

**Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: January 19, 2016 – 5:30 PM
LOCATION: COB, 6th Floor, Karen Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman TJ Briggs
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Legislative Staff
PRESENT: Legislators Lapp and Rodriguez
ABSENT: Legislators Fabiano and Maio
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Sheriff VanBlarcum, Under Sheriff Freer, Nancy Schmidt - Department of Probation, Department of Emergency Management/Emergency Communication Director Steve Petersen, Legislator Mary Wawro, Mr. Russell Dires – Boy Scout Troop 8 (attending to earn his communication badge), Mrs. Beth Diers – BS Troop 8.

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Motion No. 1: RESOLVED To Approve the Minutes of the November 30, 2015 meeting

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Discussion:
None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: Resolution No. 8 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 8 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment Causing The Aggregate Contract Amount To Be In Excess Of

\$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Motorola Solutions Inc. – Department of Emergency Management

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 8 Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment extending the lease of the emergency management console with Motorola Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$12,388.70.

Discussion:

Reminded the members that the passage of Local Law No. 10 of 2015 (A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008 (A Local Law Adopting An Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York), Pertaining To Change Orders And/Or Amendments To Contracts Equal To Or Exceeding \$50,000.00) required that the Legislature approve change orders or amendments causing the aggregate amount of the changes or amendments to be equal to or exceed \$50,000.

Department of Emergency Communications/Emergency Management Director Steve Petersen informed the members that the contact covered the twelve phones in the emergency 9-1-1 center as well as additional equipment.

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 3

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 3: Resolution No. 15 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 15 –Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock – Department of Probation

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 15 Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with the Family of Woodstock for the EVOLVE program for the period 1/1/2016 – 12/31/2016 in the amount of \$55,000.

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 4: Resolution No. 21 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 21 –Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With Various Municipalities For The Operation Of U.R.G.E.N.T. (Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team) – Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 21 Summary: This resolution authorized the Chairman to execute an intermunicipal agreement with the Towns of Lloyd, Plattekill, New Paltz and Marlborough for participation in the operations of URGENT and further provides for the inclusion of additional municipalities.

Discussion:

Sheriff Van Blarcum explained that the resolution was an annual housekeeping matter to authorize the Chairman of the Legislature to sign agreements with each municipality wishing to participate in the URGENT taskforce. He said that the same applied for the UCERT resolution. He added that he would like to pursue multiyear agreements in the future.

Towns covered by the resolution were Lloyd, New Paltz, Plattekill and Marlborough. Other participants in URGENT are the Towns of Shandaken and Woodstock, the Village of Ellenville, the NYS Department of Homeland Security and the Ulster County Probation Department.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5: Resolution No. 22 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 22** –Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With Various Municipalities For The Operation Of U.C.E.R.T. (Ulster County Emergency Response Team) – Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 22 Summary: This resolution authorized the Chairman to execute an intermunicipal agreement with municipalities for the participation in the UCERT program.

Discussion:
None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 6: Resolution No. 23 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 23** –Amending The 2016 Ulster County Budget - Appropriating Unexpended Funds From The New York State Office Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For The Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program - Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 23 Summary: This resolution approves the appropriation of \$67,500 in unexpended funds from the NYS Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the purchase of communication and computer equipment.

Discussion:

Legislator Rodriguez asked Sheriff Van Blarcum to explain what the funding will be used for. The Sheriff advised the members that the money will go towards communication upgrades included in the Capital Program, specifically emergency 9-1-1 communications.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 7: Resolution No. 24 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 24** – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Office Of Indigent Legal Services For The Upstate Quality Improvement And Caseload Reduction - Amending The 2016 Ulster County Budget To Accept Additional Funding

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 24 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services totaling \$292,859 for Ulster County’s participation in the New York State distribution of a portion of Indigent Legal Services funds to improve the quality of mandated indigent legal representation and to reduce excessive caseloads.

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 3
No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 8: Resolution No. 64 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 64** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment Causing The Aggregate Contract Amount In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – New World Systems – Department of Information Services

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 64 Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with New World Systems in the amount of \$114,932 for support and maintenance of the Aegis Public Safety software and the TRACS interface used by the Sheriff’s Office.

Discussion:

Chairman Briggs advised the members that Deputy Executive Sudlow sent an email deferring to the Sheriff to explain the resolution rather than sending someone from the Department of Information Services. Sheriff Van Blarcum explained that the contract covered upgrades to the Ageis and TRACS hardware and software systems used by the Sheriff’s Office on a daily basis. Under Sheriff Freer added that the systems are used for accident reporting and issuing tickets and that the contract is a maintenance agreement for the systems.

Legislator Rodriguez asked the members if they would like to postpone the resolution until a representative from the Information Services Department could attend to provide more details about the contract. Legislator Lapp advised the members that he was very familiar with the systems and the frequent updates and upgrades required. He added that the systems are an integral part of the operation of the Sheriff’s Office and he would prefer not to postpone the resolution.

Sheriff Van Blarcum said he would be happy to look into any questions the members had and encouraged them to email him or stop by his office.

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 3

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 9: Resolution No. 71 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 71 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With The State Of New York Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For Interoperable Communications Resources (Mutualink) – Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 71 Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services granting a temporary revocable permit to the County to use the Interoperable Communications Resources (Mutualink) to communicate on a common platform for emergency management and public safety planning and response purposes.

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 3

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 10: Resolution No. 80 – January 26, 2016

Text of Motion: Resolved to approve Resolution No. 80 – Appointing And Reappointing Members To The Ulster County Fire Advisory Board

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lapp

Resolution No. 80 Summary: This resolution appoints and reappoints 19 members to the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board.

Discussion:

None

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Briggs, Lapp and Rodriguez
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	3
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Sheriff's Report

Chairman Briggs thanked the Sheriff for providing the 2015 Year End Board In and Telephone Revenue Report and advised the members that each month the Sheriff provides a report on the previous month. He explained that the data for each month isn't available until the 1st of the next month. Therefore, January's report will be presented at the February meeting.

Sheriff Van Blarcum advised the members that the Board in Revenue for 2015 exceeded the budgeted projection but the Telephone revenue fell short. He explained that the shortfall in telephone revenue was directly related to the loss of Board Ins when Dutchess County installed housing pods. He added that the statewide count of inmates is way down. He advised the members that he has shut down some housing units to conserve resources and save on manpower. Legislator Rodriguez asked the Sheriff if there was a plan to increase Board Ins. The Sheriff responded that they continue to receive board ins from Dutchess, estimated at 15 inmates/day, and said he was talking to Federal Law Enforcement and immigration agencies, but stated that many other jails also have space right now.

Chairman Briggs thanked the Sheriff for the professional response of his Deputies to an incident the past weekend near his home in Ellenville.

Sheriff Van Blarcum informed the members that his office would like to pursue a county-owned firearms range and identified a couple of parcels from the County Auction list that would be ideal for a firearms range. He explained that his office currently uses the Town of Ulster range, but that they compete with other departments for use. Another range is on private property and has time and availability restrictions. He said he would send a more formal letter to Chairman Briggs requesting the committee look into the matter.

Legislator Rodriguez advised the Sheriff that he would like to have a discussion in the future about the Sheriff's plans to purchase a drone. Sheriff Van Blarcum said that his

office has ordered one, but it is on backorder at the moment due to demand. He informed the committee that his office is familiar with current FAA rules and regulations regarding drones and that he is developing department policies and procedures. Chairman Briggs asked if the Sheriff could organize a demonstration for the committee once he receives the drone and the weather improves. Sheriff Van Blarcum said he would be happy to organize a demonstration.

Old Business

Chairman Briggs advised the committee that he had received a copy of a letter in 2014 sent by the NYS Sheriff's Association to Legislature Chairman John Parete advising him that the agreement for participation in the Government Payment Services program was set to expire in February 2016. Sheriff Van Blarcum said that they were pleased with the program which allows for the posting of bail by credit card and intends to continue with it. He further advised the members that there is no cost to the County for the program and added that the Sheriff's Office gets a small fee.

New Business

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any new business.

Chairman Briggs asked if there was any other business and hearing none,

Adjournment

Motion Made By:	Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Lapp
No. of Votes in Favor:	3
No. of Votes Against:	0

TIME: 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted this 8th day of February, 2016

Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: February 8, 2016