriated. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Acceptance and Appropriation of Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Funds

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office is requesting a resolution accepting the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant and appropriating funds for the program. Allegany County was awarded $172,413 under the FY2023 Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant Program. Funding for this state grant award is directed to be utilized to support the county's capability to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans. The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) will manage and administer these program funds and the performance period for this grant will be from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2026. The grant should be reappropriated as follows:

Appropriations ($172,413):		
H 3036.200	Capital Project	$ 172,413
Revenue ($172,413):		
H 3036.4089.DTPHS	Fed Aid – Domestic Terrorism	$ 172,413

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Bessette, and carried. ***Prepare Resolution***

Good of the Order

Majority Leader Steven A. Havey announced that a caucus would begin at 1:20 p.m. in the Public Works Conference Room.

Legislator Healy stated the State Police had completed a Domestic Terrorism Plan years ago. He wondered if the Sheriff's Office might still have a copy of that.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Bessette, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah M. Decker, Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators