

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

DATE & TIME: March 3, 2022 – 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 840 3746 9544
By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Abe Uchitelle
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee
PRESENT: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez
ABSENT: Legislator Heppner
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator’s Eve Walter & Phil Erner, Sheriff Figueroa & Asst. Warden Jason Bleau – UC Sheriff’s Office, Director Everett Erichsen -UC Emergency Communications/Management, Director Nancy Schmidt & Deputy Dir. Valerie Naccarato - UC Probation, Ruth Boyer Public Defender, Chris Kelly & Marc Rider – Deputy County Executives, James Bacon & Susan Kesick – UC Judges, Brian Slack UC Principal Transport Planner -Planning, Tom Jelliffe UACT Criminal Justice Reform, Valerie Naccarato

Chair Uchitelle called the meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

Motion No. 1: **Moved to APPROVE the Minutes of the February 3, 2022 Meeting of the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee**

Motion By: Legislator Hansut
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hewitt

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes APPROVED**

Vice Chair Eve Walter – Ulster County Centralized Arraignment Plan Presentation (see attached transcript)

Resolutions for the March 16, 2022 Session of the Legislature

Resolution No. 102: Confirming Appointments And Reappointments Of Members To The Traffic Safety Board

Resolution Summary: This resolution confirms the appointments and reappointments to the Traffic Safety Board to include Brunner, Gramoglia, Masterson, Sinagra, Corrigan, Kight, Schiller, Tinti and Russo. All terms expire 1/31/2025.

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 102 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Hansut
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lopez

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 149: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$8,640.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Touch Legal, Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment #6 with Touch Legal, Inc. extending the term of agreement for mobile law library kiosks located at the Ulster County jail. Amended Amt. \$8.6K 100% County, Amended Term 4/1/22 – 3/31/23.

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 149 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lopez

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 150: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$97,246.60 Entered Into By The County – New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation – Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contact amendment #2 with NYS Technology Enterprise Corp. extending the term of agreement and expand the scope of work to include consulting services through design and build-out phases of the relocation of the county's Emergency Management department. Amended Amt. \$97.3K 100% County, Amended Term 1/31/22 – 6/30/24.

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 150 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Hansut
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Lopez

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 151: Amending The 2022 Ulster County Budget To Accept An Allocation Of Funds From The New York State Office Of Prevention Of Domestic Violence – Department Of Probation

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends the 2022 county budget to accept funds from the NYS Office of Prevention of Domestic Violence. The final award being \$187.7K – twice the amount anticipated.

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 151 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Lopez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 152: Amending The 2022 County Budget To Create Two Full-Time Assistant Public Defender Positions – Public Defender’s Office

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends the 2022 county budget creating two full-time Assistant Public Defender positions in the Public Defender’s Office as required due to the increased caseload. The positions and associated fringe benefits will be reimbursed by the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services (NYSOILS), \$254.2K.

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 152 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 153: Authorizing the Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York State Office Of Indigent Legal Services For Distribution #12 – Public Defender’s Office

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the UC Legislature to enter into an agreement with NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services for distribution #12 participation, Contract No. C120051 for the period 1/1/22 – 12/31/24. State Revenue Dollars – 2022- \$152.5K/ 2023- \$140.5K/ 2024- \$147.5K

Motion No. 2: **Moved Resolution No. 153 FOR Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Hansut
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hewitt

Discussion: See attached transcript.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Hansut, Hewitt, Lopez, Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

New /Old Business – See attached transcript.

Adjournment

Chair Uchitelle asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none.

Motion Made By: Legislator Hewitt
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:23 PM

Respectfully submitted: Legislative Staff, Nettie Tomshaw
Approved: April 7, 2022

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Chair Uchitelle

All right, so I'll call this meeting to order and begin with a motion to approve the minutes from February 3rd. All right, motion from Legislator Hansut. Can I have a second?

Legislator Hewitt

Second.

Chair Uchitelle

Second from Legislator Hewitt. Any discussion on the minutes from the last meeting? All right, seeing none, I'll call the question all in favor of approving the minutes. Any opposed? All right, the minutes are approved unanimously.

Chair Uchitelle

Before we get into our resolutions for tonight, Legislator Walter, the prior Chair of the Law

Chair Uchitelle

Enforcement and Public Safety committee, is going to be giving us a presentation on centralized arraignment. I'm very much looking forward to it, because it is a topic I'm excited to learn more about. And we do have one of our justice’s present, Judge Bacon from New Paltz. So, thank you Judge Bacon for being here. I know that this is a topic that affects your work. So with that, I'd like to let Legislator Walter, take it away.

Legislator Walter

Thank you. Nettie am I able to share my screen?

Nettie Tomshaw

Okay.

Legislator Walter

Yeah?

Nettie Tomshaw

I believe so. Give it a whirl.

Legislator Walter

All right. So, you all see it? So this is a little history story that started in 2007. And I thought I'd take advantage of like giving you the full thing, because I am among the only two people in this county who actually know the whole story. And if I got hit by a bus tomorrow, I wanted to make sure you all knew also. And so, um, don't expect to be able to see this. I'm going to break this down. But this shows you that this process started from 2007 brings us to now and I think you'll find it interesting. There are heroes and villains in the story. So without further ado. So we'll start in 2007. So you probably I mean, legislators, you hear the word Hurrell Herring all the time. And so in 2007, there was a Hurrell Herring versus the state of New York. And it was a lawsuit. It was a class action lawsuit against with 20 different defendants, and basically was found that New York failed to provide adequate funding resources and oversight to the public defender system, threatening to deprive these defendants of the class they represent in their constitutional right of a meaningful and effective assistance to counsel. So that happens in 2007. Then, in 2013, the Office of Indigent Legal Services releases their first CAFA grant RFP, that's Council on first appearance. And so that's done in 2013. And at the time, I think he was I don't know, I think he was deputy executive Bob Sudlow, who previously was Bob Sudlow. From the probation. Where was he, Nancy? Yeah, so but deputy as deputy executive, he reached out to me and said, hey, will you write a grant for us to respond to this first CAFA grant. And so I partnered with the public defender at the time and the costs over and we came up with this plan. And so the plan had a couple of elements to it. I'll just say that the CAFA grant basically was to monitor, study and make efforts to improve the quality of services pursuant to Article 18 B of county law, so monitor, study and make improvements. So I think they contacted me because monitoring and studying is the kind of thing I do.

Legislator Walter

And so we came up with this plan for the county. It was very innovative. We were going to develop interactive software that connected the magistrates, law enforcement, public defenders and the DA's office to coordinate calendars and allow judge to identify like which public defenders on which district attorneys on for off hours arraignment in some seamless way, and also to share the data that the idea that if arrest

was made, the arresting officer could sort of shoot information to the judges and the public defender and the district attorney who can then show up in this middle of the night arraignment, and be informed and ready to go. Again, you probably all know that off hours mean a lot in our county because our courts don't meet all the time. And so off hours could be when the courts closed, it could be at night, it could be on weekends. Um, the second part of this grant was to conduct in depth interviews with judges regarding how their current off hour - how does it already work, like what's happening in Ulster County right now? And how does the magistrate feel this could be done a lot better. We had anecdotally understood that there were already problems happening in that some magistrates don't always come out and other magistrates pick up the slack. We knew that anecdotally, we wanted to really formally understand it, and also hear what could be a plan, what could we do? Um, so then in 2015, we get the grant it's \$604,000, we're actually told that it was one of the best proposals of all the counties. They were super excited, we get this grant. And we're all ready to buy the software and get this going and meeting with different people.

Legislator Walter

By 2016, we have a several different implementation challenges. So what are the challenges? First of all, our magistrates don't want anything to do with this. We're meeting with the magistrates are trying to explain this plan. They're nervous, they're anxious. I think a lot of them at the time, were fearful that this would one day turn into just one court for the county and they would lose their positions. There was just a lot of concerns. Um, what other challenges. Office of Court Administration, they took, even though their top person was completely supportive of this, the people I was dealing with, had so much trouble, but with their attorneys had so much trouble with the judges being on the software program. And they also didn't even know my only two questions for the focus groups, or the interviews were how's it working now and what can be better? They, they took over a year to approve those two questions and allow me to go and interview the judges. And so in about a year and a half, it took that we soften the software project a little bit, were really just the public defender's office and the judges were the judges can call one number and it would go to the right public defender. And so that at least we had that efficiency, but we weren't going to be sharing data. And finally, I was going to be able to go out into the judges and find out how things are working. And the back and forth of the contract was happening between a renewal contract we had the first year but this was a four-year project, a three-year project. We're going back and forth. And unfortunately, and this is a story I've never told until this moment, but now that none of the players are really in the game anymore. Right before the contract got signed my boss at the time, Gerald Benjamin wrote an op-ed criticizing the existing executive, Mike Hein for indirectly not even directly of overreaching his bounds in terms of the comptroller. So what happens the day after that op-ed comes out, Mike Hein says, Benjamin Center is out Eve is out, no more grant to them. So the project gets squashed.

Legislator Walter

The public defender at the time still has the money. So he figures out another way to go, he creates a quadrante system instead, where different public defenders are assigned to different quadrants. So that way, at least the judges know who they can contact in off hours. I'm not quite sure what happened to the rest of the money. But that ends up being the in essence, what we ended up doing. So 2017 comes along, and

we've got a bunch of changes in our New York state law. First, the governor in there in his 2017-2018 budget, had changed judiciary law that allowed the chief administrative judge to establish a plan for off hour arraignment parts in local court. So what does this well, and the Uniform Justice Court Act was modified to allow a rotation of election of magistrates at a cap location. So what does this mean? First, it used to be that a magistrate could only sit at a bench where they were elected. This change in 2017 meant that a magistrate could sit at a bench outside of their jurisdiction and hear cases. So this was the first time we're allowed to have this idea of a centralized arraignment of one place that the judges could rotate and for off hours, and so that that way, a judge wouldn't have to wonder if they're going to be called in the middle of the night, they would know their particular schedule, and law enforcement would bring everyone to that location during the off hour. So this was not legally possible before 2017 and in 2017 it is. 2019, we have a couple of other changes. The first is a change to the 500 C Home Rule request. So basically at this point by 2019, and just the two years since Cuomo passed the change for 2017, so many counties decided to become a Centralized Arraignment Parts, (CAP) County, I mean, basically, at this point, it's about 17 counties. But counties were rushing to do this.

Judge James Bacon

Sorry Eve it's 26 now.

Legislator Walter

Twenty-six now oh, there you go. So 26 counties right now. And so what it used to be was you had to do a Home Rule request to ask for permission to be able to hold people at one location such as a sheriff's office. So many counties, were asking for the home rule request, that in 2019, they changed it so that it just says you don't have to ask us just do it. They gave everybody permission to do it.

Legislator Walter

The other thing that happened in 2019 is bail reform. 2020, we have COVID. And this all becomes an important part of this entire story. So we pause here until we get to about October 2020. And we begin again, mostly the public defender at the time Andy Kossover, Juan Figueroa and myself and the conversation of how can we do a "CAP" county right here. The sheriff had spoke to the sheriff in Broome County, they have a "CAP" county there. They were super excited and they were really willing to share it with us and talk to us about it. Um, so we bring in - we invite them representatives from the magistrates to join us. And Judge Bacon is one of them who agree to come and be a part of it. And we sit and we talk about - we have Broome County give us an initial lesson on what it would take all the steps to do it because now we have so many counties that have done it, we want to learn the right lessons of how to do it right. And but what happens is we have our monthly meeting and every time Judge Bacon comes back, he's like judges said no. From 2006 now until 2020 I've had at least five meetings with judges is like nope, nope, nope, nope, nope. Not on board not interested to do it. But, we don't give up. And so we say well, what's your questions? What are your concerns? Give us a list of what your questions or concerns are. Maybe we can address them. So they give us a list of questions or concerns. One of the big ones is it bail reform? Does it even matter anymore? Are there even these off hour arraignments, is it even an issue? And so we

gathered information from public defender Ruth Boyer, we gather information from New Paltz, police. We find that in New Paltz for 2020, 13%, that there was probably about 50 calls off hour and 13% of them were just appearance tickets, the rest actually needed a judge to be present. And we also started hearing that anecdotally, there were some reports that judges who could provide non-miss monetary conditions of release with bail reform, we're not considering those. So that means that an officer may go to a judge and say, listen, Judge, we need to do something about this person. I'm worried about them. And certain judges were saying just give an appearance ticket, I don't want to hear about it. And so there was there's this problem that was happening, not huge, but it was happening because of bail reform, it was not so much reducing the problem was actually creating a whole new problem. And so in around February 2021, we bring Broome County in again, we regroup, we tell them all the concerns our judges are having we really try to figure out our game plan and have all the answers we possibly can have. So we create the free FAQ for magistrates and we give it to them.

Legislator Walter

Then we have August 2021. That's when myself and our criminal justice reform task force presented to the full legislature a whole reform model for criminal justice for Ulster County and it included this so that's in August. Still, it's been pretty quiet. We basically been told the magistrates aren't interested and there's nothing we can do if the magistrates aren't interested. Nothing we could do at all. I was asked did you talk to the supervisors I said, Well, what's the point if the magistrates won't do this there's nothing we can do. So what happens then? The end of December around the holiday time the magistrates have a dinner, and they invited me and Sheriff Figueroa. This is not the first dinner that I went to the magistrates for and tried to push this idea. But hopefully it's the last. So we're at this dinner and the sheriff is like, we did a little good cop, bad cop. He was the bad cop. I was the good cop.

Legislator Walter

So he was like, you guys, you need to do this. This is a problem, you know, you gotta be on board. He said he even dare say to them, we could just do it. And you'll have to listen to us. You know, we could just put this in, and you're gonna have to do it. And then I think I was more the good cop. And but it was still no, no, no, no. And the sheriff had to go, I stayed because it was free dinner. And so of course, I'm gonna stay, and somehow, because I think they were hungry, and they wanted to adjourn that part of the meeting and eat, and one magistrate said this magical thing. They said, raise your hand if you're absolutely against this. And nobody raised their hand. And I thought, oh, there we go. And then another magistrate said, could we hear more from judges in these other "CAP" counties and find out how things work for them? And Judge Bacon's like, oh, yeah, absolutely. So what happens next, so that Judge Bacon arranges for whichever magistrates are interested to hear from judges from all these other counties in every single county, they said, without question, we were with you. We didn't like this idea. We were all knows. And then we did it. And now we're so happy, we couldn't have been happier. Every single county. They're like, well, let's try another county. And the next county, was like, we hated this idea when we heard it, but we did it. And we're loving it. And we're so happy. And we wish we did before, over and over and over.

Legislator Walter

So then in February, Judge Bacon, and they have a stakeholders meeting, they bring in the head of the Board of Supervisors, they bring in other law enforcement, they explained to them this whole idea, and people are like, yeah, we're happy. We really love this. And then we get a little bit later in February, and they tour law enforcement. And the sheriff says, here's the space, here's where we can do it. And they're like, we love this. And so now they have a draft plan in place. They have a stakeholder meeting next week on the eighth, which just allow stakeholders to know that the magistrates are on board, they voted and they're on board and deal with any other questions. And I've been working with the sheriff and been, you know, started the conversations with Deputy Executive Kelly, on budgeting. What is it going to cost in terms of any kind of staffing, any kind of rebuild of the space.

Legislator Walter

And so the next piece is, we need to submit a plan to OCA to approve. It includes photos, it's pretty comprehensive. And so I'll be working with Judge Bacon and the sheriff will all work together to make sure that this plan is rock solid. Once OCA approves it, it'll be up to us in the Ulster County Legislature to approve that plan. And then we can go forward and have a "CAP" County. And so it's super exciting. I can't say how long it'll be before this resolution will be in front of you. Originally tonight you were going to have the resolution for the home rule request until we figured out that we don't need the home rule request. So I had this already scheduled. But very soon, depending on how strong we make this plan that OCA approves right away, you all legislators will have in front of you a resolution to ask us to approve this plan and move forward to being a "CAP" county. And if you have any questions, the sheriff and Judge Bacon, I'm sure we'd be more than happy to answer. Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you, Legislator Walter. Does anyone on the committee have any questions or any other legislators present have any questions for Legislator Walter, Judge Bacon or Sheriff Figueroa?

Legislator Hewitt

I just want to say congratulations Legislator Walter for your hard work and perseverance. Sheriff Figueroa.

Sheriff Figueroa

Thank you chair and I also want to thank Legislative Vice Chair, Eve Walter and of course Judge Bacon was not an easy process. This is going to make the criminal justice system more streamlined. This is going to make the way we deal with the folks that get arrested for charges easier to represent and give them more rights is the whole. The purpose of "Centralized Arraignment Part", which is what "CAP" means, is to simplify how we do the arraignments in our criminal justice system in our county. And I want to thank the judge who I'm sure has a few words to say, at the appointments of having centralized arraignment. The importance of not being called in the middle of the night, several times a week, this simplifies all that. And it really is something that's working throughout the state already. Thank you.

Judge James Bacon

Yeah, if I could just chime in a bit. You know, it's interesting, that Eve put together that timeline, because I did exactly the same thing over the past week, because, as she said, it's no longer going to the legislature to get the CAP approved. Now, it's the third Judicial District, and the Chief Administrative Judge of the state that has to approve this. So we have these charges that this has been done in secret. And so I went through and did a timeline, I looked through all my emails back to 2017. And put together a good long timeline to show that we didn't, we didn't keep the secret from anybody. And the turning point really happened after the legislative subcommittee finished its work last August. And then the magistrates started really looking at this, and many of them were skeptical thinking this was going to lead to district courts. And that was originally what the arguments against they were, and including from the administrative side of things. So our committee with Judge Cassock, Judge Weiss, Judge Wires myself, and Kyle Barnett from Esopus started to - we did a questionnaire we called up the judges and clerks and these other counties. And we call that special counsel for the other districts. And to a person as Eve said, they were all in favor. They answered all of our questions. And taking one step back. So the genesis was the Hurrell Harring case, which says every arraignment, you need a public defender there to represent the defendant. And this has changed what used to be maybe 2am arraignment might take 15 minutes into a two-hour production as it's unworkable for the public defender. You can't have the poor person, you know, going to sleep at 4am. And then he gets another call. It is unworkable for any human to do that. And for the judges, you know, some of the judges have been on the bench for 50 years, this is not a good thing. And some of the judges don't answer their phones.

Judge James Bacon

So this CAP part is a way to, to solve this. And over the last about 10 days, and really having, you know, discussions with the administrative part of this that has to approve this and invited them to the stakeholders meeting next Tuesday. Hopefully, they'll come and see what the what this is all about. And see the groundswell of support for this. You know, I can't say enough for the sheriff. How much he's been behind this. And because the former sheriff said there was no way this was going to happen at all. Sheriff Van Blarcum with absolutely against the CAP court. So the sheriff is as shown I've gone over that to the law enforcement center and seeing where this can happen.

Judge James Bacon

I'd also like to welcome Judge Kesick, she's down at the bottom of the screen. She's on the committee with me. I think I have to leave about ten after six or so, but if we don't get it done, she'll take over then. So we've been having this discourse with the third district administrative judge there. And I provided today my timeline going back to 2017, showing that it's been completely transparent. I've showed them that there's a from the 2020 CAP review that indigent legal services did. I showed them that 18 courts are doing the same types of hours that we proposed for this CAP. And I provided also the proposed cap that the committee has drawn up for Ulster, which is modeled closely after Madison County CAP which also has one city and it like we do and Kingston, the City of Kingston would be part of this cap. And the big problem is that the Kingston city judges rarely go out or maybe never for arraignments. And it leaves the

burden upon the adjoining towns like Judge Kesick and Weiss and Barnett. So this would solve that problem. And so also in talking with Legislator Walter, we've talked about trying to find a couple of clerks for this position. So at our last meeting that we had we discussed this once again and that we voted overwhelmingly to immediately request legislature to pass a resolution to fund the CAP court clerks and also to immediately advise the third judicial district that we would request they ask OCA for funding for the judges.

Judge James Bacon

So that was a big step forward, there are still a couple of judges who are not in favor of this. But one part of that was because they didn't want people to be detained for 12 hours. Well, the Court of Appeals said in 1990, that you can detain people before arraignment for up to 24 hours. And they reaffirm that in 2015 and 2016. So yes, people would be coming to the CAP when it wasn't open after 9:30, or whenever it was 10:30 at night, and then have to wait until the morning to see a judge. So that's less than 24 hours, it's 10 or 12 hours. And that's perfectly proper, and it's happening in 26 counties. And I want to say at our last stakeholders meeting, everybody was in favor of this. The Public Defender Boyer, Dave Clegg, everybody I spoke with was in favor and I understand from Judge Kesick that the association of towns now doesn't have any position on it. According to Supervisor Quigley and his conversations with her, they don't have any problem with this going forward. If I'm wrong than Judge Kesick, please. I'm correct.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you so much.

Judge James Bacon

We're looking forward to our stakeholders meeting. And I think I covered pretty much everything.

Chair Uchitelle

Great. Thank you so much Judge Bacon and Legislator Walter, if you want to just perhaps we can quickly

Legislator Walter

Just in terms of the money. So there is still a CAPA money that could potentially go through this. And I do appreciate the Public Defender Boyer is supportive of this and the district attorney. So there's CAPA money, OCA will cover the judges. So you know, we'll be working. I'll be working with Deputy Executive Kelly on identifying you know, where this outside funding is, and working with the sheriff on, you know, what these exact costs are for capital. And so before we have it in front of you we'll have the actual budget, because we have to submit it when the judge submits it. So I'll just say anyone who wants to see it, have previews of it can always let me know, if you want to look at it before it actually is before you. But I just didn't want you to see it for the first time when it was in front of you without any understanding. So thank you very much.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you so much Legislator Walter. So if anyone has further questions, please direct them to Legislator Walter, to the Sheriff, to the Public Defender, or to one of our clerks if you want help getting in touch with any of the justices or any of those folks. So if it's alright, we can jump into our resolutions for tonight. And thank you so much to the justices for joining us. And I don't expect that you'll want to sit through the rest of it. But you're perfectly welcome to if you if you are looking for extra zoom time here.

Judge James Bacon

All right. Well, thank you, everybody, thank you for your service. You know, I used to be on the town board for five years. And you know we all do this for, you know, for trying to do better for the public good. So I appreciate all your service as well.

Sheriff Figueroa

Thank you Judge and judge's.

Chair Uchitelle

All right. So with that, we'll go into our resolutions for the month. We'll begin with Resolution No. 102. Confirming Appointments and Reappointments of Members to the Traffic Safety Board. Do I have a motion to discuss?

Legislator Hansut

Motion to discuss.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you, Legislator Hansut. Do I have a second, a second?

Legislator Hewitt

Lopez said it.

Chair Uchitelle

Oh, great. Thank you, Legislator Lopez. My apologies. Alright, so we have Brian Slack with us from planning. And we also -there might be some background that Deputy Exec. Rider can provide. But um, Brian, if you want to kind of just frame this for us. That might be a good jumping off point.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Sure. Thank you, legislator. Thank you everyone for having me this evening. My name is Brian Slack. I am the newly appointed coordinator of Traffic Safety. Also principal transportation planner for the Ulster County Planning Department. We have nine appointments and reappointments on the resolution. They're really mostly in fact most all reappointment summer appointments by virtue of the office that the individual is being appointed for the first time, but the office has been a member in good standing. These

are all volunteers that have agreed after a solicitation in December sent directly to them to sit on the committee for a three-year term. The Traffic Safety Board meets roughly every month, and on the first Monday of the month at 6pm. Our next meeting will be held on March the seventh, the committee has been on hold for roughly 18 months due to COVID. And since I was appointed near the end of December, we are now reactivating the Traffic Safety Board. We're looking forward to having all these members in good standing back on the committee. Most of them come from a law enforcement background. But we do have two from an engineering background including Brendan Masterson from DPW and David Corrigan, from New York state DOT. And we also have the liaison, Gianna Russo, who was an employee for BOCES in Ulster County and has a transportation school bus background as well. And she's also liaison to the Mid-Hudson School Bus Association. This will leave three vacancies and we're currently in discussion to fill those vacancies with very likely members of our bicycle and pedestrian community. But we're looking for volunteers at this point in time. I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Chair Uchitelle

All right. Any questions from legislators on the committee? Or otherwise? Any so if there's if there's no discussion from folks, you know, I'll jump in here. I was a little bit disappointed when I reviewed the resolution for filling the board knowing that there would still be vacant seats, and not seeing folks from the pedestrian or cycling communities. I fully appreciate the important role that law enforcement plays in the dynamics of traffic, for sure, but I do feel that this is a bit of an incomplete board, even though I think everyone on the board is is qualified. Can you speak to the progress that you've made adding folks from the pedestrian or cycling community?

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Certainly, I am in discussion we have one volunteer who has stepped forward. Mr. Tom Polk, who is an employee of Kingston YMCA, he is a bicycle educator. Some of you may be familiar with Tom's work, or maybe you've seen him about town. He is very active in the community doing bicycle safety training for all variety of members. He does adult classes and children's classes throughout the year, and also volunteers to fundraise and handout, bicycles safety gear at no cost to members of the community. Tom has agreed to join the board. And so his appointment will be forthcoming. And that is a discussion that I've been engaged with the county executive's office, particularly Marc Rider who's here. Then we have two additional vacancies. And we're currently considering a variety of agencies and potential individuals, but we haven't made significant progress. This is an ongoing discussion.

Deputy Executive Rider

We are committed and have spoken with one individual Lou (inaudible) who we believe has interested in the board and will be appointing him as the same time as (inaudible.)

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

And Lou is a bicyclist. He's a Woodstock resident, I believe.

Chair Uchitelle

I believe Saugerties, actually.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Oh, thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Um, Legislator Hewitt please.

Legislator Hewitt

Thank you Chair Uchitelle. I think that as a business owner on Broadway in Kingston, I have a unique perspective on the new bike lanes and what I think we as a society are striving for a walkable, bikable region. So I know we're talking about the whole county but Broadway gives us a unique perspective because people come into our business and say, isn't this road a mess? And I often have to say, no, this is this is great. You have to be patient at the red lights, you have to respect bicycles. And so people need to keep hearing that. And so patience is a big part of it. You can't make rights on red. And you can't pull into the bike lanes to make a right-on red. And today this morning, I saw a huge truck just run the red light on O'Neill street. So we need enforcement for the new types of roads we're building and we need people like Rose Quinn who lost her partner to vehicle death. Last year, we had three deaths and in Kingston like Legislator Uchitelle recently mentioned to me, and I think we need people who are aware of these issues and the future of a walkable transportation system. Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you, Legislator Erner.

Legislator Erner

Thank you, Chair Uchitelle. Are any of the appointees currently part of our public transit system? That's my first question. I have one more.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Reviewing and then briefly, I don't believe when you say, part of the public transit system, are they employees of Ulster County area transit or have any direct background in transit?

Legislator Hansut

Or are you saying Riders?

Legislator Erner

Both ideally?

Legislator Walter

I don't believe so.

Legislator Erner

I would encourage adding representatives from riders and folks familiar with either driving buses or things of that sort. And my second comment is just that traffic safety is also to my mind, a matter of socioeconomic justice. And so we're talking about pedestrian bicycle representatives on this board, or mass transit, for that matter. I just want to encourage that the board, keep in mind who is most vulnerable to those deciding on who the board members will be that is, who is most vulnerable to traffic violence tends to be the pedestrian, the cyclist, the transit rider, the people who don't have access to their own personal private vehicle, and that tends to be more working people, poor people, and their perspective as the people in the most vulnerable situation, I think would be extremely valuable as well. Thank you.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

I know if I may, I failed to mention that Gianna Russo. She does have a background in transportation and school bus transportation, but not traditional FTA Federal Transit. In particular, I also have maintained a Class B CDL. School bus driver's license with passenger endorsement. I haven't driven school bus and well over 25 years. But I do maintain that license in good standing. And I'm also work very closely with Ulster County Area Transit through my position at the transportation Council, but your point is definitely noted. legislator. Thank you,

Chair Uchitelle

Deputy Chair Hansut, and then we'll go to Deputy Exec. Rider.

Legislator Hansut

Are you looking for more individuals? Are you looking for more names that we could submit also?

Deputy Executive Rider

Yeah, that's what I was raising my hand to speak. I heard Legislator Hewitt's recommendations. So we'll take that into consideration. After the two that we're going to nominate this month, we will have one vacancy remaining. So please email me if you have recommendations. And we will definitely look at that. We are making a great effort to further diversify the board as well. And so.

Chair Uchitelle

And Legislator Erner. And then I'll call the question, folks don't have more questions. But go ahead.

Legislator Hansut

Thank you.

Legislator Erner

Thank you, just real quick, just to put it a little more specific from what I said before, you could also invite youth, a youth representative, like somebody who has to get to school and they're on a bus or in walking or something like that, and also maybe a senior somebody else, or somebody with riding a wheelchair or other kinds of less mobile folks. That's all, thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

So then, as I'm about to call the question, I will point out that because this is an appointment, we don't have an opportunity to you know, to wait for the further for the further appointments. So we've got to go forward with this, which you know, as these folks are in good standing, I think makes sense. So with that, I'll call the question All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

Any opposed? All right. It is unanimous Resolution 102.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you so much. We'll move on to Resolution 149. Approving the Execution of a Contract Amendment for \$8,640.00 Causing the Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount to be in Excess of \$50,000 Entered into by the County with Touch Legal, Inc. with the through the Ulster County Sheriff And if it's alright with everyone, I'd like to start by recognizing Sheriff Figueroa, so he can give us some background on this kiosk program.

Sheriff Figueroa

So good evening everyone again. Thank you Mr. Chair, I bought the Assistant Warden, Captain Jason Bleau, who's going to discuss what this contract entails. Captain.

Asst. Warden Jason Bleau Sheriff's Office

Good evening, everyone. So this touch legal system is the technology that we utilize to provide the incarcerated individual population with legal materials. As a county jail in New York state, as you may or may not be well aware of, we are obligated to put the New York state minimum standards of the corrections, Part 7031 to provide individuals with legal services for the purposes of legal preparation, with respect to any civil or criminal action that they're going through. In today's forever changing world, of course, laws, statutes, case laws, are forever being reviewed and changing. All incarcerated individuals do have the right to access these materials, and information while they are incarcerated. A little bit of our program, currently in our facility, we do have a law library room and each housing unit. We have eight

law library kiosks. There's one in each housing unit. They are available to the entire jail population. They are updated frequently automatically to accommodate the forever changing of laws. And again, like I said before, they are a necessity for our facility to be in compliance with the New York state minimum standards.

Chair Uchitelle

Great, thank you so much. Does anyone have any questions? Or points for discussion? Craig, I see you're talking but I don't hear you.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you, Captain Bleau.

Asst. Warden Jason Bleau Sheriff's Office

You're welcome.

Chair Uchitelle

We still can't hear you Legislator Lopez. Okay. Yes thank you very much, Captain Bleau for joining us today. I really appreciate it. And with that, I'd like to call the question if anyone if no one has any further discussion.

Legislator Lopez

Can you hear me now?

Chair Uchitelle

There we go. Alright, so I take that back? Legislator Lopez.

Legislator Lopez

Yeah, I actually had six questions that were all answered. So know I appreciate the details so thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you so much. Alright, so now I will call the question All in favor.

Nettie Tomshaw

I didn't get a first or second Legislator Uchitelle.

Chair Uchitelle

Oh, I'm sorry. Can I have a have a motion to discuss here?

Legislator Lopez

I'll make a motion to second.

Legislator Hewitt

I'll move for discussion.

Chair Uchitelle

Great. Thank you. Any further discussion? All right, my apologies for that procedural snafu. Now I'll call the question. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

Any opposed? It is unanimous. Thank you so much. Alright, we'll move on to and thank you Captain Bleau, I presume if you've got better things to do and will not be faulted for departing. But you're very welcome to stay.

Chair Uchitelle

Moving on to Resolution No. 150. Approving the Execution of a Contract Amendment for \$97,246.60 Entered into by the County with New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation. This is the Emergency Management Department do I have a motion to discuss?

Legislator Hansut

Motion to discuss.

Chair Uchitelle

Motion from Deputy Chair Hansut, second.

Legislator Lopez

I'll second.

Chair Uchitelle

Second from Legislator Lopez. And first I'd like to recognize Director Erickson to give us some background on where we're at with the with this project and with the vendor. I know we spoke about the project last time so maybe you can focus on the specific work that the vendors working on.

Everett Erichsen

Thank you, Chairman. So this is to with the amended contract with NYSAC. We've currently worked through phase one, which is source selection. And this portion of the contract is going to be phase two and three, design build out testing and cutover. NYSAC has been fully engaged in the project. Truly helpful with us. Phase two, the design specifically we're getting into. They're going to be attending meetings at

our request. Support through site selection, pre design, schematic design, design development, any day documentation and construction, contractual negotiations. And then phase three, the build out. Installation, accepting testing, which is extremely important and cutover, the project so right through June of 2024.

Chair Uchitelle

All right. Does anyone have any questions, for Dr. Erickson or points of discussion? All right, I'll ask something. I did notice in the backup that there were a few different contracts that we've worked with this vendor on, including one contract that's still active. Is there a reason why that we need a new contract at this time, despite one still being active through the end of 2022?

Everett Erichsen

You have to be specific to the contract to answer that question.

Brian Slack Traffic Safety Coordinator

Sure, so

Deputy Executive Marc Rider

Sorry.

Chair Uchitelle

So there's three contracts that are that were included in backup for - and I'm pulling it up now. For this. Let's see if I can find it quick here.

Chair Uchitelle

So contract, it looks like the amendment one to contract # 2020 ending in 580. That contract it looks like is good through the end of January. So is that for different work? Or is that

Everett Erichsen

So we have different contracts. So we have a Motorola which is the radio system per se, this contract is in regard to the government operation center.

Chair Uchitelle

Got it. So It's the same vendor doing different projects.

Everett Erichsen

Correct. Absolutely.

Chair Uchitelle

Okay. All right. Great. So the contract that we see here is for the Motorola. And so this is a new contract from the prospect. That was my one question. Anyone have any other questions or discussion points? All right, then I will call the question. All those in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

Any opposed? All right, it is unanimous. Thank you so much.

Chair Uchitelle

Moving on Resolution No. 151. Amending the 2022 Ulster County budget to accept an allocation of funds from the New York State Office of Prevention of Domestic Violence. This is the Department of Probation. Do I have a motion to discuss?

Legislator Lopez

I'll move it.

Chair Uchitelle

All right, we got a motion from Legislator Lopez looks like the second from Deputy Chair Hansut. And Nancy, are you - there you are. Would you mind giving us a little bit of background on this?

Director Nancy Schmidt

Sure. This is an offer for funding that we received just a couple weeks ago. We had to fairly quickly respond with the letter of interest. The funding is for domestic violence victims. And it is, we have a very short period in which we have to receive applications and distribute this money. It has to be distributed by May 31, 2022, which is why we quickly got this into you all for hopeful approval to amend the budget to accept the funding of 94,700.

Chair Uchitelle

Thank you. Does anyone have any questions? It's hard to turn away money I will say. Um, alright, so with that, I'll call the question. All those in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

Any opposed? All right 151 is unanimous.

Director Nancy Schmidt

Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Moving on to, thank you Dr. Schmidt.

Chair Uchitelle

Moving on to No. 152. Resolution No. 152. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Create Two Full Time Assistant Public Defender Positions for the Public Defender's Office. Do I have a motion to discuss?

Legislator Hewitt

I'll make the motion.

Chair Uchitelle

All right. We got a motion from Legislator Hewitt second from which their Hansut and we have our public defender, Miss Boyer here with us. And if you don't mind, I'll let you give us some background on the two positions here.

Public Defender Boyer

Certainly Chairman, thank you. So a lot of our criminal work is funded by a state grant that's issued by Indigenous Legal Services, (ILS) and in order to maintain that grant we have to maintain certain caseloads for our attorneys. And right now our attorney caseloads are in excess of what is required for the maintenance of that grant. So ILS is requesting us to add attorneys so that we can reduce the caseloads and provide more effective assistance to our clients.

Chair Uchitelle

Alright, does anyone have any questions for the public defender? So I have a question. Is there um, could you speak specifically to why this wasn't possible during the budget process at the end of last year?

Public Defender Boyer

Well, the caseloads are consistently monitored. We are on a continuous basis reporting to ILS. And they are providing us with guidance with what they require from us for the maintenance of the grants. So this is a conversation that is continuous and ongoing. Our caseloads are - the number of cases that we handled, increased so that the years of the ILS budget overlap with the county budget. So the discrepancies in the caseloads increasing are requiring us to hire additional attorneys. For example, right now we have approximately 870 felony cases and only six felony attorneys. So the caseload average is in excess of what they require. It's about 145 per attorney. With the addition of these two full time felony positions, it would be closer to about 110 per attorney, which would be much more in compliance with what their mandates are.

Chair Uchitelle

So would it be fair to say that this is not necessarily a problem, it's just a feature of the way this works that you need to adjust to the positions midcycle - being mid our budget cycle.

Public Defender Boyer

Correct. And these positions would be fully funded by the state grant.

Chair Uchitelle

Got it? And that's the next resolution that we're taking up. Correct? Or is that unrelated? That's unrelated right. That's the distribution from OILS and this is the other Hurrell, right?

Public Defender Boyer

Correct.

Chair Uchitelle

Yeah. Okay.

Public Defender Boyer

So those are different branches of the same ILS grant.

Chair Uchitelle

Got it. All right. Um, I'll go to a Legislator Walter, and then we'll hear from Deputy Exec. Kelly.

Legislator Walter

Thanks. Um, so I'm just wondering Ruth. Is the increase something that has, like, was there a backlog of COVID and now a surge? Or have you been seeing a steady increase over the last whatever, five, six months anyway, because of behavior? So is any of this related to backlog or are we seeing actually more cases?

Public Defender Boyer

I think that it's because we're seeing more cases. And I couldn't really speak to why we're, you know, why we're seeing an increased number of people, you know, being criminally charged. I can say that during COVID, the courts were frozen for about a year. There were no in person appearances. There were no trials. There's a very large backlog of trials now that the courts, specifically the county courts, are opening up. There's a there's a very, very large back load of trials, which are requiring us to, for example, hire experts, and do other work that was on hold during the time that there were no trials.

Legislator Walter

But can I just follow up with this? So if, say, six months from now or a year the numbers go down, does ILS then tell you to get rid of some public defenders? Does it work both ways? So once we have them, we have them and they'll pay for them? Like, I'm just looking at Deputy Executive Kelly, who's answering

this head, but yeah, I'm just wondering if you know, if this is a backlog issue, and then our numbers start going down, whether ILS ever responds in the opposite way.

Public Defender Boyer

I can say that they haven't so far. And that the ILS grant, um, I believe is going out at least for another five years if the money is there. And I think that Deputy Executive Kelly might be able to give a more comprehensive response about the funding.

Chair Uchitelle

We hope so right.

Chair Uchitelle

Yeah. So let's go to Chris, then Legislator Lopez.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

I just wanted to touch on two points. One thing that I think you run into with both probation and ILS and other state grants is they're on a different fiscal calendar. So their cycles actually run from April one to March 31st. So a lot of the funding is based on when they pass the state budget and their fiscal calendar. If it touches the federal side, they run a different fiscal calendar than us as well. So at some points, we're working on three or four different calendars that don't jive with what we're doing. Because then there's also grant cycle calendars. So that's just some of the technical stuff that comes into play with some of these.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

In terms of, I guess, it's claw back. In any of the discussions we've had with ILS regarding to either the Hurl Herring or the distributions that have been coming out. I think it's probably over a decade now. There has been no discussion. It's been constantly building up the staff and creating more opportunities for equitable kind of representation of the indigent clients. So I've never had any discussions with any of the principles there at ILS, that there has been any talk of reducing funding or reducing staff in the event that the caseloads aren't there. But I think it's a probably a good discussion to have on that. So I, you know, we have a meeting with them, I believe next week to discuss one of the distributions, I think it's 12. So I'm happy to bring that up and feedback to the group.

Chair Uchitelle

Okay. And then just before we go to Legislator Lopez, I do want to note for Nettie, I just want to make sure that these notes, get over to the Ways and Means Committee through the clerk because I know they'll have the same questions about why the mid- cycle adjustment?

Legislator Walter

I'll be sure to pass them on.

Chair Uchitelle

Yeah, right. And of course, you're on Ways and Means. Alright Legislator, Lopez.

Nettie Tomshaw

Thank you Eve.

Legislator Lopez

Thank you. Would it be fair to say that bail reform has played a role in the additional caseload? Not necessarily, that it's additional, just that, you know, the change in discovery period times have I, you know, put a larger caseload on the DA's office, and, you know, could be a reason why you're looking for the additional help in order to offset.

Public Defender Boyer

Um, I couldn't really speak to the burden on the DA's office, um, regarding the discovery reforms. I'm the Public Defender, so

Legislator Lopez

The public defender right. Understood, okay, I got you.

Public Defender Boyer

There's an additional burden associated with each individual case, but I don't know that that has an impact on having, you know, an increase client base.

Legislator Lopez

So you actually see the client base has increased.

Public Defender Boyer

Correct our numbers of cases per year continuously increase.

Legislator Lopez

Gotcha. And you've seen that more over the past two years, or this past year?

Public Defender Boyer

Well, definitely this past year. And I don't know if COVID in the economy played into that, but I definitely saw a significant increase between 2020 and 2021.

Legislator Lopez

Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Where the courts were closed in 2020, essentially.

Public Defender Boyer

Correct but people didn't stop getting charged with the crime.

Chair Uchitelle

Right. So even though the courts were closed, you're saying that there was an increase in compared to like, 2019.

Public Defender Boyer

That's correct.

Chair Uchitelle

Okay. All right. Does anyone have further questions or points of discussion? All right, then we'll call the question on Resolution No. 151. All those in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

Any opposed?

Legislator Walter

It was 152 Chair.

Chair Uchitelle

Sorry 152. Thank you. Keeping an eye on me the outgoing chair here. So 152 was adopted. unanimously.

Chair Uchitelle

We have another one with the public defender's office in Resolution No. 153. Authorizing the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to Enter Into an Agreement With the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services for Distribution #12 Through the Public Defender's Office and again, Ms. Boyer I'll let you kind of frame where we are with this.

Public Defender Boyer

So the public defender's office made a request to ILS to fund certain things to help us in the operation of our office, and they agreed to do that and submitted a contract, hopefully for the legislator's approval. And so specifically that would fund our conflict Family Court defender, who works in Poughkeepsie, when Family Court in Dutchess County has conflicts. It's an Ulster County Public Defender, who takes

on those cases. In addition, it would fund expert services such as forensic mental health evaluations, and things of that nature. In addition to that computer and technology, software improvements, training for lawyers and support staff, in addition to memberships and professional associations, such as the New York State Defenders Association. I've encouraged all of the lawyers to you know, use that as a resource. So those are the things that distribution #12 would fund.

Chair Uchitelle

Any questions? First, I'll go to folks on the committee and if there are none, then I'll go to Legislator Walter. Any questions from the committee?

Chair Uchitelle

And we'll go to Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter

Thanks. Just while it's in my mind if Deputy Executive Kelly and Public Defender Boyer or whoever's when you're talking to ILS, can you check about either the distributions for CAPA money for centralized arraignment please.

Nettie Tomshaw

Abe, if you can give us a motion.

Chair Uchitelle

Oh, yeah. Sorry. Can I get a motion to discuss? Okay Legislator Hansut and can I have a second? Legislator Hewitt. All right. Any further discussion? All right, seeing none, we'll call the question. All those in favor? Any opposed? All right. 153 is unanimous.

Chair Uchitelle

We do have some old business Legislator Walter called me earlier in the day to add a couple of questions about some prior topics that were on prior law enforcement and public safety agendas. So I'll first go to Legislator Walter to bring those up.

Legislator Walter

Thanks. Um, so I was just hoping, Chris, if you there's three things, one, if you could tell us what the status is of the re-entry RFP? The first one? I don't know if you're prepared to tell us now or get back to us? Let me know you want me to keep going or whether you want to

Chair Uchitelle

Well, let's hold off and

Legislator Walter

I just didn't know if he had the answer right now.

Chair Uchitelle

Deputy Exec. do you want to respond to that?

Chris Kelly

Yeah so we've circulated it to all the different parties on it, including the sheriff. So I think we're getting ready to send that out now.

Legislator Walter

Okay, so do you know when I mean, I thought it was sort of all cleared, and everybody was circulated and liked it, like two months ago. So

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

I just sent the latest copy over to mental health. So we're all on the same page. So Oh, yeah, I'll get the answer for you.

Legislator Walter

Yeah, please. Because it's almost coming on to a year since we approved it.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

A year.

Legislator Walter

Yes. Getting close. It was one of the first ones we approved when the criminal justice reform task force ended. So (inaudible). The next one is the -we had a amendment to the 2022 budget for professional standards supervisor at the sheriff's office. What's the status on hiring that individual? That was a high priority for the criminal justice reform task force.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

I signed the request to fill so the sheriff should have that probably went over yesterday or today.

Legislator Walter

Terrific. And then the last is I shared with you a draft of an (inaudible) plan. I know ILS doesn't require it, but would like it. Any chance if you looked at it or maybe you me and the public defender could sit down. I just I feel like we should get to ILS. They're kind of

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

I mean yeah. We have to review it. And then I'd also want to bring in the sign Council Administrator, Jim Lynch, who - this is within his area. So yeah, I think me, you and Jim could certainly sit down on that one.

Legislator Walter

Yeah. Can we do that soon? Get that to ILS.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

I mean well, I mean, we'll review it. I don't know that we're gonna. Yeah, I think we have to have the discussion.

Legislator Walter

Can we move along on that so that ultimately get to that because that's been dragging for a couple of years now. Not by you,

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

Okay.

Legislator Walter

By your predecessor.

Deputy Exec Chris Kelly

Understood? Yep, happy to have the conversation.

Legislator Walter

Thank you.

Chair Uchitelle

Alright, so I think I don't believe there's any further old business to discuss. On new business, I just wanted to share that April's meeting is going to be at the Restorative Justice Center. So I think all the committee meetings are going to be in person in April, I think it's the plan. So this one's going to be in person, but a few blocks away from where it would have been otherwise, it's going to be on Broadway at the Restorative Justice, Probation, Complex, in the new space on the restorative justice side. So I hope everyone will be able to join there, and I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone in person.

Chair Uchitelle

I will also share that the following month's meeting, our hope is to do the meeting at the Law Enforcement Center. And I spoke with Deputy Chair Hansut about this earlier and actually spoke with Legislator Hewitt about touring the Law Enforcement Center recently. I think it's a great experience for all legislators to be able to do that. So what I'd like to do is what I think we'll do, although it's not certain yet is have a slightly earlier meeting time for those who want to do the tour. And then to have a regular committee meeting time, for those who have already seen it or you know, any of the county staff that don't necessarily need to do that. So that means that it would be good to know how many people want to do the tour. So please

reach out to me or Nettie, just to just kind of register your interest in that. Again, I think it's a great experience, particularly if we're able to see the jail and you know, the kind of experience there is pretty interesting.

Chair Uchitelle

Do we have any other new business?

Chair Uchitelle

All right, well, with that, then I will take a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Hewitt

Motion to adjourn.

Chair Uchitelle

All right, that second. Second from Hansut that was the motion from Hewitt. All those in favor,

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chair Uchitelle

All right. Thank you so much. We're adjourned.

Committee Members

Good night everybody.