

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Nacerino & Legislators Addonizio, Sayegh

Wednesday

February 21, 2024

(Immediately Followed the Rules Meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 6:47PM by Chairwoman Nacerino and who requested Legislator Addonizio lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Addonizio, Sayegh, and Chairwoman Nacerino were present.

Item #3 - Acceptance/ Protective Services Meeting Minutes/ December 18, 2023

Chairwoman Nacerino stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment 24A010/ NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) Awarded Funding under the Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant to Support the County's Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team and the Development of Comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans/ Sheriff Kevin McConville and Commissioner of Mental Health & DSS Sara Servadio

Chairwoman Nacerino stated it is her understanding the funding to support the Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team was made available by Governor Hochul in 2022. She stated the discussion of the TAM Team and formation of the TAM Team came in front of this Committee. (9/21/2022). She explained it was confirmed that the Legislature had no role in the formation of the TAM Team. She stated this evening there will be an update provided and there is a budgetary request for the Legislature to consider for approval.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated the TAM Team has been established. He stated he did not have a list of all the members with him. He stated they are looking to reallocate the funding in the different budget lines to offset training and backfilling of overtime. He stated there is also software licensing for use by Commissioner Servadio' Department, which is requested.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS Sara Servadio stated there is a large TAM Team that has approximately 35 members from different organizations within the community, all of the Law Enforcement, all of the School Districts and different Departments within the Putnam County Government. She stated there is a TAM Core Team made up of representatives from BOCES, that represents all of the school districts, the Sheriff's Office, the Mental Health Department, the District Attorney's Office and Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton. She stated the TAM Core Team meets monthly. She stated the larger group meets 2-3 times per year. She stated they will be scheduling a meeting for the Large TAM Team to occur in the next month or so.

Legislator Crowley questioned if a copy of the list of the TAM Team members could be provided to the Legislature.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS Sara Servadio confirmed she would forward that to the Legislature.

Legislator Crowley requested confirmation that all Law Enforcement throughout the County are involved.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS Sara Servadio stated they have all been invited. She stated the Large TAM Team has only met two (2) times.

Legislator Sayegh stated per the backup documents, the grant needs to be used by the end of August 2024. She stated part of the funding will go toward the Sheriff's overtime. She questioned if that will be spent by the end of August.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated they will be applying for an extension. He stated also they will be moving forward with training of the Sheriff's Personnel and the School Resource Officers (SROs). He stated when that has been completed, they will move to the training of the schools' personnel and the public.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated he has reached out to the State already regarding an extension for the grant. He stated they are going to use the money as quickly as possible, and may not even need an extension, but a request has been made, and the State is aware. He stated there are other Counties in the same situation as Putnam County. He stated as the deadline is rapidly approaching, and the State is considering and looking into a possible extension. He stated the State wants the money to be spent. He expressed his optimism that the extension request will be granted.

Legislator Crowley stated the County has \$2 million worth of ARPA funding for School Security. She questioned if that funding could be incorporated into this.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated he does not believe two (2) different grants can be combined. He stated until all the funds are spent from this grant, he does not believe they can seek funding from other sources.

Legislator Montgomery questioned how the TAM Team differs from the ERT (Emergency Response Team). She questioned when the TAM Team was established.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS Sara Servadio stated the TAM Team was established February of 2023.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated his understanding the formation of the TAM Team came as a directive from New York State.

Legislator Montgomery stated the ERT had participants from other municipalities, but it was disbanded because we did not have the insurance to make sure the County was covered under

that model. She stated the TAM Team appears to be the same model. She questioned how it is different.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated he disagrees that the TAM Team is the same model as the ERT.

Legislator Montgomery requested that Undersheriff Lindert explain how they are different.

Undersheriff Thomas Lindert stated the State authority authorized the Sheriff in each County to form a TAM Team.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS Sara Servadio clarified the State did put the ownership on the County Executives to form a TAM Team. She stated when the directive came down from the State, then Putnam County Executive, MaryEllen Odell, put the onus on the Putnam County Sheriff and the Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services to create the TAM Team. She stated there is a big difference between the two teams.

Chairwoman Nacerino concurred and recalled that is when it was determined by the County Law Department that the Legislature had no authority in the formation of the TAM Team.

Legislator Montgomery questioned how she can be assured that the County is covered by insurance in relation to the TAM Team.

Chairwoman Nacerino stated this is a mandate from the State of New York and therefore believes that question could be easily addressed. She confirmed she would send a memo requesting confirmation of insurance coverage for the TAM Team.

Legislator Montgomery spoke to a statement made earlier that they would be going out to the schools and the public. She questioned what exactly is meant by that.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated one of the purposes for forming a TAM Team is to provide the members of the public with an opportunity, a portal, where a threat can be reported. She stated a website has been developed so a member of the public and schools' employees can utilize it to report a threat. She stated so time needs to be spent on educating these groups on how they can submit a report through the website, why they would submit it and what is an appropriate submission in terms of a threat the TAM Team would address.

Legislator Crowley questioned who will be conducting the training.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated the Core TAM Team created the website. She stated it will be members of the Core TAM Team who will be conducting the website training.

Legislator Crowley questioned who that consists of.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated representatives from the County's Mental Health & Social Services Department, Sheriff's Office, BOCES,

District Attorney's Office, the Bureau of Emergency Services and the Probation Department. She stated she and a member the County's Bureau of Criminal Investigation will most likely be the ones to communicate with the schools.

Legislator Crowley expressed her support for the mission of the TAM Team. She stated she would like to learn more about this.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if there is full participation from the schools.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated at the meetings of the Large TAM Team, all the schools had a representative present.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if all the law enforcement agencies are involved.

Commissioner of Mental Health and DSS and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated she knows they were all sent an invitation. She stated she will have to double check if they all are participating.

Legislator Montgomery stated she believes it is critical that we know if there is full participation, even though participation is on a voluntary basis, she believes it is important to know if possible. She stated she is in support of the TAM Team.

Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to Approve Budgetary Amendment 24A010/ NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) Awarded Funding under the Domestic Terrorism Prevention (DTP) Grant to Support the County's Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Team and the Development of Comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Item #5 - FYI/ Fund Transfer 24T025/ Jail Bid Price for Cleaning Increased, Both Courthouses Cleaning Bid Decreased/ Commissioner Department of Public Works Thomas Feighery - Duly Noted.

Item #6 – Update/ Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Drill on January 22, 2024/ Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated they did a drill back in October of 2023 under the new Administration. He stated then in January of 2024 a second drill was done, and they expanded it and included the Town of Putnam Valley. He stated they simulated a snowstorm emergency. He stated the drill included what actions the Town needs to take in order to get the support they may need and how does that help get to the Towns. He stated in May or June of 2024, the newly announced Director of Emergency Management Christopher Shields will conduct a third drill that will again broaden the scope of the scenario of the drill. He stated other participants will be invited to be a part of it. He stated in working with FEMA over the years in relation to storm damage, it has been learned that they want a great amount of details. He stated the recording and record keeping of said details will be part of the drill.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the Bureau anticipates working with every Town to conduct drills.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated yes, the plan is to expand on the drills to involve all of the Towns.

Legislator Crowley stated after the July 2023 heavy rainstorm, which resulted with tremendous damage throughout the County, a consultant, Meridian Strategies Services (Meridian) who specialize in emergency management and recovery, were brought into help in the post storm process. She questioned if that has been helpful and would the County, now having worked with Meridian, be able to manage this on its own, in the event there is ever another weather event.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated the involvement of Meridian has been fantastic. He stated also what is great about Meridian is that all of their billable hours are reimbursed by FEMA funding.

Legislator Montgomery stated she wanted to clarify that Meridian is not doing anything having to do with preparedness.

Commissioner of Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated that is correct.

Item #7 – FYI- Coroners Quarterly Report for the Year 2023

Legislator Gouldman requested that an excel report showing past years of the Coroners Quarterly Report be provided to the Legislature. He stated he believes the previous year's historical records would be valuable in reviewing this report.

Item #8 - Other Business – None

Item #9 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:15PM Chairwoman Nacerino made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Sayegh. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Diane Trabulsy.