

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
September 7, 2022

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Public Safety Committee Chairman Steven Havey.

Roll Call: S. Havey, J. Rumfelt, G. Barnes, A. Cyr, K. Demick, B. Harris, D. Healy, P. Stockin

Other Attendees: G. Barnes, J. Burdick, A. Carrow, J. Carter, S. Cicirello, P. Curran, A. Cyr, K. Demick, D. Fanton, S. Grantier, G. Hanchett, B. Harris, S. Havey, D. Healy, K. Hooker, C. Knapp, T. Linn, J. Luckey, D. Marsh, T. Peet, B. Perkins, J. Ricci, J. Ricketts-Swales, B. Riehle, D. Root, T. Ross, J. Rumfelt, R. Starks, R. Swarhout

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Rumfelt, and carried to approve the minutes of August 3, 2022.

STOP-DWI

Stop-DWI Coordinator Brian Perkins attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review. Mr. Perkins highlighted items from his monthly report as follows:

Traffic Safety Board

Mr. Perkins stated that the bicycles that were given away at the Allegany County Fair will be presented to the children this Saturday, September 10, 2022, at the Wal-Mart in Olean, NY.

Victim Impact Panels

Mr. Perkins stated that the August 2022 Victim Impact Panel was held with 20 participants. Mr. Perkins stated that there were 16 other participants that did not attend.

Bicycle Safety

Mr. Perkins stated that he attended the penny carnival and back-to-school bash in Andover where he handed out bicycle safety and STOP-DWI information.

NY Highway Safety Symposium

Mr. Perkins stated that he is looking forward to attending the NY Highway Safety Symposium at the end of October.

DWI Contracts

Mr. Perkins stated that he has been in contact with our Representative at the State about what last steps we need to do for the funding. Legislator Rumfelt asked what it is looking like for next year. Mr. Perkins stated that they are still working through the process and have been hearing that the fine money has begun to recover with more courts open, but he does not have an exact idea of how much. Legislator Rumfelt stated that the chiefs are now contacting Legislator Harris. County Administrator Knapp asked if the County has signed contracts with any of the Towns. Mr. Perkins stated that the contracts were waiting for finalized numbers. Legislator Rumfelt stated that when the Towns and Villages were creating their budgets, they budgeted what was in previous years' contracts in anticipation of receiving them. Ms. Knapp stated that they will need the signed contracts before they can be paid. Legislator Harris asked if the fine money that results from DWI arrests goes into a "pot" where the County disperses it amongst local agencies that participate in DWI patrol. County Treasurer Ross stated that

DWI fine money is received every quarter throughout the year and reserved to appropriate in the budget for the following year. That money is then used to cover the cost of the DWI program which includes DWI patrol by municipalities and some administration. Legislator Harris stated that the issue is we are receiving less than we are distributing and the funds are depleted. He wondered if adjustments could be made to the budget or if the program should be eliminated. Ms. Knapp stated that it is at the point that if you don't put County dollars toward it, you can't have this program. Ms. Knapp continued that even this year she does not believe that they would be able to pay these contracts to the municipalities without using County funds. Ms. Ross stated that they have used County funds for the last couple of years. Ms. Ross stated that the 2022 Budget was created for approximately \$40,000, and the contracts that were submitted totaled approximately \$90,000, leaving a huge gap that is not covered in the 2023 Budget. Legislator Harris asked if it would cause hardship for the local agencies to stop the program. Legislator Rumpfelt stated that it would be a hardship for some and that Alfred's numbers have increased significantly since COVID-19. He explained that Alfred would be hit the hardest by being forced to cut weekend coverage. Ms. Knapp pointed out that there are also administrative costs as well. Legislator Healy asked if Legislator Harris is suggesting that the program be stopped. Legislator Harris stated that it sounds like it at least needs a closer look. Legislator Rumpfelt explained that the Villages and Towns don't receive any of that DWI money directly. He explained that it all goes to the County or the State for DWI and a portion is distributed to them. Legislator Harris commented that they are owed that then.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Public Defender J. R. Santana Carter attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Victim Impact Panel

Mr. Carter stated that after individuals are ordered to participate in the Victim Impact Panel and if they miss that appointment Mr. Perkins contacts the courts, and usually his office is contacted to come back in with the client and explain why they failed to show up for that program. Mr. Carter explained that many times the justices will provide the individuals an additional opportunity to attend the program because it is court-ordered and part of their sentence. Mr. Carter stated that if they miss again, they can potentially be re-sentenced to incarceration as an additional punishment for not following the court order. Mr. Carter stated that if that program did not exist, then the people convicted would be ordered to partake in a program in another County because courts are still required to order it as part of their sentence. Mr. Carter explained that there is no program in Cattaraugus County, and many of them are ordered to participate in Allegany County. Legislator Healy asked if we charge additional fees for out-of-county. Mr. Carter stated that there is a charge for in-county, but there is an additional charge for out-of-county.

Legislator Rumpfelt asked how the outside counsel appointment is coming along. Mr. Carter stated that they are doing what they can to fulfill this constitutional mandate. Ms. Knapp stated that again this is not Mr. Carter's responsibility as Public Defender, and it is something that she and Ms. Carrow are working on.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & FIRE

Emergency Management & Fire Director Jeff Luckey attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review. Mr. Luckey highlighted items from his monthly report as follows:

Round Table Webinar on August 2, 2022

Mr. Luckey stated that he, Bonnie, and Shelly attended the webinar and thanked MTS for hosting it. Mr. Luckey stated that they were able to have all of the EMS agencies represented about the Billing-209b. Mr. Luckey stated that the fire departments were able to have their legal counsel with them and many of their questions were answered.

Arson Fire on August 3, 2022

Mr. Luckey stated that they responded to a fire in the village of Wellsville and upon investigation, it was determined to have been caused by arson.

Fire Investigation Team Meeting

Mr. Luckey stated that the FI Team met to review all of the area fires between January and August and determined they did not see any connections between them. Legislator Cyr asked who determined that there were no connections between the fires. Mr. Luckey stated that the FI team reviewed all of the individual fires and did not see any connections between the fires during that timeframe.

REMAC Committee

Mr. Luckey stated that the REMAC committee is in the process of meeting to approve Dr. Lisa Ryder as our Medical Director.

Legislator Harris commented that he was listening to his scanner on the first day of school, and Alfred-Almond had a fire alarm. He heard them tone out Almond and Alfred Station Fire, and wondered if they automatically send EMS with Fire or just Fire. Mr. Luckey stated that it depends, and he would have to look at their run card to confirm, but generally, when Fire is requested, they send their ambulance as well. Legislator Harris asked what they do if Almond can only get one fire truck on scene, would they then re-tone MTS to Alfred-Almond School and not Almond's ambulance? Mr. Luckey replied, "correct."

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney Keith Slep was unable to attend the meeting but had previously submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Resolution to Transfer Funds to Purchase Office Equipment

Mr. Slep requested a resolution to transfer funds from District Attorney Conference Expense to District Attorney Office Equip to allow the purchase of a desk, chair, and computer for a new attorney. The Budget adjustment requested is as follows:

From:	To:	Amount:
A 1165.405 District Attorney Conf Exp	A 1165.201 District Attorney Office Equip	\$4,065

County Treasurer Ross explained that their department had purchased a desk and chair earlier in the year and with their changeover in staffing, they neglected to do a transfer to cover some of those costs. Ms. Ross stated that they also recently purchased a computer. This MOE should state that the purpose is for a desk, chair, and computer. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Cyr, seconded by Legislator Harris, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Probation Director Robert Starks attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Committee Chairman Havey noted that this would be the last committee meeting for Mr. Starks and took the opportunity to thank him for his many years of service. Committee Chairman went on to thank him for the expertise he brought forth and the good that he has done for Allegany County.

Victim Impact Panel

Mr. Starks stated that he had neglected to list on his report that Scott Grantier represented the Probation Department at the last Victim Impact Panel by administering the breathalyzer tests to those in attendance.

Probation Block Grant

Mr. Starks stated that they received notice that morning that the Probation Block Grant State Aide came in at approximately \$151,101 which is the same as it has been for many years. Mr. Starks stated that Mr. Grantier will be presenting it at the next monthly Public Safety Committee meeting.

Youth Court

Mr. Starks stated that the Youth Court hired a coordinator. Mr. Starks stated that the coordinator will be going to schools during the next few months to recruit students to take on the roles of the youth court as a prosecutor, judge, defense attorney, and jurors. They will begin holding hearings and making referrals once the youth court members have been established, hopefully by the first of the year.

Resolution to Accept Raise the Age Grant

Mr. Starks requested a resolution to accept and appropriate Raise the Age Grant funds. The NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services notified the Allegany County Probation Department on August 22, 2022, that the County has been awarded a renewal grant for its Raise the Age budget. The amount of the award is \$22,973. The grant period is April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022. This grant reimburses our Department for specific services provided for youth who qualify under the "Raise the Age" banner. Committee Chairman Havey asked if it is common practice to receive a grant months after it is over. Mr. Starks stated that it is not common for any other grant, but it seems to be the case with Raise the Age. Appropriations are as follows:

Appropriations:			
A 3176	Raise the Age-Probation		\$22,973
Revenues:			
A.3176.3389.RTA	Raise the Age-Probation-State Aide	\$22,973	
	Total grant:	\$22,973	

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Rumpfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Resolution to Accept Office on Violence Against Women Grant

Mr. Starks requested a resolution to accept the Office on Violence Against Women(OVW) Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking, Community Response and Prevention Program grant. The ACCORD Corporation notified the Allegany County Probation Department on August 11, 2022, that the County has been awarded a "Subaward Agreement" between ACCORD and the Allegany County Probation Department. ACCORD received the grant from the Office on Violence Against Women(OVW) Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking, Community Response and Prevention Program. The total amount of the award is \$41,714. The grant period is July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2024. Legislator Healy asked if the grant comes from Federal or State funding. Mr. Starks stated that he believes it is Federal. County Treasurer Ross stated that it is not Federal money to the County. Ms. Ross stated that the funds are received by ACCORD and pass through to Allegany County. The breakdown of the award is as follows:

- \$7,500 per year toward overtime costs for supervision of sex offenders and domestic violence offenders
- \$5,738 per year for up to four GPS Electronic Monitor devices
- \$2,000 total for travel funds to SO/DV related conferences and/or trainings

These funds are in our 2021-2022 Budget and it is also in our proposed 2022-2023 Budget. The funds will be in the following budget line items:

Appropriations A 3140.101 Probation Personnel
A 3140.413 Rentals/Leasing
A 3140.421 Education/Training

Revenues A 3140 1580.03 Electronic Home Monitoring
A 3140 1580.06 Sex Offender Fees-OVW

Total grant: \$41,714

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

Request to Create and Fill Additional Sr. Probation Officer

Mr. Starks requested a resolution to create and fill one full-time Senior Probation Officer (AFSCME bargaining unit, Grade: 20, Step: Base to 7) and any resulting backfills in the Probation Department. The annual salary of this position is funded with 89 percent County funds, 11 percent State funds, and is estimated to be between \$48,278.05 and \$62,033.97. The annual benefits are funded with 100 percent County funds, and is estimated to be between \$21,068.54 and \$27,071.62. Legislator Rumpfelt commented that this is basically a promotion for an existing employee. Mr. Starks replied. "yes." The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Rumpfelt, seconded by Legislator Cyr, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means pending approval to create at the Legislative Board Meeting**

Mr. Starks closed by thanking the Public Works Committee for all of the assistance they have given to the Probation Department and him during his years of service.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Weights & Measures Director Gilbert Green was unable to attend the meeting but had previously submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Undersheriff Scott Cicirello attended the meeting and submitted his monthly reports to the committee for review.

Undersheriff Cicirello noted that with the new pistol permit laws, they are currently booking out new pistol permit applications to May of 2023. Undersheriff Cicirello commented that they are at their highest numbers ever with pistol permit applications. They received over 500 applications through September 1, 2022, putting them on pace to receive approximately 650 applications for this year. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that is 45 percent more than last year and a 116 percent increase from 5 years ago. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that this is very problematic, and they are in the process of re-assigning a deputy to assist with managing the backlog beginning next week. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that they are doing their very best to understand their responsibilities with the new gun laws. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that there are a lot of legal challenges and they are seeking guidance from New York State. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that they are receiving updated pistol permit regulations on an almost daily basis. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that if they are going to conduct the required

background investigations for these pistol permits, they do not currently have the resources to accomplish certain aspects of the new laws. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that this would be a full-time job for someone.

Legislator Harris asked if the new laws affect existing pistol permit holders and if there is information that they should be made aware of. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that the guidance from current County Judges who are the licensing officers is that there are no changes for current pistol permit holders before September 1, 2022.

Legislator Healy asked if there are delays with renewals of pistol permits. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that there are no delays on renewals, and they can walk up to the window to receive renewals.

Legislator Rumpfelt asked if they are looking to create a full-time position for this in their 2023 Budget. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that if the law stands as it is, they will have no choice and will have to add personnel. Legislator Cyr stated that he is in support of any law-abiding citizen in Allegany County that wants to have a pistol permit and would be in support of that position.

Legislator Harris asked if they receive any of the revenue from the pistol permit applications. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that they receive a very small percentage and that most of the revenue goes to the State.

