

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Committee: Public Safety

Date: May 22, 2008

Committee Members Present:

Supervisors VanNess
Bentley
O'Connor
Belden
Stec
Girard

Others Present:

Bud York, Sheriff
Marv Lemery, Fire Coordinator/Director of the
Office of Emergency Services
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board
JoAnn McKinstry, Deputy Commissioner of
Administrative & Fiscal Services
Kevin Geraghty, Budget Officer
Supervisor Kenny
Supervisor Strainer
Supervisor Thomas
Sarah McLenithan, Legislative Office Specialist
Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk

Committee Member Absent:

Supervisor Haskell

Mr. VanNess called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 10:15 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2008 meeting of the Public Safety Committee, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Bud York, Sheriff, who distributed copies of the Sheriff's & Communication Agenda to the Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Sheriff York apprised Item 1 on the Agenda was the Budget Performance Report through May 19, 2008 attached for the Committees review. On page 2 of the report, he said, under the Sheriff's Correction Division (A.3150) Salaries-Part Time (130), it showed that 592% of the funds had been used. He explained that the Part Time code was only allotted \$6,000 each year, and in the past, any shortfalls were covered by transferring funds from the Overtime code (120). He suggested that during the next budget process, the correct amount that was needed for part time salaries (130) should be appropriated in order to avoid transferring funds later in the year out of other codes. He added that last year \$246,000 was spent on part time employees throughout all of the Sheriff's divisions.

Agenda Item 2, Sheriff York advised, consisted of two requests to fill two vacant Patrol Officer positions, both with a base salary of \$29,500, and due to retirements. He informed the Committee that seven Patrol Officers recently took the State Police exam and did very well; therefore, he said, he may be facing more resignations in the future.

Mr. Belden asked if it would be possible for Sheriff York to fill just one of the positions, rather than filling both and Sheriff York replied in the negative. Sheriff York explained that last fall two Patrol Officer positions were removed from the Sheriff's budget and three Patrol positions were transferred into the new Drug Unit. He added that the Patrol positions were vital to maintain efficiency within the Department.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the filling of the two vacant Patrol Officer positions as outlined above and to forward the same to the Personnel Committee. Copies of the Notices of Intent to Fill Vacant Positions are on file with the minutes.

Mr. VanNess commented that he believed at one time, the City of Glens Falls had instituted a policy that required newly hired Patrol Officers to serve in the Department for a specific amount of time before a transfer would be granted. He questioned if that was something the County could begin requiring as well. Sheriff York said it would be worth looking into.

Mr. VanNess commended Sheriff York on a letter he had submitted to the Editor of *The Post Star* regarding the County's Patrol Officers and his support of the staff.

Mr. Kenny entered the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Sheriff York informed the Committee that the new motorcycles had been received and he encouraged anyone interested to visit the Sheriff's Office to see them. In response to an inquiry from Mr. O'Connor, Sheriff York stated that the motorcycle patrol would be utilized for specific details, not just routine patrol.

Mr. VanNess said that concluded the Sheriff's portion of the meeting. He extended privilege of the floor to Marv Lemery, Director of the Office of Emergency Services. Mr. Lemery distributed copies of the Office of Emergency Services Agenda to the Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Lemery stated Item 1 was regarding the resignation of the Third Deputy Fire Coordinator, effective May 12, 2008 and a letter advising of such was included in the Agenda packet. Item 2, Mr. Lemery continued, related to Item 1 and was a request to appoint Scott Combs to fill the vacated Third Deputy Fire Coordinator position, with a base salary of \$3,089, effective June 23, 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of the Third Deputy Fire Coordinator, and to appoint Scott Combs as Third Deputy Fire Coordinator as outlined above. A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Lemery apprised Item 3 was for informational purposes only concerning the Hazard

Mitigation Plan. He reported that at the joint meeting of the Public Safety and Public Works Committees it was determined that the Hazard Mitigation Officer (HMO) should be included under the realm of the Office of Emergency Services and as a result, he said, the Request for Proposals (RFPs) were being prepared to hire a consultant to write the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County. He reminded the Committee members that the funding for such was provided by a grant through the Office of Homeland Security in the amount of \$100,000; \$25,000 of which was to be allocated to hire the consultant.

Concluding the Agenda review, Mr. Lemery requested a new contract with Gerald Morigeratio to provide special training for the WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) and HazMat (Hazardous Materials) teams for a lump sum amount of \$2,900 to be paid upon completion of the training. He advised the funds to cover the cost of the contract were available through a 2006 HazMat grant from the Office of Homeland Security, and would commence June 9, 2008 and terminate June 13, 2008. He noted that the training schedule was included in the Agenda packet.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to authorize a new contract with Gerald Morigeratio to provide special training for the WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) and HazMat (Hazardous Materials) teams as outlined above. A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the next board meeting.

Mr. Lemery apprised that the State had comprised a list of individuals, using a matrix system, who were in need of training for NIMS (National Incident Management System) requirements, including Supervisors, and there was a list of required courses to be completed, as well. He added that federal grant funds would be linked to the NIMS program, and if a municipality was not NIMS compliant, they may not be eligible for grants. He reminded the Committee members that currently Warren County was a NIMS compliant County. Mr. Lemery stated he would review the matrix and provide the information to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Lemery reported that the Initiative Grant received from Senator Little's Office had been awarded and the tow vehicle for the EMS trailer had been ordered. He said it was a Ford F-350 dual-wheeled vehicle. He reiterated that the intention was to utilize the balance of the funds to purchase an additional trailer to house the emergency generators and other equipment in the Office of Emergency Services, which would remain at the County Center.

Mr. Lemery referred to the equipment that was currently stored at the Broad Street Fire House in the City of Glens Falls. He noted that the City was receiving new equipment and vehicles and eventually, the County would be asked to vacate the City's building. He advised there was a vacant building located next to the Broad Street Fire House that may be available for lease. He suggested that the County further research the possibility of leasing that building; however, he said, he was unsure if the grants

that were received through the Office of Homeland Security would be allowed to fund a lease, although he would research that. Mr. VanNess questioned if federal grants could be available to construct a building to house not only the HazMat trailer, but also the trucks and additional trailers. Mr. Lemery responded that he believed that once a site for the Training Center was selected and shovel ready, the County could pursue federal funding for such needs.

Mr. Geraghty asked if the DPW Shop in Warrensburg had been looked at to house the EMS equipment and Mr. Lemery replied in the negative. Currently, Mr. Lemery said, the EMS equipment was stored at the West Glens Falls EMS building. Mr. Geraghty suggested the DPW Shop be considered as a possible place to house the equipment. Mr. Lemery stated he would review that location.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Girard and seconded by Mr. Belden, Mr. VanNess adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Livingston, Deputy Clerk