

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: AUGUST 27, 2018

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: LEGGETT
GERAGHTY
SIMPSON
WILD
HOGAN
BRAYMER
DRISCOLL
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:
JASON CARUSONE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PAULETTE McDONALD, CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT
MARCY FLORES, PUBLIC DEFENDER
REPRESENTING THE WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:
BUD YORK, SHERIFF
SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
BRIAN LAFLURE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY E. KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BEATY
DICKINSON
LOEB
MCDEVITT
STROUGH
LEXIE DELUREY, DIRECTOR OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
MICHAEL SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: MAGOWAN
DIAMOND
SOKOL

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 27, 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 9:01 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild 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 Jason Carusone, *District Attorney*, who distributed copies of the District Attorney agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. Carusone presented the following grant application requests:

- 1) To authorize submission of application for the Aid to Prosecution Grant Project No. AP18-1056-R01 in the amount of \$38,172 for a term commencing October 1, 2018 and terminating September 30, 2019.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To authorize submission of application for the Legislative Initiative Grant No. LG18-103231 in the amount of \$10,000 for a term commencing October 1, 2018 and terminating September 30, 2019.

Mr. Carusone advised Senator Little had sent him a letter offering the County a \$10,000 grant for support of the Warren-Washington County Drug Task Force. He added the money would go toward equipment and supplies for local law enforcement.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3) To authorize submission of application for the CARP (*Crimes Against Prosecution*) Grant No. CR18-1011-E00 in an amount to be determined for a term commencing January 1, 2019 and terminating December 31, 2019.

Mr. Carusone indicated an amount had yet to be determined for this grant. He said the figure awarded would depend upon how many CARP cases they handled. He advised CARP cases included welfare, employment, and tax fraud, adding the concept of the grant was to recover revenues that derived from tax payers. Ms. Braymer suggested helping individuals who did not have the intention of abusing the system and to not over-prosecute individuals that were doing the best they could. Mr. Carusone indicated those who committed the crime on a small scale were able to work with the Department of Social Services to obtain re-payment and avoid prosecution. Mr. Driscoll explained how those who received benefits could obtain an adjustment in the amount they received to avoid breaking the law. A brief conversation ensued.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Wild asked for an update regarding the situation the Sheriff's Office had where they had to turning away Federal inmates. Mr. Carusone explained it was a one weekend event with arrests, the Opioid Diversion Treatment had four bench warrants, and there were five sanctions from the Drug Treatment Court which lead to multiple individuals being incarcerated that were in programs to stay out of jail. He informed in the past individuals with drug arrests would go to prison, but now they had Opioid Diversion Treatment and Drug Treatment Court to keep them out of jail with the caveat that if they missed court there would be a sanction for their return. He added they were great programs that could internally affect the County.

There being no further District Attorney 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.*

Commencing her agenda review, Ms. Flores presented a request to extend the contract with LexisNexis, in the amount of \$355.12 per month for a three- year term commencing October 1, 2018 and terminating September 30, 2021.

Ms. Braymer inquired if the contract could be extended further to make this a calendar year contract expiring on December 31, 2021. Ms. Flores replied she would contact Julie Butler, *Purchasing Agent*, to determine if this was a possibility as Ms. Butler had assisted in negotiating the three-year contract. Ms. Flores mentioned the cost of the contract had been decreased. Ms. Braymer indicated that if Ms. Flores was successful in obtaining the extension, the resolution could be amended accordingly at the next Board Meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request and the

necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request is on file with the minutes.*

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

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. Lamouree presented the following requests:

- A. To fill the vacant position of Patrol Officer #41, *Annual Base Salary \$40,390*, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request and to forward 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.*

- B. To amend Local Law No. 4 of 1996 to correct the position titles listed therein as per the request of the Personnel Officer.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- C. To extend the contract with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for Mutual Link, at no cost to the County, for a term commencing upon execution and terminating January 31, 2021.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- D. To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$350.00 to reflect receipt of compensation received for a loss that had occurred when a stone fell off a passing truck, damaging the windshield of a patrol vehicle.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2018 County Budget as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- E. To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$24,560.50 to reflect receipt of funds from Hadley-Luzerne Central School District for SRO (*School Resource Officer*) services within the school district. Mr. Lamouree indicated that Hadley-Luzerne was the only school district that had stepped up to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for additional costs associated with their SRO contract, such as for safety equipment and uniforms.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2018 County Budget as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- F. Authorizing a new contract with Bolton Central School District to provide SRO services within the Bolton Central School District in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 per school year for the 2018-2019 school year.

Ms. Braymer noted in the past she had requested that the additional costs incurred by the County for these contracts, such as for equipment, insurance and uniforms, be included in the contract amount. Undersheriff Lamouree

responded that most schools had already adopted their annual school budgets and so they did not have these monies available. Ms. Braymer asked if they would be included in contracts renewing next year, and Undersheriff Lamouree responded affirmatively.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York notified he had a meeting with Congresswoman Stefanik who informed schools with these contracts in place could seek reimbursing grant funds.

- G. To authorize a new contract with Nemer Ford to be the proprietary dealer for repairs to vehicles of various makes and models in the amount of \$85 per hour, to commence upon execution and terminate September 30, 2019.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 21st Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- H. For a transfer of funds in the amount of \$230,000 amongst various Budget Codes to pay for personnel services.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.*

Regarding the Topics for Discussion portion of the agenda, Undersheriff Lamouree informed there were five Correction Officer vacancies and one Correction Sergeant vacancy. He reported due to a considerable turnover, overtime expenses were currently \$453,959.26, while only \$300,000 was budgeted. He apprised when a Correction Officer was hired they were not included as an employee until they completed 10-12 weeks of training. Mr. Loeb inquired what the difference would be if all six vacancies were filled and Undersheriff Lamouree replied approximately \$360,000. He notified unfunded mandates from the State added to overtime costs, notifying twenty-four hour watch had doubled. Mr. Wild remarked it was an ongoing problem, inquiring if it was salary related and Undersheriff Lamouree replied during discussions with the Corrections Administration, he said, they felt if the salary was higher for Correction Officers that would alleviate some of the turnover. He commented Officers had left the County for an easier position elsewhere. Mr. Wild asked why there was a problem obtaining staff and Undersheriff Lamouree replied the disparity between a Patrol Officer and a Correction Officer salary caused Correction Officers to be interested in becoming a Police Officer. He described this included taking a Civil Service exam and passing a physical agility test with the hope of scoring in the top three to be selected.

Mr. Geraghty commented Corrections Officers made \$8,000 to \$10,000 more working for the State and had the option of choosing the location they worked at. He asked if there was a current Civil Service list; he noted the test was not given frequently, which added to the problem. Undersheriff Lamouree advised Counties across the State were facing the same problem, informing the next test would be given in November. Sheriff York commented the environment was difficult because over half the inmates had mental health issues which staff were not equipped to deal with. A brief conversation ensued.

As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Wild and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. Leggett adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist

