

COUNTY OF OSWEGO
PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
COUNTY OFFICE, 46 E. BRIDGE STREET, OSWEGO
November 24, 2008 1:00 PM

PRESENT:

Paul Santore, Chair
James Bryant, Vice Chair
Mary Flett
Margaret Kastler
Art Ospelt
Lee Walker, Jr.

EXCUSED:

James Oldenburg

STAFF/GUESTS

Leg. Chm. Leemann and Legs. Potter, Gearsbeck and Sorbello
Administrator Phil Church
Budget Officer Steve Loadwick
Pat Egan, Dir. Emergency Management
Terry Bennett, Emergency Management Office
Barbara Schuler, Probation Director
John Hinds, Fire Coordinator
Reuel Todd, Sheriff
Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director
Nicole Reome, Oswego County Today

Committee Chair Santore called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of October 27th were presented.

Motion to approve: Legislator Walker

Second: Legislator Bryant

Vote: All in favor.

Sheriff's Department:

Sheriff Todd announced that former Sheriff Charles Nellis died Nov. 22 and that calling hours and services would be this week. The former sheriff served four terms in office, overseeing the building of the Public Safety Center among other projects. Sheriff Todd described Sheriff Nellis as a good friend and great guy.

Budget Modification – Gas and Oil: Sheriff Todd presented a request to transfer \$60,000 from expenditure line 3110.5110 (Salaries & Wages Regular) into expenditure line 3110.5442 (Gasoline and Oil) to accommodate the anticipated cost of gasoline and oil through the end of fiscal year 2008.

Motion to approve: Legislator Bryant

Second: Legislator Walker

Vote: All in favor

Fire Coordinator:

Entergy donation: Fire Coordinator John Hinds presented a budget modification to accept a \$1,000 donation from Entergy into unclassified revenue and move it to heating fuel to cover propane costs for the props at the Emergency Response Training Center.

Motion to approve: Legislator Kastler

Second: Legislator Walker

Vote: All in favor

Training Center Update: Fire Coordinator Hinds reported the burn tower is being used for training and all but a few props are in service. Two more training sessions are planned for fire departments in the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone, and then the exterior props will be shut down for the winter. Twenty-three firefighters from across the county were graduated from a Firefighter I course, the first at the training center, on Nov. 8. There is interest from the nuclear power plants and other industries within and outside the county as well as fire departments to use the facility for training, and Coordinator Hinds' office will be working diligently to ensure the props are working and the center can entice them back.

E-911:

Update on Radio Project: E-911 Director Mike Allen reported that a consultant has begun developing a needs assessment. The consultant has met with all user agencies, which have been given a survey to fill out. Information is being compiled, and Director Allen is targeting mid-February to provide the Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee with a draft needs assessment document.

The consultant has been tasked with looking at alternate streams of revenue as well, and has asked Director Allen to write state legislators to determine if state economic development funds could be utilized or if there was anything they could do.

Motion: To direct E-911 Director Allen to write state legislators seeking help in identifying funding sources for the E-911 radio project.

Motion to approve: Legislator Ospelt

Second: Legislator Walker

Vote: All in favor

Director Allen noted that his office has identified points of contact for each user group that will collect information on the project and bring it back. Law enforcement has a panel of five people, while fire and emergency medical services are represented by two people from each battalion. The points of contact will provide specific feedback and reports to the agencies they represent.

Director Allen said he is also working with Onondaga and other adjacent counties to develop a regional approach to interoperable communications, which would help emergency services agencies along the county's borders that communicate with more than one county, as well as keep the cost down for Oswego County.

All costs, including those for user agencies, will be identified before the 911 Director brings a proposal to the Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee.

**1:15 Legislator Flett arrived

Draft Interoperable Resolution: Director Allen presented a resolution in draft form from NYSAC that encourages the state to partner with the counties to develop an interoperable communications network and look at a new way of allocating the State Wireless Communications Service Surcharge.

Director Allen noted the funds are collected as fees for cellular telephones, but little of what's collected is returned to the county. At the same time, cell phone usage has resulted in a drop of 911 service fees collected from landline telephone service.

Committee Chairman Santore asked Director Allen to work with County Administrator Church on the wording of the resolution before it is presented to the full legislature.

Motion to approve: Leg. Walker

Second: Leg. Flett

Vote: All in favor

UASI Grant: Director Allen provided an informational memorandum on the Urban Area Strategic Initiative grant for a shared services project to enhance interoperable communications for the Metropolitan Statistical Area that includes Onondaga, Oswego and Madison counties. Director Allen reported Oswego County was awarded \$137,000 out of the total \$1.6 million for the three-county area and the City of Syracuse.

CIO/OFT Presentation: Director Allen reported that he presented the five-county concept for regional communications to the State Chief Information Office/Office of Technology at an October meeting in Albany. The committee seemed to be very interested and agreed to sit down with Director Allen and discuss the grant application that was denied.

Director Allen Also reported on the State 911 Fall Conference and the realignment of the NYS 911 Board, as well as the center's monthly report.

Probation: Director Schuler had nothing to report.

Emergency Management: Director Egan had nothing to report.

Adjournment: 1:39 P.M.

Motion to adjourn: Leg. Ospelt

Second: Leg. Walker

Vote: All in favor.