

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 8, 2009

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsay, Suprenant, Scribner, Banks, Alexander, Henke

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Sady

SUPERVISORS: Wilbur, Shay, LaPointe

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Ray Rathbun, Fire Coordinator

Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing Dir.

Steve Griffin, Deputy Director

Sheriff Leclair

Undersheriff Mabb

Bill McCarty, Code Enforcement Adm.

Phyllis Cooper, Treasurer

Nick Reisman, Post Star

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order – 11 A.M.
2. Conduct Interviews for the Position of Public Defender
  - a. 11:00 AM Thomas Cioffi
  - b. 11:30 AM Aaron O'Brien
  - c. 12:30 AM Michael Mercure
- 1:00 P.M.
3. Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2009
4. Department Requests/Reports:
  - A. Probation
    1. Caseload Update
    2. Probation Home Visit Presentation
  - B. Sheriff
    1. Year End Budget Update/Request for Amendment
  - C. EMS
    1. EMS Advisory Board Appointment – Jason Norton
  - D. Fire Bureau
    1. Juvenile Firestarter Program Update
    2. NYS Burn Regulations Presentation
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Chairman Lindsay called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. Members Present A.M. Lindsay, Suprenant, Scribner, Banks, Alexander

Chairman Lindsay stated the committee has three candidates to interview for the position of Public Defender. He stated we should look at the candidates' background and how familiar they are with the operations/system.

A motion to enter an executive session for the purpose of discussing the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

A motion to return to regular session was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted. No action was taken during the executive session.

The committee reconvened in regular session at 1:20 P.M. Members Present P.M.: Lindsay, Suprenant, Scribner, Banks, Alexander, Henke.

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2009 meeting was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

A motion to recommend appointment of Michael Mercure as Washington County Public Defender for a two-year term was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted. Mr. Henke abstained as he missed the interviews. This resolution will be presented at the Organization Meeting on January 4, 2010.

PROBATION – Anthony White, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Caseload Update – Anthony distributed and explained the attached handout on the increasing Adult Supervision cases and the impact on the office. Washington County has more people on probation than Warren County.
- Probation Home Visit Presentation – Pictures from a home visit were displayed showing handguns, a full loaded magazine, a bullet in the chamber of a gun, all of which were stolen property. The probationer with these numerous guns will be going back to jail. He is looking into portable radios for his staff. Adirondack Two-Way priced out the cheapest radio at \$324. He is working through the District Attorney with use of forfeiture funds to purchase the radios. The District Attorney, Kevin Kortright, stated he also would like to purchase an additional radio for the Department of Social Services to use.

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

- Whitehall Police Department is looking for a used sheriff vehicle, request on file. The sheriff's department has a 99 Ford Crown Vic that is currently on the auction list with a bid of \$1,100 on this automobile. Mr. Scribner stated that the County already gave the Whitehall fire company a vehicle this year. He feels giving two vehicles is going above and beyond generosity. A motion to donate the car to the Village of Whitehall was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Suprenant. Discussion. A motion to amend to offer to the Village of Whitehall for \$1,100 was moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted. Mr. Suprenant opposed. The motion was adopted as amended. Mr. Suprenant opposed.
- Traffic Safety Board Meeting – At the last Traffic Safety meeting there was a long discussion on whether or not to keep this board. The issue is attendance at the meetings. The by-laws call for removal if a certain number of meetings are missed. The membership is set by resolution and the specified members are not attending. A motion to remove designated representatives and seek other appointments was moved by Mr. Scribner and seconded by Mr. Banks. Discussion. The Undersheriff recommends removal of designated members. Mr. Wickes, County Attorney, will research Traffic Safety Board regulations and report at the next meeting. Mr. Scribner withdrew his motion and Mr. Banks his second.
- Year End Budget Update/Request for Amendment – The Sheriff distributed a handout summarizing the Sheriff and Jail budgets for 2009 indicating year to date totals and areas over and under budget, detail on file, summary attached. A motion to amend budget moving \$6,350.00 from equipment and \$30,000 from Jail personnel to cover the areas that will be over budget, A3150.4300 Meds and

