

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

DATE & TIME: November 3, 2021 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 867 9472
By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairwoman Eve Walter
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Haynes, Heppner (via phone until 4:10 PM) & Parete
ABSENT: Legislator Fabiano
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislative Counsel Cueva, Sheriff Figueroa, Under Sheriff Benjamin & Fiscal Assistant Brooks – UC Sheriff’s Office, District Attorney Clegg & Confidential Secretary Rojer – UC DA’s Office, Director Erichsen – UC Emergency Communications/Management, Deputy Director Naccarato – UC Probation, Public Defender Boyer & Grant Specialist Kikel – US Public Defender’s Office, Deputy County Executive Milgrim & Assistant Deputy County Executive Markowitz – UC Executive’s Office

At 4:03 PM Chairwoman Walter asked for an update on the status of the RFP for reentry services, the discrimination helpline, and restorative justice training for certain county employees which were approved via Resolutions adopted in September. See attached transcript

Chairwoman Walter called the meeting officially to order at 4:08 PM.

Chairwoman Walter advised the members that department heads and elected officials over which the committee has been assigned oversight were present to speak about their 2022 Proposed Budgets. She stated that Safety Officer Beitel was unable to attend but sent a summary of her offices functions and a statement on the 2022 Proposed Budget, which was shared with the members. The members heard from: Sheriff Figueroa, Under Sheriff Benjamin & Fiscal Assistant Brooks – UC Sheriff’s Office, District Attorney Clegg – UC District Attorney’s Office, Deputy Director Naccarato – UC Probation Department, Director Erichsen– UC Emergency Communications/Emergency Management (Arson Task Force, Fire Coordinator & EMS Coordinator), and Public Defender Boyer – UC Public Defender’s Office

See attached transcript

Motion No. 1: **Moved to APPROVE the Minutes & Transcript of the October 6, 2021 Meeting**

Motion By: Legislator Haynes

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Parete

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Parete & Walter

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 3

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Minutes APPROVED**

Resolutions for the November 16, 2021 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 426: Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff’s Office

Resolution Summary: This resolution creates a full time Professional Standards Supervisor position in the office of the Sheriff at an estimated annual salary of \$85,838 to: oversee audits, quality assurance, and policy for that office and its members, conduct team inspections, uphold the Sheriff’s Office Code of Conduct and investigate and claims of violation.

Resolution No. 427: Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff’s Office

Resolution Summary: This resolution creates a full-time Crisis Intervention Team manager position in the office of the Sheriff at an estimated annual salary of \$50,865 to: oversee crisis intervention trainings, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support trainings, evaluate and recommend potential revisions in law enforcement policy, create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement.

Resolution No. 428: Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

Resolution Summary: This resolution creates a part-time Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Initiative Referral Specialist position in the Human Rights Commission Budget at an estimated annual salary of \$23,894 to provide a support and referral system for community members who feel they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system.

Motion No. 2: Moved TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 426, 427 & 428
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Motion No. 3: Moved TO POSTPONE Blocked Resolutions
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution POSTPONED

Resolution No. 526: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Memorandum Of Agreement With The Federal Emergency Management Agency Integrated Public Alert And Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office – Department Of Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair to execute a MOA with FEMA for the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program regarding the utilization and security of County of Ulster Interoperable System(s) to enable information interoperability across emergency response organizations and systems as intended by the FEMA IPAWS Program.

Motion No. 4: **Moved Resolution No. 526 FOR DISCUSSION**

Motion By: Legislator Heppner

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

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

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 527: Amending Capital Project No. 482 – Countywide Radio System - Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends Capital Project No. 482 - Countywide Radio System to expend \$3,150,000 of the \$6,000,000 on components of the radio system buildout including: base stations, antennas, cabling and racking, as well as Dispatch Consoles and new 911 phone system.

Motion No. 5: **Moved Resolution No. 527 FOR DISCUSSION**

Motion By: Legislator Heppner

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

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

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 529: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$67,942.92 Entered Into By The County – Motorola Solutions, Inc. – Department Of Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$67,942.92 for repair and maintenance of fire and EMS radio systems from 12/1/21 through 11/30/22.

Motion No. 6: **Moved Resolution No. 529 FOR DISCUSSION**

Motion By: Legislator Heppner

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 530: Approving Ulster County’s 2022 STOP DWI Program Plan And Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute All Inter-Municipal Agreements Required Under The Plan – Department Of Probation, STOP-DWI Division

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the 2022 STOP DWI program, and anticipated \$242,000 in state revenue, and authorizes the Chair to execute such inter-municipal agreements, and any amendments thereto, as may be required to carry out the approved Program Plan.

Motion No. 7: **Moved Resolution No. 530 FOR DISCUSSION**
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 531: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$276,243.00 Entered Into By The County – Legal Services Of The Hudson Valley – Department Of Probation

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley in the amount of \$276,243 to extend the term of agreement through 9/30/22 and increase funding for holistic services for crime victims referred by the Department of Probation Crime Victims Assistance Program or through the New York Crime Victims Legal Network.

Motion No. 8: **Moved Resolution No. 531 FOR DISCUSSION**
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 532: Appropriating Funds From Insurance Revenues For Replacement Of Vehicle – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget - Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes appropriation of insurance funds from the NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal, CL# A20017 D/A 12/2/2020 due to a vehicle loss, in the amount of \$26,173.12 to the Sheriff's Vehicle line.

Motion No. 9: **Moved Resolution No. 532 FOR DISCUSSION**
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 533: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$31,680.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Anderson Medical, PC D/B/A Emergency One Urgent Care & Diagnostic Center – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$31,680 with Anderson Medical, PC D/B/A Emergency One Urgent Care & Diagnostic Center to increase funding for testing Sheriff's employees for COVID-19.

