

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**April 7, 2015**

Present: Bill Holgate, Sarah Purdy, Doug Paddock, Jim Multer, Bob Clark, Mark Morris, Leland Sackett, Dan Banach, Ron Spike, Brian Winslow, Sharon Dawes, Bonnie Percy, Tim Dennis, Elden Morrison, Leslie Church, Margaret Dunn.

Bill and Bonnie will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as presented.

**Probation – Sharon Dawes**

Sharon reviewed the following statistical report.

<u>YATES CO. PROBATION</u>	<u>14-Mar</u>	<u>14-Apr</u>	<u>14-May</u>	<u>14-Jun</u>	<u>14-Jul</u>	<u>14-Aug</u>	<u>14-Sep</u>	<u>14-Oct</u>	<u>14-Nov</u>	<u>14-Dec</u>	<u>15-Jan</u>	<u>15-Feb</u>	<u>15-Mar</u>
Probationers	268	266	277	278	280	276	288	275	271	264	255	250	250
Investigations monthly	32	14	8	12	20	7	20	22	25	15	14	15	23
investigations year to date	75	89	97	109	129	136	156	178	203	218	14	29	52
Violation of Probation	2	5	3	3	8	0	9	1	4	5	6	8	8
VOP year to date	11	16	19	22	30	30	39	40	44	49	6	14	22
Pre-Trial Release	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2
Leandra's Law													
Conditional Discharge	31/12	30/11	35/12	30/11	37/17	39/18	45/24	46/23	50/26	46/26	43/24	43/27	37/27
Probation	17/0	15/0	15/0	14/0	16/0	15/0	15/0	16/0	16/0	17/0	16/1	15/1	13/1
waiver cases	5/1	5/1	4/0	4/0	5/1	5/1	9/3	9/3	9/3	8/3	7/3	6/3	7/5
payment plan cases	2/0	2/0	3/1	4/1	5/1	5/2	6/3	7/2	7/2	7/3	5/2	7/3	7/3

Sharon reported the “Raise the Age” did not make the Governor’s budget but she expects it to be brought up again.

Sharon reported she will have the first quarter ATI stats next month. There is one case currently on electronic monitoring.

Bill reported the Alternatives to Incarceration meeting will be held this Friday and he will not be able to attend, Bonnie will attend in Bill’s absence.

**District Attorney – Valerie Gardner**

Valerie reviewed the following monthly statistics:

**February 2015**

Total new cases opened: 63  
Top charge felony: 9  
Misdemeanors, Violations, other: 70  
Total cases closed February: 47

**March 2015**

Total new cases opened: 75  
Top charge felony: 15  
Misdemeanors, Violations, other: 74  
Total cases closed February: 78

Valerie reviewed the various meetings and trainings she and staff attended in March.

Valerie reported the next Yates Substance Abuse Coalition Meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00p.m in the Public Health Conference Room.

Valerie reported the next Grand Jury panel will be May 1, 2015.

Valerie reported on April 24<sup>th</sup> a ceremony and reception to honor the dedicated men and women serving crime victims in Yates County will be held on the second floor foyer of the Yates County Courthouse at noon.

Leslie reported that a letter was received from a taxpayer that referenced an article on fraud detection that was in the Dundee Observer. The letter highlighted the great work that is being done in Schuyler County on fraud detection. Amy addressed this last night in saying that out of 14 referrals there have been zero arrests and zero fraud. Also, for one case they are using another method called the Administrative Disqualification Hearing. This is a process where DSS goes through the state to ensure the clients who have committed fraud but who are not criminally prosecuted are unable to receive additional benefits in the future. Leslie questioned why the cases that are getting referred are not being followed through on. DSS does pay for half of an investigator in the Sheriff's department. We were asked what Yates County is doing to deal with Welfare Fraud.

Valerie stated her office has only received 1 referral in the past few months, not 14. She stated that the number of referrals in the Commissioner's chart may possibly be the number referred to the Sheriff's office for investigation. Valerie stated that the 1 case that was referred to her for review for criminal charges was rejected based upon her consultation with the investigator who advised that the criminal element of intent could not be established. That case was sent back to DSS with the appropriate authorization to allow DSS to pursue a disqualification consent agreement (DCA) as required by state regulations. Valerie explained that state regulations require that in order for there to be disqualification of further benefits, the case has to be referred to the DA prior to arrest. The DA then reviews the case and if sufficient evidence is present, the case can go forward by the filing of criminal charges, or it can be referred back to DSS with authorization to do a DCA. She has received zero referrals since January 1, 2015. Valerie stated that the Administrative Disqualification Hearings are not the same as the Disqualification Consent Agreements that are authorized by her in the criminal referral process. Valerie stated that fraud detection is one of her priorities.

Valerie explained that there was one case where an arrest was made that did not come through her office, which is not the appropriate procedure as set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding between the DA and DSS which was put into place in 2014 to comply with state requirements. That was because there was a new investigator and he was not aware of the procedure. Valerie then explained the procedure that needed to be followed.

The consensus of the Committee was to have Amy Miller, Commissioner of Social Services, attend the Public Safety meeting next month to get everyone on the same page.

Mark stated that he did meet with Valerie to discuss transition issues and has a better understanding of the office. Mark questioned how things are working on with the part-time position. Valerie explained that it is working fine and that is because of the experience of the person in the position. If the position was filled with a less experienced attorney it may be a different situation.

#### **Emergency Management – Brian Winslow**

Brian reported a grant was obtained with the help of Cornell Cooperative Extension, Soil and Water and Chris Warriner to purchase gas meters. A Manure Gas Safety training was held on

dairy farms with approximately 30 participants for the day session. The evening class was primarily held for emergency responders with approximately 25 attending. Some fire departments are now reaching out for additional training.

Brian reported there will be a Sky Warn Class on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the county auditorium.

Brian reported tomorrow is the County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA) for Yates County. This is where the state officials come in and meet with the Sheriff, Brian, the County Highway Superintendent, the local Fire and EMS agencies and talk about what the preparedness is for manmade or natural disasters.

Brian reported there was an issue with the cascade trailer and he is in the process of assessing the problem and getting it fixed.

Brain reported the office is preparing for the County Graduation Banquet that will be held at the end of the month.

Brian reported Chris has been busy with grant preparation and training for manure gas.

Brain reported Chris has also been working on the Western Region Emergency Communications, Knowledge and Information Test (WRECK IT) disaster exercise planning along with Blood Borne Pathogens and Farm Safety in our Schools.

### **Sheriff – Ron Spike**

A tour was given of the renovated/new location of the Public Safety Answering Point in the Public Safety Building.

Ron reviewed highlights from the 2014 annual report.

Ron reviewed the General Statistics report for months including February and March. Some of the highlights:

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>March</u>
Animal related:	44	74
Domestic Violence:	13	23
Harassment:	13	24
Order of Protection:	20	33
Criminal arrests:	35	40
Number of charges:	52	64
Sex offenders in county:	83	84

Total Law Enforcement, EMS, FD, CFS thru E911 for February 1459 and for March 1495.

Elden stated he and Gary would like to see if the general statistics could be given on a rolling 13 months so that a comparison could be made. Ron will put something together for next month.

Ron reviewed his Capitol Plans 2016—2020 emphasizing fleet and storage information.

Ron reviewed the vacancy review form for a Correction Officer position due to a retirement. The Committee approved the refilling of the position.

Ron reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Recognize 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Recognize National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

- Recognize Yates County Sheriff Officer Of The Year
- Authorize Chairman And Sheriff To Sign NYS Homeland Security Mutualink Communications Intergovernmental Agreement
- Inmate Housing Agreement Ontario County (2014)
- Appropriate From Communication Reserve
- Approve RFP Tower Transition Project

Ron reported the Jail Population. There are 41 males and 6 females for a total of 47. There are 6 participants in the SWEAP program.

Ron reviewed the revenue report which showed through the end of February \$42,882 has been received.

Ron reported he received a Thank you letter from Mrs. Pinkney of the Lakemont Church thanking Ron for the work that the SWEAP participants did.

Ron reviewed a letter that he sent to the New York State Commission of Corrections regarding the Sheriff's proposal to address overtime cost issues. Ron is waiting to hear from NYSCOC as to whether they will accept the proposed plan.

Ron reported he met with the Public Defender on attorney representation at time of arraignment and how it will affect the Yates County Sheriff Office overtime, lock-up, etc.

Ron reported on the Live Scan (fingerprint) equipment which is in need of replacement as it has reached its end of life. Ron has submitted a grant request for \$10K against the cost of \$29,483 and explained that in reality this is another unfunded mandate.

Ron reported he is starting a Life Skill program for female inmates via Safe Harbor and feels it will help Recidivism reduction.

Ron reported he is trying to setup in service training using webinar methods.

Ron reviewed an efficiency memo as requested by County Administrator citing several areas where inter-municipal agreements or contracts have decreased county costs. The information can be used in the development of the Government Efficiency Plan.

Ron reported other efficiencies recently implemented at the Yates County Sheriff Office: (1) Postage meter system change in service contract and costs saving up to \$600 annually and (2) Fax machine non replacement saving of \$1K via using other means and (3) printer and scanning policy change by networking copy machine for additional savings as well.

Ron reported the DARE graduation at Dundee School had 50 students participating on 3/27 at and the speakers were the Sheriff, County Judge Falvey, ADA Megan Dadd, the principal and the superintendent. Emcee was Deputy Simpson the DARE instructor.