3150.4640 Hospitals was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.

EMS – Bruce Mason, EMS Coordinator, addressed the following items with the committee:

- EMS Advisory Board Appointment – The EMS Advisory Board recommends the appointment of Jason Norton to the Board replacing Greg Payne, Payne EMS. A motion to recommend appointment of Jason Norton to EMS Advisory Board as the representative of Payne EMS filling the position currently held by Greg Payne to expire 12/31/2011 was moved by Mr. Scribner, seconded by Mr. Alexander and adopted.

FIRE BUREAU – Ray Rathbun, Fire Coordinator, addressed the following items with the committee:

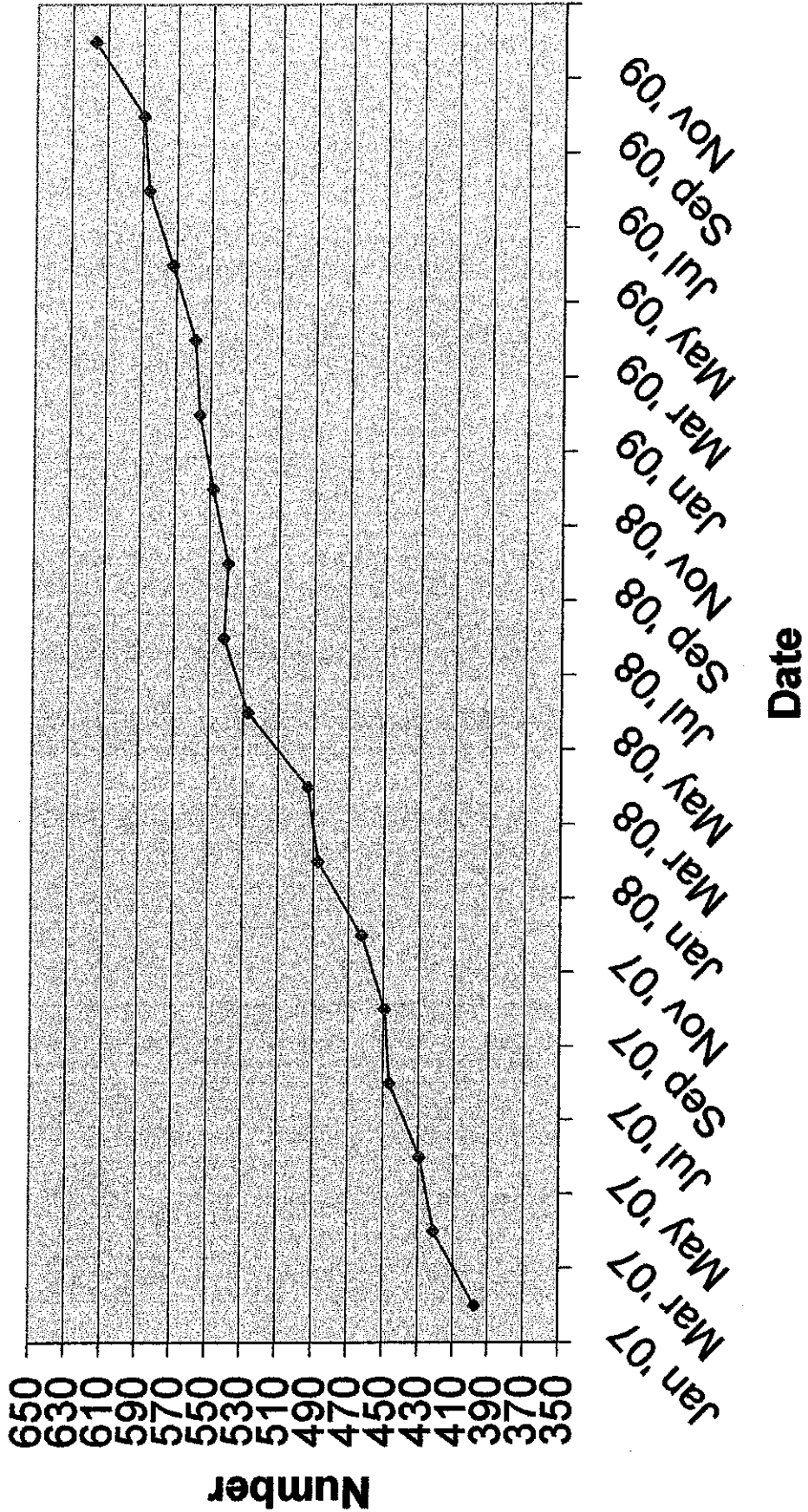
- Juvenile Firestarter Program Update – Ray reported 11 children are in the program with the potential for six or seven more children participating. He is hopeful of working with the schools to get them involved. The program deals with kids between the ages of 5 and 16 years old but the bulk of the participants are between 11 and 14.
- NYS Burn Regulations Presentation - postponed until a later date.
- Clean Burn Trailer – A clean burn trailer was mentioned at a recent meeting held by Congressman Murphy. Ray stated one was demonstrated in Queensbury some time ago. The trailer could be used for preliminary training but additional live burn fire training is required. He stated this is constantly discussed at their monthly meetings.

OTHER BUSINESS:

District Attorney - Assistant District Attorney Backfill Request – Kevin Kortright, District Attorney, is requesting permission to backfill an Assistant District Attorney position, handout on file. The ADA left for the same position in Clinton County with a higher salary. A motion recommending approval of the request to backfill an Assistant District Attorney and forward to the Staffing Review Committee was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Henke. Discussion. The District Attorney stressed the number of court appearances that they cover, 38 local courts per month plus county court. The Assistant District Attorneys are picking up Victim Advocate duties with the loss of that position. He believes not replacing this position affects the safety of the community. He stressed the need for a full time position rather than part time. Roger Wickes, County Attorney, mentioned the likely additional work from Integrated Domestic Violence. The motion recommending approval of the request to backfill an Assistant District Attorney and forward to the Staffing Review Committee was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Henke and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

# Washington County Probation Adult Supervision Cases





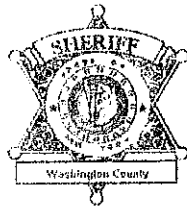
## WASHINGTON COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

383 Broadway, Fort Edward, NY 12828  
518-746-2260 Fax: 518-746-2277

Anthony M. White  
Probation Director II

Ever-increasing adult supervision caseloads have a ripple effect in the department.

- Phone Calls increase
- Incoming and Outgoing Mail increases
- Waiting Room numbers increase
- Investigative Report Orders increase (More interviews, More typing)
- Use of Office Supplies increases
- Home Visits, Curfew Checks, Bar Checks increase (More wear on vehicles)
- More Probation Officers assigned to Adult Supervision, less to Juvenile (creating stress on the decreasing number of Probation Officers assigned to Juvenile/Family Court matters)



**WASHINGTON COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**ROGER W. LECLAIRE**  
SHERIFF

399 Broadway  
Fort Edward, NY 12828  
Administration: (518) 746-2475  
Fax: (518) 746-2483

**MATTHEW MABB**  
UNDERSHERIFF

**Public Safety Meeting  
December 8, 2009**

**A. Budget Review**

Sheriff Point One - There should be \$44,609.00 left at year end.  
Sheriff Point 2 & 4 - The two areas in Point 4 that will be over are 3110.4020 and 3110.4260 Car Pool. See Attached.

Jail Point One - There should be \$94,258.00 left at year end.  
Jail Point 2 & 4 - The two areas that will be over are 3150.4300 Meds and 3150.4640 Hospitals. See Attached.

**B. Budget Amendment**

I propose moving \$6,350.00 from Point Two and \$30,000.00 from Point One Jail for a total of \$36,350.00, to cover these two areas. See Attached Resolution.