

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY MARCH 21, 2011
CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m.

2. Members Present - Michael Gallagher, Chair; Dave Greenspan, Vice Chair; Sunny Simon
Council Member Dan Brady arrived at 10:50 a.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA - none

4. OPEN ISSUES

a) Presentation by Norberto Colon, Deputy Chief of Staff for Justice

Mr. Colon explained his background, having most recently served as the City of Cleveland's Assistant Safety Director. He now works with the sheriff, the clerk of courts, the law department and the divisions of the former department of justice affairs. Mr. Colon will be recommending where those Justice Affairs departments and divisions belong; those include emergency management, grants and training, CECOMs (911 cell phone service), mediation and VAWA.

Mr. Colon will be working with the director of regional development to encourage collaboration; one area is the 911 service; the county has 47 separate 911 centers; most major metropolitan areas have 5 or so, at most. Various centers work in different ways, some dispatch only police, some both fire and police. The county CECOMS service takes 911 cell phone calls from across the county, then sends them to the city from where the call originated. 911 is complicated because of the technology involved

Hamilton and Franklin Counties have two main 911 centers; primary city has one, and then county manages the rest; it is more than answering, it is dispatch. Ideally the city of Cleveland would have one dispatch center; one other in county. Mr. Colon will provide statistics on the number of calls throughout the county.

The County receives a fee that is taxed on every cell phone bill; that money is to be used to upgrade the 911 system. Right now total is about \$1.5M – \$2M on an annual basis; there is a \$7M balance in the fund; county has obligation to purchase and upgrade hardware for municipalities; want to have these conversations in a way that will encourage collaboration.

Mr. Colon suggested that the interoperability of radio systems is another needed area of collaboration; in 1996, Cuyahoga County was listed in the bottom 5 of areas on interoperability;

this leads to problems with safety forces lending assistance to each other; several different ways to bridge the gap; working to partner with the state on this.

b) Presentation by Sheriff Bob Reid

Sheriff Reid addressed the committee about the ongoing conversations with MetroHealth about partnering on services and supplies. There are some areas of agreement, some unsettled. Metro is concerned about liability issues if asked to assume medical services. Sheriff's department is researching other areas. Cook County Illinois does partner with their county hospital (John Stroger Hospital); Sheriff will be discussing with Cook County re what they do, how they do it.

Metro is willing to continue the conversations about pharmaceutical and supplies and will assist us with looking for a medical director. Metro thinks the county may need to raise the medical director salary to attract candidates. Metro handles medical services at the Juvenile Detention Center, but it is a much smaller operation; they serve about 100 minors; nurses are from Metro but psychologists from Catholic Charities.

Before Midwest Medical – prior to 1995, the jail was under the commissioners – not under the sheriff. Total cost of medical services of jail is \$11M; county would pay Metro for their services; currently contracted at \$1.8M. Midwest was carrying liability of \$1M occurrence and \$1M in aggregate. Sheriff Reid believes that the county would save money if we could do this in-house with medical director or in partnership with Metro.

Metro's position on medical records; they will help but it will be costly. Sheriff does not know how much. They will be meeting on April 7th; want to coordinate with Metro and jail teams

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - none

6. PUBLIC COMMENT - none

7. ADJOURNMENT - 11:45 am.