

**COUNTY OF OSWEGO
PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
COUNTY OFFICE, 46 E. BRIDGE STREET, OSWEGO
March 23, 2009 2:00 PM**

PRESENT:

Paul Santore, Chair
Linda Lockwood, Vice Chair
Margaret Kastler
Kevin Gardner
Shawn Doyle
Lee Walker, Jr.
Mary Flett

MEDIA:

Aaron Curtis, Pall Times

STAFF/GUESTS

Legs. Hayes, Potter, LeClair, Beardsley, Gearsbeck
Administrator Phil Church
Ted Jerrett, Clerk of the Legislature
Pat Egan, Dir. Emergency Management
Terry Bennett, Emergency Management
Barbara Schuler, Probation Director
Deborah Meyer, Probation Supervisor
John Hinds, Fire Coordinator
Reuel Todd, Sheriff / Bob Lighthall Undersheriff
John Familo, E-911
Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director

Committee Chair Santore called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and called for a moment of silence for former Oswego County Probation Officer Jeff Woolson who died in a recent accident.

Minutes: The minutes of February 23, 2009 were presented.

Motion to approve: Legislator Walker

Second: Legislator Flett

Vote: All in favor.

Fire Coordinator:

Bid #8-09 Fire School Tower Repair

Purchasing Director Fred Maxon noted that bids for repairs to the Fire Training Tower had been received and, in consultation with Fire Coordinator John Hinds, he recommended accepting the low bid from Diment Construction at \$198,620.

Motion to approve: Legislator Walker

Second: Legislator Doyle

Vote: All in favor.

Sheriff:

Sheriff Todd introduced 20 yr. veteran Patrol Deputy Bernard Reitz and presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his years of dedicated service to the families of Oswego County. A photo was taken with the Committee.

Sheriff Todd presented a "Final Staffing Analysis" by the NYS Commission of Correction which concluded that staffing at the jail needs to be increased to meet requirements. Negotiations with the Commission resulted in an agreement to hire 5 new corrections officers in 2009, 5 new road patrol deputies in 2010 (to handle transports) and 4 more corrections officers in 2011.

Sheriff Todd requested Committee approval to hire 5 new corrections officers and 5 new road patrol deputies, this year. He noted that 5 corrections officers would have to be hired this year and unavoidably at full County expense. With approval to hire 5 new road patrol deputies this year, he can apply to have federal "Stimulus" monies cover their cost for the first three years. He agreed that if the request for "Stimulus" funding is rejected, he will not hire the 5 road patrol until 2010.

Leg. LeClair asked for the number of current vacancies in the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Todd noted 3 vacancies, 3 extended leaves, 6 just starting at the academy and 2 nearly finished with training.

Leg. Gearsbeck asked about jail capacity. Sheriff Todd noted that capacity is 158 with a current population of 130. Leg. Gearsbeck offered that processing prisoners more quickly would alleviate jail capacity problems.

Leg. Walker moved to call the question with Leg. Doyle seconding. All were in favor except Leg. Gardner.

Motion to approve hiring 5 new corrections and 5 new road patrol deputies: Legislator Walker

Second: Legislator Doyle

Vote: All in favor.

E-911:

John Familo of E-911 requested approval for a budget modification to accept \$62,505.24 in reimbursement from NY State for 911 services. With those 100% State funds, the 911 office would like to invest:

-\$7,000 to initiate "Project Lifesaver" which provides a tracking wristband for Alzheimer victims who are prone to wandering, saving valuable time and resources in locating lost people.

-\$16,000 to upgrade the Central Services main-frame to allow for the replacement of outdated terminals at E-911

-\$2,000 to partner with SUNY Oswego Center for Business and Community Development in developing an improved E-911 communication system.

Motion to approve: Legislator Kastler

Second: Legislator Gardner

Vote: Unanimous

Probation:

Executive Session: At 2:40, upon motion by Gardner, second by Flett and unanimously supported, the Committee entered Executive Session to discuss personnel matters involving hiring.

At 3:05, the Committee returned to open session. Administrator Church introduced Probation Supervisor Deborah Meyer. Leg. Santore commented on Ms. Meyer's outstanding qualifications to become Probation Director. Leg. Doyle acknowledged Ms. Meyer's outstanding qualifications but expressed his wish to move carefully in filling the Probation Director position.

Motion to appoint Deborah Meyer as interim Probation Director: Leg. Gardner

Second: Leg. Doyle

Vote: Unanimous

Adjournment: 3:14P.M.

Motion to adjourn: Leg. Walker

Second: Leg. Gardner

Vote: All in favor.