

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

---

---

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: LEGGETT  
SIMPSON  
BRAYMER  
DIAMOND  
DRISCOLL  
SEEBER  
SHEPLER

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES:  
BRIAN LAFLURE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR  
REPRESENTING THE WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:  
JAMES LAFARR, SHERIFF  
TERRY COMEAU, UNDERSHERIFF  
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 FRASIER  
MAGOWAN  
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

---

---

*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 24, 2020 meeting of the 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/safety/>*

Mr. Leggett called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 12:04 p.m.

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

Privilege of the floor was extended to Brian LaFlure, *Fire Coordinator/Director, Office of Emergency Services (OES)*, who distributed copies of the OES agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. LaFlure presented a request to approve revisions to the Warren County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above 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.*

Concluding his agenda review, Mr. LaFlure spoke regarding the First Responder's Bill proposed by Assemblyman Stec. He informed there was an issue with first responder's providing personal information and addresses when they respond to an emergency scene. He notified the new laws associated with Discovery Reform also impacted attendance and volunteer recruitment. He said there were some agencies that would not provide their personal information. Mr. Leggett suggested writing a letter of support for the First Responders Bill.

A brief discussion ensued, following which a motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried

unanimously to approve support for the First Responder's Bill proposed by Assemblyman Stec and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

There being no further OES business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to James LaFarr, *Sheriff*, who distributed copies of the Sheriff agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Sheriff LaFarr presented the following requests:

- A. For a new contract with the Village of Lake George to provide police services in the Village at the Officer's hourly over-time rate plus fringe and equipment for a term to commence upon execution of the contract and terminate December 31, 2020.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Shepler and carried by majority vote, with Ms. Seeber and Mr. Diamond abstaining, to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request is on file with the minutes.*

- B. To amend the contract with Hadley-Luzerne School to increase the not to exceed amount from \$67,000 to \$87,000 per year in order to increase the pay rate of each School Resource Officer. Sheriff LaFarr advised this increase was proposed by the school district and the other school districts were not expected to follow suit.

Following discussion, motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above 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.*

- C. To authorize the Warren County Sheriff's Office to loan three obsolete radios to Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Company; and
- D. To authorize the Sheriff's Office to loan five obsolete radios to Bolton Volunteer Fire Company.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Ms. Shepler and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. *Copies of the resolution requests forms are on file with the minutes.*

- E. To add the Civil Service title of Special Patrol Officer to the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff LaFarr explained this would allow the Sheriff's Office to hire retired Patrol Officer's for School Resource Officer positions without participating in Civil Service examinations and allows for the submission of waivers for increased wages without having to demonstrate a difficulty to hire.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Personnel & Administration Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- F. To authorize a new contract with Nemer Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram of Queensbury for maintenance and repairs of Dodge Chargers at a rate of \$90 per hour for a term to commence upon execution of the contract and terminate September 30, 2020

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above 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.*

- G. Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$134,876 to reflect appropriate revenues and expenses for the second half of the School Resource Officers contract.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2020 County Budget as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Moving on to the Topics for Discussion portion of the agenda review, Sheriff LaFarr reviewed the following:

- A. School Resource Officer-Warrensburg Central School: Sheriff LaFarr indicated the Warrensburg Central School had included funding for a School Resource Office in their proposed budget, but there were currently no staff available to fill it.
- B. CAP (*Compliance Assistant Program*) Court Considerations: Sheriff LaFarr indicated he was reviewing the possibility of moving the CAP Court to the Correctional Facility lobby where security staff were already in place, but had discovered visitation could pose a possible issue. Ms. Seeber cautioned this move, indicating that the County had not been reimbursed for the costs incurred thus far and may not be reimbursed for this move either. Sheriff LaFarr noted the County would save at least \$35,000 per year by reducing the security staffing required. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, pointed out that the County had been reimbursed by Office of Court Administration for some of the costs incurred, but not all of them were covered.
- C. Lake George Village Seasonal Police Services: This Item was addressed by the Sheriff Agenda, Action Item A.
- D. Sheriff's Office Status Update: Sheriff LaFarr indicated there were currently 68 inmates in the Correctional Facility. He advised the Fourth Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Thunder Hockey game was scheduled for Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> and for the first time the Warren County Sheriff's Office would be part of the game and he encouraged all to attend. Regarding Discovery Reform, he explained an individual was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the 7<sup>th</sup> degree and was found to have additional drugs upon a strip search at the time of booking. He said the individual would not be charged because they would not be able to provide evidence to the District Attorney to be trial ready within fifteen days. He explained after the process was complete and the evidence was collected it could take six months to a year and they would have to locate the individual. He said the new Bail Reform was the wrong way to do business. Mr. Leggett inquired how the re-organization of the Sheriff's Office was going and Sheriff LaFarr replied it was outstanding; he added the staff morale was up and there was support from the community.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. Leggett adjourned the meeting at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist

