

**STEUBEN COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE**

*Monday, March 2, 2026*

*9:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Annex Building  
Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Jeffrey P. Horton, Chair      Frederick G. Potter, Vice Chair      Paul E. Van Caesele  
Daniel Warriner

**STAFF:** Jack K. Wheeler      Christopher Brewer      Tim Rosell  
Rochelle Casselbury      Curtis Warner      Michele Kuhn  
Lisa Rodbourn      Noel Terwilliger      Ken Forenz  
Brandon Rosettie      Craig Pomplasp      James Allard  
Brian Logsdon      Ethan Hurd      Erica McCoy

**LEGISLATORS:** Kelly H. Fitzpatrick      Justin Eberlin      K. Michael Hanna  
Hilda T. Lando (Zoom)      Shannon Logsdon      Robert V. Nichols  
Nicholas D. Pelham      Deborah Shannon      Scott J. Van Etten  
Michael Volino

**ABSENT:** Joseph Tobia

**OTHERS:** Eddie Van Stine, Public Information Specialist  
Don Lewis, Chief, Bath Police Department  
Matt Sabins  
Brian O’Neal, WLEA

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Horton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Potter to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2026, MEETING MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELE. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS**

A. Probation

1. **IPPC Technologies** – Mr. Pomplasp requested authorization to enter into a memorandum of agreement with IPPC (Internet Probation & Parol Control) Technologies. This company uses software to monitor electronic devices and analyze the behavior of sex offenders on probation. There is no cost to the County. There is a monthly fee to the probationer, and they pay that fee directly to the company. He noted that Schuyler and Yates counties currently use this software. The probationer, if they sign up, pays \$35.00 per device per month to the company.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PROBATION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH INTERNET PROBATION & PAROLE CONTROL (IPPC) TECHNOLOGIES TO PROVIDE MONTHLY ELECTRIC DEVICE MONITORING OF PROBATIONERS AT A RATE OF \$35.00 PER DEVICE, PER MONTH, PAID DIRECTLY TO THE COMPANY BY THE PROBATIONER MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELE. SECONDED BY MR. POTTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

B. Sheriff's Office

1. **Commendations** – Sheriff Allard stated Chief Don Lewis from the Bath Police Department is here to present Deputy Hurd with a commendation for his life-saving actions in searching for and finding a trapped individual in a house fire. Deputy Hurd was dispatched with members of the Bath Fire Department and the New York State Police to the scene of a house fire. Without hesitation and complete disregard for their own safety, Deputy Hurd, Sergeant Roberson and Officer Waite entered the building. The quick response, situational awareness and effective teamwork displayed by Deputy Hurd, Sergeant Roberson, Officer Waite and members of the NYS Police showed collective interagency cooperation and exemplify the highest standards of professionalism, bravery and commitment to public service.

Sheriff Allard read a letter received from Ontario County Sheriff Cirencione commending Deputy McCoy and K-9 Tripp. The Ontario County Sheriff's Office had contacted our department for assistance in a search; an individual fled the scene of a motor vehicle accident. Deputy McCoy responded without hesitation, bringing both her expertise and canine across county lines to aid in what had quickly become a critical and time-sensitive situation. At the time of the search, there were extreme cold weather conditions and due to the swift action of Deputy McCoy and K-9 Tripp, they were able to locate the individual and remove them without incident. This is another great example of interagency cooperation, professionalism, bravery and commitment to public service.

2. **Accept NYS CARES Up Grant** – Sheriff Allard explained NYS Office of Mental Health offers the CARES Up Grant to full-time first responder agencies for the development of wellness programs. Lt. Kennedy applied for this grant, and we were awarded \$40,000 per year for three years. He requested authorization to accept these grant funds.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF TO ACCEPT THE NYS OMH CARES UP GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 PER YEAR FOR THREE YEARS MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

*Secretary's Note: Following the meeting, it was clarified that the grant is for two years, rather than three years.*

3. **Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.** – Sheriff Allard requested authorization to enter into an agreement with the Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc., the parent group that provides the Cares Up grant funds.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR MENTAL HYGIENE, INC. TO FACILITATE USE OF THE NYS OMH CARE UP GRANT FUNDS MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELE. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

4. **Amend Contract with ViaPath (Global Tel Link)** - Sheriff Allard stated we did an RFP for inmate telephone services three or four years ago and that was awarded to ViaPath. At the time of the RFP, we were aware that the FCC was looking at changing their rate system, and since the award of the RFP, those changes have become effective. He requested authorization to amend the contract with ViaPath to reflect those rate changes. Additionally, he noted that we will no longer receive commissions on the use of inmate telephones or tablets, so we will see our inmate commissary numbers decrease. Mr. Van Etten asked have these changes been planned for in the budget? Mr. Wheeler stated this amendment to the contract should not have any impact on the Sheriff's budget; however, it will affect the commissary account.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH VIAPATH, WHICH ADJUSTS THE RATES PURSUANT TO THE CHANGES TO THE FCC RATE SYSTEM MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELE. SECONDED BY MR. POTTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

5. **Donation** – Sheriff Allard requested authorization to accept the donation of a boat slip from The Boathouse Keuka for 2026. The value of the donation is \$2,352.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF A BOAT SLIP FROM THE BOATHOUSE KEUKA FOR 2026 VALUED AT \$2,352 MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

6. **ICE** – Mr. Horton stated he had asked the Sheriff to provide information on how many ICE detainees and federal inmates we have housed. Sheriff Allard stated 2015 was the last time that we housed an ICE inmate. They have indicated that they have 20 – 30 that they would like to house with us. He stated he has not accepted any due to the response to the last contract. He stated he wanted to get a sense of whether the committee would like him to pursue that.

Sheriff Allard stated that under the 287g agreement, we have assisted ICE and kept them safe when they have been here. We are eligible for \$130,000 in reimbursement. We can use \$100,000 for any kind of transportation costs which could include a new car, upfitting a current car or maintenance. The remaining \$30,000 is for individual deputies who are on the roll as being ICE certified. He asked if the committee would like him to make application for those funds. Mr. Van Caesele commented he thinks it is a good opportunity to do that. Mr. Wheeler stated the \$30,000 will go toward salaries. Sheriff Allard stated this reimbursement goes directly to the County and the portion for salaries he may put back into the overtime line.

Mr. Horton asked what are the deputies' thoughts? Sheriff Allard stated everyone he has talked to are in favor. When we have someone who has committed a crime and is not in the county legally, we need to get them out. Ms. Shannon asked have they had warrants when they come in? Sheriff Allard replied yes. Mr. Hanna asked how active ICE is in the county? Sheriff Allard stated they have been here three times. They get a list from their supervisor of people to check on; typically, 8 or 9 in the county. If they come down, they will contact us. They do their thing, and we make sure that they are safe and then they go. They have been down here three different days so far and there have been no issues. They have taken two people; one from Honduras and one from Brazil, who were here illegally.

Ms. Fitzpatrick stated when we have talked about collaboration and cooperation, this is a great example of that. This is an opportunity to assist a federal agency, but your main goal is public safety, and your involvement is protecting our residents. Are our deputies training on their system and software? Sheriff Allard stated yes. Lt. Logsdon stated the training involves courses online that go through customs and immigration law. This allows us to understand what they are looking for and what they are doing. Mr. Horton stated the Sheriff's job is to keep the county safe. Having the knowledge that there could be something going on is better than not knowing.

Mr. Potter asked are they only looking for immigrants that have criminal records? Sheriff Allard stated they are also looking for people with warrants, looking for people who have been deported and have come back. Mr. Volino stated he had originally voted no as he thought it had been rushed, but after talking with the Sheriff, if he thinks it is a good idea then he 100 percent supports him. I think he has shown exceptional leadership for our county. Ms. Shannon stated I have to agree with Mr. Volino. I voted no only because of the checkbox for ICE on the contract, but I really appreciate you taking the time to explain this. Mr. Eberlin stated he had been hearing rumors through the community that they feel the situations that have happened nationally, law enforcement was unaware. My argument is for us to be aware. Sheriff Allard stated I firmly believe that where we are seeing issues, that is where law enforcement did not know. Mr. Eberlin asked do you feel the training of the ICE agents is adequate? Sheriff Allard stated absolutely. The agents that are coming down from Rochester have 12, 15, 18 years on the job. Border Patrol and ICE agents go through the same basic training and then they go through job specific training. Additionally, they go through field training before they go out on their own. There has been a lot of misinformation and misrepresentation.

Mr. Van Etten asked does the NYS Sheriff's Association have an official position on the Governor's proposed legislation regarding these agreements? Sheriff Allard stated yes, and their Association will be meeting with a member of the Governor's Office hopefully within the next couple of weeks to voice that. When you look at the northern counties that are all bordering with Canada, they also get federal funds through the Stone Garden Program which is specifically through immigration. If you are a border county it can be up to \$1 million a year that you are getting to patrol and keep the border safe. It is much farther reaching than what has been reported in the news. Mr. Volino asked if the Governor's proposal passes, will we be grandfathered in since we already have these agreements? Mr. Wheeler stated it will depend on the specific language in the legislation.

**Secretary's Note:** *The committee was in favor of the Sheriff moving forward with accepting inmates from ICE for housing and with making application to receive reimbursement funds.*

C. Emergency Services/E-911

Mr. Forenz stated on behalf of the department he wanted to thank everyone for their compassion and support over the last couple of weeks with the loss of Deputy 911 Director, Nick Snyder.

1. **Student Agreement** – Mr. Forenz stated they have been developing a template to use with agencies to support a field internship for students in EMT courses. Bath Ambulance has expressed an interest and potentially AMR. He requested authorization to move forward with that.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STUDENT FIELD INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT WITH INTERESTED AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS IN STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELEE. SECONDED BY MR. POTTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

2. **ASAP to PSAP** – Mr. Forenz stated Mission Critical Partners offers ASAP (Automatic Secure Alarm Protocol) to PSAP. This would allow alarm companies to send us alarms within a matter of seconds and streamline the process allowing us to get calls out quickly. The cost is \$8,040 and will be funded through grants.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MISSION CRITICAL PARTNERS TO PROVIDE THE AUTOMATIC SECURE ALARM PROTOCOL FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$8,040 MADE BY MR. VAN CAESELEE. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

3. **CART Team** – Mr. Forenz stated they would like to hold this item until next month.

4. **EMS Stair Chair Bid** – Mr. Forenz requested authorization to go out to bid for an EMS Stair Chair. He noted they did include this in their minor equipment list.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN EMS STAIR CHAIR MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESELEE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Mr. Wheeler noted we did change the *Administrative Code* that if it is a budgeted item, we can put the bid out. However, the award of the bid has to come through committee.

5. **Cardiac Monitor** – Mr. Forenz stated they have budgeted for the purchase of a Cardiac Monitor. Our current cardiac monitors were purchased through Stryker and we would like to stay with this vendor. He stated that they do have a sole source letter from Purchasing. He requested authorization to purchase from Stryker and designate them as a sole source provider. Mr. Wheeler explained something new under General Municipal Law is the option to standardize the equipment/vendor. You would still be

required to go through the procurement process. His recommendation is to standardize the purchase of cardiac monitors through Stryker.

**MOTION: STANDARDIZING THE PURCHASE OF CARDIAC MONITORS THROUGH STRYKER AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO PURCHASE ONE CARDIAC MONITOR MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

6. **Status of EMS/Fire Services** – Mr. Nichols asked has our ambulance stationed in Woodhull gone to 24-hour service? Mr. Forenz stated we are still working on that. In order to go to 24-hour service that will require additional full-time staff. They are doing an analysis and anticipate having numbers shortly. Mr. Nichol asked about the status of Addison and Tuscarora. Mr. Forenz stated Tuscarora is back in service and Addison has been picking up more calls. Mr. Wheeler stated there has been more mutual aid in the off-hours. Volunteers have picked up what they can. Staffing has been a hurdle.

Mr. Horton asked are there any programs to help the small fire departments meet new requirements for equipment that they cannot afford? Mr. Pelham commented the Cameron fire department is being closed up because they don't have the money to do building repairs, etc. We have already lost the Wallace fire department. Mr. Forenz stated there is the VFire Grant through the State and applications for that have been extended until March 11, 2026. This is a grant for infrastructure and small equipment and we have shared that information with all departments.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked are there any grants for ambulance corps? That is part of the problem and volunteers are in short supply. She noted that she has invited Mr. Marshall to the March Chair's meeting to discuss Fire and Ambulance service. Mr. Volino commented that grant provides up to \$1 million for building infrastructure and \$500,000 for small equipment.

Mr. Wheeler stated within 30 years he anticipates the backstop for fire services will not be the State; it will be the county.

Mr. Eberlin asked does the county have a grant writer? Mr. Wheeler stated as of a month ago we entered into an agreement for grant writing services. In terms of sharing them with municipalities, that is a discussion the Legislature would need to have. If you decided to do that, it would change the cost structure for us and we would need to look at the RFP. We would also need to look at procurement, inter-municipal agreements and chargeback to the county. Mr. Eberlin stated he thinks it would be worth exploring.

Mr. Van Etten asked with the Certificate of Need (CON), which kind of support did we get from the municipalities? Mr. Rosettie stated we received good support. We were required to solicit every town, city, hospital, etc., in the county. We sent out a total of 150 letters and received 75 back, with the majority of those coming from the municipalities. We were very appreciative of their support.

Mr. Horton stated going back to the discussion on the grant writer; it would be helpful even if we could share the name of the company with the departments. Mr. Volino stated the towns can also utilize Southern Tier Central. Mr. Van Caesele stated to share services through the County, depending on the price structure, we may be able to offset the cost with the small municipalities. Mr. Wheeler stated we can discuss this with our grant writing company, Millenium. We currently pay on a retainer structure.

D. County Manager

1. **Animal Cruelty Local Law** – Mr. Rosell explained under the penalty section, if you are convicted of animal abuse and if you fail to register, you will be fined or you will up to a year in jail. The same penalty applies to an individual who is convicted of animal abuse and is found to be in possession of a pet. For individuals who are transferring a pet to another individual, they might not necessarily have been to court and been given a directive to go register with the Sheriff's Office. So, we are requiring individuals

who are transferring pets, regardless of whether they have been given a directive or not, to check the registry before they transfer a pet. That is something that we will really need to publicize.

Mr. Potter stated he is in favor of the local law; however, my concern is the large number of Amish in my district. They have no access to internet and it will be difficult to make them aware of this law. Mr. Wheeler stated we can do more paper publication in terms of mailings, flyers, etc. Mr. Horton commented the Amish will have a hard time knowing that a list even exists.

Mr. Rosell stated if there is a conviction that is overturned, this law does not set forth if there is a “clean slate” clause. A “clean slate” is not that a conviction has been overturned, rather it is a civil wipe away of the criminal conviction. It will be up to the Legislature to say if you want “clean slate” individuals removed from the list. He stated he would recommend keeping them on the registry.

Mr. Warriner asked what is the responsibility of the Town Clerk when someone comes in to apply for a dog license? Mr. Rosell stated they have no legal responsibility. Mr. Van Etten asked what about PetCo, PetSmart in Chemung County; do they still have a responsibility to understand what our laws are? How would we manage that? Mr. Rosell stated he thinks that this will pretty much go statewide as many counties are adopting similar laws. Mr. Van Etten commented if it were statewide, it would be more efficient. If each individual county has their own requirements, it adds a lot of burden to those companies.

Sheriff Allard commented that Niagara County has the animal abuse registry built in as a component on their app. We can add that capability to our app as well.

**MOTION: PRESENTING AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL LAW TENTATIVELY NO. ONE OF 2026, ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY IN STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman  
Deputy Clerk  
Steuben County Legislature

**\*\*NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR\*\***

**Monday, April 6 2, 2026  
9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, March 30, 2026**