

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Kevin W. Hines, Chairman
Thomas Faggione, Rob Sassi, Joel Sierra,
Kathy A. Stegenga, John S. Vero

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Katie Bonelli, Majority Leader
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Mary Pat Smith, Assistant to the County Executive
Karen Edelman-Reyes, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Kerry Gallagher, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
Carl E. DuBois, Sheriff
Paul Arteta, Deputy Sheriff/Captain
Anthony Weed, Assistant Undersheriff
Jeremy Yela, K-9 Deputy Sheriff, DSPBA President
Anthony Mele, Corrections Administrator, Orange County Jail
Lawrence Catletti, Jail Administrator
Gretchen Riordan, Budget Analyst

Chairman Hines opened the meeting at 3:32 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present with the exception of Legislator Lujan who was absent and Legislator Sierra who arrived at 3:38 p.m.

Mr. Sassi moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Executive in conjunction with the Orange County Sheriff's office, District Attorney's office, the County Attorney's office and the departments of Probation and Emergency Services/ Emergency Management to submit grant applications to the United States Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and New York State Departments of Homeland Security and Emergency Services and Transportation for law enforcement, and public safety and emergency services/communications purposes, seconded by Mr. Faggione.

Sheriff DuBois stated this is to give them the permission to apply for grants.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Sierra who had not yet arrived.

Mr. Sassi moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Executive in conjunction with the Orange County Sheriff's office, District Attorney's office, the County Attorney's Office and the Departments of Probation, Social Services,

Mental Health, Medical Examiner's office, and Emergency Services/ Emergency Management to submit applications for grant programs offered by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, seconded by Ms. Stegenga.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Sierra who had not yet arrived.

Mr. Sassi moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate grant funds from the State Criminal Aliens Assistance Program (SCAAP 19), \$204,661.00, seconded by Mr. Faggione.

Sheriff DuBois stated this is a yearly federal grant passed through the State.

Mr. Mele added that it was the reimbursement for local municipalities for housing undocumented criminal aliens.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Sierra who had not yet arrived.

Ms. Stegenga moved to discuss the Corrections Report, seconded by Mr. Sassi.

Legislator Sierra arrived at 3:38 p.m.

Mr. Mele stated that as of this morning the facility headcount was at 443, of that 108 are ICE detainees and 84 are Marshals. The total revenue for the year is \$9,991,506.00.

Mr. Hines asked how many inmates were released due to the new reform.

Sheriff DuBois replied 118 plus the parolees.

Mr. Mele added that some rolled over to ICE.

Sheriff DuBois stated they didn't lose that many inmates and believe that there will be some sort of adjustment to the new law; therefore, they have housing units available and the vacancies still need to be approved.

Mr. Hines asked how many vacancies there are for correctional officers.

Mr. Mele replied they are down ten which includes a lieutenant. He pointed out that they are still operating as they have been, and they did a study of the last three pay periods which showed they are 1,500 hours higher and about \$102,000.00 more in overtime because of the vacancy.

Mr. Hines asked Sheriff DuBois to give the committee a short briefing regarding the central arraignment addition to the jail.

Sheriff DuBois explained that defendants must have an attorney which is good, however, they need to be arraigned within 12 hours, but the courts do not currently have people available for when the defendants are brought in. This will take place in the visiting room of the jail and there will be access to the public as well as security. Furthermore, the cost was minimal.

Mr. Hines clarified that he/she will not be detained with general population.

Sheriff DuBois stated that is correct.

Mr. Sassi moved to discuss the Sheriff's Report, seconded by Mr. Vero.

Captain Artera stated they are down five deputies; Deputy Malone will be retiring in March, Deputy Eberhardt is retiring in October and one deputy is on long-term disability. There was a slight increase in pistol permits since the Monsey incident took place, so they are accommodating the best they can.

Mr. Faggione pointed out that in the report it states that Operation Archangel Site Assessment began on December 18, 2019 and asked that Sheriff DuBois briefly explain what that is and how the communities can learn more about it.

Sheriff DuBois explained that Archangel is a program run by Sergeant John Trazino where they go into houses of worship to do site assessments to hardening their target as well as show them where their weaknesses are and how to train some of the parishioners. They have been doing this for a couple of years and have received a good response from the religious communities. He stated they were approached by Kiryas Joel who would like the Sheriff's Office to take an active role in their village and already have site assessments scheduled.

Mr. Faggione asked if there is a cost to the communities who may be interested in the program.

Sheriff DuBois replied there is no cost.

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.