Ron reported the NYS Civil Division Assessment for reaccreditation occurred 3/26 all day with assessors from Broome and Wayne Counties which resulted in a positive rating for us and with high remarks at the exit interview. The NYSSA executive director will likely want to make a public presentation next month.

Ron reported he has implemented a new BEAST evidence barcoding system from Porter and Lee Company with assistance of the IT Dept. We are using a part-time deputy for bringing our

evidence room into compliance with the new system. The liability with properly following policy and labeling of evidence along with its retention for court and dated destruction etc. will now all be computerized for enhanced integrity and efficiency.

Ron reported the Annual NYSSA K9 seminar will be May 3-7 in Yates County.

Ron reported the NYS "ARIDE" Finger Lakes Regional training in Yates County is set for May 26-27.

Ron reported there will be a Take-Back event on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The DEA has put the Sheriff on notice that they will no longer take the drugs that are collected back. Ron has made arrangements through Environmental Services in Monroe County to accept the drugs. Deputies on their way to the Crime Lab will drop off what has been collected.

Ron reported YCSO members attended an appreciation dinner by the Elks Club "Just Say No To Drugs Group that was held on March 26. Ron thanked the Elks Club for the courtesies extended.

Ron reported Traffic Stops and Drug Detection training was held for deputies this past month.

Ron reported he gave Heroin presentations this past month to Our Town Rocks, Dundee; Dundee Boy Scouts; YC Chamber of Commerce long range committee; and the PY Lions Club with 58 present. Seven other county Sheriffs have requested Ron's power point program for their customization and use. Ron also has a 19 min CD on heroin, targeting high school teens and college age for prevention awareness that the Sheriff will first show the YC Coalition for review.

Ron reported he met with the Keuka Lake Assoc. Navigation Safety Committee on April 1st in Hammondsport for this season boating, environmental and related navigation law issues including their desire to train the members of the MPU on invasive species awareness, etc.

Ron reported a K9 car search and first aid training for canines was done for K9 unit members.

Ron reported he is working on updating DOH licensing to have drugs for training purposes.

Ron reported the Patrol Deputies have been issued new lights on handguns/holsters and night time qualification at the Ontario County outdoor range and judgmental shooting qualifications with CAPS at courthouse has been conducted and all qualified.

Ron reported he trained an Investigator on updated cell phone data extraction equipment to contemporary standards when applicable and when assists to other members and police agencies for evidentiary and investigative purposes.

Ron reported the NYS police memorial recognize YCSO deputy death in 1958 (Undersheriff R. Legg) as the submittal accepted and ceremony is scheduled for May in Albany.

Ron reported the number of attempted fraud cases being reported via the telephoning citizens or the computer contacts are increasing. Many different types of scams are out there especially the IRS, Lottery, Tops and banking scams at this time of year.

Ron reported the 911 Advisory Board met and reviewed the 2014 annual report along with PSAP preliminary site visit.

Ron reported there is one Emergency Services Dispatcher scheduled for the basic 80 hour course mandate at Ontario County this month.

Ron reported he has been working with Seneca County on the paperwork for the purchase offer into Air Bus through Frontier Communications for the new 911 Call Taking System and switch. Yates County's portion was \$244,000 and Seneca County's portion was approximately \$300,000.

Ron reported he is looking at regional challenges regarding communications. Digital gateways have to be set up at tower sites. The gateways will be part of an upcoming grant submission.

Ron reported he is talking with Cisco Systems regarding video conferencing vision.

Ron reported he is scheduling modem upgrades for the patrol cars in April.

Ron reported with regards to Animal Control there have been a lot of issues recently with a Dundee resident concerning a dog.

Ron reported the next Victim's Impact Panel is scheduled for April 22 at County Office Building Justin Randall (JAR) will be speaking.

Ron reported the Yates County Sheriff's Office has been notified of being one of 23 law enforcement agency out of 545 in NYS to receive an award from MADD and NYS Stop Foundation for DWAI-Drug prevention and awareness efforts, public presentations by the Sheriff and a billboard on heroin. The award is to be presented on 4/23 in Schenectady, NY.

Chairman Dennis stated as a follow through from the Government Operations meeting yesterday, pertaining to whether we were interested in pursuing some concepts with shared services with Schuyler and other counties and what the Legislature would be interested in taking back to the Steering Committee. The subject came up that the Sheriff needs to be involved in the concept of a regional jail. If the state government is willing to put money up to back up what they are trying to get us to do, right now there is \$150 million dollars in the governor's budget to encourage innovated new sharing.

Bill suggested that the Yates County members of the Steering Committee may want to meet along with the Sheriff first to start the discussion.

Leslie moved to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations, seconded by Bonnie.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00p.m.