Motion No. 10: **Moved Resolution No. 533 FOR DISCUSSION**
Motion By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: See attached transcript

Voting In Favor: Legislators Haynes, Heppner, Parete & Walter
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Chairwoman Walter asked the members if there was any new business, and hearing none moved on to old business. She asked Legislator Parete for an update on the roundtable and progress of inviting speakers.

See attached transcript

She asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Heppner
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:05 PM

Respectfully submitted: Deputy Clerk Mahler
Approved: December 1, 2021

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Chairwoman Walter

About the re entry RFP, the helpline and the restorative training, restorative justice training. So, Anna you're nodding as if you want to share?

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

Sure, sure. Um, so John and myself and the Sheriff and Evelyn, from his, from his office, met and talked about the reentry grant a few weeks ago, John and I have been diligently drafting language. And I actually just sent it over for their review today. So we also spoke to Nancy, who has been in communication with Family of Woodstock about that grant. And they apparently received a letter saying that they were going to find out the status of that grant in December. So if it's okay, with everybody, I would personally propose waiting, like getting all of our ducks in a row, making sure the language is good to go. But waiting to issue the RFP until we know whether or not Family of Woodstock is getting the grant that would have a very similar scope of work.

Chairwoman Walter

Right. Okay. That's great. The Sheriff shared it with me. So I'll certainly be looking at it. For my input as well. And then the helpline?

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

Sure, I spoke to Tyrone today. And he said that he's been working with the Sheriff to figure out kind of who on his team, he should be communicating with when he does receive calls. And he's also going to be working with IS to set up a 1-800 number so that that can be separate from the current number that people call for human rights issues. And then he's also going to be working on an advertising campaign because I believe that that resolution came with a budget for this year. So he's hoping to figure out, you know, should we do social media or wrap some buses, but he's hoping to launch something probably in December to announce the new 1-800 Number and everything

Chairwoman Walter

And, and the, the part time person appeared on his budget?

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

Yep, yep. So he will have a second part time person. And really, that's mostly because he would have a full time person, but he loves his current part time person. So we're gonna have two part time people instead of one full time person. Um, and then lastly, the restorative justice trainings. I also reached out to a lot of people on this call today to get a list of the employees that would need this training. So that we can work with Dana Katz at Family of Woodstock

to set up a schedule of when each employee would receive the trainings and she's totally on board with it. At Family of Woodstock is already included in the contract with Family of Woodstock, that she would do these monthly trainings. So it won't be any additional cost to the county, which is great.

Chairwoman Walter

Perfect. Perfect. Thank you for that update. Anyone have questions about, yes Sheriff?

Sheriff Figueroa

And first Anna, thank you for emailing that, that actually was well written. So thank you. And I'll look at that and get that back to you. And yes, we're gonna definitely look at that training. She sent the PowerPoint and it's actually very, very good. So we're probably going to send some folks so we can get everybody trained up. So again, I thank you.

Chairwoman Walter

Great. Any Legislators have any questions about those outstanding issues? Well, not outstanding, those continuing issues. Um, terrific. So with that, seeing Legislator Parete here, I'll call the meeting officially to order. I'll have a motion to approve the October 6 meeting minutes and transcripts. Legislator Haynes, second,

Legislator Parete

Yeah, I'll second it.

Chairwoman Walter

Second Legislator Parete. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, any opposition? No. Okay. So we're going to do budget review. At this point. We're looking to hear from each of the different departments. Really the, the highlights are things we should know that might be new, things that we should know that are going away, and whether there was something that you really felt you needed in the 2022 budget, but we're unable to get that you would like us to consider advocating for as budget amendments, okay. So things that are new we should know about, and things that are going away, and things that you would like to have. A wish list. So what I understand for safety director Beitel could not be here. And we got an email with an update of just what they're doing and where they are. So I'm going to move to the Sheriff next. What's new, what's old, and what, or what's new, what's gone, and what do you want that you didn't get?

Sheriff Figueroa

So good. Good afternoon, everyone. And thank you, Madam Chair. Of course, we've got everything that we pretty much have asked for. We have gotten the AVERT program. That's one detective and Deputy Sheriff.

And then the professional standards division, that's going to be stand up with a supervisor that's going to be responsible for internal affairs and audits. That's extremely important, especially in today's world of law enforcement should never be a collateral duty, nor should it be a member of a union. So we're looking forward to, to doing that.

And we have agreed that the second part of that the crisis intervention, Detective, that we would probably put that in place in July, and I worked those details out with, with Burt. So if you see where it says the detective deputy Sheriff, and you'll see the figure \$33,499 is because we're starting in July and not for the whole year. We wanted to focus on AVERT first and then work our way over to the crisis intervention Detective, which is, again, involving officer wellness, and how we deal with critical incidents within the organization, as we know, hurt people hurt people. So, so I'm extremely happy about that.

The other thing that's new that's not in there that we're gonna have to amend is that of the Black Creek. So when we initially put in the Black Creek, we had to amend it once already, and then come to find out we don't have the right coaxial cabling, so we're waiting to hear back, it's out for bid. And it could estimate, we don't have a number, but it could go between 4 and \$600,000 more on that. Remember, Black Creek is the overall program that does all the cameras and all of the security systems for the Ulster County jail. It has not been updated since 2007. It was on the capital project for the last two years. But obviously, it was taken off because of the unknown of because of the pandemic and the revenues that the county was going to get. Melody, did I leave anything out?

