

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE, PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY SERVICES

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: MADAY
CONOVER
STRAINER
DRISCOLL
O'NEILL

OTHERS PRESENT:

BRIAN PILATZKE, ASSIGNED COUNSEL ADMINISTRATOR
REPRESENTING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE:
JIM LAFARR, SHERIFF
TERRY COMEAU, UNDERSHERIFF
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
CHRISTOPHER BRIGGS, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
NATHAN ETU, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BRUNO
TURNER
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER
LINDA CLARK, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT
DR. KYRA HARING
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST
*SEE SIGN IN SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: GILLIGAN
BUTLER

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 23, 2026 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=30dKUwqVty0>

Copies of the Assigned Counsel and Sheriff's agendas were distributed; copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

Mr. Maday called the meeting of the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee to order at 9:01 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan, Messrs. Butler and O'Neill absent*) to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were called for:

Dr. Kyra Haring spoke with regard to the animal welfare crisis in New York State and the need for a Warren-Washington bi-County municipal animal shelter modeled after the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. She shared three cases in Warren County involving dogs which ended up at her office and had been recommended by the SPCA of Upstate New York to be euthanized. Dr. Haring apprised there was no solution in Warren or Washington County for homeless with animals which resulted in them living in vehicles or on the streets. She stated conversations she had with a State Police Sergeant as well as with both Warren and Washington County Sheriff's indicated they were frustrated there was currently no solution in place for the issue. She said the solution would be to build an affordable, sustainable State funded animal shelter, which taxpayers resources would be better allocated for.

Mr. Driscoll inquired if Dr. Haring expected to or had given the same presentation to Washington County. She replied she had presented to Washington County last month and due to no cooperation for the project from Town Board Supervisors she was being assisted by the New York State Animal Protection Federation who would be seeking

assistance at the State level.

Mr. O'Neill entered the meeting at 9:03 a.m. during privilege of the floor and public comments.

The meeting commenced with a review of the Action Agenda/New Business Item section of the Assigned Counsel agenda which included the following requests:

1. To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$49,545.34 to reflect receipt of funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Aid to Defense for Discovery grant.
2. To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$49,037.33 to reflect receipt of funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for Aid to Defense - Supplemental grant.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan and Mr. Butler absent*) to approve the requests as outlined above and refer same to the Finance & Budget Committee. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

3. To authorize a new contract with Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. (*LASNYY*) in a total amount not to exceed \$103,514 for conflict Family Court representation over a term commencing January 1, 2024 and continuing until termination of grant funding.
4. To authorize a new contract with Rural Law Center of New York, Inc. in a total amount not to exceed \$78,993 for indigent appellate representation services over a term commencing January 1, 2024 and continuing until termination of grant funding.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. O'Neill and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan and Mr. Butler absent*) to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the March 20th Board meeting. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

There being no further Assigned Counsel business to discuss, review of the Sheriff's agenda commenced with the Action Agenda/New Business Items, which included a request to authorize a Home Rule Request to enact Senate Bill No. S8588-A and Assembly Bill No. A9334-A entitled "An Act Transferring Certain State Property located in the Town of Queensbury to the County of Warren". (*Previous Resolution No. 184 of 2025*)

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. O'Neill and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan and Mr. Butler absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Public comments 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 by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan and Mr. Butler absent*), Mr. Maday adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist