

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: APRIL 25, 2022

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: GERACI  
BRAYMER  
SEEBER  
DRISCOLL (ZOOM)  
MCDEVITT  
DIAMOND

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR: DICKINSON

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE:  
MARCY FLORES, PUBLIC DEFENDER  
ERIN BROTHERS, ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER  
ROBERT IUSI, DIRECTOR, PROBATION  
JIM LAFARR, SHERIFF  
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
RYAN DICKEY, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BRUNO  
FRASIER  
LEGGETT  
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
JACKIE FIGUEROA, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
GINELLE JONES, DIRECTOR PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES  
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the April 25, 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, aside from Supervisor Driscoll who attended virtually.***

Mr. Geraci called the meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee to order at 8:31 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Dickinson and Diamond absent*) with Ms. Seeber abstaining 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 a motion made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Dickinson and Diamond absent*) to enter into executive session.

Executive session was held from 8:33 a.m. until 8:35 a.m.

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*Minutes from executive session: Upon entering into executive session Committee realized they had failed to identify the reason for such executive session or to clarify which staff were invited to remain in the closed session. Based on advice from the County Attorney, motion was made by Mr. Geraci, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (Messrs Dickinson and Diamond absent) to return to open session at 8:35 a.m.*

The Committee reconvened from executive session to explain the need for the executive session, which was to discuss matters leading to the potential employment of a particular person in the Public Defenders Office.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer to enter into executive session; in the motion Ms. Braymer included that Marcy Flores, *Public Defender*, be excused from the closed session, and that the County Administrator, County Attorney, Clerk of the Board, Assistant to the County Administrator, and the Human Resources Director remain. The motion was seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Dickinson and Diamond absent*) to enter into executive session pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the Public Officer's Law.

Executive session was held from 8:37 a.m. until 9:27 a.m.; Mr. Diamond entered the meeting during executive session at 8:40 a.m.

*Minutes from executive session: Committee held second interviews with candidates for the Public Defender position, following which they determined their preferred candidate whom they decided would be revealed to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee in another executive session of that Committee at their May 5, 2022 meeting in order to keep the matter confidential until a candidate was confirmed. No formal motions were made during the executive session, other than the motion to return to open session, which was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (Mr. Dickinson absent).*

Upon reconvening, Mr. Geraci informed no action was taken during executive session.

The meeting continued with review of the Probation agenda which included the following requests:

- 1) To authorize new contracts with WAIT House; Maureen Buckley Johnson; and Jameson Bucharad in an amount not to exceed \$900 each (funded by Y-ReConnects grant) to serve as Re-Entry Ambassadors for the term commencing April 1, 2022 and terminating March 31, 2023.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) For a new contract with Mediation Matters in an amount not to exceed \$6,100 (funded by Y-ReConnects grant) for Restorative Justice and Community Circles Training for juveniles involved in the criminal justice system; youth and adults with physical, intellectual or development disabilities or mental health diagnosis; at-risk youth within the community; COP members; and affiliated service providers and law enforcement, over the term commencing April 1, 2022 and terminating March 31, 2023.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3) For a new contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension in an amount not to exceed \$4,999 (funded by Y-ReConnects grant) to serve as a Y-ReConnects Parent Ambassador, creating parenting resources, over the term commencing April 1, 2022 and terminating March 31, 2023.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 4) For a new contract with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Southern Adirondacks in an amount not to exceed \$720 (funded by Y-ReConnects grant) to prepare and train mentors and mentees for the successful re-entry of criminal justice involved youth over the term commencing April 1, 2022 and terminating March 31, 2023.
- 5) To amend the contract with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Southern Adirondacks (authorized by Resolution No. 459 of 2020) to add the term “annually” after the not to exceed amount of \$22,140 so the contract automatically renews each year so long as grant funding is provided for same.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the requests as presented and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

Moving on to the Discussion Items portion of the agenda, Robert Iusi, *Director, Probation*, provided an update on a Rural Justice Grant with Washington County for the Alternatives to Incarceration programs.

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

- 1) To fill the vacant position of 9<sup>th</sup> Assistant Public Defender, *Annual Salary \$71,988*, due to promotion.

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

- 2) To increase the salary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Public Defender, from \$97,310 to \$102,053, effective May 23, 2022 to bring the position salary grade into line with the supervisory work performed.

Discussion ensued with respect to the request and the correct procedure for addressing, whether that be through the appropriate oversight Committee or the Budget Committee, based on recent action for another position; a motion was subsequently made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by majority vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*), with Mr. Driscoll voting in opposition, to refer the request to increase the salary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Public Defender position to the Budget Committee.

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

- 1) To authorize an intermunicipal agreement with Saratoga County to share police and related law enforcement resources, personnel and equipment with the Saratoga County Sheriff’s Office for a term commencing upon execution and termination by either party

Following discussion, motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*), with Ms. Seeber abstaining, to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To write-off an unpaid claim from September 2018 with the New York Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Child Passenger Safety Committee in the amount of \$750 in accordance with Resolution No. 240 of 2019, due to the claim being submitted after the deadline and the payment being rejected.

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

- 3) To authorize submission of an application to the New York State Sheriff’s Association for COVID-19 Detection

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and Mitigation Grant funding for the Correctional Facility in an amount not to exceed \$81,943 for a term commencing August 1, 2022 and terminating July 31, 2024.

- 4) To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$81,943, to establish revenue and expense codes for New York State Sheriff's Association Detective and Mitigation grant.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 5) To amend the education reimbursement policies and procedures for all Warren County Sheriff's Office employees to allow 100% reimbursement for tuition books and fee expenses, to make the policies consistent with prior adjustments made to the policy for other County employees.

Discussion ensued with regard to the request, during which it was explained that the County's policy had already been adjusted to allow for this and that the correction action needed was to authorize memorandums of agreement with all of the Sheriff's collective bargaining units to allow for this adjustment in their individual contracts.

Motion was made by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve of memorandums of agreement with all of the Sheriff's collective bargaining units to reflect the allowance of 100% reimbursement for tuition expenses in accordance with the County's current policy (*authorized by Resolution No. 500 of 2021*) and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 6) For a new contract with Chic's Marina to provide routine service and emergency repairs for patrol vessels at the rate specified in the attachment provided in the agenda packet for a term commencing April 1, 2022 and terminating December 31, 2022.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Concluding the agenda review with the Discussions Items section, Jim LaFarr, *Sheriff*, provided an update on the Warren County Sheriff's Office reform progress, and he requested an executive session to discuss security services in Warren County facilities. Ryan Dickey, *Second Assistant County Attorney*, clarified that the executive session was requested to discuss a matter which would imperil the public's safety if disclosed.

Following some discussion, motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*) to enter into an executive session pursuant to Section 105(1)(a) of the Public Officer's Law.

Executive session was held from 10:12 a.m. until 10:25 a.m.

*Minutes from executive session: Committee heard concerns from the Sheriff with current security in Warren County facilities and his suggestions for improvements. No action was taken during the executive session, other than a motion to return to open session which was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (Mr. Dickinson absent).*

Upon reconvening, Mr. Geraci announced that no action had been taken during the executive session.

There being no further Sheriff's business to discuss, Mr. Geraci announced that a candidate for the Public Defender position would be suggested to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee at their next meeting; he indicated that the Committee did not wish to make the selection public at this time.

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As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Dickinson absent*), Mr. Geraci adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist