

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2009
3:00 P.M.**

Present: Gregory W. Townsend, Chairman
L. Stephen Brescia, A. Alan Seidman, Harvey J. Burger,
Michael D. Paduch, Christopher W. Eachus, Daniel C. Depew

Also

Present: Roxanne Donnery, Chairwoman
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Hyun Chin Kim, Assistant County Attorney
Dominick Orsino, Jail Administrator
Allen Wierzbicki, Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Communications
Michael Walton, Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Chairman Townsend opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m. with all committee members present with the exception of Legislators Eachus and Depew who were absent and Legislator Brescia who arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Mr. Orsino updated the committee on the Corrections Report stating that it was an unremarkable month; however, they crossed the \$3 million mark for amount billed for Boarders.

Mr. Orsino reported that there was an extraordinary amount of overtime and three pay periods rather than two. He added that there were an unusual amount of inmates in the hospital which contributed to the large amount of overtime; one inmate was in Westchester Medical Center for nearly one month with two staff members on that murder case.

Mr. Orsino noted that they have a new class because they revised their physical fitness qualifications. They are using the Cooper norms which are used around the Country to measure physical fitness and they have done very well. He commented that they have seen improved morale and they expect fewer injuries.

Mr. Paduch asked how much is in the budget for Boarders.

Mr. Orsino replied that there is \$4 million in the budget for Boarders.

Mr. Paduch asked what the time period was in which the \$3 million was billed for Boarders.

Mr. Orsino replied that it was as of July 31, 2009. He added that there are an additional fifteen ICE detainees in the building and they are funded through the twenty-eight that are coming through the end of September.

Mr. Townsend explained that Sheriff DuBois was unable to attend the committee meeting so Mr. Orsino would be reviewing the Sheriff's Report.

Mr. Orsino stated that he reviewed the Sheriff's Report; however, he does not have a good base of reference as to what would be outstanding since he does not normally address the committee on the report.

Mr. Townsend asked if there were any questions for Mr. Orsino, if not, then they will address any questions regarding the report at next month's meeting.

Mr. Burger moved to accept 2009 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, \$78,332.00, seconded by Mr. Seidman.

Mr. Wierzbicki explained that this is a Justice Assistance Grant for the cities and because the cities are going to produce additional work the County will receive \$35,232.00 and will apply its portion to the purchase and installation of three hundred GPS units as part of the AVL (Automatic Vehicle Locator) System. The City of Newburgh will receive \$31,000.00 which they will use for an Interactive White Board, Dry Erase Boards, Chairs for Community, Police Community Training and Meeting Facility, color printers and supplies and Training/Overtime/Crime Analysis; the City of Middletown will receive \$12,100.00 and will use their portion towards the purchase of a marked patrol vehicle.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve Resolution regarding opposition to the planned pullout of the New York State Police from Stewart International Airport and the closure of the Mid-Hudson Crime Lab, seconded by Mr. Brescia.

Mr. Seidman explained that the Mid-Hudson Crime Lab is marked to be closed by Governor Paterson which would necessitate that samples from DWI or other cases be driven to Albany which will be costly for the County.

Mr. Brescia commented that the airport is expanding and this is not a good move by the State; it is a cost issue as well as a safety issue.

Mr. Townsend agreed and added that this closing would also result in the loss of jobs in the area. He commented that it certainly is an asset for the police departments and the Sheriff's Office to have the lab here at Stewart Airport.

Motion carried. All in favor.

On motion of Mr. Seidman, seconded by Mr. Paduch, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.