

The Legislature of Rockland County



JAY HOOD, JR.
Legislator – District 3

Chair, Public Safety Committee

Members Present:

Leg. J. Hood, Jr. Chair
Leg. Chair H. Cornell
Leg. T. Earl, Vice Chair
Leg. A. Paul, Late
Leg. C. Carey

Members Absent:

Leg. E. Day
Leg. A. Wolfe

Others Present:

L. Falco
R. McKay, Esq.
Leg. J. Meyers
K. Tower-Bernstein

Leg. D. Jobson S. Mathews
B. Atkins J. Licata
R. VanCura J. Rosenthal

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2013
5:15 PM

ROLL CALL
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2013

**MOTION TO ADOPT:
CAREY/EARL**

UNAN

1. REF. #6704 - APPROVING INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,805 IN ORDER TO REIMBURSE SUFFERN FOR OVERTIME COSTS RELATED TO A SUFFERN OFFICER ASSIGNED TO THE R.C. DRUG TASK FORCE WITHIN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2012 THROUGH MARCH 1, 2013 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY) (\$6,805)
(HON. TOM ZUGIBE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
CORNELL/EARL**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 5/13/13**

ADDED SPONSORS:

LEGS. HOOD, CORNELL, EARL, CAREY, JOBSON

2. REF. #5327 - APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND THE VILLAGE OF PIERMONT, THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, THE TOWN OF STONY POINT, THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW, VILLAGE OF SOUTH NYACK/GRAVVIEW, THE TOWN OF RAMAPO AND THE TOWN OF ORANGETOWN FOR THE OPERATION OF THE ROCKLAND COUNTY RESCUE ENTRY AND COUNTER TERRORISM (REACT) TEAM FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2013 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
CAREY/EARL**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 5/13/13**

ADDED SPONSORS:

LEGS. HOOD, CORNELL, EARL, CAREY, JOBSON

3. REF. #7300 - APPROVING A THIRD AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION TO AN AGREEMENT IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$30,000 FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$155,000 BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND DONAHOO CONSULTING, LLC (RFP-RC-2010-008) FOR RAILWAY SECURITY AND TRAINING EXERCISES AS NEEDED FROM AUGUST 13, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2014 WITH ONE (1) ADDITIONAL ONE (1) YEAR OPTION AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT) (LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
EARL/CORNELL**

**UNAN
TRANSFER TO B&F 5/13/13**

ADDED SPONSORS:

LEGS. HOOD, CORNELL, EARL, CAREY, JOBSON

4. REF. #9481 - *DISCUSSION ITEM:* DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONAL REVIEW (OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER)

Legislator Hood asked the Public Defender, Mr. Licata, to discuss his department.

Mr. Licata discussed the activities of his department and took some questions from legislators. During his report, he stated that there are 1,400 active files in the department. No employees are looking to take an early retirement incentive. The department has 26 employees including 15 lawyers. It receives a small amount of funding for its operations from a source other than the county. At the height, there were 29 employees. The average caseload for each attorney handling misdemeanors is 300.

DISCUSSED

5. REF. #9481 - *DISCUSSION ITEM:* DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONAL REVIEW (PROBATION DEPARTMENT)

Legislator Hood asked the Director of Probation, Kathleen Tower-Bernstein, to discuss her department.

Ms. Tower-Bernstein discussed the activities of her department and took some questions from legislators. During her report, she stated that there has been an increase in Adult Criminal cases, and the caseload for every probation officer is considered high as compared to other regional probation officers. There are 40 probation officers, and at its height, the department had 65. Intensive cases include felons with lengthy criminal histories. State funding has been diminishing.

Legislator Hood stated that the caseload was troubling, because the risk of issues arising from that is grave.

ACTION: THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT SHOULD PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE A LIST OF PROBATION OFFICERS AND A BREAKDOWN OF THE TYPE OF CASES EACH ONE HANDLES.

DISCUSSED

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 6:05 PM
CAREY/CORNELL**

UNAN

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