



YATES COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
417 Liberty Street  
Penn Yan, New York 14527  
Phone 315-536-5150  
Fax 315-536-5166

Leslie Church  
Chairwoman  
Emilee D. Miller  
Clerk

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES-MARCH 7, 2026**  
**RICK WILLSON, COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rick Willson, Patrick Killen, Bill Holgate, Leigh MacKerchar, Doug Paddock, Nonie Flynn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jesse Jayne, George Lawson, Dick Harper, Ed Bronson, Leslie Church, Dan Banach (12:40 p.m.), Sarah Purdy (12:52 p.m.), Jessica Mullins, Emilee Miller, Todd Casella, Alyssa Palmer, Brittany Heysler, Frank Ryan, Brian Winslow, David Dowdle

Committee Chair Willson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Willson & MacKerchar will sign the audit this month.

Approve minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Todd Casella**

Mr. Casella reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Statistics
  - 38 and 37 cases opened in January and February, busy start
- 2026 Q1 Goal Status
  1. OPDV CCR Pilot Program-In progress
  2. Public Service Announcements-In progress
  3. Automating Reports-In progress
- Additional
  - Animal Cruelty Registry Local Law

**PROBATION: Alyssa Palmer & Brittany Heysler**

Ms. Palmer reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Monthly Statistics
- 2026 Q1 Goal Status
  1. Staff Training-In progress
  2. DNA Collection-On track
  3. Adult Interactive Journaling-In progress
  4. Carrying Firearms-In progress
    - a) Researched training requirements
    - b) Further discussion to be had

Agendas, Minutes, Audio, and more at <https://www.yatescountyny.gov/AgendaCenter/Public-Safety-Committee-5>

- Additional
  - Ms. Heysler will be covering for Ms. Palmer while she is out

**EMERGENCY SERVICES: Brian Winslow & David Dowdle**

Mr. Willson questioned the Committee to see if the following resolution(s) should proceed to the Legislative Meeting. After discussion/edits, there were no official objections.

- Authorize Chair of the Legislature to Enter into an Agreement with Forged Fire & Company for the Supply & Construction of the New Yates County Fire Training Facility

Mr. Winslow reviewed/reported on the following OEM & Fire topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Meetings
- Trainings
- General
  - Met with Melissa Gerhart on several things relating to water for the training facility
  - Met with Nathan Mineses about his Eagle Scout Project for the Outlet Trail
    - He wants to identify areas that could use some better marking for first responders, etc.
- Response
  - A woman was out for a walk and she stepped on a couple pieces of board that was used as a little bit of a bridge, and it collapsed under her
    - She was up to her waist in, muddy, mucky water
    - By the time they got there and worked on getting her out, she was starting to get to the point of hypothermia
  - House Fire South Main St. Rushville
- Additional
  - 2026 Q1 Goal Status
    1. Yates County Fire Training Facility-In progress
    2. 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July-In progress
      - a) State has left them to their own devices
      - b) Collecting data on events in Yates County
    3. EMS Report by June-In progress/awaiting template
  - Thanked Diane DeFabio of 24 plus years of service

Mr. Dowdle reviewed/reported on the following EMS topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Meetings
  - EMS Operations Managers
    - The four transporting agencies, the Operations Managers, get together via Zoom
      - ♦ Talk over shared concerns
      - ♦ Found it helpful Response
- Training
  - CFR Original is done with 3 of 4 passed the Exam
    - The 4<sup>th</sup> one is still attempting
  - Active Shooter drill
    - A lot of positive feedback
- Reports

- YCEMS

Mr. Dowdle reviewed the Yates County EMS Calls for December, reviewing the disposition, and call type.

| Category    | February |
|-------------|----------|
| Dundee      | 19       |
| Keuka Park  | 12       |
| Medic62/PSB | 3        |
| Totals      | 34       |

**SHERIFF: Frank Ryan**

Mr. Willson questioned the Committee to see if the following resolution(s) should proceed to the Legislative Meeting. After discussion/edits, there were no official objections.

- Recognize Peace Officers’ Memorial Day During National Police Week
- Authorize Sheriff and Chairperson to Renew B12 Technologies Maintenance Agreement
- Recognize National Public Safety Telecommunications Week for 2026
- Recognize National Correctional Officers’ and Employees’ Week
- Recognize 2026 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week

Sheriff Ryan reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- General Agency Statistics –February 2026
- Corrections
  - 5 vacancies, continuing to interview
  - Legion Dinner
    - Corrections Officer Palmer recognized as the Corrections Officer of the Year
    - Court Security Officer Panzik recognized as the Court Security Officer of the Year
  - MMCAP INFUSE membership application discussion
    - Program already on County Procurement Policy
- Sheriff/Law Enforcement/Administrative
  - Story time at St. Michaels School
    - About 45 minutes in the class with the kids visiting
  - Lateral transfer from Seneca County is working out well
  - Deputies Fultz and Middlebrook attended Fairytale day at Dundee Central
    - Safe Child cards
  - Legion Dinner
    - Deputy Fultz recognized as the Deputy of the Year
- E911 Dispatch
  - One resignation due to a familial issue with scheduling and things
  - Legion Dinner
    - E911 Dispatcher Crofoot recognized as E911 Dispatcher of Year
- Public Safety Communications
  - Began sourcing equipment through the grant process, getting current prices, etc.

- Animal Control
  - Receiving numerous non-essential calls from an individual on multiple social media accounts, phone calls, work cell phones
    - Had to cancel a couple of cell phone lines and get new as a result
    - Working with Community Resources
    - Filed criminal charges for animal cruelty
- STOP-DWI Program
- Coroner
  - Mandatory training updates/Coroner Continuing Education will take effect December 2026
    - 30 hours of state-approved continuing medical-legal investigation courses every three years
    - must be certified by the Department of Health
    - Focuses on medical-legal investigation
    - Newly elected or appointed coroners are exempt for their first year in office
    - Failure to meet these requirements can prevent a coroner from continuing to practice until they finish the training
    - New York State Association of County Coroners and Medical Examiners (NYSACCME) will track compliance and notifies relevant parties
- Miscellaneous
- 2026 Q1 Goals Status
  1. Complete and institute the Eddy Eagle program-Complete
  2. Modernization and continuity of general orders-In progress
  3. Digitization of old records-Partially complete
  4. Staffing-Partially complete
  5. Public Outreach-In progress

**PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY PROJECT: Doug Paddock**

Mr. Paddock reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Verbal Update as needed
  - Tomorrow, April 8<sup>th</sup>, is an update meeting to the entire legislature by the consultants and members of the Ad Hoc Public Safety Facility Committee
    - It will probably be a fairly long session
    - It starts at 1:00 p.m., and reminder, there is no parking in the Baptist Church parking tomorrow

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Jessica Mullins**

Mrs. Mullins had nothing to report.

Mr. Killen moved to enter into executive session on the basis of:

1. To employment history of a particular individual(s), attendees being members of the Committee, other legislators present, the Sheriff, the Director of Human Resources, and the County Administrator.

Seconded by Mr. Paddock.

VOTE: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Agendas, Minutes, Audio, and more at <https://www.yatescountyny.gov/AgendaCenter/Public-Safety-Committee-5>

Respectfully submitted,

*Emilee D. Miller*

Emilee Miller  
Yates County Clerk of the Legislature

DRAFT