

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Kevin W. Hines, Chairman
Thomas Faggione, **Kevindaryán Luján**, Joseph J. Minuta,
Rob Sassi, John S. Vero

ALSO

PRESENT: Katie Bonelli, Majority Leader
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Steve Gross, Commissioner, Human Resources
Alison Tyack, Director of Personnel Management, Human Resources
Kenneth T. Jones, Undersheriff
Anthony Mele, Corrections Administrator
Brendan Casey, Commissioner of Emergency Services
Alan C. Mack, Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Services/Emergency Management
Vini Tankasali, Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Services/Fire Services
Dominick Greene, Emergency Planner, Emergency Services

Chairman Hines opened the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present with the exception of Legislators Sierra and Stegenga who were absent.

Mr. Minuta moved the request to accept and appropriate entitlement funding for the State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, \$225,085.00, seconded by Mr. Faggione.

Undersheriff Jones stated this is a continuing grant and this year's allocation will be divided between the towns, villages and three cities.

Mr. Faggione moved the request increases to the hourly wage of per-diem Deputy Sheriffs and per-diem Correction Officers, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Undersheriff Jones stated they have not had an increase since 2010, in particular on the corrections side. When they received the wages for the correction officers, they did not build in the steps that were on the deputies' side; therefore, there has been trouble recruiting correction officers which are critical outside of jail utilization. He added that they propose to begin the new employees at \$22.00 per hour, after three years of service they increase to \$25.00 per hour and after eight years it would be \$28.00 per hour. It is a key element to keep overtime low on both sides.

Mr. Gross pointed out that the last increase was in 2010 and this is fully supported.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Faggione moved the request to create one (1) full-time Range Supervisor and three (3) part-time Assistant Range Supervisors, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Undersheriff Jones explained that in the monthly report includes range utilization figures and being that Homeland Security is coming in January, the utilization of the range will increase. There are also ongoing discussions with the legislature about allowing other local police agencies to utilize it but ultimately the legislature will decide to charge or have a sliding scale. He started seeking two full-time range supervisors and had a meeting with the County Executive regarding this and it was agreed to have one full-time range supervisor and three part-time assistant range supervisors to have the proper staff to start up. They will do a thirty-day advertisement, an interview and then appoint someone. He added this should take place in mid-November in preparation for Homeland Security's arrival at the Range.

Mr. Hines stated that yesterday Mr. Church attended the Rules Committee meeting and discussed a Municipal Shared Services Plan from the Governor's Office and Chairman Brescia pointed out that they would get a better "bang for the buck" if the local municipalities were not charged for the first year because it would show a cost savings and the county would receive a check from the State. It is something to research with Commissioner Church.

Undersheriff Jones stated they are okay with it either way but want to be cognizant of the revenue.

Mr. Sassi asked what New Windsor charges to use the range.

Undersheriff Jones replied that he heard \$250.00 per day.

Mr. Sassi then asked the hours of the range and if the Undersheriff foresees the local police departments utilizing the range soon if there is enough capacity.

Undersheriff Jones replied that the range is open when there is training, and he thinks the local police departments will be accommodated because they are adding 25 lanes of handgun lanes to the right of the current range. He stated that Homeland Security will install the target system which will be one step above what the Sheriff's Office installed. There will enough slots for other police departments, it is just a matter of what to charge and if they should.

Mr. Minuta asked how often the range is utilized.

Undersheriff Jones replied that the range is currently utilized six days a week.

Motion carried. All in favor.

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

Mr. Mele stated that the facility headcount as of this morning was 690 and of that 176 are ICE detainees. The boarder revenue collected for the year so far is \$5,069,252.00.

Mr. Hines asked if the ICE release number of 64 higher than normal.

Mr. Mele replied yes, it is because they are being dropped off at the jail and then transported elsewhere.

Mr. Hines asked if that will hurt the revenue in the long run and if it is a new procedure.

Mr. Mele replied the numbers have decreased a little, the male count is still good but female count has dropped.

Mr. Faggione moved to discuss the Sheriff's Report, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Undersheriff Jones explained that it has been an average month and the pistol permit wait time is down to one month.

Mr. Sassi moved the request for the adoption of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Approved 2018 Orange County Multi-Jurisdictional All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and the Orange County Annex, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Greene stated that hazard mitigation has been a program with FEMA for over 40 years, but they changed the rules after the Town of New Windsor was successful in the 90's in getting hazard mitigation money. FEMA made a rule that each municipality must have a plan in place so in 2011, there was a county plan for only county-owned assets. After 2011, FEMA and the State said they did not want a plan for every municipality and came up with a plan and guidance that stated each county should have a plan that includes the local municipalities. In 2014, the process of writing the second version of the County Mitigation Plan began. There are 41 municipalities that participate, with the exception of New Windsor and the Village of Kiryas Joel who wanted to keep their stand-alone plan. He is requesting that this plan be adopted but not each municipalities' local annex. Each local annex has the priorities of that community which is contingent on either that community being successful and receiving grants or coming up with their own funds for the project. He added that there are revisions made to the plan once every five years.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Lujan moved the request to accept and appropriate Federal funds from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety committee for the 2019 Traffic Safety Program Grant, \$64,264.00, seconded by Mr. Sassi.

Mr. Casey stated this is a yearly grant for the Traffic Safety Programs which include Mr. Jones salary so that he can continue to teach traffic safety in the schools and car seat installation training. The monies are spread throughout the counties.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Faggione moved the request to accept and appropriate Federal funds from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services through the Technical Rescue Grant Program as a sub-recipient of a Technical Rescue grant, \$147,960.00, seconded by Mr. Sassi.

Mr. Tankasali explained that the county has a County Rescue Team that is comprised of members of several departments throughout the county who provided several types of technical rescues. The team is primarily funded through grant funding and was started in 2009. Since then the county has received the grant four times. He added this is the primary funding source for the team itself.

Before adjourning, Mr. Faggione thanked Mr. Casey and everyone at Emergency Services for their hard work and dedication this past weekend with the tragic accident that occurred at the Neversink River.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.