

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: MAY 22, 2018

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: LEGGETT
GERAGHTY
SIMPSON
WILD
DIAMOND
SOKOL
BRAYMER
DRISCOLL
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

ROBERT IUSI, PROBATION DIRECTOR
MARCY FLORES, PUBLIC DEFENDER
BUD YORK, WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF
SHAWN LAMOUREE, WARREN COUNTY UNDERSHERIFF
RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS HYDE
LOEB
MCDEVITT
STROUGH

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: MAGOWAN
HOGAN

JOANN MCKINSTRY, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
JULIE BUTLER, PURCHASING AGENT
LARRY JEFFORDS, COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
MICHAEL COLVIN, DIRECTOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
CHRISTOPHER SOUTH, *SUN COMMUNITY NEWS*
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the May 22, 2018 meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2018/criminal/>

Mr. Leggett called the meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee to order at 10:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Iusi, *Director of Probation*, who distributed copies of the Probation agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. Iusi presented a request to fill the vacant position of Senior Account Clerk, Grade 7, Annual Base Salary \$32,749, due to retirement.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Braymer entered the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Next, Mr. Iusi spoke of Raise the Age initiative, informing nothing had changed since the last update he provided on March 20th. He mentioned the State was supposed to send comprehensive financial documents to the County to assist with planning what their financial needs would be for the departments that would be impacted by Raise the

Age. He added the information was supposed to be sent in April, but had yet to be received. He said the information would be sent to the County Administrator and then distributed to the departments to fill out what requests they had to meet their needs. Mr. Leggett inquired if the State would reimburse the County's requests and Mr. Iusi replied in the positive, adding the State would base their decision on the number of sixteen and seventeen year olds that had been arrested in 2016 and 2017.

Mr. Iusi indicated there was no change with Detention, informing he would be attending the Detention Summit for Secured Detention at the Office of Children and Family Services in Rensselaer, New York on June 6, 2018 and the Results-Based Accountability for County Juvenile Justice leaders in Albany, New York on, July 30-31, 2018.

There being no further Probation business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Marcy Flores, *Public Defender*, who distributed copies of the Public Defender agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Flores began by requesting an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried unanimously to enter into executive session pursuant to Section 105(f) of the Public Officer's Law.

Executive session was held from 10:07 a.m. until 10:40 a.m.

Upon reconvening, Mr. Leggett noted that no action had been taken during the executive session.

Mr. Leggett notified they would return to the review of the Public Defender agenda following the review of the Sheriff's Agenda, and he offered privilege of the floor to Shawn Lamouree, *Undersheriff*, who distributed copies of the Sheriff's agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Undersheriff Lamouree presented the following requests:

- 1.) Request to amend the County Budget, in the amount of \$24,818.28 to reflect the receipt of insurance recovery funds.

Mr. Wild inquired where the funds were placed and Undersheriff Lamouree replied the funds were returned to the original funding source.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the County Budget as outlined above and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2.) Request to amend the County Budget, in the amount of \$550,861 to reflect the receipt of monies received from the 2017 Statewide Interoperability Grant.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the County Budget as outlined above and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3.) Request for a new contract with the Six Flags Great Escape to provide police services at an hourly rate

of \$56.50.

- 4.) Request for a new contract with the Wells Communication Services Inc., to provide maintenance and repair to consoles in the communication center at a rate of \$10,800 per year for a term to commence January 1, 2018 and terminate December 31, 2018, with the option to extend up to 3 additional one year terms.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to approve the requests as presented and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the June 15th Board Meeting. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes. (Note: subsequent to the meeting Undersheriff Lamouree informed the hourly rate for police services at Six Flags Great Escape was \$56.50 per hour.)*

Regarding the Topics for Discussion portion of the agenda, Undersheriff Lamouree notified there were currently six vacant for Corrections Officer position, one due to promotion and five due to resignation. Mr. Leggett inquired if the Corrections Officers who resigned were moving to a similar position and Bud York, *Warren County Sheriff*, responded three of them had taken higher paying positions with the State and the other two resigned while they were still on probation. Mr. Leggett asked if they had a list to select potential candidates from and Sheriff York responded in the negative.

Next, Undersheriff Lamouree informed they were currently participating in on-going discussions with North Warren Central School District, Queensbury Union Free School District, Lake George Central School District and Bolton Central School District to provide SRO'S (*School Resource Officers*). He indicated liability insurance was \$2,500 per year for each officer and the equipment they required cost between \$4,000-\$5,000. He inquired if they wanted to pass these expenses along to the school districts. Sheriff York indicated the cost would be \$30,000 and some school districts had budgeted that amount for an SRO. He said Hadley-Luzerne Central School already had two SRO's at the rate of \$30,000 each. He mentioned having SRO's in schools was something most people wanted. Mr. Wild inquired what advanced planning was being done regarding an active shooter and Undersheriff Lamouree replied each school district was required by law to have an Emergency Action Plan. He added they had copies of the schools blueprints as, well as their Emergency Action Plan and they had commenced providing active shooter training in the schools. He indicated they provided training at Hadley-Luzerne Central School and Lake George Central School District and they would be scheduling with Johnsbury and North Warren Central School had an appointment in September. He apprised Queensbury Union Free School District had offered to provide school related training to all the officers within the program. Mr. Wild inquired what was the best course of action for the County and Sheriff York replied they were currently providing the training and the school district Superintendents made the decision based on what the particular needs were for their individual school. He stated Lake George Central School District was planning to providing the training to parents that were interested. Ms. Braymer mentioned the cost for an SRO should remain within the school districts. Mr. Conover advised that at the beginning the program the school districts would cover the cost and the County could contribute if there were any unforeseen cost for the remainder of the year following which all of the costs would be absorbed by the school districts. A brief conversation ensued.

Regarding the contract with the SPCA (*Society for the Prevention to Animals*), Sheriff York distributed call logs which pertained to calls that went through the Sheriff's Office pertaining to dogs and other animal calls from August 1, 2017-May 15, 2018. *(A copy of the call logs are on file with the minutes.)* Mr. Leggett informed in front of them was the SPCA contract for \$100,000 which had not gone through the purchasing and procurement process. He indicated in January the contract was renewed until June 30, 2018 to continue receiving their services. Julie Butler, *Purchasing Agent*, informed an extension beyond June 30th was not permitted due to the purchasing policy indicating the threshold for an RFP (*Request for Proposal*) was \$20,000. She advised the County would be in violation if they

extended the contract prior to releasing an RFP. Mr. Leggett informed a copy of the RFP was included in the Sheriff's agenda, Ms. Braymer indicated she was part of the RFP working group, informing they looked for animal control contracts across the State, but there were none. She noted there was no other counties that offered the same services as Warren County. She indicated according to the County Attorney the legal requirements were investigating animal cruelty and abuse cases and cases involving rabies. She notified the Warren County Health Department was handling the rabies cases. She advised they should only contract for animal cruelty and abuse investigations and the RFP should reflect the primary service. The Committee discussed the RFP. Mr. Wild inquired what would happen after the SPCA contract expired and Ms. Butler replied the contract would lapse. Sheriff York advised that they handled cases every day regardless of the contract with the SPCA. Ms. Braymer reiterated that the only service the County required was investigating animal cruelty and abuse cases. Sheriff York informed there were two call logs one was for calls involving dogs and the other was calls involving any other animal. Larry Jeffords, *Communications Supervisor*, described the call logs in detail. Sheriff York indicated they would continue to receive and attend to calls.

Mr. Conover expressed the lapse in the contract had to be addressed, indicating perhaps the SPCA would consider a month to month agreement. Mr. Leggett indicated he spoke with the County Attorney regarding a month to month agreement noting Mary Elizabeth Kissane, *County Attorney* was not present to answer the legal questions. Mr. Conover advised they could do one of three things: extend the contract month to month until they could have a new contract in place; release the RFP; or do nothing. He said doing nothing was completely acceptable. Mr. Sokol suggested an out-of-Committee resolution to move forward with the process. Mr. Diamond recommenced releasing the RFP and make the award in June before the SPCA contract expired. Ms. Butler explained the proposals that were received were reviewed by her Department and awarding the contract in June would not provide them with sufficient time to review them. She apprised they could move the process along as quickly as the Board decided. Mr. Leggett asked if there were any objections to releasing the RFP, to which there were none. Mr. Geraghty notified the meeting was in July and no matter how much they rushed the RFP there would still be a lapse in service. Mr. Leggett informed they had a contract with the SPCA that was currently in violation of the Purchasing Policy. Sheriff York mentioned adding an additional month to the contract. Mr. Geraghty suggested extending the contract thirty days. Ms. Braymer suggested a per-diem situation and a brief conversation ensued.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried by majority vote, with Supervisors Braymer and Leggett voting in opposition, to approve the contract extension with the Warren County SPCA until July 20, 2018 and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 15th Board Meeting.

Mr. Loeb mentioned he read an article regarding 911 and inquired where the County stood and if they met all the capabilities they could regarding the subject. Undersheriff Lamouree explained in Warren County all 911 calls went to the Sheriff's Office, noting there was no delay. He indicated the only delay would be if there was no cellular phone service. He apprised the Sheriff's Office was one of about fourteen in the entire State that had been re-accredited, which he noted, was a high level of standard. He advised they were constantly installing new technology and sending their members to training. He apprised they provided a high level of service. Mr. Geraghty advised the problem was with broadband and cellular services in rural areas.

There being no further Sheriff business to discuss, Ms Flores continued with her agenda review, she presented the following requests:

- 1.) To fill the vacant position of Assistant Public Defender #3, Annual Base Salary \$58,653, due to resignation.
- 2.) To fill the vacant position of Assistant Public Defender #7, Annual Base Salary \$53,925, due to a promotion.

3.) To fill the vacant position of Assistant Public Defender #6, Annual Base Salary \$46,878, due to a promotion.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the requests to fill the positions as outlined above and refer same to the Personnel & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Sokol and seconded by Mr. Wild, Mr. Leggett adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist