

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
February 18, 2021**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Mike Timmons, Billy Fried (via Zoom), Mitch Ives (via Zoom), Russ Fisher and Tom Kelly.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Hartman, Brian Desmond/Corporation Counsel (via Zoom), Shari Gorney/Corporation Counsel's Office, Crystal Schaub/Medical Examiner, Amy Franzen/Register in Probate, Heidi Ihn/District Attorney, Jean Meyer/Branch I, Jen Allen/Branch II, Tom Wiensch/Corporation Counsel's Office (via Zoom), Steve Schreier (via Zoom) and Dawn Robinson, Committee Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Timmons called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Oneida County Courthouse, Committee Room #2, stated the meeting notice had been posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and noted accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the Amended Agenda (Kelly/Fisher, PASSED).

APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the January 21, 2021 Committee Meeting Minutes (Timmons/Kelly, PASSED).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE(S)

The next meeting was scheduled for March 11, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

BILLS, VOUCHERS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

MOTION: To approve the bills, vouchers and line item transfers for Public Safety Departments as presented (Kelly/Fisher, PASSED).

Corporation Counsel

Title IV Legal Services Contract with Social Services

Corporation Counsel explained the contract started the first of the year with Social Services and the State. Corporation Counsel stated the county is awaiting the contract, tracking time and will receive 2/3 reimbursement from state with the funds to be used to expand services. At this time, it is unsure which department budget the money will go into, Corporation Counsel or Social Services.

Announce Resignation and Discuss Recruitment

Corporation Counsel Desmond announced his resignation with his last day effective March 16, 2021 and indicated the Human Resources Director is present to discuss the recruitment process.

The Human Resource (HR) Director indicated her Committee of Jurisdiction/LRES asked to schedule a joint meeting with Public Safety Committee to discuss recruitment process, etc. and mentioned the County Board Chairperson asked Corporation Counsel to put together an updated version of the old Department Information Document (DID) to include all positions in the department, the positions main functions with a percentage of time associated with each function. Also requested was a list of open projects, which indicates the priority. This information will be reviewed at next week's LRES Committee meeting.

LRES will draft and post the agenda with Zoom meeting information for next week's joint meeting. Meeting date is Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 12:30 p.m.

Chairman Timmons mentioned he asked this Committee to be involved in the process and addressed the urgency to get established within a short timeframe to work out details and review information.

The HR Director mentioned Corporation Counsel will continue to work on items and then half-way through the month, will transition workload to another attorney plus work on information requested for next week's meeting.

Wiensch/Assistant Corporation Counsel addressed past operations when their office was short staffed and keeping up with workload, etc., changes in office since, increased workload and expressed concern with the office effectively serving the public.

Chairman Timmons mentioned he shared Wiensch's outline with the LRES Office and reiterated next week Tuesday's meeting the Committee will have more information to review before making decisions.

There were discussions regarding information and data to review, identifying challenges, timeline for recruitment, hiring process, appointment by the County Board and the candidate giving notice to employer after county board confirmation.

Sheriff's Office

State Inmate Count

The Sheriff addressed state inmate numbers going down, unsure if this is a trend but wanted the Committee to be aware of the issue. The Sheriff reached out to WI Department of Corrections contacts on this issue and noted the Sheriff's Association is involved with conversations. The Sheriff explained the process for State inmates transported to a State prison and rotating inmates.

Supervisor Fried inquired if this is anticipated to affect 2021 budget. The Sheriff affirmed the department will meet 2021 budgeted revenue and hopes the tide will turn back in 2022. The Sheriff added, 2020 revenue was good.

Supervisor Fried inquired about medical contracts. The Sheriff stated medical stays the same but if there are no state inmates, the medical contract could be revisited. Meals are based on the number of inmates, the cost per meal increases when there are fewer inmates.

There was brief discussion regarding the Governor's budget and jail resolution/vacancy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

As needed. The Sheriff will email the Committee weekly updates of State inmate count and NextGen 911 costs.

ADJOURN

10:11 a.m.

Mike Timmons, Chairman

Dawn Robinson, Committee Secretary

Russ Fisher, Vice-Chairman