

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**DATE: JANUARY 21, 2025**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: GERACI  
CONOVER  
MADAY  
STRAINER  
GILLIGAN  
DRISCOLL  
PATCHETT

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY DEPARTMENT  
JASON CARUSONE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
PAULETTE McDONALD, ASSISTANT TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
ROBERT IUSI, DIRECTOR, PROBATION  
ERIN BROTHERS, DATA OFFICER, ILS, PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE  
TERRY COMEAU, UNDERSHERIFF  
ANN MARIE MASON, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS MERLINO  
TURNER  
WILD  
TAMMIE DeLORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTER  
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER  
DEANNA PARK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE FOR THE AGING  
DELANEY WILSON, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
LUKE MOSSEAU, *THE POST STAR*  
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the January 21, 2025 meeting of the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following links:*

*Warren County website - <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>*

*Warren County's YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wB1IjQXRj8g>*

Mr. Geraci called the meeting of the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Copies of the District Attorney; Probation; Public Defender; Sheriff and Office of Emergency Services agendas were distributed; copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried by a majority vote of those present, with Mr. Patchett abstaining, to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

The meeting commenced with review of the Action Agenda/New Business section of the District Attorney agenda which included a request to submit an application to the New York State Office of Victim Services for 2025 VOCA (*Victim of a Crime Act*) Victim Assistance Grant Program funding in an amount to be determined for the term beginning October 1, 2025 and terminating September 30, 2028, with an optional two-year renewal, and authorizing the Chairman of the Board to execute the resulting grant agreement for same.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form*

*is on file with the minutes.*

Privilege of the floor and public comment were called for;

Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, spoke regarding the local match for the District Attorney's request.

There being no further District Attorney business to discuss, review of the Probation agenda commenced with the Action/Agenda New Business Items which included the following requests:

1. To amend the Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to create new position of Probation Officer Trainee, *Grade 16, Base Annual Salary \$55,602*, and unfund but retain in the Table of Organization the position of Probation Officer, effective February 24, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried unanimously 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.*

2. To submit an application to Operation Underground Railroad, Inc. for grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for the purchase of digital forensics software from DATAPILOT, Inc., for a term beginning as soon as possible and terminating December 31, 2025.

Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, suggested amending the request to include authorization to accept of the funds, as well as any additional future awards that may become available under this grant and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute any resulting grant agreement.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried unanimously to approve the request, inclusive of the language suggested by Mr. Elmen and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 21<sup>st</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 Public Defender agenda review commenced with the Action/Agenda New Business Items which included the following requests:

1. To extend two grant awards received from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, in the amount of \$380,600 to help offset the costs of Public Defense services and expenses in Warren County, to commence retroactive to April 1, 2023 and terminate March 31, 2025.
2. To amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$139,737.29, to reflect funding from the Division of Criminal Justice Services, for Aid to Defense for Discovery Reform.
3. To amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$139,737.29, to reflect funding from the Division of Criminal Justice Services, for Aid to Defense - Supplemental.

Committee was advised a portion of the grant funds would be used to pay stipends to attorneys within the Public Defender's Office who had not received salary increases in 2025. Mr. Elmen advised stipends could not be paid as there were no provisions in place allowing additional payment for services already performed.

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by, Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to table requests 1-3 until the next Committee meeting when future information on the matter could be provided.

4. For a new contract with LegalServer, in the amount of \$48,900, to upgrade/replace current CaseManagement Platform to increase efficiency in opening/closing documents, eDiscovery review, E-File management and ILS (*Indigent Legal Services*) reporting, to commence March 3, 2025 and terminate December 31, 2026.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form*

*is on file with the minutes.*

Next, the agenda review proceeded with an overview of the following Discussion Item:

- a. Fourth Family Defense (Child Welfare) Quality Improvement and Caseload reduction Grant.

Committee was introduced to Delaney Wilson, a Senior at Queensbury High School, who was participating in the Criminal Justice Pathway Program with the Public Defender's Office which provided college credit.

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

1. To amend the contract with the New York State Department of Corrections & Community Supervision previously authorized by R136 of 2021 to increase the not to exceed amount by \$70,000 to a total not to exceed amount of \$196,114 for the entirety of the five year contract, to account for annual increases in food expenses for the Correctional Facility.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

2. To amend the Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to create the new position of Building Maintenance Mechanic P/T, *Grade 15, Base Annual Salary \$28.86/hr*, effective February 24, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried unanimously 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.*

Discussion Items section of the agenda was reviewed with the following items being addressed:

1. Sheriff's Office vehicle fleet. Mr. Taflan provided oversight on his research regarding purchasing vs. leasing County vehicles, which, he advised leasing might not be the best option. He indicated he would return with a final recommendation when his analysis was complete.

There being no further Sheriff business to discuss, review of the Office of Emergency Services agenda commenced with the Action Agenda/New Business Items which included the following requests:

1. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$639.87 to carry over unused FY20 State Homeland Security Program grant funding.
2. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$2,924.13 to carry over unused FY22 State Homeland Security Program grant funding.
3. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$49,260.97 to carry over unused FY23 State Homeland Security Program grant funding.
4. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$101,590.72 to carry over unused FY22 Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Domestic Terrorism Prevention State Homeland Security Program grant funding.
5. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$11,477.25 to carry over unused FY21 Hazmat Grant Program funding.
6. Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$125,362.55 to carry over unused FY22 Hazmat Grant Program funding.

Mr. Strainer exited the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Mr. Strainer absent*) to approve the requests as presented and refer same to the Finance & Budget Committee. *Copies of the resolution*

*request forms are on file with the minutes.*

7. To approve a memorandum of understanding between DHSES (*New York State Division of Homeland Security*) and Emergency Services and Warren County to accept possession of New York State DHSES owned flood mitigation equipment.

Mr. Strainer returned to the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 21<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Privilege of the floor and public comment were called for, but there was no one wishing to speak.

As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. Conover, and carried unanimously, Mr. Geraci adjourned the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist