

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Kevin W. Hines, Chairman
Thomas Faggione, **Kevindaryán Luján**, Rob Sassi,
Joel Sierra, 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
Travis B. Ewald, Deputy Commissioner, Engineering Division
Carl E. DuBois, Sheriff
Kenneth T. Jones, Undersheriff
Anthony Weed, Assistant Undersheriff
Anthony Mele, Corrections Administrator, Orange County Jail
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 Stegenga who was absent.

Mr. Faggione moved the request to accept and appropriate funding in the amount of \$1,889.30 from the NRA Foundation on a grant that had been applied for. The funding would be used to purchase ammunition which would be utilized for training purposes only, seconded by Mr. Vero.

Sheriff DuBois stated this grant was also received last year and is a monetary donation from the NRA Foundation used for ammunition for training purposes.

Mr. Vero clarified that the Sheriff's Office filed a grant application.

Sheriff DuBois stated that is correct.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Lujan who voted against.

Mr. Lujan moved the request to amend Resolution No. 255 of 2018 to update the SEQRA determination to include modifications to the design for the construction of the Orange County Tactical Training Range 2, off Training Center Lane, within the Town of Goshen.

This project was declared an Unlisted Action under SEQRA and determined that the action will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts, seconded by Mr. Sassi.

Undersheriff Jones stated this request is regarding the change in the layout for the Homeland Security Range that had to be resubmitted and the outcome will remain the same.

Mr. Hines clarified that the cost is still the same.

Undersheriff Jones stated that is correct.

Mr. Sassi asked who will be maintain the building since it belongs to the county.

Undersheriff Jones replied that the Department of Public Works will oversee the maintenance of the building.

Mr. Sassi then asked if there is a remediation process if someone complains about the noise.

Undersheriff Jones replied that their range has been operating for years and they have not received any complaints.

Sheriff DuBois stated that they notified people that live within a few miles of the range and did not receive any complaints.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Faggione moved to discuss the Corrections Reports (April & May), seconded by Mr. Sassi.

Mr. Mele stated that the boarder revenue for April is \$3,199,089.00 and the average daily boarder count between ICE detainees and federal marshals is 205.

Mr. Sassi pointed out that the number of sick inmates was higher in April than May.

Mr. Mele stated it was due to the flu.

Mr. Lujan asked how long ICE detainees are held for and if there is a maximum number of days.

Mr. Mele replied that it varies and there is not a maximum of days.

Mr. Sierra commented that he knows they allocated a lot of funds from the Marshal Program and ICE Program last year for this year's budget and asked if they are looking to hit the goal.

Sheriff DuBois replied they are close to it.

Mr. Sierra asked if there is a trend in numbers throughout the year.

Mr. Mele replied the year in general has been low, but they will be doing temporary housing.

Mr. Sierra then asked if the new bail reform will affect these numbers.

Sheriff DuBois replied no, they do not foresee that happening.

Mr. Mele stated as of this morning the facility head count was 682 and of those 191 were ICE detainees and 52 marshals. The boarder revenue year-to-date for May is \$4,102,241.00.

Mr. Hines then asked if there has been any discussion regarding the number of bed and to the expected number of correction officers needed because a few people attended a meeting with the District Attorney's Office who stated that the State had rendered the issue of nighttime arraignments and no bail as revenue neutral to counties. He is curious because there must be some cost savings somewhere because he heard that they will need less personnel in the jail if there were less people there, but from what he is being told, the Sheriff cannot consider that since it is based on the number of beds.

Sheriff DuBois stated the State Commissions on Corrections sets the staffing level for each facility.

Mr. Mele added that they take into consideration the bed capacity as well. Even though some beds are not filled, the staff still needs to be there.

Sheriff DuBois briefed the committee on central arraignments and expressed that he would like the Sheriff's Office to become a partner even though it is a work in progress. He stated that when things start lining up, he will inform the legislature.

Mr. Sierra moved to discuss the Sheriff's Reports (April & May), seconded by Mr. Lujan.

Sheriff DuBois stated that April is unremarkable, the numbers are steady, and they are gearing up for the summer.

Being there were no questions, the committee moved on to the May Sheriff's Report.

Sheriff DuBois stated that it was an average month and there is nothing new to report.

Before adjourning, Sheriff DuBois mentioned that he went to a meeting in the City of Newburgh and Judge Williams will be instituting an Opioid Court which is different from Drug Court. It is still in the early stages as far as logistics, but he is looking to implement it on August 1, 2019. He stated that it will not be like Drug Court, they will seek out treatment for people that are eligible within 24 to 48 hours. There are conditions the court will set in order to target the epidemic. Furthermore, the City of Newburgh will become the hub court as there will be more to spread throughout the county in the future.

Mr. Sassi asked who sanctioned it.

Sheriff DuBois replied he believes it was Judge Defiore who is the Chief of the Appellate Division.

Mr. Sassi then asked how this is different from the Drug Court in Middletown.

Sheriff DuBois replied that all that treatment is post arraignment, this Opioid Court will have treatment upon arrest.

Mr. Sassi then clarified that these people will be charged but not incarcerated.

Sheriff DuBois stated that is correct. He reiterated that he will keep the committee informed as this moves along.

The committee adjourned at 4:04 p.m.