

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 29, 2019

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Campbell, O'Brien, LaPointe, Shay, Haff, Hogan

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Clary

SUPERVISORS: Henke, Moore, Shaw, Hicks, Idleman

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing Director

Sheriff Murphy

Anthony White, Probation Director

Teri McNall, CIO

Tony Jordan, District Attorney

Mike Mercure, Public Defender

Public

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Accept Minutes – March 26, 2019
3. Department Reports/Requests:
 - A. Code Enforcement
 - 1) Department Updates
 - B. District Attorney
 1. Update on New York State budget Changes to Criminal Justice
 2. Crime Victims Breakfast Recap
 - C. Public Defender
 1. Caseload Standards Compliance Update
 2. ILS Funding Updates
 3. Staffing Updates
 4. Training Program Update
 - D. Public Safety
 1. Communications System Upgrade Update
 2. CAD System Update
 3. Equipment Request
 4. Department Activity Report
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the March 26, 2019 meeting was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Shay and adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS /REQUESTS:

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Jim Buxton, Director, not available to attend today's meeting.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Tony Jordan, District Attorney, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Crime Victims Breakfast Recap – Thanked those that attended. It was a great program and several Washington County employees were recognized: Dan Boucher, Melissa French, Greg Danio, and Kristen Hardy. Every other year we host and to find a location to accommodate this event is difficult. He suggested SUNY Adirondack as the location for this event and will explore use of that venue.
- Update on New York State Budget Changes to Criminal Justice:
 - Three areas in the Criminal Procedure Law have been replaced with something new. There are going to be large, significant impacts. He recommends establishing a group

to meet and discuss these items. There are impacts that are going to have to be dealt with at the county level. He has already met with the Chief Information Officer to discuss technological needs and space for storage. Departments impacted are the Sheriff's Department, Information Technology, 911 Public Safety Call Center, and Alternative Sentencing. There is a need for capturing information/data and getting it into a usage format to pass it along to Public Defender's Office, Assigned Counsel and private Attorneys. The impacts of these changes in law cannot be ignored. He feels it would be helpful to get this started because there will be financial implications. He would like members of the Board of Supervisors to be part of that dialogue. The DA stated that every single ticket written in Washington County/New York State will be subject to the requirements of this law. To say this is a seismic change is an understatement. No estimate of the cost impact yet. There will be an impact on the towns and definitely on local villages with law enforcement agencies. The Chief Information Officer stated there is a lot more to learn about the storage and access to information as it relates to this change in law. The DA stated this is going to take months to figure out and months to implement and have seven months to complete. The consequence of not being ready for this change is that cases could get dismissed. The following Supervisors will participate in the working group: Brian Campbell, Public Safety Chairman, Dave O'Brien, IT Chairman and Dan Shaw, Budget Officer. The abilities of the towns to comply is a town matter and the County will take the steps necessary for the County to comply and that will not be easy to do. The County will not be able to be in a position to assist towns lacking some kind of intermunicipal agreement and compensation to assist the towns because it will be all that we can do to comply. There is no money allocated in the State budget to assist with this but the DA is meeting with representatives seeking financial support for this. The County Administrator stated this working group would be looking at steps the County needs to take to comply with the new criminal justice reforms contained in the State 2019-2020 budget.

The County Administrator stated the latest census at the Jail was 67 inmates and our capacity is 183 and because of the Commission on Corrections we cannot reduce staffing even though we are at a third of our capacity. Talking with his colleagues across the state that trend is expected to continue.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Mike Mercure, Public Defender, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Caseload Standards Compliance Update – handouts attached. The annual limit is 1820 and the monthly limit is 151. At this point they are at 533.5 and on track to stay under the annual total. They are in compliance and does not anticipate any issue with compliance. They have been working very closely and efficiently with the Assigned Counsel Office and they are handling the overflow cases and that is why they are in compliance. Vehicle and traffic misdemeanors are being handled by Assigned Counsel. There have been 84 arraignments for the overflow program. They would not be in compliance if they handled the vehicle and traffic misdemeanors but they do handle the DWIs.
- Centralized Arraignments (CAPS) – There have been 201 centralized arraignments this year with more in the evening, handout attached that includes Counsel at First Appearance data.
- ILS (Indigent Legal Services) Funding Updates – They have been working with Counsel at the Office of Indigent Services (OILS) on all the non-Hurrell Haring funding and they continue to have issues with this funding. This concern will come up at the next Hurrell Haring

meeting. The County Administrator stated going forward the County is going to take a much more formal and litigious approach to this with ILS. He stated we are very close to making a decision to have a hard conversation about non-compliance with the settlement and the funding will be part of that conversation. The contract language stated the funding would be advanced and that is not happening now.

- Staffing Updates – Introduced new Assistant Public Defender Matt McKeighan a graduate of Greenwich High School.
- Training Program Update – . Received Quality Improvement Funding through ILS and part of it was for training. Several trainings have been held and attended by the Public Defender's Office and Assigned Counsel Office and feels they are helpful and are funded.
- Law Day is Wednesday May 1st and everyone is invited to attend at the courthouse. Anthony White, Probation Director, is this year's Liberty Bell recipient and in attendance will be the Hudson Falls Mock Trial team and the oratorical contest winner from Granville High School.

SHERIFF – Sheriff Murphy addressed the following items with the committee:

- Budget Amendment - Jail – Requesting to move funds from the Jail supplies other line into equipment to purchase a stainless-steel table in the amount of \$800.00 for the kitchen. A motion to move \$800 in the Jail budget from supplies other to equipment for the purchase of a stainless-steel table was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Shay and adopted.
- Staffing Request Patrol – Recently hired someone off list and they are going to the academy next month. They have four Deputies and one Investigator that are processing with the State Police right now. The academy begins the end of July for six-months. They have a Lieutenant retiring in July. The issue is the academy starts in July and runs six months and the next academy starts in February and the Sheriff would like to be more proactive and do a temporary amendment to the Staffing Pattern to add two Deputy Sheriffs so they can be sent to the upcoming academy. If two Deputy Sheriffs are hired and start on a training pay, it will be less than what we would have paid the Lieutenant and Investigators top pay; at least a \$10,000 difference - savings. If he was able to do this, he would not fill the Lieutenant slot until next year. Sending three Deputies to the academy cost about \$60,000 for pay for the remainder of the year. The trainee pay is extremely low and should be looked at this year; Road Patrol contract is up for negotiations. When there is a vacancy, the Sheriff would go back to the current number of Deputies which he believes is 22. A motion to move staffing request, two Deputy Sheriffs, to the Personnel Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Haff, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.

PUBLIC SAFETY – In the absence of Glen Gosnell, Director, Chris DeBolt, County Administrator, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Equipment Request – The department has sufficient equipment funds budgeted and what the Director and Deputy Director would like to do is buy another drone at the cost of \$3800. The key with this drone is that it has an infrared camera and standard visual light camera that can be run simultaneously, new capability that just became available and not on the other drones. They feel it would be very useful in fire investigations, specifically fire fighting activities and identifying hot spots at fire scenes. Also, could be used in missing person incidents. They have the funding in their budget but this specific equipment was not requested during the budget process and needs committee approval for purchase. A motion to approve purchase of drone was moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Shay. Discussion. Mr. Hogan asked if this would be the fifth drone owned by the county (3 in Sheriff's Department and 2 in Public Safety) and the County Administrator stated that was

correct. This drone has new capabilities – infrared and visual light cameras, new technology. The County has two operators. Mr. Haff asked if this data has to all be stored also. Chairman Campbell stated maybe if it involved criminal activity. The County Administrator stated yes, the data would be stored. Mr. Hogan asked if these capabilities were currently on separate drones and then why not fly two drones. He would like more information before making any decision. A motion to table request was moved by Mr. Shay, seconded by Mr. Hogan and adopted.

- Communications System Upgrade Update – Phase II is nearing completion.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 P.M.

Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors

CASELOAD
JANUARY 1, 2019 - APRIL 26, 2019
WEEK 18

ALL CASES WITH POINT VALUES

Case Type	(All)
TC Description	(All)
Case Resolution	(All)
cal arr	(All)

Row Labels	Count of Case#	Sum of points value
Felony	86	258
Misdemeanor	272	272
Parole Revocation	26	39
Post-Disposition	63	94.5
Violation	24	24
Violent Felony	22	132
Grand Total	493	819.5

ARRAIGNED AND OPEN	482.5
NEEDS TO APPLY (COUNT OF CASE x .25)	+51.00
MISDEMEANOR EQUIVALENT	533.5

ARRAIGNED AND OPEN

Case Type	(Multiple Items)
TC Description	(Multiple Items)
Case Resolution	(Multiple Items)
cal arr	Not ARR Only

Row Labels	Count of Case#	Sum of points value
Felony	58	174
Misdemeanor	133	133
Parole Revocation	26	39
Post-Disposition	43	64.5
Violation	18	18
Violent Felony	9	54
Grand Total	287	482.5

ANNUAL LIMIT	1820
MONTHLY LIMIT	151

NEEDS TO APPLY

Case Type	(Multiple Items)
TC Description	(Multiple Items)
Case Resolution	(Multiple Items)
cal arr	ARR Only

Row Labels	Count of Case#
Felony	28
Misdemeanor	137
Post-Disposition	20
Violation	6
Violent Felony	13
Grand Total	204

JANUARY	130
FEBRUARY	163
MARCH	137.75
APRIL	102.75

CAP/CAFA SUMMARY AS OF 4/24/19 AM

There were 201 CAPS in 2019 broken down as follows:

1 st Quarter	AM	PM	TOTAL
January	18	41	
February	14	41	
March	14	39	
Total	46	121	167

2 nd Quarter	AM	PM	TOTALS
April	8	26	
May	0	0	
June	0	0	
Total	8	26	34

OTHER CAFAS

YOUTH PART ARRAIGNMENTS: 2

OFFICE HOUR ARRAIGNMENTS: 15

AFTER HOUR ARRAIGNMENTS: 0

OVERFLOW ARRAIGNMENTS
FOR V&T MISDMEANORS: 84

REGULAR COURT CAFAS: 262

2018 MISSED CAFAS: 1

2019 MISSED CAFAS: 0

TOTAL ARRAIGNMENTS 2018: 2087

TOTAL ARRAIGNMENTS AS OF 4/24/19: 480