



Judiciary & Public Safety Committee

Committee Meeting

~ Minutes ~

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<http://www.cortland-co.org>

Richard Bushnell
607-756-2682

Thursday, April 13, 2017

11:00 AM

Room 304

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Richard Bushnell	Chair	Present	
Gordon Wheelock	Legislative District 10 - Committee Member	Present	
Kevin Whitney	Legislative District 13 - Vice Chair	Present	
George Wagner	Legislative District 15 - Committee Member	Present	
Luke Snyder	Legislative District 5 - Committee Member	Present	
Mary Ann Discenza	Legislative District 6 - Committee Member	Present	
Joseph Steinhoff	Legislative District 12 - Committee Member	Present	
Donnell Boyden	Legislative District 8	Present	
Karen Howe	County Attorney	Present	
Eric Mulvihill	Clerk, County Legislature	Present	
Mark Helms	Sheriff	Present	
Lenore LeFevre	Assigned Council Administrator	Present	
Wesley Foley	Director of Weights and Measures	Present	
Whitney Meeker	Coroner	Present	
Jack Hess	Deputy Director - IT	Present	
Scott Roman	Director of Emergency Response and Communications	Present	
Courtney Metcalf	Deputy Director of Emergency Response and Communic	Present	
Keith Dayton	Public Defender	Present	
Budd Rigg	Undersheriff	Present	
Nicki Sprouse	Probation	Present	
Patrick Perfetti	District Attorney	Present	
Pete Blanchard	Cortland Voice	Present	

MINUTES

Thursday, March 09, 2017

RESOLUTIONS

Assigned Counsel

Coroners

County Clerk

1. Resolution 145-17

Endorsing State Legislation Amending Chapter 443 of the Laws of 2007 Amending the Tax Law Relating to Authorizing the County of Cortland to Impose an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax, in Relation to Extending the Effectiveness of Such Provisions.” (Assembly Bill No. 6489, Senate Bill No. 4255)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 4/18/2017 10:00 AM
MOVER:	George Wagner, Legislative District 15 - Committee Member	
SECONDER:	Joseph Steinhoff, Legislative District 12 - Committee Member	
AYES:	Bushnell, Wheelock, Whitney, Wagner, Snyder, Discenza, Steinhoff	

2. Resolution (ID # 4395)

Home Rule Legislation Requesting Special State Legislation Amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law Allowing Cortland County to Impose a Tax on the Transfer of Interests in Real Property in Cortland County -County Clerk (Assembly Bill No. , Senate Bill No.)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 4/18/2017 10:00 AM
MOVER:	George Wagner, Legislative District 15 - Committee Member	
SECONDER:	Joseph Steinhoff, Legislative District 12 - Committee Member	
AYES:	Bushnell, Wheelock, Whitney, Wagner, Snyder, Discenza, Steinhoff	

3. Resolution 185-17

Amend Resolution No. 63-06 - County Clerk Petty Cash

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 4/18/2017 10:00 AM
MOVER:	Joseph Steinhoff, Legislative District 12 - Committee Member	
SECONDER:	George Wagner, Legislative District 15 - Committee Member	
AYES:	Bushnell, Wheelock, Whitney, Wagner, Snyder, Discenza, Steinhoff	

District Attorney

Emergency Services/Communications

Probation Department/ATI

4. Resolution 184-17

Resolution Urging New York State to Fund Probation Departments, County Attorney Offices and All Other Impacted County Departments and Agencies the Full Costs Associated with Raising the Age of Criminal Responsibility to 18 Years of Age

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 4/27/2017 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5 - Committee Member	
SECONDER:	Joseph Steinhoff, Legislative District 12 - Committee Member	
AYES:	Bushnell, Wheelock, Whitney, Wagner, Snyder, Discenza, Steinhoff	

Public Defender

5. Resolution 186-17

Authorize Public Defense Case Management System Maintenance and Support Agreement Extension

ATTACHMENTS:

- PDCMS extension agr 2017 (PDF)
- Insurance PDCMS 2017 (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 4/18/2017 10:00 AM
MOVER:	Kevin Whitney, Legislative District 13 - Vice Chair	
SECONDER:	Luke Snyder, Legislative District 5 - Committee Member	
AYES:	Bushnell, Wheelock, Whitney, Wagner, Snyder, Discenza, Steinhoff	

Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Helms said March was a busy month for his department. He started operation Safe Child; children under 18 years of age are entered into a database and issued identification cards. So far his officers have issued 250 identification cards. Undersheriff Rigg said three officers are in training with three more headed to training next month. The department recently hired three officers from an adjoining county with several years' experience saving the county money on training costs.

Sheriff Helms discussed the transfer of a used Ford Expedition from his department to the County Safety Officer., he does not believe there is a need to back charge the Safety Office for the vehicle. Mr. Whitney made a motion to transfer the Ford Expedition from the sheriff's office to the safety office at no charge. Motion was seconded by Mr. Wagner. All in favor, none opposed.

6. Resolution (ID # 4065)

Sheriff - 2016 Current Jail Repair Reserve (Comment from County Attorney: What Excess Funds Are Being Moved to the Fund? More Specific Language is Needed.)

ATTACHMENTS:

- Comment from County Attorney's Office (TXT)

RESULT:	WITHDRAWN - NO FUTURE ACTION
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Weights & Measures

Mr. Foley discussed a recent complaint that was filed in his office concerning the inspection of a bulk milk storage tank inspection and certification. Due to issues with the private equipment used to calibrate and certify the tank, he was forced to reject the certification which has prompted some concerns from some local dairy producers and at least one dairy cooperative. He will be

meeting with officials from New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets as well as representatives from the company that owns and services the calibration equipment.

DISCUSSION/REPORTS

1. Discussion Item (ID # 4448)

Assigned Counsel April 2017 JPS Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. LeFevre said more cases have been assigned to the Public Defender's office in the last month than have been assigned to outside attorneys. She remarked that she has noticed an uptick in the number of methamphetamine related drug and felony arrests, many of those charged are repeat offenders. Ms. LeFevre said the state is increasing funding and oversight of the assigned council program. She recently attended a meeting to discuss implementation of mandatory counsel at initial arraignments.

Ms. LeFevre said she does not expect any negative impacts to her office from the recent passage of the Raise the Age of Criminal Responsibility legislation by the New York State Legislature, in fact she believes it will lead to a decline in the caseload in her office. Mr. Wagner asked if there would be state reimbursement provided in connection with the Raise the Age Legislation. Ms. Howe said she expects reimbursement to begin in 2018. Ms. LeFevre said the funding will be phased in.

ATTACHMENTS:

- AC 2016 UCS-195 (PDF)
- JPS Apr 2017 (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED

2. Discussion Item (ID # 4454)

Coroner Report-April

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. Meeker reported she has no complaints.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Coroner Report April (DOCX)

RESULT: COMPLETED

3. Discussion Item (ID # 4444)

District Attorney, Monthly Statistics, March 2017

This report also includes revised statistics for January 2017 and February 2017

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Perfetti reported he still not at full staff. He said he recently met with Seantor Seward regarding the Raise the Age Legislation, he said there are possible amendments to the law under consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2016,2017 Statistics (XLSX)

RESULT:	COMPLETED
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4. Discussion Item (ID # 4446)

Emergency Response & Communications First Quarter Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Roman reported it has been a busy month and thanked the Legislature for its support to allow employees to attend the funeral services for a dispatcher who recently passed away. The loss of the dispatcher has created a vacancy in the 911 center.

Mr. Roman updated the committee about his discussion at the Buildings and Grounds Committee regarding the proposal that would have the county discontinue the monitoring of municipal box alarms. Mr. Roman discussed the background of the program and what is prompting the discontinuance. Affected municipalities will be notified before December 31st that they will need to provide for their own alarm monitoring. Mr. Roman said that private businesses are already providing their own alarm monitoring. Mr. Wagner asked if there are any grants to support the service, Mr. Roman said there not. Mr. Steinhoff feels the municipalities can absorb the expenses of private alarm monitoring services. Ms. Howe said the county will provide proper notice to the impacted towns and villages. Mr. Whitney recommends that the county contract with a private company to monitor county fire alarms rather than replacement of the monitoring equipment.

Mr. Roman said emergency communications dispatchers have recently completed training. The county hosted a Spillman workshop where 11 counties attended. Mr. Roman said the recently adopted New York State budget includes a provision to add 911 surcharges for non-contract cellular telephones. He expects to see a 23% increase in 911 surcharge revenue.

Mr. Roman discussed a recent Department of Homeland Security grant award; he is now reviewing the grant guidelines and restrictions.

Mr. Roman said his department is working on an after action report in connection with winter storm Stella. The State is reimbursing .75 cents on the dollars for storm related costs. Most of the expense was incurred by the Highway Department but some personnel costs would be eligible for reimbursement. Mr. Roman said he will meet with the town and village highway superintendents to assist with submission of expense claims for reimbursable storm related costs.

Mr. Roman said the state is considering enactment of accreditation requirements for his department, if the county is non-compliant we could lose state funding.

Mr. Roman said he attended a regional conference for fire coordinators and the state is moving away from hard copy testing materials and replacing them with electronic testing and electronic text books.

Mr. Roman discussed preparations for the upcoming summer firefighter training seminar. Mr. Steinhoff asked how many people attend from within the county and if we can charge non-county attendees. Ms. Metcalf said roughly half the attendees are from within the county. Mr. Roman said

charging out of county attendees cannot be charged due to state funding requirements.

ATTACHMENTS:

- DOERC First Quarter Report 2017 (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED

5. Discussion Item (ID # 4456)

Probation Monthly Report - April

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. Albro discussed concerns regarding the implementation of the Raise the Age Legislation. She believes it will allow for greater diversion of first time offenders from the courts. Ms. Howe said she expects more guidance from the state with respect to implementation. The county must submit its implementation plan to the state by December 31st.

ATTACHMENTS:

- PROBATION STATISTICS for April (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED

6. Discussion Item (ID # 4457)

Public Defender Monthly Report-April

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Dayton reminded the committee the Community Justice Advisory Board can review some of the various topics of concerns that have been raised by the legislature related to the local criminal justice system and programs. He urged the committee to suggest agenda items for the CJAB which could make recommendations to the county that could be useful when it comes to budgetary considerations.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Public Defender April (PDF)

RESULT: COMPLETED