Melody Brooks

No, Sir. I think you've covered all the, the new stuff.

Chairwoman Walter

Can I just asked him a question before you move on to things that are gone or things that you need, if there are any? Um, so part of the CIT was money towards the, in the criminal justice reform task force, it included money for trainings, recognizing that de-escalation trainings can be quite expensive. So did you put in money for more training, so more officers across the whole county can have those trainings?

Sheriff Figueroa

Yes. So that's, that's also in there. And that that has not been changed. So that training is in not just for members of the Sheriff's office, but for local municipalities in the in the county. And I want to really touch base on the best professional standards, which is really not just internal affairs to the office, but auditing the different divisions within the office. But equal employment opportunity which we sent somebody in my first year of Office compliance down to Berkeley down in the city. That's going to be under that office, as well as background investigations. That EEOC compliance officer will also be available to anybody in the county in any municipality in the county. That crisis intervention detective when he when he gets trained up will also be available not just to law enforcement or first responders in the Sheriff's office, but everybody in the county.

Chairwoman Walter

And then the other thing was, when we were dealing with the Ways and Means capital programs together, Black Creek was in there.

Sheriff Figueroa

it is in there, but we amended it once and then we had to amend it again because the electrical component of that was left out. And that is that of the wiring and the coaxial cables, the the cameras, our IP cameras that are new, we are using analog cameras, so they won't work without the cable.

Chairwoman Walter

So the one that works we just are reviewing now you're saying [inaudible]

Sheriff Figueroa

they'll be an additional one, additional amendment. And where are we with that Melody?

Everett Erichsen

The bid is due back November 10. And the hope was to have that back by the 10th, to be able to send the amendment in for the December meeting.

Sheriff Figueroa

And for those that don't know, we lost one of our you know, basically the first sergeant of the Sheriff's office who ran that system for many, many years and, and put a lot of band aids on it. And that's officer Chris Howe. And his loss is just unbelievable. And at this time, I mean, again, when somebody retires and he comes back off retirement to help us and then this happens that, that it's just devastating. So that's another side reason as to why that wasn't included in the initial offer, because we didn't know

Chairwoman Walter

Legislator Haynes. You know, it's funny Sheriff you mentioned that because I'm sitting here and I'm, I'm thinking of Chris, when you were speaking about Black Creek, but I didn't realize he had offered to come back to help?

Sheriff Figueroa

I brought him back as a part time CO to help me with this project.

Legislator Haynes

Oh wow

Sheriff Figueroa

Because it hasn't been upgraded in years and he knows that system.

Legislator Haynes

Yeah.

Sheriff Figueroa

The entire building. Inside and out.

Legislator Haynes

Yeah.

Sheriff Figueroa

May he rest in peace. He was a great man.

Legislator Haynes

Amen.

Chairwoman Walter

Anything else? Sheriff or anything for the Sheriff? All right, thank you. Next we have the district attorney.

District Attorney Dave Clegg

Hello everybody. The the main thing we've done this year is we added a discovery unit and to reorganize the office. Rebecca, could you put that org chart on so we can talk about it?

Rebecca Rojer

Jay, can you let me screen share? I have it.

District Attorney Dave Clegg

So this is the new structure of the office. We have a discovery unit, which is been implemented with the support of the Legislature and the county executive. It's a key component to us being able to address the amount of work that now requires this office to be doing on a daily basis to respond to discovery, and the fairly extreme time constraints. And with digital amounts of information that are at some points overwhelming, but we're now getting it under control. So that's a good start.

We have just hired somebody who's going to be our Justice Courts and diversion Senior Unit Chief. We are now actually for the first time as of December six, we will be fully staffed for the first time since I've come into this office, which will be a great deal of help and support for everybody has been working tremendously hard over the last year and nine months.

We have the narcotics and guns unit we have a Shanza Malik is somebody who has taken on that responsibility. I need to tweak the lines of the unit chiefs a little bit. We have one person who was in a senior unit chief position. And I can drop her down to a just a unit chief position in order to allow Shanza to be elevated to the unit chief position, which I want to place her in. She's been doing tremendous work with URGENT as the Sheriff knows. They're, they're doing a lot of great things over with the fellas there at the Sheriff's office and men and women there. So it's something that we're very proud of. We're working very hard.

And we have a Major Crimes Unit and a Special Victims Unit. We're now [inaudible] who have been involved in our IPVI program for the last number of years and are heading that as you know, we've gotten a \$500,000 grant to support the expansion of the IPVI throughout the county, including the Sheriff's department. We have a new financial and cyber crimes chief unit person and we are now approaching the time when we can actually fulfill all of these unit chief spots and move ahead. So I'm very pleased with that.

The one issue that I would like to address and I'm not sure if the Legislature is in a position to do anything about it right now. But we are constrained by space to a large degree. The Sheriff has been very generous with allowing us space in the LEC, and we're just about out of space. In fact, we have through that grant that we've gotten from the Department of Justice, the ability to hire a trauma informed investigator, and we don't have a place to put that person. So as we move forward, I hope the Legislature and the executives office will help support us in finding space that we can consolidate this office in a way that will be more effective in in the work that we're doing. Our building here, the courthouse is very constrained, we have very limited space, our our discovery unit is now having three and four people in a small, not a small office, a regular size office space. But that's one concern that I have. That's one of my wish list areas. Otherwise, I'm open any questions that anybody has?

Chairwoman Walter

Thanks. You want to take down the presentation? Um, so I assume the preference is that you find a singular space that incorporates everyone? Or would it be sufficient to find space that's can cover other people? And I guess the reason why I ask is, I don't know if Anna or John, have thought about in the conceptualization of like, the Mental Health Hub, whether a trauma informed specialists might fit somewhere there, I would get for efficiency, why you'd want them all under one roof. But I'm just and you don't have to answer it now. But really think about whether you're looking for a whole new space that fits everybody or just reasonable space for people who aren't fitting.

District Attorney Dave Clegg

Right. The the one thing that comes to mind is that the Board of Elections is leaving the space across the street from here. I don't know where that is right now. If if that's a possibility in the future, which would allow my staff to be closer to each other as we move forward. Obviously, we have a number of ADA is over the LEC, that means they have to get in the car every time they have to appear in court and drive back and there's loss of time. And if that were an option, that would be helpful. If that's not a possibility, I don't think there's any immediate hope that we could all fit under one roof. So we'd have to go to the plan B or C to find a space for that person.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, thanks. Any questions from any of the Legislators? All right, thank you.

District Attorney Dave Clegg

Thank you

Chairwoman Walter

Um, next we have Deputy Director Naccarato for probation.

Deputy Director Naccarato

Hi. Jay can I share my screen?

Deputy Clerk Mahler

Sure.

Deputy Director Naccarato

Alright, it's not popping up. Apologize it's not coming up. Let me try this again.

Deputy Clerk Mahler

It's not me, is it?

Deputy Director Naccarato

I don't think so. It's just, I had it open, but it wasn't on, there it is. Okay. Is that coming up now?

Chairwoman Walter

Yes, that's there.

Deputy Director Naccarato

Thank you. Alright. So I'll just briefly go through this. I just I had separated out our different divisions because we have eight different divisions. So I just kind of looked at each one. And probation, which is our main division. Basically, I think there's just a couple of changes in that is we added or requested an additional administrative assistant position, because we're finding that we just when Sandy Krom left we really were in a bind and we have a lot of our management staff are doing a lot of the administrative so we requested that position.

And we also put in for some additional vehicles. There's been a problem getting vehicle that I believe we had some in the capital plan but we still have not gotten any vehicles this year, which I believe there was some in there, but we've lost. I don't even know how many vehicles over the past couple of years because they were just so old that they didn't pass inspection, we had one that got hit by a boat, literally that hit by a boat. It sounds funny, but it was, somebody backed a boat into it totaled that out. So we did put for three additional vehicles in the budget. And I believe that comes out of the reserve that Burt handles. And we also put in all of our weapons are basically coming to the end of life, the night sights would need to be replaced. The guns I believe, are over 12 years old. But we basically we can trade them in so it's more cost effective to trade them in and get a new gun rather than try to replace the sights which are basically at the end of life. So that was an increase in that.

And police radios, I believe. Believe there was a resolution already. So the Legislature is aware of that we want to switch from., we have two separate radios, depending on which agency we're going to be working with. I believe Kingston, Saugerties and town of Ulster are on one radio and the rest of the county is on the other. So we've asked NYCOMCO to do a all in one so that the officers don't have to carry two different radios, depending on where they're doing their field work. So that was the increase in the contractual expenses.

Crime Victims, they're most, largely funded through grants. We have, the county requested, there was two part time crime victims counselors from the Family and Children's Advocacy Center, they've asked us to take them over. And we asked if we could, instead of having two part times have one full time. So that will be inter inter departmental revenue from that for our crime victims program. And I think that was really the only new things with crime victims. The health grant is just primarily, we have I think one and a half of our crime victims, staff funded under that it's a grant. And it also pays for the hotline. That the hotline cost increased quite a bit this past year. So that's why that expense went up.

Stop DWI, which is entirely self funded through fines, and they determine that amount through the advisory board and it's adjusted. So we've been lowering that because they're fine money's been lowering. So we just pretty much that we kind of even out. We also had Sandy Daw, who was our she was our full time probation, senior probation assistant, she reduced to part, for part time in the spring of 2021. And then she had decided to retire completely in July. So we've absorbed that position into one of our staff that's funded under the 1835 line. So that was why the salary reduced and that that's about the only change on that one.

Pretrial, we did have a slight increase on revenue on that, because the grant that we get through DCJS which had been split between community service, pretrial, Defender based advocate and conflict defender based advocate um has now just all the money is coming to us now for the pretrial and community service. So it's the same amount coming into the county, it's just split differently now. And the reduction, the salary reduction that you see was, when in the start of bail reform we had anticipated, we might have a huge increase. So we had put in for a another probation assistant, Spanish speaking, we never did fill that. COVID hit and we did the numbers were lower. And at this point, we're holding steady. So we don't have that, that we did have a an independent agency was doing a study of bail reform and they went to five counties and we were one of them. And we were able to get a lot of data looking at how things have changed with bail reform. So most, the four other counties didn't give them all the data but they were able to extract a lot of data and a lot of information. And what we're seeing with the pretrial, the numbers are holding steady but the the cases that we're getting are much more difficult, I want to say much more, they have a lot more needs. So it's it's the numbers are the same, but it's a lot more work. But they're they're managing right now. And so we're okay on that.

This division is just the grant. It's the GIVE grant the gun involved Violence Elimination, and it just I, it goes in that division. So I just left that there that just went up a little bit. Raise the Age, you'll see a difference from 2020 to 2022. But I believe that was because the 2020 was estimated. We did have a reduction in the salaries because the assistant Youth and Family Engagement Coordinator we originally had put in for, we never filled it. We didn't feel there's a need for it.

Raise the age, there hasn't been much changes. We've changed some of the services, we found some were not being utilized. So we've moved that around, we did add an adult restorative justice program, I believe in the 2022 budget. So that's been added. We've also been using restorative justice for violations of probation, and Restorative Ulster, which we do in conjunction with the district attorney's office. And that, let's see, we've had eight referrals on that, and four of them completed for the technical violations. We received seven referrals and we completed five and the school based. That's the new one that just started so I don't have any stats on that yet. So that's that's new, the school based restorative justice. And that began I believe, August or September. So we just don't, it's just getting up and running.

Community service, um, it's pretty much it was, nothing's changed, nothing new. We just we continue to run it. We did have much lower numbers to the COVID. And we're hoping to, and we kind of move we were able to move funding around for that to put more on, the state allowed us to put more to pretrial, which did have the numbers and so we maximized the return for that grant by moving numbers around. But other than that, no changes. And that was it.

Chairwoman Walter

Great, does anyone have any questions?

Public Defender Boyer

I have a question for Valerie. The probationer the probationers who are allowed to participate in the restorative justice program based on an allegation of a violation of probation. Do they have to meet the same criteria as if they entered the Restorative Justice, Justice Program without being on probation? For example, the type of crime and the age of the person

Deputy Director Naccarato

We do look at I don't know, if it's the same criteria on what we do for a violation, violation of probation is we, if it's a I'm going to say a low, low level violation, um, we would we look at what the violation is, obviously, if it's something you know, very serious, then we do go through a violation of probation. But if it's something you have someone on for DWI, and they get a petit larceny. So you know, they get convicted of that. But that's not it's not something that I would bring them back to court for, but maybe we'll do restorative justice with that kind of thing. I think some of them were, one I know was the person wasn't going to substance abuse treatment. So we got on the treatment provider, and I think maybe one of his family members and kind of did a circle about how you not doing treatment

and continuing to abuse drugs is, you know, could ultimately lead to you returning to court. But you know, this is how it's affecting your family and all of that. And it actually went really well. So I haven't been directly involved in any of them, so I'm not sure what the other ones are, but it's they'll meet with the supervisor and any ones that we feel like hey, this, this is something that'll work then you know, let's do it and so it's I don't know that it has the same exact criteria. You're welcome.

Public Defender Boyer

Thank you

Deputy Clerk Mahler

I, your deputy is having audio difficulty. There she is.

Legislator Haynes

Hi, sorry about that. I couldn't unmute myself. Okay. Well, thank you very much, Valerie. Does anybody else have any other questions? Okay, Everett, you're up.

Chairwoman Walter

Thanks Heidi.

Legislator Haynes

Sorry Eve.

Chairwoman Walter

That's okay.

Everett Erichsen

Good afternoon everyone. I'm gonna just try sharing this real quick. Everybody can see that all right?

Chairwoman Walter

Yep.

Everett Erichsen

Thank you. So the Department of Emergency Services some key highlights. total expenditures proposed for the division is combined is \$5,677,174. Total revenues for the division for all the divisions combined is \$2,525,044, leaving the county responsible for \$3,153,130 of the entire departments expenses. The mission and vision of our department is to provide the residents and visitors of ulster county with rapid access to emergency response system that is professional, compassionate and highly capable in order to save lives and reduce the effects of disaster. And the functions of Emergency Services of Ulster county are comprised of the traditional emergency responders such as police, fire, emergency medical services, along with the 911 dispatchers and the entire emergency management community. The common goal of these groups is to save the lives. There are 1000s of members of the Emergency Services Committee ranging from career personnel to volunteers, which a majority of our fire services is all volunteer and Ulster County only one of them is career which is pretty incredible. These men and women work around the clock to ensure the safety of Ulster County citizens. They do it with compassion, dedication, and professionalism.

So our department is broken up into five divisions, but three of the divisions are covered in one line. So emergency communications, emergency management, emergency medical services, is covered under one line and then fire services and fire investigation are both broken out. So looking at public safety communications, the 2022 ulster county executive budget proposes is \$5,416,753 in total appropriations for the department emergency services, public safety communication, the revenue of the department's financial services and public safety communications are proposed at 2,525,044, again, leaving the county responsible for \$2,891,709. All of our revenues come in through public safety communications, that's where we're able to access a lot of our grants. So that's where we end up housing them.

So looking at at 3020, public safety communication, which again, is emergency management, the 911 center and EMS, you look at a difference in wages, most of those increases in the salary wages there is due to us housing the funds for the vaccine pod. For the volunteers, all the pay comes out of our department. So \$500,000 of that of that difference is right there. And then obviously the CSEA contract that that changes, that changed. That's where the the increase is. Professional Services has dropped because the pandemic services is not funded through our department in 2022. So that's why you'll see that that huge decrease there. Conferences, we have added that because we're looking to send additional personnel personnel to attend our Tyler conferences. Tyler is the is the CAD system that we use the computer aided dispatch system, which is now a county wide system shared between law enforcement, fire and EMS. You know, we just recently promoted one of our supervisors to a CAD administrator to work with all the agencies. It's it's a huge lift there, and we're looking to send more to participate in those conferences. And we actually have one of our one of our employees who sits on committees that actually drives where the system is going to go. So that allows us in Ulster County really be ahead of the curve when changes are going to be made and it allows us to put in firsthand input to what changes will be made moving forward in the CAD system which is very, very good for us.

Um, maintenance is is on the 911 equipment, maintenance, radio system, tower sites and so on. And that communication expense is for fiber and new additional tower sites. And this is basically diversity, diversity is the basically a second route in to backup our microwave system. We obviously have our, our primary route, but then to ensure that we don't go down we have to have that that that second means. So just a quick graph that breaks it down on on percentages of what it looks like.

Revenue for department is break this down here on the non property tax item is our is our VOID wireline and prepaid wireless. Basically 911 surcharges on the inter governmental charge charges was dispatch for City of Kingston, that sunset last year, so we no longer get that \$25,000 a year from the City of Kingston to dispatch them. The state aid is our PSAP grants. And the federal aid is our SHSP grants. This is a breakdown graph of our revenue with percentages.

Ah, fire services. Then we added a we we now employ we just hired them this year, the training coordinator. And then we lowered the equipment and supplies line by using nine one surcharge funds and 3420. So that's where you see that drop in equipment and supplies. 911 surcharge funds is allowed to be used towards training of the fire service. So we did tap into that to help state, keep our budget stable. A graph for fire services on percentages, the fire investigation unit this past year we filled all our open investigator positions. And then you'll, there's an increase in professional services, obviously, which is an unfunded mandate and require mandatory training for all our fire investigators. 921 and the state requires a specific amount of training that's mandated on the on the 15 investigators and then increase in travel as the fire investigators now do submit for mileage. And there's a breakdown in the percentage of the of that section for fire investigations.

Chairwoman Walter

Thanks, questions from Legislators? Everett, thanks. I have a couple of questions. One with the expected plan to move emergency services and 911 to the new location. Does that come along with any expansion of services? Or is it just the right size kind of move?

Everett Erichsen

Um, so yeah, I mean, the the building we're looking to build out does have additional positions for for dispatchers, as well as for the mental health clinician within the 911 center. You know, building out a building, that we're going to be housed in for many years to come, we can't build based off of our current size, tourism is constantly there's a huge influx in tourism in our county. And as that happens, and as people move into our county, our call volume will go up which will eventually require us to hire additional dispatchers. So we can't just build out eight consoles to have an up to date 911 center, we have to build out larger. And we did look at look at that. Also you look at other counties, you know, you do see a consolidation in in dispatch centers regarding localized dispatch centers. I mean, it usually ends up falling at a 911 center. So that's taken into consideration as well for future build out there and allowing the possibility for that to happen.

Chairwoman Walter

Right so for 2022 budgets, are there increased, salary, increased program, increased services? Like are these dispatchers are these enhancements in the 2022 budget or that you're just saying those are ones you're expecting to have once that build out is done.

Everett Erichsen

As of right now, it's there's no increase in dispatchers its status.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, so those are all things you're hoping to do when you move, but the 2022 budget doesn't have an expansion of services?

Everett Erichsen

No, there is no expansion of services and dispatchers. No.

Chairwoman Walter

But expansion in services, and

Everett Erichsen

It all depends on [inaudible]

Chairwoman Walter

Sorry. So in the 2022 budget

Everett Erichsen

there is no expansion of services

Chairwoman Walter

related to the move.

Everett Erichsen

Correct.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay. That's what I'm wondering. Oh, okay. Um, and would there be any reduction? Are we do we own the building that we're in now?

Everett Erichsen

Yes.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, so that wouldn't change? And then, um, you know, it's come up several times, I feel like in the last, well, two years, or 20 years of the challenge of not having enough volunteer firefighters, are you having a plan, with this new hire or expanding hire, expanding your outreach and training opportunities? Like do you have a model of how you're going to potentially identify and train more volunteer firefighters?

Everett Erichsen

I mean, over the past couple years, we've constantly added training. And, you know, in the past couple years, we've added County Fire instructors, we've added this training coordinator to assist with offering more county training, which would be more advanced compared to the state classes that are just basically offered on a regional basis, that has helped us with increasing participation at training. But there's a lot that's based off of the local jurisdictions bringing personnel in and that's, that's the hard part right now. I mean, we put out lots and lots of training. But it's

it's departments bringing volunteers in, we continuously try to, to help them now with, you know, the changes in COVID. And the restrictions being some of the restrictions being lifted, we're looking at, you know, part of the budget is the, the Explorer program to help with that. So we're looking to get that up off the ground. And we're hoping that that helps, because that will drive into the high school grabbing those individuals that are on even under 16, you know, 14 years old, and getting them trained to when when they do turn 16, they have all the training already, and they can actually participate and go to fire goals. So

Chairwoman Walter

That's great. I mean, that was something I was really hoping to do is the high school start, but just to have their, this is, is that program expected to be potentially available to all the high schools or just some

Everett Erichsen

that would be available to every all the high schools.

Chairwoman Walter

Wonderful. Okay, Legislator Heppner

Legislator Heppner

Thank you, and thank you Everett for all your work and all your, the people that work for you. One consideration, have you considered in your budget a flyby system for EMS services? I know Eve mentioned, you know, the lack of, you know, volunteer firefighters, but that also carries over to EMS services. And I know, for example, the district I represent at times they get calls to you know, across the Ashokan reservoir. So I'm just considering if you guys have, you know, thought about that concept.

Everett Erichsen

Um, so on EMS, our EMS coordinator is working with with the agencies to try to boost their, their numbers, the biggest issue that that arises when they're trying to get volunteer EMTs is the the commitment of their training, and then the on task time, we call it of an EMT on a call. So when a TA goes on a call, they're looking at, at a minimum 60 to 90 minutes of on tap on task time. So that's really hard to get that commitment. You know, you know, we're trying to work through that, um, you know, John has us really digging down into the data of EMS right now throughout our county. So, you know, we are we are working on that.

Legislator Heppner

Because I'll also just add to that, you know, obviously, the volunteer aspect is crucial, but I was gonna, you know, say, you know, is it worth it at some point for our county to look at paid fly car EMS.

Everett Erichsen

So, fly, a fly car puts an EMT at on the scene. Our main thing though, is how do we get these people to a hospital? You know, that's really what we need to look at. I mean, we see it all the time now that you know, they'll get an EMT at the station. But by law, that ambulance can't leave with one EMT alone. Okay, you have to have you need someone to drive and someone to provide patient care. So part 800 requires that can't just leave. So it's it's more of that getting that partner there. And how do we how do we look at that? And like I said, I mean, the county executive's office does have us drilling down into the EMS issue currently.

Legislator Heppner

Thank you.

Chairwoman Walter

Thanks. Anyone else have any questions? All right. Last but not least, we have the public defender Ruth Boyer.

Public Defender Boyer

Good afternoon, everyone. So what's new is that in the past year, we have been able to expand our offices at 280 Wall Street, we've built six new offices on the third floor, we had previously occupied only the second floor, and an additional conference room as well. And that was paid for by funding from a state grant administered by indigent legal services. And that grant also allowed us to expand and pay the rent also, it allows us to increase our staff. So the the point of that grant is to reduce attorney caseload specifically in public defender offices, so that the representation can be more effective and at a higher level.

So we have been able to add criminal attorneys to the staff as well to that end. Our proposed budget is \$4.2 million. And 1.7 of that is revenue received from the state grant, which was implemented in 2019. And continues to go so over a five year period, they're funding the office \$8.7 million, which has allowed us to make a lot of improvements and great strides in just providing better representation. Another purpose of that grant, which we have implemented, starting in 2019, but much more fully in the past year is the council at first arraignment appearance program, which we call CAFA. And that program funds one full time attorney that does arraignments throughout the 23 Justice Courts and the county court in the county during normal business hours, and also permits us to have 10 attorneys um staff attorneys, who additionally provide overnight arraignments anytime that the office is not open, so 5:01pm to 8:59am, weekends, holidays. So literally 24/7 anybody who is charged in Dutch, in Ulster County, is represented by an attorney at their arraignment, no matter which courts in in the county, or what time of day or night it is.

So that's, again, something that's funded by the state grant, which has greatly allowed us to improve the services that we provide to the residents of Ulster County. The county funds pay for 22 of the 32 employees of the office salaries and benefits. So our our divisions are criminal and family. We currently have 18 criminal attorneys. Seven of those attorneys are dedicated to doing felony work exclusively, from any anywhere any level felony up to murder. The other attorneys handle the Justice Courts, of which there are 23. All levels of offenses, all stages of representation. We also have three family court attorneys that that the county funds, the attorneys and all the support staff associated with those attorneys who represent parents and family court in matters of child neglect and abuse allegations, as well as custody issues and child support cases.

So the office for budgetary purposes is split into four to four divisions of all the attorney services that I've just described, in addition to a defender based advocate. And that person is tasked with tailoring individual treatment programs as an alternative to incarceration, where clients have issues unaddressed mental health issues and substance abuse issues, which have been determined to be a major reason why they've come into contact with the criminal justice system. I can take questions at any time during the presentation. Now for example.

Chairwoman Walter

I have a, are you for the CAFA, you still implementing the quadrant model that Kossover had developed?

Public Defender Boyer

I am actually, at the moment, reviewing and revising the quadrant model for the overnight arraignments. And the reason for that is that the way that the quadrants are drawn, one quadrant has many, many more overnight arraignments than the other. So I've evaluated the number of arraignments in each quadrant over the past year of 2020. And just for an example, one of the quadrants had approximately 300, overnight arraignments, and another only had 30 ish. So I'm because I do have 10 overnight to CAFA, sorry 10 CAFA attorneys, handling the overnight arraignments I am evaluating where, where the arrangements are mainly taking place to try to even out those lines. So they there won't be quadrants going forward in 2021, there'll be many more sections that the county will be divided into for that purpose.

Chairwoman Walter

That's great. I had gotten some feedback from judges who were some of them were super happy with overnight, and some were very unhappy. So I imagine you'll be able to get to the bottom of that.

Public Defender Boyer

I have spoken with the happy ones as well as the unhappy.

Chairwoman Walter

I'm sure you have.

Public Defender Boyer

That's one of the reasons why I am taking a much closer look at how these lines have been drawn, making modifications that hopefully will make more of the judges happy.

Chairwoman Walter

Great. We all want the judges happy.

Public Defender Boyer

Yes, we do.

Chairwoman Walter

Any other questions at this point? All right. Do you have more? Or?

Public Defender Boyer

I mean, I'm happy to take any questions.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay. I didn't, when you said that it sounded like you might have been pausing between your presentations. But your your your presentation is done?

Public Defender Boyer

I can say that we do have still the ability to fill a family court full time attorney position and two criminal positions that also funded by the state grant. And I'm actively looking for, for attorneys to do that, again, with an eye on reducing the Public Defender case loads. So I think that the office is in a very positive place and going in the right direction.

Chairwoman Walter

Great. Thanks. A second call any Legislators have any questions? All right, terrific. I guess the the last, it didn't sound like a I would assume you brought it up. And this would go for you and for Everett, and for Valerie is if there was anything that you were hoping for for 2022 that you weren't able to get into the budget that you would like us to consider. You know, you can either talk about it now or you can email me separately, and I can present it to the other Legislators.

Public Defender Boyer

Actually, I, it's not something that I didn't get I did ask for a social worker position to be funded, which was granted. And that will also add greatly to the quality of our representation for clients who have issues other than just their criminal allegations.

Chairwoman Walter

So you did get that?

Public Defender Boyer

Absolutely

Chairwoman Walter

Oh, great. That's terrific. All right. Anything else? All right. So with that, we will move to the resolutions. If you don't have a resolution on it's up to you whether you want to stay if you do, we ask that you stay on, so we can ask you

questions. The first one is resolution 426 amending the Ulster County budget to create a professional standards supervisor position. I will just say that resolutions 426, 427 and 428 were all the ones that we continue to postpone waiting to see. They all are on the budget. I don't know whether you feel comfortable withdrawing them yet. Should we wait to the budget approved? Should we just postpone them once again? Or at least for another year? I mean, not a year, another month?

Legislator Heppner

I'll move to, can I move to block them and postpone them?

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, so there's a motion to block them.

Legislator Haynes

I'll second that motion.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay. All in favor of the block.

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

And then a motion to, all in favor of the postponement?

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

And then again, a month from now, we may just decide to withdraw them if they exist, in fact. Great. Next we have resolution number 526 authorizing the Chair of the Legislature to execute a MOA with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for an integrated public alert and warning system. And this is emergency management. Motion to discuss?

Legislator Heppner

I'll move it

Legislator Haynes

Second

Chairwoman Walter

Legislator Haynes. Any discussion? Any questions for Everett?

Legislator Haynes

No.

Chairwoman Walter

All in favor of resolution 526?

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, next, we have 527 amending the capital project 482 county wide radio system for the Department of Emergency Communication. Motion to discuss?

Legislator Heppner

Move it

Legislator Haynes

Second

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, any discussions or questions? All right. All in favor of resolution 527?

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Walter

Any opposed? No. Okay. Five resolution 530 approving the Ulster County's 2022 stop DWI program and authorizing the Chair to executed all inter municipal agreements required under the plan. Motion to discuss?

Legislator Heppner

Move it

Legislator Haynes

Second.

Chairwoman Walter

So I'll just ask, Valarie you mentioned that the revenue was going down, I assume, does that mean we have less people who are driving while intoxicated?

Deputy Director Naccarato

I don't know if we have less people driving while intoxicated. But maybe I think prosecutions were down because of COVID. Um, so I believe I'm not positive on this, but I believe they they look at prior years. So I would guess it's probably because that there was less court processing going on through COVID. I don't know if that's accurate. But that's what I would assume.

Chairwoman Walter

Right.

Deputy Director Naccarato

It would be nice to say that there's less people driving while intoxicated.

Chairwoman Walter

I imagined during COVID less people potentially drove for a little while there but

Deputy Director Naccarato

Probably

Chairwoman Walter

All right. All in favor of resolution 530?

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

Opposed? Okay. Resolution 531 approving an execution of a contract for \$276,243 for legal services of the Hudson Valley. A motion to discuss?

Legislator Heppner

Move it

Chairwoman Walter

Second?

Legislator Haynes

Second

Chairwoman Walter

Any discussions or questions for Probation? Okay, all in favor of resolution 531?

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

Any opposed? All right. Jonathan, you want to vote yesterday for 531? Yes? Okay. Resolution number 532 appropriating the funds from insurance revenues, their placement of vehicle. Motion to discuss?

Legislator Heppner

Move it

Chairwoman Walter

Second?

Legislator Haynes

Second.

Chairwoman Walter

Under Sheriff, is this the vehicle that was hit by a boat?

Melody Brooks

Its jail transport.

Under Sheriff Benjamin

It was, no I don't think that was the one that was hit by the boat.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay. All in favor resolution 532.

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, any opposed? Great. Resolution number 533 approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$31,680 causing the aggregate to be in excess of \$50,000 entered in the county for Anderson medical emergency one urgent care diagnostic center. Motion discuss?

Legislator Heppner

Move it

Chairwoman Walter

Second?

Legislator Haynes

Second

Chairwoman Walter

Under Sheriff, can you just tell us what this is for?

Under Sheriff Benjamin

I have melody here.

Chairwoman Walter

Melody, will you tell us what this is for?

Melody Brooks

This is just to add funding to the contract to be able to pay our COVID testing for corrections officers. We've met the cap on the contract and we have open invoices.

Chairwoman Walter

Great. Thank you.

Melody Brooks

Yep

Chairwoman Walter

All in favor resolution 533?

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Walter

Any opposed? All right. Any new business? Old business? Legislator Parete I'd ask, but he's not there. Jay, do you have any updates from Legislator Parete on his interest in pulling people together?

Deputy Clerk Mahler

The last I had heard was it was his intention to reach out to people after Election Day. So I imagine I will hear from him this week or next and have an update for you all probably by email.

Chairwoman Walter

Great. Thank you. Any other old business? All right. I know Anna has a meeting at five o'clock. Which, is that right? Is the mental health meeting at five o'clock?

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

I don't think so.

Chairwoman Walter

Oh

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

Now you have me nervous. What is this mental health meeting?

Chairwoman Walter

Mental Health Board meeting? No?

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

No, no, I don't think so.

Chairwoman Walter

Oh, okay. I'm crossing off my calendar then.

Deputy Clerk Mahler

There's a community services board.

Chairwoman Walter

No I thought, I thought I saw thought that there was a Mental helath meeting

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

Is that a subcommittee one though? I think.

Deputy Clerk Mahler

Yes.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay. Sorry

Assistant Deputy Executive Markowitz

I don't go to the subcommittees. I draw a line.

Chairwoman Walter

Okay, well, anyway, motion to adjourn?

Legislator Heppner

Motion

Chairwoman Walter

Legislator Heppner. Second Legislator Haynes. All in favor? Okay. Thank you all.

Legislator Heppner

Thank you.