

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Nacerino & Legislators Addonizio, Sayegh

Wednesday

March 21, 2024

(The Rules Meeting Immediately Followed)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairwoman Nacerino and who requested Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Addonizio, Sayegh, and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

Item #3 - Acceptance/ Protective Services Meeting Minutes/ February 21, 2024

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment – 24A022/ NYS Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) Program for 2022 & 2023 Award Funds/ Bureau of Emergency Services (BES) Commissioner Robert Lipton

Chairwoman Nacerino stated there are two (2) SICG Grant awards: year 2022 – \$6,000,000 and year 2023 - \$422,645. She requested that BES Commissioner Lipton speak to how these funds will be used.

BES Commissioner Robert Lipton stated this request is to set up the budget lines for the awarded funds. He stated the funds from the SICG Grants are used for communication equipment. He stated primarily for the cell tower equipment, transceivers- receivers and all the equipment, and the cell towers themselves. He stated it is equipment related to the Radio Project.

Chairwoman Nacerino read from the backup, the letter from the Office of NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

Legislator Crowley requested an update on the Cell Towers and how close are the two (2) systems to be interoperable.

BES Commissioner Robert Lipton stated there are seven (7) Cell Towers that are up and four (4) more to come on-line. He stated site work has begun in Cold Spring, the work is in progress currently. He stated the Radio Project is moving forward, pretty rapidly.

Legislator Crowley questioned if there is an expected date of when it will be fully operable.

BES Commissioner Robert Lipton stated he does not have an exact date. He stated they do hope to get radios on the system within in the next couple of months. He reiterated there are

seven (7) Cell Towers on-line and four (4) more coming on-line, with a total of 11 in Cell Towers.

Legislator Montgomery questioned with this grant the \$100,000.00 allocated for Mobile Portable Radios. She stated in the past there was a lot of conversation about the radios related to the Fire Departments and Ambulance Corps. She stated this is additional funding for the Mobile Portable Radios. She stated the County spent more than \$100,000.00. She requested confirmation on that.

BES Commissioner Robert Lipton stated yes that is correct. He stated this funding will be used in the event additional radios are needed. He stated Fire Departments sometimes will add vehicles to their fleet, which recently occurred. He stated also there is a new Ambulance Corp starting up in the next couple of months. He stated this funding will help with the unexpected need for additional Mobile Portable Radios.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if everything has been settled in terms of the different departments and the Mobile Portable Radios.

BES Commissioner Robert Lipton stated yes, and the County went over and above.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment – 24A022/ NYS Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) Program for 2022 & 2023 Award Funds; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval/ Budgetary Transfer – 24T053/ New York Division of Criminal Justice Services Funds to the Putnam County Probation Department to Offset the Costs Associated with the Provision of Certified Pretrial Services/ Probation Director John Osterhout

Probation Director John Osterhout explained this is funding received from New York Division of Criminal Justice Services to support the County Probation Department's pre-trial programming's associated costs. He provided a breakdown of use of the \$130,809: pay the salary of the Probation Officer who does the pre-trial work, pay for the electronic monitoring, which the County is responsible for, and overtime costs. He spoke to what generates overtime. He stated also a portion of the funding will be used to get computer equipment that will allow work to be done at the arraignment, cellphone and contract costs. He stated in reference to the contract costs, the hope is that the County will work with CoveCare. He stated there are times when individuals on pre-trial supervision cannot afford to pay for treatment. He stated this would allow the County to pay. He stated part of Bail Reform is that they cannot mandate any defendant to pay for any service they are referred to by the Probation Department. He stated if the individual has medical insurance, they can use that. He stated there is zero fiscal impact to the County.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if the treatment referenced at CoveCare would be a 30-day in-patient or only outpatient.

Probation Director John Osterhout stated it is out-patient. He stated if in-patient care is needed most of the time the individual will qualify for Medicaid, or they can get them into a State funded program for in-patient treatment.

Legislator Sayegh questioned what is happening currently.

Probation Director John Osterhout stated some are using insurance, some self-pay and some do not go. He stated with pre-trial it is not a requirement. He explained the Probation Department tries to motivate the people to go. He stated that is a benefit for pre-trial, the Probation Department gets to work with people right after arraignment, who possibly have motivation because they are looking at a jail sentence, if they do not do something different from what they have done. He stated he likes that opportunity and is very glad to have this extra funding to work with.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated that is a very positive proactive approach.

Legislator Crowley requested confirmation that if the individual has the means to pay, they cannot be charged to cover the cost of the electronic monitoring.

Probation Director John Osterhout stated that is correct. He stated the Bail Reform Law requires the courts to use the least restrictive method and it prevents the courts from making them pay for any service such as electronic monitoring.

Legislator Crowley questioned if an individual is charged for the electronic monitoring if they are on Probation.

Probation Director John Osterhout offered an explanation and the different scenarios. He clarified again any pre-trial case placed under any type of electronic monitoring is the County's expense and has been that way since Bail Reform started.

Legislator Montgomery offered her support and thanks to Director Osterhout for taking the initiative to have a partnering with the treatment advisor since it is not required.

Probation Director John Osterhout stated his appreciation and provided his reasoning behind his decision to partner with the treatment advisor.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated her support in having the intervention available.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve/ Budgetary Transfer – 24T053/ New York Division of Criminal Justice Services Funds to the Putnam County Probation Department to Offset the Costs Associated with the Provision of Certified Pretrial Services; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #6 – Approval/ Appointments to the Traffic Safety Board (TSB): Michael Burdick, Adam Hotaling, Shawn Keeler, Jason Kinash, Richard Othmer, Leonor Volpe, Michael Stern/ Putnam County Sheriff & TSB Chairman Kevin McConville

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Appointments to the Traffic Safety Board (TSB): Michael Burdick, Adam Hotaling, Shawn Keeler, Jason Kinash, Richard Othmer, Leonor Volpe, Michael Stern; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #7 - Other Business

- a.) Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A027/ NYS Governor’s Traffic Committee 2023-24 Aid to Localities Stop DWI Program/ Director of Probation John Osterhout

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Waive the Rules and Accept the Other Business; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Probation Director John Osterhout stated this is funding from the NYS Governor’s Traffic Committee’s 2023-24 Aid to localities Stop DWI Program. He stated this funding comes from Fine Revenue. He stated there has been a decline in the Fine Revenue. He stated this is an attempt by the State to address that. He stated they were required to submit a plan to the State of New York and utilize the funding in 2024. He stated the Youth Bureau is active in educating about the impacts of alcohol and drugs. He explained this funding will go towards helping fund said education. He spoke to some examples of what was done in the past. He offered an overview of how the \$16,500 funding will be spent.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 24A027/ NYS Governor’s Traffic Committee 2023-24 Aid to Localities Stop DWI Program; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Item #8 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:51PM Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trubulsky.