

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: MARCH 21, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: GERACI  
BRAYMER  
DRISCOLL  
MCDEVITT  
DIAMOND

OTHERS PRESENT:

JASON CARUSONE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
JOY LAFOUNTAIN, ADMINISTRATOR, ASSIGNED COUNSEL  
REPRESENTING THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE:  
MARCY FLORES, PUBLIC DEFENDER  
ERIN BROTHERS, ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
ROBERT IUSI, DIRECTOR, PROBATION  
ANN MARIE MASON, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
JIM LAFARR, SHERIFF  
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
RYAN DICKEY, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS FRASIER  
LEGGETT  
MICHAEL COLVIN, DIRECTOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: SEEBER  
DICKINSON

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the March 21, 2022 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: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>*

***Note: Pursuant to New York State Legislation (S.50001/A.40001): "Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity, shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed." All of the Committee members in attendance were physically present.***

Mr. Geraci called the meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee to order at 9:02 a.m.

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

Copies of the agendas were distributed to those in attendance; those attending remotely accessed the agendas via the Warren County website. *Copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.*

The meeting commenced with review of the District Attorney agenda which included only one request, that being to fill the vacant position of Legal Clerk II #3, *Grade 8, Base Annual Salary \$37,918*, due to promotion.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Braymer, Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

There being no further District Attorney business to discuss, review of the Assigned Counsel agenda commenced with a request to renew the contract with the Rural Law Center for two years to provide continued appellate assigned counsel services for the term commencing May 1, 2022 and terminating April 30, 2024.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Braymer, Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Braymer entered the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

There being no further Assigned Counsel business to discuss, review of the Public Defender agenda commenced with the following requests:

- 1) To fill the vacant position of Public Defender, *Grade 24, Annual Base Salary \$114,096*, due to retirement.
- 2) To fill the vacant position of Coordinating Assistant Public Defender, *Grade 4, Annual Base Salary \$81,618*.
- 3) To fill the vacant position of Coordinating Assistant Public Defender (PT), *Grade 4, Annual Base Salary \$34,670*
- 4) To fill the vacant position of Legal Clerk, *Grade 5, Base Annual Salary \$33,076*.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the requests as presented and refer same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

- 5) To amend Resolution No. 298 of 2020, relating to Warren County Travel Policy and County Vehicle Use Regulations, to add clients to be transported in County vehicles by Public Defender staff.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and refer same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Concluding the agenda review with the Discussion Items, Marcy Flores, *Public Defender*, provided an overview of the training completed by members of her staff.

There being no further Public Defender business to discuss, Committee moved on to review the Probation agenda which included a request to authorize a grant application and agreement for 13-A Classification Funding in the amount of \$13,140 from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services to support the Pre-Trial Release Program for the term commencing July 1, 2022 and terminating June 30, 2023.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

There being no further Probation business to discuss, review of the Office of Emergency Services agenda commenced with the following requests:

- 1) To increase Capital Project H.254.9550 280, *Fire Training Center Projects-Projects*, in the amount of \$555.79 to reflect 50% reimbursement from Washington County for expenses paid in full by Warren County.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and refer same to the Finance Committee, *a copy*

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*of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To approve revisions to the Warren County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3) To appoint/re-appoint members to the Warren County Fire Advisory Board.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 4) To appoint/re-appoint members to the EMS Advisory Board.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

There being no further Office of Emergency Services business to discuss, review of the Sheriff agenda commenced with the following requests:

- 1) To amend two of the Sheriff's Office policies relating to leave, for the Correction Division Directive 003 and the Public Safety Division Directive 006.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee for this item to be brought back for consideration next month, following legal review; Jim LaFarr, *Sheriff*, indicated he was not opposed to the matter being delayed and agreed to add the item to his agenda for the next Committee meeting.

- 2) To create and fill the new position of Per Diem Cook Part-Time, \$18.07/hour.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request and forward same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form and the Intent to Fill Vacant Position form are on file with the minutes.*

- 3) To ratify the actions of the Warren County Sheriff's Office in submitting an application for New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services 2020 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant Program funds in an amount not to exceed \$474,832.
- 4) To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$474,832 to reflect the receipt of grant funding from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services 2020 Interoperable Communications Grant Program.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve both requests as presented. The necessary resolution for Item 3 was authorized for the April 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, and Item 4 was referred to the Finance Committee. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

- 4) For a new contract with Saratoga County, for sharing law enforcement resources, joint response and cooperative services with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office.

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Extensive discussion on this item ensued, during which a request was made to include in the contract language indicating that there would be no additional cost to the County, or to the City of Glens Falls, associated with this agreement. It was the consensus of the Committee to discuss this matter further at the next Committee meeting following legal review and inclusion of the suggested language in the contract documents. Sheriff LaFarr indicated he was not opposed to the item being delayed for further review and agreed to include the item on his agenda for the next Committee meeting.

Review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda occurred, as follows:

- 1) Enhanced Warren County campus security services - Sheriff LaFarr apprised of an incident where a weapon was pointed at a Sheriff's employee on campus, which lead to discussions regarding increasing security with armed security guards in both buildings on the Warren County campus to protect employees; the suggestion of placing a magnetometer at the Department of Motor Vehicles entrance of the Municipal Center Building was also made.
- 2) Request from the Treasurer's Office to draft rules for non-bargaining unit employee benefits - Sheriff LaFarr indicated that in association with their changeover to using the Novatime time keeping system, the Treasurer's Office had requested a written policy for non-bargaining unit employees which they were working on.
- 3) Purchase of wireless mega range internet devices for patrol cars - Sheriff LaFarr apprised of the need for these devices and noted that following testing they had determined there were few dead/low signal spots areas of the County.

In response to an inquiry as to the status of interviews for the Public Defender Position, it was noted that two resumes had been received and that interviews would be scheduled for both candidates.

As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Seeber and Mr. Dickinson absent*), Mr. Geraci adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist