

## RESOLUTION NO. 470

### AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY-WIDE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Introduced: 12/8/08

By Public Safety Committee:

WHEREAS, The County Sheriff is seeking legislative authority to submit an application to the NYS Health Department for certification to operate an ambulance service as part of the County's Emergency Medical Services Program, and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff indicated that the ambulance service would act as back-up to volunteer rescue squads struggling to muster the manpower to respond to emergency calls or unable to answer a second call and thus forced to rely on help from a neighboring rescue crew facing a volunteer shortage of its own, and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff's Department would draw on the existing roster of EMTs and paramedics from its EMS Program, which currently contracts with the Towns of Berne, Bethlehem, Coeymans, New Scotland, Rensselaerville and Westerlo to provide Advance Life Support (ALS) services and with the Town of New Scotland, Delmar Fire District and Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance to provide Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillation (EMT-D) services, and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff indicated that the concept of partnering with volunteer rescue squads for ambulance service is unique to this area and attempts to address the difficulties of providing timely, professional and dependable medical care and transportation to medical facilities in the face of the dwindling number or unavailability of volunteers, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that the Sheriff's Department is authorized to submit an application to the NYS Health Department for certification to operate an ambulance service through the County's Emergency Medical Services Program, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Attorney is authorized to approve said application as to form and content, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

*Adopted by unanimous vote. 12/8/08*