

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2020

---

---

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SEEBER  
LEGETT  
DIAMOND  
DRISCOLL  
MCDEVITT  
SHEPLER

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR: BEATY

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE ASSIGNED COUNSEL OFFICE:

JOY LAFOUNTAIN, ASSIGNED COUNSEL ADMINISTRATOR  
ROBERT MCGREGOR, ESQ., SUPERVISING ATTORNEY

REPRESENTING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:

JASON CARUSONE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
MANON AFFINITO, DIRECTOR, VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ROBERT IUSI, PROBATION DIRECTOR

FRANK E. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY

AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD

KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER

SUPERVISORS BRAYMER

FRASIER

HOGAN

MAGOWAN

SIMPSON

BRIAN LAFLORE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
EMERGENCY SERVICES

JAMES LAFARR, SHERIFF

TERRY COMEAU, UNDERSHERIFF

TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*

LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

---

---

*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 24, 2020 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://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/criminal/>

Ms. Seeber called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee to order at 11:32 a.m.

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

Copies of the Assigned Counsel, District Attorney and Public Defender agendas were distributed to the Committee members, and copies of same are on file with the meeting minutes.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert McGregor, Esq., *Supervising Attorney for the Assigned Counsel Office*, who presented a request to renew the contract with Rural Law Center of NY, Inc. in the amount of \$57,500 for continued appellate assigned counsel services for a term commencing May 1, 2020 and terminating April 30, 2022.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of*

---

*the request is on file with the minutes.*

With regard to the second agenda item listed, Ms. Seeber stated she had requested this be included to inform the Committee that the Part-Time Clerk position created within the 2020 Budget had recently been filled after an exhaustive search.

There being no further Assigned Counsel business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Jason Carusone, *District Attorney*, who presented a request to amend Resolution No. 374 of 2019, authorizing agreement with NY Prosecutors Training Institute, Inc., to include language pertaining to usage for the digital evidence management system (*annual cost may vary depending on digital content*).

Motion was made by Ms. Shepler, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Proceeding to the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda, Mr. Carusone informed the main focus of the Criminal Justice Reform had been on Bail Reform due to the unanticipated changes; however, he stated, the number of attorneys available for victims had been reduced as a result of compliancy deadlines and demands from the new law. He said he was anticipating that his office would need to hire an additional attorney in the future as a result of the Discovery Reform.

Mr. Carusone then introduced Manon Affinito, *Director, Crime Victim Assistance Program*, who had been asked to attend and speak about Crime Victims Rights Week and the annual breakfast event. Ms. Affinito apprised the Crime Victims Rights week was April 19 - 25<sup>th</sup> and the annual Crime Victims Rights Breakfast would be hosted by the Washington County District Attorney's Office on April 20<sup>th</sup> at SUNY Adirondack. She noted that invitations would be sent to the members of the Board of Supervisors for this event which presented a great opportunity to hear about cases that had taken place over the past year and allow victims, law enforcement and civilians a chance for recognition.

There being no further District Attorney business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Iusi, *Probation Director*, who outlined his request to authorize a resolution in support of efforts to improve probation and alternatives to incarceration in NY to protect the public and reduce reliance on prisons, jails and detention. He noted NYSAC Standing Committee on Public Safety Resolution No. 3 of 2020, which pertained to this matter, was included in the agenda packet.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Criminal Justice Committee, on motion made by Mr. Diamond and seconded by Ms. Shepler, Ms. Seeber adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board