Undersheriff Cicirello stated that they are inundated with calls from residents in Allegany County concerned with the new laws, and there is a lot of confusion, uncertainty, and unhappy people.

Legislator Hanchett stated that the civil war reenactment in Angelica was canceled due to the new laws. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that is correct and very unfortunate, and that due to the wording of the regulations, he understands the cancelation because it could be considered a felony to possess a black powder gun in a public place, depending on interpretation. Legislator Healy stated that will be a loss of tourism dollars to the County.

Resolution to Accept FY2020 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG)

The Sheriff's Office requested a resolution for the acceptance and establishment of a capital project for the appropriation of the New York State 2021 and 2022 Statewide Interoperable Communication Grant (SICG). This grant has been awarded to Allegany County in the amount of \$1,429,652. These monies shall be used to upgrade the 911 communications system. The funds should be budgeted as follows:

TO BE BUDGETED FOR 2022

Appropriation:	* H 3035.200 (SICG-911 FY21-22)	\$1,429,652
Revenue:	* H 3035.3097.00 St Aid	\$1,429,652

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Demick, seconded by Legislator Rumpfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Resolution to Accept FY2021-22 Public Safety Answering Points Operations Grant (PSAP)

The Sheriff's Office requested a resolution for the acceptance and establishment of a capital project for the appropriation of the New York State 2021-2022 NYS Public Safety Answering Points Operations Grant (PSAP). This grant has been awarded to Allegany County in the amount of \$131,483. These monies shall be used to upgrade the 911 communications system. The funds should be budgeted as follows:

TO BE BUDGETED FOR 2022

Appropriation:	* H 3034.200 (PSAP-911 FY21-22)	\$131,483
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Revenue: * H 3034.3097.00 St Aid \$131,483

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Rumpfelt, seconded by Legislator Cyr, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Resolution to Accept and Appropriate NYS CARES UP Grant-Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene (RFMH)

The Sheriff's Office requested a resolution for the acceptance and appropriation of the NYS CARES UP Grant-RFMH award over a period of 21 months. The resolution should include a \$40,000 budget adjustment in 2022 and \$43,000 will be budgeted in the 2023 Budget. This grant has been awarded to assist first responders and uniformed personnel who often face stress or trauma and for the overall health and wellness of the department. These monies will be used to fund personnel costs and educational tools/supplies. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that this is the first grant he has applied for and received since his time with the Sheriff's Office and thanked County Treasurer Terri Ross for helping him through the process. He stated that this grant is important for many reasons, but most importantly for the suicide prevention program. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that they were chosen to receive this grant in part because they currently have a wellness program that was designed by Correction Officer Brent Schlafer and his wife, Licensed Mental Health Clinician Belinda Schlafer in attendance today. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that this program made the Allegany County Sheriff's Office the model for other agencies seeking wellness alternatives. Mr. and Mrs. Schlafer have been instructing this curriculum all across New York State. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that this program is needed because the suicide rate among members of law enforcement is the highest of any profession, suffering a host of mental, emotional, and physical stress directly related to their positions. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that he truly believes this program will improve and save the lives of officers and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Schlafer for creating the program. Legislator Rumpfelt also thanked them for being passionate about this program. Committee Chairman Havey stated that he is very pleased that we can offer this program, and he fully supports it. The total grant will be \$83,000, (1st year \$ 40,000, 2nd year \$ 43,000) and should be budgeted as follows:

TO BE BUDGETED FOR 2022

Appropriation:

A 3155.101 Sheriff-CARES UP Grant-RFMH Reg Pay	\$ 25,000
A 3155.405 Sheriff-CARES UP Grant-RFMH Conference Exp	\$ 2,000
A 3155.407 Sheriff-CARES UP Grant-RFMH Supplies	\$ 8,000
A 3155.421 Sheriff-CARES UP Grant-RFMH Education/Training	\$ 5,000

Revenue:

A 3155.3389.RFMH St Aid-Sheriff	\$ 40,000
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The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Rumpfelt, seconded by Legislator Demick, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Resolution to Apply for the FY2022 Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant Program

County Administrator Carissa Knapp requested a resolution to apply for the FY2022 Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant Program. On May 18, 2022, Governor Hochul signed Executive Order 18 entitled "Preventing and Responding to Domestic Terrorism." Under EO No. 18, Allegany County must complete a comprehensive review of current strategies, policies, and procedures to address domestic terrorism and provide the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) Office of Counter Terrorism (OCT) a domestic prevision plan by December 31, 2022. The plan will include input from law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, and other key stakeholders.

In response to EO No. 18, DHSES recently made funding available to support Allegany 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. Specifically, the funding is meant to enhance measures to prevent targeted violence to include gun violence through a model of education, disruption, and mitigation in coordination with the support of federal, state, and local partners. As part of that funding, Allegany County was awarded \$172,413 for FY 2022.

The primary objectives of the grant program are as follows:

1. Developing plans, policies, and protocols, inclusive of services and resources to help implement threat assessment management strategies.
2. Ensuring members of the whole community have access to multi-disciplinary TAM teams.
3. Raising awareness of the why and how individuals radicalize to violence through education of the whole community on the behavioral indicators of individuals on a pathway to violence and how to intervene and prevent acts of violence.
4. Ensuring community members understand the role of domestic terrorism prevention plans and TAM teams and are aware of how to act on their awareness training by knowing how, who, and by what means to contact their resident TAM team.

As part of that funding, Allegany County will be awarded \$172,413 for FY 2022.

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Rumfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Legislator Harris asked if the threat assessment management team is a requirement or recommendation for the executive order. Ms. Knapp stated that it is not clearly defined in the executive order and it is up to interpretation, but they want the grant money used for this purpose. Legislator Harris asked if the grant money runs out, will the County be required to continue with it? Ms. Knapp restated that it is still up for interpretation. Legislator Healy asked if the funding goes away, will the program go away? Legislator Harris asked if the funding goes away, would we have the opportunity to decide how to fund the program to meet the executive order? Ms. Knapp stated that the grant money is to be used for training and that the threat assessment team would continue.

Undersheriff Cicirello explained that the purpose of the grant is for targeted violence and domestic terrorism prevention through the use of a designated threat assessment management team. The team consists of a consortium of community stakeholders with the expertise to identify threats and offer strategies.

Legislator Burdick asked for an example of who would be on this team. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that it will consist of people from all of Allegany County with aspects of law enforcement, mental health professionals, and school officials. Ms. Knapp asked if there were any good examples of other counties that may have a TAM team in place. Undersheriff Cicirello stated that Monroe County in Rochester, NY, has had a team in place for the last 4 years, and they have approximately 40 success stories of averting serious violent threats. Monroe County Sheriff Todd Baxter has been assisting and providing detailed information on how this team will function. Ms. Knapp stated that there may not be very many costs associated with this team once they have received training.

Resolution to Appoint and Set the Salary for Probation Director Group A

County Administrator Carissa Knapp requested a resolution to appoint Scott Grantier as Probation Director Group A effective September 24, 2022. The current Probation Director Robert Starks retires effective September 23, 2022. Personnel Officer R. H. Budinger recommended an annual salary of \$75,650 (Fringe Benefits at 43.64 percent \$33,013.66) and that the 2022 Section IV Salary be amended

accordingly. There is adequate funding included in the 2022 Budget. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Demick, seconded by Legislator Harris, and carried. **Refer to Personnel**

Junior Firefighters Recruitment Camp

Ms. Tamara Peet from Leadership Allegany gave a presentation to the committee about the Junior Firefighters Recruitment Camp. Ms. Peet explained that the program is a community service project to address recruitment challenges with Allegany County Fire Departments. Ms. Peet referenced a handout that she provided to committee members at the beginning of her presentation. Ms. Peet briefly described the logistics and curriculum for the camp. She stated that they hope to establish the importance of patriotism, volunteerism, and community through this camp. Ms. Peet stated that perhaps this camp could become an annual event, and she would be happy to be a part of a steering committee for future years. Ms. Peet stated that they have received sponsorships of \$500 each from the Allegany County Highway Association and Harringtons, and there are four more \$500 sponsorships available. Legislator Cyr commented that her passion and enthusiasm is inspiring and offered to be a sponsor.

Legislator Rumfelt stated that he noticed the age range is between 16 and 18 years and asked if 14-year-olds are eligible. Mr. Jeff Babbitt stated that most Boy Scouts already have a program for 14-year-olds, so their focus is on the older age groups. Legislator Rumfelt commented that he will support this in any way that he can.

Legislator Hanchett commented that it is nice to see Leadership Allegany continue to grow and evolve.

Legislator Demick thanked Ms. Peet for her presentation, that he was very inspired after reading about it, and this is a huge step forward for Fire and EMS to move ahead by getting these young people involved.

Good of the Order

Legislator Rumfelt announced that the inaugural EMS Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Conference Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Rumfelt, seconded by Legislator Demick, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Linn, Confidential Secretary
Allegany County Board of Legislators