

COURTS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
January 11, 2018

Present: Legislators Greg Kulzer, Jerry King and Ron Burns, County Manager Ryan Piche, Probation Director MaryJo Burkhard, Sr. Code Officer Ward Dailey, Fire & Emergency Services Director Robert MacKenzie, III, and EMS Assistant Jennifer Maracchion, Sheriff Michael Carpinelli, Undersheriff Jason McIntosh and reporters Steve Virkler and Nick Altmire

Legislator Kulzer called the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

District Attorney Leanne Moser reported 2017 budget line items that were deficient to pay expenses. She requested appropriations to cover Coroner autopsies by Dr. Livingstone in the amount of \$9,930.00. Ryan Piche stated this expense would be paid from 2017 funds. Other deficient budget lines were for Coroner transports in the amount of \$5,362 and for professional services in the amount of \$8,186.00. Ryan agreed to confer with Treasurer Patty O'Brien and inform Leanne where the funds would be transferred from. Patty will prepare resolutions accordingly. Leanne would then have her staff data enter the invoices for payment.

Ryan reported an upcoming meeting with Jefferson County Administrator Robert Haggeman on January 20th to discuss and negotiate an Inter-municipal agreement for Dr. Livingstone to continue conducting Lewis County autopsies. They will address the IRS notification that he may not receive a salary and be a contract vendor for essentially the same service.

In response to Leanne's inquiry – Terry reported the status of the Mark Tuttle renewal contract had been approved by the Board of Legislators and had been sent by County Attorney Joan McNichol back to Leanne to obtain the vendor signature. The committee had question at the last committee meeting whether the renewal agreement could be negotiated with a per call charge with a not to exceed total of \$5,000, rather than paying quarterly equal payments of \$1,250. It was unclear whether the terms of the renewal agreement had changed from 2017. Legislator King asked Leanne to submit the number of calls Mark Tuttle had made in 2017.

Leanne then reviewed a listing of comparable number of Assistant District Attorneys (ADA), Investigators and other staff with Jefferson, as well as similar populated counties to Lewis (refer to attachments). The compiled statistics were through the end of 2017. She cited that Schuyler and Yates were the closest in size. She also cited felony arrests from 2012 – 2017 clarifying that no misdemeanors were included in the numbers.

There were 4 felony arrests made on 1/9/18 in the County, which is a very complex case requiring a spreadsheet, she said, just to track all the victims involved. It takes extensive time to interview all those related, especially a very young female victim. Leanne expressed concern that meth/drug related cases are now escalating to have guns involved.

Legislator Kulzer suggested that she look at efficiencies. Leanne stated that the additional ADA is needed in order for her to do her job effectively. One Town court recently had 90 persons to process. Two persons cannot take care of all the cases without some falling through the cracks and not being addressed at all, or lapsed time frames for appropriate reports or actions.

Leanne concluded that she was assigned as a special prosecutor for a Jefferson County case that has been awaiting her response for eight months, because of insufficient time.

8:40 a.m. – Probation Director Mary Jo distributed and reviewed her update report (attached)

A docket was approved to authorize 2018 agreement with Children’s Home of Jefferson County for temporary boarding and care of juveniles placed into custody of the Probation Department by the Family Court - \$350/day, reflecting an increase from \$298. She believes the increase is related to the new impending “Raise the Age” requirements that may increase the number of detentions for 16 year olds. There were only 12 non-secured detention days for youths in 2017.

MaryJo reported their department tracks DWI offenders and felony arrests. She impressed how much more complicated social media and the increased drug related issues impact their work load.

There were no 16 year olds placed in the Lewis County jail in 2017 where an inmate cost is \$120/day compared to the \$350 for non-secured detention. Officials from the tri-county region continue to meet and discuss how to address secured detention for 16 and 17 year olds effective 10/1/2018 that will most certainly exceed those figures.

MaryJo stated her goals on her attached report, primarily to continue their respected reputation for services throughout the state.

8:53 a.m. – Sr. Code Officer Ward Dailey distributed and reviewed his report (attached)

Ward stated that the local law may be more restrictive than the State law, but cannot diminish requirements. He submits that Local Law No. 9-2006 allows permits to time out after 3 years without requirement to renew. He suggests the law be changed to require permit renewal. The permit records are kept in perpetuity pursuant to law.

Ward recommends implementation of a property maintenance program that would require compilation of property inventory that could largely be provided by assessors. He suggests the County is losing revenue after speaking with a couple of assessors that indicated they reduce the value of aging properties by the amount of estimated structure repairs, or may affect adjoining property values by 10 – 40% based on the proximity.

Pursuant to Ward Dailey’s recommendation, Legislator King made a motion to recommend that the Board of Legislators order the condemned structure owned by Bruce E. Tabolt in the Village of Croghan to be cleaned of all paper, rubbish and garbage and disposed of in approved containers to a solid waste facility. Legislator Burns seconded the motion and carried. The condemned structure is detailed in the attached report.

The Town of Watson has appointed Tim Lee for code enforcement, but he is not certified, so Ward recommends an inter-municipal agreement that would allow him to assist the Town with enforcement, and will research and develop an agreement for the committee’s review.

County Attorney Joan McNichol entered the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Ward reported that he would also research with assistance of the County Attorney for an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Croghan for a policy for flood plains.

Ward informed that one his staff has notified their intent to retire in the near future. Therefore, he will make a request for the civil service test to be scheduled for eligible applicants.

9:03 a.m. Fire & Emergency Services Director Robert MacKenzie reviewed his report (attached).

Bob reviewed his ongoing listed classes on the attachment. A fire radio training class was held in Harrisville last evening and classes continue at the various fire departments. The advanced EMT course was cancelled due to the lack of students. Two students have dropped out of the EMT-B classes that started in November.

Tier 3 training will be scheduled in March for the newly elected Legislators for instruction on the process and requirements of how emergencies are handled between local, State and Federal representatives.

Bob stated that grant funds would be used to purchase a new machine for mask fit testing at the Hospital.

A Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations (BEFO) class was recently held with 12 students. This training will be followed up with an Interior Firefighter Operation (IFO) class in April.

The Tetra Tech contract has been forwarded to the vendor for signature.

An updated Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Plan will be presented to the EMS Council for their recommendation to the Board of Legislators.

Bob reported expects that State grant funding will remain flat for the upcoming year. He estimates the Hazmat Grant at \$28,000.

Bob cited the comparative increased number of EMS calls and structure fires during the past month.

Chairman Larry Dolhof, HR Director Chris Boulio and Dispatch Supervisor Cheryl LaLonde joined the meeting

9:25 a.m. Sheriff Michael Carpinelli

The following dockets were approved:

- Appropriate \$9,972 STOP DWI grant funds
- Appropriate donations into Sheriff's Parks and Recreation account-\$1,732
- Agreement w/LC Search & Rescue for equipment in the new shelter- \$5.00/month to cover electric usage
- Agreement w/LC Snowmobile Clubs for use of radio system in their groomers – No cost – the clubs use their own radios and are their use is restricted per the agreement
- Agreement w/Aviat Networks for emergency communications system hardware warranty remote services on microwave radios and antenna systems from 2/1/18-1/31/19 - \$1,620
- Create a FT permanent Investigator position effective immediately and authorize Sheriff to fill. The temporary Investigator was authorized through 12/31/17. This will effect a \$1,000 added personnel cost.
- Amend 2018 longevity amount for Undersheriff McIntosh because he no longer is covered under the UPSEU labor contract- no change in total salary
- Agreement w/ LCGH for jail physician services from 3/1/18-2/28/19- \$35,172

In response to Legislator King, Cheryl LaLonde reported that the EF Johnson contract awaits the vendor signature. The United Radio agreement is due to expire 3/31/18, so need to decide whether to extend the agreement or issue a Request For Proposals (RFP). She will defer this until next month and suggests specific items/performances be included in the agreement to assure completion. Ryan Piche estimates agreement cost between \$18,000-\$20,000. Cheryl clarified that budgeted appropriations are adequate to cover the costs. These costs are covered through grant funding and she awaits notification about the submitted grant application.

Sheriff Carpinelli reported that funds were encumbered fund the 2017 budget to cover the purchase of 2 new patrol cars. The Committee had no issue with ordering the vehicles.

Undersheriff Jason McIntosh reported that one deputy handles all the civil work, which involves handling and tracking a lot of money collections, follow up with banks and reports. There is currently one deputy who is training as a fill-in when the civil deputy is off work. The plan is to send three deputies to the 2-week training school in Albany in May. There is a dispatcher who, upon retirement this year, is interested to fill in when the civil deputy is off work. The Undersheriff said the need is for part-time under 20 hours/week, but he would defer Board action until a later meeting. Ryan Piche recommends a plan for impending personnel retirements.

Legislator King made a motion at 9:45 a.m. to enter executive session to discuss union contract negotiations, seconded by Legislator Kulzer and carried. County Attorney Joan McNichol, HR Director Chris Boulio remained for the session. At 10:04 a.m. Legislator King moved to re-enter the regular meeting, seconded by Legislator Kulzer and carried.

Undersheriff McIntosh reported that Sgt. Croneiser is doing the scheduling for all Parks and Recreation patrols, including snowmobiles, ATV's and boats. Two deputies will attend each of the snowmobile training sessions put on free by NYSDEC. All deputies are going to be trained. The School Resource Officer will be assigned for patrols during times when school is not in session. Patrols are scheduled from Wednesday through Saturday 10 hour shifts. Lake Bonaparte boat patrols will be scheduled from noon to 10 p.m. State reimbursement will be optimized to offset snowmobile patrol personnel expense.

In response to Legislator King, Undersheriff McIntosh stated focus on Lake Bonaparte patrols is in response to consistent and persistent complaints about misconduct on the water, especially after dark. At least at the beginning of the boating season, the patrols would be constant to reinforce the presence of law enforcement. Deputies would transition back and forth from the boat and patrol vehicle so there is no set schedule.

In response to Chairman Dolhof, Undersheriff McIntosh stated that ATV patrols would be conducted by full-time and part-time deputies during the prime hours from Thursday through Sunday, assuring there is no plan to diminish ATV patrols. Chairman Dolhof and Legislator King each expressed their appreciation for the Parks and Recreation progress and efforts being made to assign patrols. Undersheriff McIntosh stated that ATV patrols would be assigned whenever and wherever possible.

Sheriff Carpinelli stated the changes have been implemented respectfully by all personnel and administrative officers. Undersheriff McIntosh concluded that the Parks and Recreation program is their responsibility, and changes will be made to promote safety for everyone.

The meeting concluded at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Clark, Clerk of the Board