

PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

October 5, 2021

The regular meeting of Public Safety, Probation, EMO, Stop DWI, Fire, & Safety was held in the Hubbard Auditorium, at the Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building, 56 Main Street, Tuesday, October 5, 2021, which started at 2:30 PM and ended at 3:39 PM.

Present:

Dennis Mullen	Chair, Public Safety
William Standing III	Legislator {Committee Member}
Edward Hollenbeck	Legislator {Committee Member}
Dale Weston	Legislator {Committee Member}
Gary Howard	Sheriff, Sheriff's Office
Brian Cain	Director, Probation
Mike Simmons, Director, Office of Emergency Services	

ABSENT: Bob Williams, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Services
Marte Sauerbrey, Chair of the Legislator

GUESTS: Peter DeWind, County Attorney
Jackson Bailey, Budget Officer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The *September 7, 2021* minutes was accepted with no corrections or changes

Motion by: Ed Hollenbeck to accept the September 7, 2021 Minutes.

Second: William Standing III

Carried

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – Mike Simmons:

Mike Simmons submitted the Office of Emergency Services report to the legislative members before the meeting. The report is attached.

BUDGET:

Mike stated that they are within the modified Budget.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorize the Amendment to Resolution 141-21 – Budget Transfer (Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services).

The Legislators present feel this Resolution needs further conversation with the full legislators. A lot of discussion and questions regarding this Resolution. This will be discussed with the full county legislative board this Thursday, October 7th.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- EMS – fall EMT classes have started and are going very well. Union Ambulance is in the process of applying for a Certificate of Need (CON) to operate in the Towns of Richford, Berkshire, Newark Valley, and Owego. This process will take a while but we will be asked if we feel there is a need for additional ambulance services in those townships.
- Fire Services – Firefighter training is going well. Past County Fire Coordinator John Scott will be added to the NYS Fallen Firefighter's Monument today.
- Communications system – The design phase of the CAD System is underway. Motorola and IT have been working to complete the design of the system and how it will integrate into the county's current IT structure. Training for Police, Fire, EMS, and dispatcher personnel is scheduled. Motorola, NYSTEC, and Emergency Services are continuing to work on planning the radio system. One microwave path to reach the Ridge Road tower turned out to be blocked by hills so we will also be using one of Chemung County's tower to relay the microwave signal. Athens Park Commissioner met with Mike at Roundtop Park in Athens to identify a location for a tower. Waiting for formal permission from the Park Commissioner. Bill for the cellular and landline telephone surcharge has been passed by both the state and legislature.
- EMO – Damage assessments in the Town of Spencer and Candor have been completed. The damage was mostly on Hulbert Hollow Road where several sluice pipes and parts of the roadway were washed out. The damage thus far is estimated to be just over \$225,000 exceeding the threshold for a damage declaration. Now the State will need to meet their threshold before it will be forwarded to FEMA and then the President.

PROBATION – Brian Cain:

Brian Cain presented the following information to the committee. The report is attached.

BUDGET:

On target.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorize the Submission of the Floyd Hooker Foundation Application.

The Legislators present have no problem moving this resolution on; the committee agreed to move this forward.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Thank you Legislator Standinger for sending me the information regarding the Floyd Hooker Foundation. Requesting from this organization \$7,500 to be used as wrap around funds for the youth that become involved in the Juvenile Justice System and probation.
- Detention beds for juveniles have become a signification issue. May be beneficial to enter into an agreement with surrounding small counties to contract for a detention bed. There are only 8 non secure detention facilities left. Previously we had 15. Of the 92 available beds, only 38 are relatively close. The rest are in the down state area.
- Juvenile numbers are up – 7 tickets this month.
- Both Raise the Age (RTA) and Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) applications have been successfully submitted for the next contract. Approved by the state regarding the STSJP Grant.

- Met with TCDSS, Family Court Staff, the Family Court Chief Clerk, and consultant James Czarniak to begin discussions about Families First.
- Vcheck 24 has been executed and the GPS tracking system is now available for use by the courts and probation.
- Searching for companies to monitor sex offenders' electronic devices. Probation currently has limited capability in this area and we are looking to locate a comprehensive service that can assist us with that.
- Probation vehicles – Director Cain handed out a Probation Vehicle Plan. After reviewing this and much discussion, the legislators present were in favor of this plan and have no problem starting this for next year.

SHERIFF – Gary Howard:

Sheriff Gary Howard presented the following information to the committee. The report is attached.

BUDGET:

Revenues are at \$520,416 which is 75% of the budget. Expenditures are at \$7,963,610 which is 77% of the budget. Inmate boarders are at \$317,250 which is 212% of the budget.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Authorize the Transfer of Dog Funds monies and Appropriation of Funds – other animal control account.

The Legislators present have no problem moving this resolution on; the committee agreed to move this forward.

- Authorize the Amendment to Resolution 141-21 – Budget Transfer (Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services).

The Legislators present feel this Resolution needs further conversation with the full legislators. This will be discussed with the full county legislative board this Thursday, October 7th.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Civil – one (1) open part-time position.
- Corrections – There is currently 3 open positions. Two (2) candidates in training and two (2) Corrections Officers graduating from the Corrections Academy October 1, 2021. There are two (2) part-time cook positions currently open. Need to talk to Personnel and make the Part-time cook another Full-Time position.
- Road Patrol – Two (2) Deputies currently attending the police academy. Taser's have been shipped and received.
- E911 Communications – All positions are currently filled with one (1) new Dispatcher starting on October 9, 2021 and two (2) dispatchers in training.
- Labor issues – TCLEA negotiation are ongoing.
- Litigation Issues – Issue that Pete DeWind is handling.
- Black Creek upgrade is in progress and the new equipment has arrived.
- Live Scan contract is with the county attorney for review.
- Jail refrigerator and freezer replacement project on track to start around October 21st.
- Jail Electronic Medical Records is progressing; IT has completed testing for about six (6) routers.

- Average daily inmate population for September 2021 was 62.
- Search warrant at a house on Pennsylvania Avenue in Apalachin seized 33 dogs, 1 pony, and 16 chickens for animal neglect. Dogs were taken to Angel Eyes Animal Rescue and Willow's Animal Rescue. Took in donations for medication and shots. Received over \$5,000.00 towards this. Whatever money is left over will be donated to the two animal rescue sanctuaries.
- COVID – one inmate at the hospital. Several other employees with COVID. One very ill Lieutenant that is not COVID related.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Kallin

Secretary to the Director of Probation—October 5, 2021

TCOES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

October 3, 2021

Budget: Within Modified Budget - See attached spreadsheets

Resolutions: 141-21 Transfer Money from Fire (A3410) to Sheriff/E911 (3020)

Monthly Activity:

1. Resolution 141-21

The County Budget Officer, Undersheriff, and I have meet and the decision has been made to transfer \$965,000 from the Fire budget to the Sheriff's budget under the E911 line. This is the amount that will be used to pay for the CAD System. The Treasurer's Office has determined that future 911 Surcharge revenue will be put in the Public Safety Communications section of the Sheriff's Budget and Emergency Services will have access to that part of the Sheriff's Budget.

1. EMS

- a. Fall EMT Classes have started are running very well.
- b. EMS staff shortages continue to be a problem. EMS calls have increased significantly over the past month causing additional stress on the County EMS System. EMS agencies continue to work diligently to keep up with calls with existing staff. Apalachin is going to add a paid staff for the overnight shift.
- c. Our dispatch policy has been to dispatch an agency and wait ten minutes for them to answer. If they don't respond within 10 minutes the dispatcher dispatches the next closest agency. If they don't crew within 10 minutes a third agency is dispatched. Dispatchers continue to dispatch agencies in that manner until an available agency is sent. In an effort to shorten the amount of time that elapses before an available agency accepts the call we are going to reduce the wait time to five minutes. Agencies have been asked to keep dispatchers aware of their availability status so time is not wasted attempting an agency that is not available.

- d. We have chosen a consulting agency to conduct a countywide EMS Study and provide us with possible remedies to improve the EMS services in the County. The Center for Governmental Research was the lowest bid at \$ 64,000 Two other bids were received but each was over \$165,000.
- e. Union Ambulance is in the process of applying for a Certificate of Need (CON) to operate in the Towns of Richford, Berkshire, Newark Valley, and Owego. This process will take a while but we will be asked if we feel there is a need for additional ambulance services in those townships.

2. Fire

- a. Firefighter training is going well.
- b. Past County Fire Coordinator John V. Scott's name will be added to the NYS Fallen Firefighter's Monument on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

3. EMO

- a. Damage assessments in the Town of Spencer and Candor have been completed. The damage was mostly on Hulbert Hollow Road where several sluice pipes and parts of the roadway were washed out. The damage thus far is estimated to be just over \$225,000 exceeding the threshold for a damage declaration. Now the State will need to meet their threshold before it will be forwarded to FEMA and then the President.

4. Communications and Radio System

- a. The design phase of the CAD system is underway. Motorola and IT have been working to complete the design of the system and how it will integrate into the county's current IT structure. Training for Police, Fire, EMS, and dispatcher personnel is scheduled. The Emergency Services Office is working on plans so we can collect necessary from Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management so we can populate the database with Fire Department preplans, EMS plans, building occupancy information, and Hazardous Material locations, etc. Once entered and maintained it will provide dispatch guidance and protocols not afforded to them now.
- b. Motorola, NYSTEC, and Emergency Services are continuing to work on planning the radio system. Due to changes in the original plan, Motorola is in the process of creating a change order that will remove the CAD, and also document the changes in the radio plan and costs. The most significant changes in the plan is that we will be sharing the core with Onondaga, adding two additional tower sites and an increase in the number of radios. One microwave

path to reach the Ridge Road tower turned out to be blocked by hills so we will also be using one of Chemung County's tower to relay the microwave signal.

- c. The Athens Park Commissioner met with us, along with Motorola and Sabre Tower Company, at Roundtop Park in Athens to identify a location where we can lease land and construct a tower. We are waiting for tower plans before going to the Park Commission for formal permission.
- d. The Bill to add to the cellular and landline telephone surcharge has been passed by both the senate and legislature. I was contacted by the Department of Budget who asked for information about the use of the surcharge revenue. He felt that the governor would soon be getting to sign some of the bill that had been forwarded to her.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -21 AMEND RESOLUTION 141-21 BUDGET TRANSFER

WHEREAS: Resolution 141-21 approved the appropriation of funds from the Reserve for E911 for the replacement and purchase of the current computer aided dispatch system (CAD) and records management system; and

WHEREAS: The budget should be in Public Safety Communication (E911) (A3020) instead of Fire (A3410); and

WHEREAS: Legislative Approval is needed to modify the 2021 Budget; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the following budget transfer be made:

FROM:		
A3410.520191	Emergency Equipment	\$965,000
TO:		
A3020.520191	Emergency Equipment	\$965,000

Tioga County Sheriff's Office



DATE: October 1, 2021

TO: Sheriff Howard

RE: October 2021 Public Safety - Reference Notes

Personnel Issues:

1. **Civil Office**
 - a) One open part-time position.

2. **Corrections Division**
 - a) There are currently (3) open Corrections Officer positions. (2) Candidates in training and (2) Corrections Officers graduating from the Corrections Academy 10/01/21.
 - b) There are currently (2) open part-time Cook positions.

3. **Road Patrol**
 - a) There are no Deputies currently on light duty.
 - b) We have (2) Deputies currently attending the police academy.
 - c) TASER's have been shipped and received.

4. **E911 Emergency Communications Center**
 5. a) All positions are currently filled with (1) new Dispatcher starting on 10/09/2021. There are (2) Dispatchers in training.

6. **Administration**
 - a. All positions are filled.

Labor Issues:

1. T.C.L.E.A. negotiations are ongoing.

Litigation Issues:

None at this time.

Budget:

1. Revenues are at \$520,416 which is 75% of the budget. Expenditures are at \$7,963,610 which is 77% of the budget. Inmate Boarders are at \$317,250 which is 212% of the budget.

Current Projects:

1. Black Creek upgrade is in progress, new equipment has arrived.
2. Live Scan contract is with the county attorney.
3. Jail refrigerator and freezer replacement project on track to start around October 21st.
4. Jail EMR is progressing, IT has completed testing for routers (6 needed).

Miscellaneous:

Average daily inmate population for the month of September 2021 was 62.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize the transfer of dog fund monies and appropriation of funds – other animal control account – Sheriff’s Office.
2. Authorize the amendment to Resolution 141-21 - Budget Transfer.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -21 TRANSFER OF DOG FUND MONIES
AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS
OTHER ANIMAL CONTROL ACCOUNT
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WHEREAS: Resolution 45-11 apportioned dog monies, from a report of the expenditures and surplus from the dog license fund monies, for the year end of December 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County has not been responsible for dog licensing since 2011, and the Tioga County Sheriff's Office has maintained the responsibility and costs associated with Agriculture and Markets violations; and

WHEREAS: Trust account TA 205700 has carried a balance of \$2,593.67 and the Tioga County Treasurer's Office has recommended the abolishment of the TA 205700 trust account and the transfer of the remaining cash balance to the Tioga County Sheriff's Office, Other Animal Control fund; and

WHEREAS: Future funding will be provided through yearly budget carry forward monies, donations, and budget appropriations, as needed, when funds are depleted; and

WHEREAS: The creation of new accounts and the appropriation of funds requires legislative approval; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature approve the establishment and appropriation of new budgetary account A3520 Other Animal Control and transfer of funds as follows:

From: TA 205700 Dog Monies	\$2,593.67
To: A3520-427700 Other Unclassified Revenues	\$2,593.67

AND

From: A3520-427700 Other Unclassified Revenues	\$2,593.67
To: A3520-540640 Supplies (Not Office)	\$ 593.67
A3520-540590 Service Rendered	\$2,000.00

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -21 AMEND RESOLUTION 141-21 BUDGET TRANSFER

WHEREAS: Resolution 141-21 approved the appropriation of funds from the Reserve for E911 for the replacement and purchase of the current computer aided dispatch system (CAD) and records management system; and

WHEREAS: The budget should be in Public Safety Communication (E911) (A3020) instead of Fire (A3410); and

WHEREAS: Legislative Approval is needed to modify the 2021 Budget; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the following budget transfer be made:

FROM:		
A3410.520191	Emergency Equipment	\$965,000
TO:		
A3020.520191	Emergency Equipment	\$965,000

Public Safety Committee Meeting
Probation Department Report
October 5, 2021

Article I. Budget Status:
2021 Revenue Budget:

- Collections: \$8,301 of DWI Supervision fee collected through September of 2021
- \$38,730 in restitution collected through September of 2021

2021 Budget: On target

Current Business:

1. Juvenile Specialized Supervision Program (JSSP) – Interviews to fill the vacant positions began July 27, 2021. After the candidate initially chosen to fill the full time position declined, a second round of interviews have been completed. Second interviews are to follow quickly with the position being filled in the coming weeks.
2. The completion of a Mini Grant request to the Floyd Hooker Foundation is in progress. The grant will request \$7,500 to be uses as “Wrap Around Funds” for the youth who become involved in the Juvenile Justice System and Probation. The request will be completed and submitted by the October 15 deadline with the approval of the committee.
3. Preparation for retirements continue. We have been working with Personnel in an attempt to be proactive and have things in place so we are prepared to fill vacancies early in 2022. As of mid-February there will be two Sr. PO positions to backfill, and at least two if not three PO positions to fill. In addition, the financial secretary position will become vacant in March of 2022. Probation will look to include psychological evaluations as part of filling the positions.
4. Both the Raise the Age (RTA) and STSJP applications have been successfully submitted for the next funding cycle.

5. Probation met with TCDSS, Family Court Staff, the Family Court Chief Clerk, and consultant James Czarniak to begin discussions about the impending Families First and its requirements about to take effect in NYS. Further meetings are being scheduled to determine how the various agencies can work together to best meet the requirements being imposed.
6. The contract with VCheck24 has been executed and the GPS tracking system is now available for use by the Courts and Probation. It gives all parties a less intrusive option in the realm of electronic monitoring.
7. One of the three probation vehicles (2012 two wheel drive) recently experienced a mechanical failure which resulted in two officers being stuck at an offender's residence until other officers could arrive. In an effort to increase officer safety, it appears necessary for Probation to acquire a second all wheel drive SUV to access residences in all seasons. The reality is that we need all three vehicles to be all wheel drive. Additionally, it would make fiscal sense to incorporate this acquisition in with the initiative to arm the Department and therefore have a vehicle large enough to transport a probationer. I believe this is one of our most pressing safety issues in the department. Our vehicles are our most valuable piece of safety equipment. I would ask that the committee consider allowing me to begin exploring this immediately.
8. Probation is working with the TCSO to set up multi county firearms safety classes for Tioga County Probation and the adjoining county probation departments.
9. Director discussing with other Probation Departments what companies they use to monitor their sex offenders' electronics. We currently have limited capability in that area and are looking to locate a comprehensive service that can assist with that issue.
10. Detention beds for juveniles have become a significant issue. It may be beneficial to try to enter into an agreement with surrounding small counties to contract for a detention bed.

11. Juvenile Delinquency Services:

September of 2021- Probation received five JD tickets. There were four male respondents and one female respondent. The alleged offenses include a 17 year old male charged with Endangering the Welfare of a Child and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Seventh Degree, a 15 year old male charged with multiple misdemeanor level sex offenses, a 17 year old female charged with assaultive behaviors, and two males, ages 14 and 16 charged with assaulting another person. Due to the nature of the offenses, most of these youth will be referred to the County Attorney for possible petition to Family Court.

YTD: 19 JDATs received to date.

- E- Connect: 19 youth screened. Seven determined to be a Level 3 risk (low) for suicide ideation, two Level 2 risk (medium), one Level 1 risk (high), and nine below threshold for mental health services.
- Alternative to Detention Programing: Probation contracts with Cayuga Counseling for our Juvenile Specialized Supervision Program (JSSP). The Program is currently suspended while the hiring process progresses.
- Probation continues to support and make referrals to ACBC as their Making Our Success Sustainable (M.O.S.S.) Program continues to grow. Probation will be providing referral materials to Tioga County Sheriff's Deputies to distribute as needed.
- We have five youth currently in juvenile sex offender treatment.

ATI Programs:

- ❖ Electronic Monitoring – No units in use at this time.
- ❖ Community Service – WWP is active and back in the community. There has been a focus by the District Attorney's office to include hours on the WWP as part of plea agreements where appropriate.
- ❖ Pre-Trial Release – There are six people being supervised via the Pre-Trial Release program

Court Ordered Investigations: 22 active investigations for Tioga County courts (Criminal, Family and Surrogate)

Supervision: 205 cases ordered by Tioga County courts & Family Court (includes JD Diversion cases)

Violation of Probation petitions: 22 defendants/respondents have violation petitions pending against them in criminal & family court.

Personnel:

One officer continues to be on extended leave

One vacant Sr. Probation Officer position

One unfunded PO position

Resolutions: (1)

Resolution giving Permission to apply for mini grant from the Floyd Hooker Foundation in the amount of \$7,500.

REFERRED TO: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -21 AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF THE
FLOYD HOOKER FOUNDATION
APPLICATION FOR THE TIOGA
COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
YOUTH PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Probation Department would like to apply for a grant from The Floyd Hooker Foundation in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the Juvenile/Youth at Probation; and

WHEREAS: County Policy #47 requires that a resolution be approved before any such grant application is submitted. The Floyd Hooker Foundation's grant application needs to be completed by October 15, 2021; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Probation Department be given the authorization to apply for The Floyd Hooker Foundation grant application in the amount of \$7,500 to be in compliance with the county policy.