

**Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** February 5, 2020 – 5:15 PM  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairwoman Eve Walter  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner & Parete  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Gavaris & Litts, Sheriff Figueroa, Under Sheriff Benjamin, Deputy Mario Tagliaferro – UC Sheriff’s Office, Director Schmidt – UC Probation, Director Peterson – UC Emergency Management/Emergency Communications, District Attorney Clegg – UC District Attorney’s Office, Deputy County Executives Marc Rider & John Milgrim – UC Executive’s Office, Tom Kadgen – League of Woman Voters

Chairwoman Walter called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. She thanked everyone for coming and introduced herself as the newly elected Legislator from District 20.

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**Motion No. 1:** Moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting

**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Minutes APPROVED**

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Chairwoman Walter asked the guests to take a moment to introduce themselves to the committee and offered them an opportunity to share what they were looking forward to for the year. In order of introduction:

Steve Peterson, Director of Emergency Communications, stated he was excited about the build out of the Public Safety Radio System for emergency services for the County. He thanked the Legislature for passing the Resolution funding the Capital Project this past December.

Sheriff Figueroa advised the members that all aspects of Law Enforcement are in an adjustment period following the recent changes at the state level relating to bail and discovery reforms.

Nancy Schmidt, Probation Director, advised the members that it’s important to know that the department is more than probation services. She informed them that the department is responsible for the Crime Victims Assistance Program, STOP DWI, Community Service, pre-trial release services, and the Restorative Justice Center.

Mario Tagliaferro, Ulster County Sheriff Office – road side, and PBA President, stated that he was looking forward to continuing to build relationships with community leaders and enhance communications.

Eric Benjamin, Under Sheriff, congratulated the members on their elections and reelections and stated that working with the Legislature, in particular the Law Enforcement Committee, has resulted in great relationships. He extended an invitation to the members to visit the Law Enforcement facility or ride along with an officer.

District Attorney Clegg, said he and his staff are working very hard to bring the office into line with 21<sup>st</sup> Century bail and discovery laws. He added that there is a Resolution before the committee regarding the Intimate Partner Violence Initiative which he has an update on. He added that he is looking forward to working with the Legislature to make Ulster County just, safe and fair for residents.

Chairwoman Walter invited the Executive’s staff to offer comments. Deputy County Executive Rider responded that he was in attendance to speak to the couple of Public Works projects before the committee. He added that he was looking forward to building out the relations between the Executive’s Office and the committee, commenting that this committee has been productive and collaborative.

Tom Kadgen, League of Women Voters, said he is concerned with addressing substance abuse, especially marijuana use by youth in the county.

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Resolutions for the February 18, 2020 Session of the Legislature

**Resolution No. 16:** Appointing And Reappointing Members To The Ulster County Fire Advisory Board

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution appoints 18 members from various fire districts, as well as Legislators Haynes and Lopez, to the Ulster County Fire Advisory Board for a term commencing immediately and expiring on December 31, 2021.

**Motion No. 2:** Moved Resolution No. 16 FOR DISCUSSION

**Motion By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

Legislator Fabiano asked if resumes were provided for the appointees. It was offered that the appointees were returning members, but that resumes would be requested for new appointments.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 3:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 16

**Motion By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 5

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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Chairwoman Walter advised the members that she was going to hold Resolution 31 for discussion later in the meeting as Public Defender Kossover had some scheduling conflicts and would hopefully arrive before adjournment to speak to the subject.

**Resolution No. 32:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services – Project GIVE – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an agreement in the amount of \$25,250 with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the purpose of participating in a twelve-month joint county crime reduction program for the period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

**Motion No. 4:**                   **Moved Resolution No. 32 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:**                   Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

District Attorney Clegg stated that GIVE was a really good program which funds a portion of one of his ADA’s salaries. Chairwoman Walter explained that the state awards GIVE grants to the District Attorney’s Office, the Department of Probation and the Sheriff’s Office. She added that this Resolution is specific to the Sheriff’s Office, with the Resolutions pertaining the to the DA and Probation approved in November 20109. Sheriff Figueroa explained that the funding is used to offset the cost of one of his investigators.

Chairwoman Walter advised Sheriff Figueroa and others in attendance that she would be asking for data to be shared with her and the committee on deliverables for many of the grants received and programs funded, such as number of individuals reached, services provided, etc. She added that she would not be asking for information that is not already required to be tracked by the awarding agency.

Legislator Heppner asked if the county also receives SNUG funding. Legislator Haynes added that SNUG funding traditionally accompanies GIVE funding. Director Schmidt responded that GIVE is an evidence based program that comes out of DCJS. She added that there are several different techniques offered with each local jurisdiction selecting the one that works best for them. She explained that for the past several years the county has been focusing on domestic violence which is a specific population identified under GIVE. Chairwoman Walter asked for an explanation of how funding is being used to address domestic violence. Director Schmidt responded that Probation uses their GIVE grant to fund two staff members that have specialized caseloads to respond to incidents of DV involving guns and knives. The members briefly discussed an officer’s ability to readily obtain information on whether there are weapons in a home where they are responding to a DV call. Sheriff Figueroa stated that an officer can call to know if there is a registered firearm in the house. Director Peterson stated that 911 dispatchers ask if there are weapons in the house when fielding calls, and relay that information to responding officers. Chairwoman Walter expressed her desire to discuss the topic in greater detail at a future meeting.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 5:**               **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 32**  
**Motion By:**               Legislator Fabiano  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Voting In Favor:**       Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:**       None  
**Votes in Favor:**       5  
**Votes Against:**       0  
**Disposition:**       **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 33:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For Participation In The 2019-20 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Operations Grant – Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for participation in the 2019-20 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Operations Grant, in the amount of \$123,664.00 for the contract period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**Motion No. 6:**               **Moved Resolution No. 33 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:**               Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

Director Peterson explained that the funding is applied to the operations of the 911 Communications Center, specifically for personnel.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 7:**               **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 33**  
**Motion By:**               Legislator Haynes  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Voting In Favor:**       Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:**       None  
**Votes in Favor:**       5  
**Votes Against:**       0  
**Disposition:**       **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 34:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services, Office

Of Interoperable And Emergency Communications, For The 2019 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for participation in the 2019 SICG, for the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021, in the amount of \$563,271.00.

**Motion No. 8:** Moved Resolution No. 34 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

Director Peterson explained that the state broke up the 911 surcharge funding into two programs, one formula based and one targeted. The Resolution pertains to formula based funding which is divided among the counties based on scoring. He added that the funding is going to go towards the public radio system buildout.

Chairwoman Walter asked Director Peterson to please share any program data the state requires as part of the grant award with the committee. She asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 9:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 34  
**Motion By:** Legislator Haynes  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 35:** Amending Capital Project No. 482 – Countywide Radio System – Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution amends Capital Project No. 482 in the amount of \$563,271, reimbursable through the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services 2019 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG), to make necessary improvements and provide for sustainment of Land Mobile Radio Systems (LMR), implementation and maintenance of components supporting interoperability, continuous training and exercise, sustainment and further development of the governance structure.

**Motion No. 10:** Moved Resolution No. 35 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Discussion:**

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 11:**            **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 35**

**Motion By:**                Legislator Heppner

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Voting In Favor:**        Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter

**Voting Against:**         None

**Votes in Favor:**         5

**Votes Against:**         0

**Disposition:**            **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 37:** Declaring Ulster County’s Intent To Act As Lead Agency Under New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) For The Construction Of A Public Safety Radio Tower And Appurtenances To Be Located At 35 Quarry Road, Saugerties, New York – Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution, pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617.6(b)(3) of the Regulations pertaining to Article 8 of the SEQRA, declares the Ulster County Legislature’s intent to serve as Lead Agency for the construction of a Public Safety Radio Tower at 35 Quarry Road, Saugerties and further determines, after review of the criteria contained in 6 NYCRR Parts 617.4 and 617.5, that the project is an Unlisted Action.

**Motion No. 12:**            **Moved Resolution No. 37 FOR DISCUSSION**

**Motion By:**                Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**

Legislator Fabiano advised the members that he reached out to the Saugerties Town Supervisor to confirm their approval of the County acting as lead agency. He stated that the Supervisor polled the Town Board and they were all in favor of the County acting as lead agency, adding that they are supportive of the project and feel the tower is sorely needed to improve service in the area. Deputy County Executive Rider advised the members that there was a question in another committee about who the interested parties would be. He explained that the Town of Saugerties and the DEC would account for two, but that the identification of interested parties comes later in the SEQRA process.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 13:**            **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 37**

**Motion By:**                Legislator Heppner

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Voting In Favor:**        Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter

**Voting Against:**         None

**Votes in Favor:**         5

**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 38:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For Participation In The Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP) – District Attorney

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter in to an agreement in the amount of \$143,600 with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for participation in the Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP) for the term January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**Motion No. 14:** Moved Resolution No. 38 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

District Attorney Clegg advised the members that the grant is important to the office and that they have an ADA with a high level of competence in the area of financial crimes. He added that there are a lot of crimes committed locally that may be connected to state level as well.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 15:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 38  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 39:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Byrne JAG Interest Grant – District Attorney

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for \$144,512 in funding through the Intimate Partner Violence Initiative for the Byrne JAG Interest Grant for the purpose of funding the positions of Director of Projects, one investigator, and to supplement an administrative assistant's salary for the period March 1, 2019 through February 28, 2020.

**Motion No. 16:**            **Moved Resolution No. 39 FOR DISCUSSION**

**Motion By:**                Legislator Heppner

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Discussion:**

Chairwoman Walter recognized District Attorney Clegg to discuss the grant. Mr. Clegg stated that he spoke to DCJS earlier in the day who informed him that the county has been paid through 2017, with 2018 funding still outstanding. He added that the federal government has issued a new directive indicating that states would not qualify for funding unless they are fully compliant with all federal immigration enforcement tactics. He advised the members that he was in receipt of a letter from DCJS that funding would be eliminated as of February 2020 because of certain state policies related to undocumented individuals. He encouraged the members to approve the Resolution as there may be other funding sources available to fill the gaps. He explained that the grant funds an Intimate Partner Violence Intervention Program which works to identify individuals who may have violent tendencies and provides intervention before instances of domestic violence are escalated. He added that the program has been in place for two years and offers counseling and other resources using a restorative justice approach to stop domestic violence.

Chairwoman Walter advised the members that she was very familiar with the program. She informed stated that the program recognizes that intimate partner violence can occur at three levels, very low or early, moderate, and extreme, and recognizes that the response to both the victim and offender needs to vary accordingly. She explained that the program was tested for efficacy in Pennsylvania, but should be further tested. She added that Byrne JAG is funding that only a state can apply for and expressed her hope that the county will pursue other funding sources to continue intimate partner violence prevention initiatives.

Legislator Haynes asked for clarification on the dates contained in the Resolution, questioning if the county has missed a filing deadline. Mr. Clegg advised the members that the 2020 funding has not arrived yet, and the county was in the process of getting reimbursed for 2018 and 2019. Deputy County Executive Rider added that there have been other funding streams similarly effected due to changes in federal requirements. Sheriff Figueroa advised the members that he was notified of elimination of SCARP funding in 2019 because of similar federal compliance issues. He advised the members that the decision was ultimately reversed.

District Attorney Clegg advised the members that his office has two employees funded by the program and encouraged the Legislature to continue funding the program despite the elimination of the grant.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 17:**            **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 39**

**Motion By:**                Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Voting In Favor:**        Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter

**Voting Against:**        None

**Votes in Favor:**        5



**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 40:** Amending Capital Project No. 519 – Ulster County Law Enforcement Center Energy Upgrades – Amending The 2020 Capital Fund Budget – Department of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution amends Capital Project Number 519 in the amount of \$108,000 to install natural gas piping from the newly installed natural gas main, to current boilers housed inside the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center in order to improve efficiency and net an operating savings annually in fuel costs upon completion of the project.

**Motion No. 18:** Moved Resolution No. 40 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Fabiano  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:**  
Deputy Executive Rider explained the project is to run a gas line from the street to the Law Enforcement Center. Legislator Fabiano added that the project was begun last year.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 19:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 40  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

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**Resolution No. 62:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock Inc. – Department Of Probation

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$55,000 with Family of Woodstock, Inc. for the development and operation of a domestic violence program known as “EVOLVE” for the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

**Motion No. 20:** Moved Resolution No. 62 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Discussion:**

Director Schmidt advised the members that the Resolution funds the EVOLVE program which has been operating for a number of years. She added that Family of Woodstock runs the program. Chairwoman Walter asked who was responsible for tracking the deliverables. Director Schmidt responded that Family of Woodstock tracks the number of individuals served and outcomes and submits the data to the Probation Department. Chairwoman Walter asked that the data could be shared with the committee.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 21:** Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 62  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution ADOPTED

**Resolution No. 63:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock Inc. – Department Of Probation

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$165,000 with Family of Woodstock, Inc. to extend the term of agreement for the Alternative to Juvenile Detention Project through December 31, 2020.

**Motion No. 22:** Moved Resolution No. 63 FOR DISCUSSION  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

Director Schmidt explained that the Resolution funds an Alternative to Juvenile Detention program, also known as the One80 program run by Family of Woodstock. She added that they have been doing it for many years, and recently expanded it to include the increase of youthful offenders as a result of the state’s Raise the Age legislation. Chairwoman Walter asked Director Schmidt to share any data on deliverables and, in particular, what school districts have been partnered with. Legislator Heppner asked if, and how many, teens have utilized the One80 program in connection with the recently enacted Cyberbullying Law. Deputy Executive Rider responded that he did not think there were many cyberbullying related referrals. The members briefly discussed the process for referrals to the One80 program from Family Court.

Chairwoman Walter stated that the mission and goals of the One80 program is the crux of the restorative justice process and commented that an understanding of the reach of program, including knowing the

community organizations, law enforcement agencies and school district partners, is key to promoting and growing an effective restorative justice model.

Director Schmidt stated that One80 is a wonderful program, adding that Family of Woodstock provides a ton of data that she would be happy to share with the members.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any further discussion on the Resolution, and hearing none called the question.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 80:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – New York Communications Company Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$91,584 with New York Communications Company Inc. for the Ulster County Sheriff Criminal Division radio equipment lease for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**Motion No. 23:** **Moved Resolution No. 80 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Discussion:**  
Sheriff Figueroa stated that the contract is for their radio systems.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 24:** **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 80**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 81:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – MorphoTrust USA, Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$50,042 with MorphoTrust USA, Inc. to extend the term of agreement to provide Livescan hardware and software maintenance services through April 30, 2021.

**Motion No. 25:** **Moved Resolution No. 81 FOR DISCUSSION**

**Motion By:** Legislator Haynes

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** None

**Motion No. 26:** **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 81**

**Motion By:** Legislator Haynes

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter

**Voting Against:** None

**Votes in Favor:** 5

**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 31:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Aid To Defense Program – Public Defender

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$13,224 for the County’s participation in the New York Aid to Defense Project No. AD19-1025, for the period October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

**Motion No. 27:** **Moved Resolution No. 31 FOR DISCUSSION**

**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:**

Chairwoman Walter advised the members that Public Defender Kossover could not make it. Deputy Executive Milgrim informed the members that the Resolution pertained to DCJS grant funding to provide advocacy for alternatives to incarceration as well as to attempt to have the same counselor present through an individual’s entire legal proceeding. Chairwoman Walter asked how the Aid to Defense funding ties into the Hurrel-Harring funding. Deputy Executive Milgrim responded that it is an additional funding stream.

Chairwoman Walter asked if there was any more discussion on the Resolution.

**Motion No. 28:** **Moved TO ADOPT Resolution No. 31**

**Motion By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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Chairwoman Walter moved on to Old Business on the agenda. She advised the members that at the end of 2019 a Criminal Justice Reform Task Force was created, and informed the members that the first meeting is scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> with the following individuals have been appointed:

District Attorney David Clegg  
Public Defender Andy Kossover  
Lt. Joseph Scitutto (representing Sheriff Figueroa)  
Alderwoman Rita Worthington (Chair's apt.)  
Probation Director Nancy Schmidt (Chair's apt.)  
Legislator Eve Walter (Majority Leader's appt.)  
TBD (Minority Leader's apt.)  
Chairman David Donaldson

She stated that she was excited about the group and that there is a lot to dig into. She added that she believes reforms to the criminal justice system are long overdue and looks forward to working with such and informed and experienced group of professionals.

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Chairwoman Walter moved on to New Business on the agenda and polled the members for their interest in adding a tour to a regular meeting or scheduling a separate tour. Sheriff Figueroa asked if the tour could be coordinated with all members of the Legislature. The members briefly discussed possible dates for tours and meetings.

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Chairwoman Walter asked the members to share if there is something of particular interest to them or an issue they feel the committee should look into.

Legislator Fabiano stated that the county has gotten off to a good start with the heroin and opioid addiction problem and would like to see the focus of law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office remain on treatment and assistance as opposed to punishment.

Legislator Haynes emphasized the importance of continuing to support law enforcement and the DA's Office and providing them with the resources they need to keep communities safe. She added that she is very interested in the effectiveness of MATs in the jail and follow-up treatment after discharge. Sheriff Figueroa advised the members that the MAT program was implemented on January 15 and said he would keep the committee updated. The members briefly discussed post-release follow up plans, including transitional living, detox facilities, social services, etc.

Legislator Heppner advised the members that what he has enjoyed the most about the committee is the open dialogue and honest conversations the members of the committee as well as the reporting departments. He expressed his hope for a continuation of that openness.

Legislator Parete said that he is also concerned with the opioid crisis, adding that he believes there needs to be more resources put into prevention, particularly in schools and community organizations that serve children. He added that the state and county have done a good job raising awareness, but more needs to be done. Sheriff Figueroa agreed that there are still obstacles to getting into schools, adding that his office has been utilizing a trailer to educate parents and others of the possible signs and indicators of substance use. Deputy Executive Rider stated that the county and state have also been reaching out to prescribers to reduce the frequency, quantity and dosage of opioid based medications that they prescribe. Chairwoman Walter advised the members that there is a county opioid strategic task force which she and many of the people in the room sit on, whose mission is to pull together the different organizations working on the issue to provide coordination and sharing of resources. She added that one of the working groups will be focusing on prevention. She informed the members that there was a very successful HIV prevention program in schools many years ago which could be repurposed.

Chairwoman Walter stated that she is personally interested in discussing the county's community corrections program, use of vacant space in the jail, centralized arraignment and the county's restorative justice programs.

Chairwoman Walter thanked the members and all those in attendance for their time and asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Fabiano

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6:23 PM

**Respectfully submitted: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk**

**Minutes Approved: March 4, 2020**