Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee Meeting

Date:  February 27, 2006  
Time: Called to Order at 1:58 p.m. by Chairman Bullard  
Location: Oswego County Public Safety Building (Sheriff’s Training Room)

Attendance:  
Present: Chairman T. Bullard; Legislators A. Gearsbeck, L. Ponzi, M. Potter, and P. Santore. Legislator C. Brewer, who joined the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

Absent: Legislator J. Bryant

Staff/Others:  
Probation: Director Barbara Schuler  
Sheriff’s Office: Sheriff Reuel Todd, Undersheriff Robert Lighthall  
E-911: Carl Wells  
Emergency Management: Director Patricia Egan, Terry Bennett, Renee Ingham  
Fire Coordinator: John Hinds  
County Administrator: Stephen Lyman, Phil Church  
Guest: Dave Edwards, Cody Volunteer Fire Department

1. Approval of Minutes:  
Motion: To accept minutes of the January 23, 2006 Public Safety & Emergency Services meeting.  
Made by: Legislator Santore  
Seconded by: Legislator Ponzi  
Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Discussion: Minutes stand approved as written.

2. Sheriff’s Department: (Presented by Sheriff Todd)  
a. Budget Modification: (DARE Donation)  

Motion: To accept a $1,000 donation from the Central New York District Credit Unions into revenue line 3110.4270.5 (DARE Program) and to transfer that amount into expenditure line 3110.5455.1 (DARE Program.)  
Made by: Legislator Gearsbeck  
Seconded by: Legislator Ponzi  
Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All in favor. Motion Carried.  
Discussion: The money will be used to purchase supplies to be used by DARE instructors and students. Request will be forwarded to the Finance and Personnel Committee for review.
b. **Inter-Municipal Agreement – Jail Security Services:**

**Motion:** To support a resolution to enter into an agreement with Monroe County to provide jail security services for inmates treated and housed at the Rochester Psychiatric Center Forensic Unit in Rochester, NY.

**Made by:** Legislator Santore  
**Seconded by:** Legislator Ponzi  
**Vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**Discussion:** Monroe County agrees to provide jail security services for county inmates who are determined by two physicians to be incapable of caring for themselves and are admitted to a forensic unit. Oswego County does not have a forensic unit and contracts for services for treatment at the Rochester Psychiatric Center in Rochester, NY. Request will be forwarded on to the Personnel and Finance Committee for review and support.

c. **Bid Result:**

**Motion:** To announce and accept a bid for the purchase of two ATV’s and a trailer for $14,399.00.

**Moved by:** Legislator Ponzi  
**Seconded by:** Legislator Gearsbeck  
**Vote:** 5 Ayes, 0 Nayes. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**Discussion:** The Sheriff’s Office submitted a purchase requisition for two All-Terrain Vehicles and a 12’ side-loaded trailer with spare tire to be purchased with funding obtained from the Homeland Security Grant entitled, Buffer Zone Protection Plan. A recent bid was accepted from Widrick Implements in Sandy Creek for a total amount of $14,399.00. The machines will be used primarily to provide perimeter security to the three nuclear power plants at Nine Mile Point in orange alert situations. The request will be forwarded on to the Finance and Personnel Committee for support.

d. **Other Business:**

Legislator Gearsbeck inquired about the Weekend Work Program, which involves court-ordered sentencing of offenders to an alternative to full-time incarceration, whereby they report to the Oswego County Correctional Facility on the weekend to serve time by working for non-profit organizations outside of the facility. Sheriff Todd indicated anywhere from one to eight usually serve on any given weekend and are supervised by a Correction Officer on overtime. This program has proven to be a success in alleviating over-crowding in the facility as the offenders go home at the end of the day and report back to complete their weekend sentence. Legislator Gearsbeck would like to include county projects such as painting the transfer stations. Sheriff Todd explained that any placement requires union sanction of the program and that a conflict could occur if unions did not offer support based on the program taking jobs away from regular employees.
3. **Emergency Management:** *(Presented by Director Egan)*

a. **NIMS Compliance – Federal Mandate**

The Federal government has new guidelines that involve all municipalities, including local fire departments, townships, counties, and cities, to have comprehensive emergency plans in place according to their federally mandated guidelines. NIMS compliance will play a huge role in competing for grant funding. Renee Ingham, Radiological Specialist with the Emergency Management Office, presented an overview of NIMS expectations for fiscal years 2005, 2006 and 2007, beginning with a handout containing their outline. The Emergency Management Office has been working closely with municipalities to assist them in creating comprehensive plans. In some instances where plans already exist, wording will have to be changed to meet NIMS terminology. Training is necessary to fulfill compliance and online courses are being offered to satisfy this requirement. The county must also name one individual to be responsible for keeping all training certificates and proof of compliance to NIMS requirements for all municipalities in Oswego County. The next step toward the county becoming compliant is for the Chief Elected Official to send a letter to all municipalities explaining the federal mandate and asking for cooperation. A plan needs to be developed outlining how compliance will be met, and by the fiscal year ending 2006, a resolution formally adopting the NIMS contract will need to be developed and supported by the legislature.

b. **Invitation to State Haz-Mat Exercise in Onondaga County**

The Emergency Management and Fire Coordinators Offices have been invited to participate in a State Haz-Mat Exercise that will take place in March in Onondaga County. Director Egan will attend a table-top exercise from 6 pm to 9 pm on March 6th. A field exercise tentatively scheduled for March 24th and 25th at the State Fairgrounds will be attended by Director Egan and Fire Coordinator, John Hinds, who will take the Fire Safety trailer to the exercise. The exercise will demonstrate Oswego County’s compatibility with other counties and will be used as a learning experience.

4. **Fire Coordinator’s Office:** *(Presented by Coordinator Hinds)*

a. **Niagara Mohawk Fire Training Center**

Coordinator Hinds gave an overview regarding acquisition of the Niagara Mohawk Fire Training Center and plans for its use. To date National Grid has been unable to track down and present a past power bill and the county is still awaiting PSC approval. No timeframe can be offered regarding finalization of this transfer as it is up to National Grid to file with the PSC and the county has no control over when this may happen. Plans are for the
training center to be used by fire departments from both cities and for industrial training by the nuclear plants and local industrial companies such as Hutamaki. Both monetary gain and in-kind services are expected.

Referencing the Fire Advisory Board from the January meeting, Coordinator Hinds introduced Dave Edwards, President of the Cody Fire Department, who has volunteered to serve on the board. Legislators were urged to attend the board meetings throughout the year.

b. Request for Vehicle Replacement

Motion: To transfer $30,000 from the Equipment Replacement Account to the Fire Coordinator’s Office for the replacement of the Fire Coordinator’s assigned vehicle.

Made by: Legislator Ponzi
Seconded by: Legislator Potter

Discussion: The Fire Coordinator’s Office is requesting permission to transfer $30,000 for the replacement of the Fire Coordinator’s assigned vehicle, a 2001 Chevrolet 4-wheel drive pickup truck with over 120,000 miles on it. With no major mechanical break-downs to date, noted is wear and tear from excessive mileage and excessive idling. The vehicle responds to major fire and emergency scenes and is used as a mobile office for the Fire Coordinator and as a tool platform for fire investigations. As such, it is equipped with additional after-market equipment to serve this purpose, which includes a cap, emergency equipment, lettering and radios. Request will be forwarded on to the Personnel and Finance Committee for review and support.

Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. All in favor. Motion Carried.

5. E-911:

a. E-911 Center Tour

In the absence of Mike Allen, Carl Wells invited committee members to join him for a tour of the E-911 Center following the meeting.

6. Executive Session:

Motion: To move into executive session at 2:43 p.m. to discuss personnel matters
Moved by: Legislator Santore
Seconded by: Legislator Gearsbeck.

Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. All in favor. Motion Carried.
Motion:  To come out of executive session at 2:56 p.m.
Moved by:  Legislator Brewer
Seconded by:  Legislator Santore
Vote:  6 Ayes, 0 Nays.  All in favor.  Motion Carried.

Return to the regular meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Motion:  To support the appointment of Mike Allen of the E-911 Center and Pat Egan of the Emergency Management Office each to a two-year term in their respective positions as Directors.
Moved by:  Legislator Santore
Seconded by:  Legislator Ponzi
Vote:  6 Ayes, 0 Nays.  All in favor.  Motion Carried.
Discussion:  The positions of Director of E-911 and Director of Emergency Management are appointed positions, each for a term of two years.  The full legislature is responsible for making appointments to these positions and begins with support at committee level.

Next Meeting:  March 27, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. at the Fulton County Building

Adjournment:  Motion to Adjourn:  2:58 p.m.
Made by:  Legislator Santore
Seconded by:  Legislator Ponzi
Vote:  6 Ayes, 0 Nays.  All in favor.  Motion Carried.
Legislators then joined Carl Wells for a tour of the E-911 Center.

Prepared by:  ________________________________
Linda S. Baker, Secretary to the Sheriff

Reviewed by:  ________________________________
Reuel A. Todd, Sheriff

Patricia Egan, Emergency Management Director

John Hinds, Fire Coordinator

Accepted As Written:

________________________________________  __________________________
Chairman                            Date