

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY**

**DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2011**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS VANNESS  
BENTLEY  
THOMAS  
CONOVER  
MCCOY  
MONROE

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

BRIAN LAFLURE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
BUD YORK, SHERIFF  
DANIEL STEC, CHAIRMAN  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
JOAN SADY, CLERK  
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS TAYLOR  
WOOD  
STRAINER  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
JOANNE COLLINS, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR GIRARD

Mr. VanNess called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Bentley 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 Bud York, Sheriff, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York presented a request to fill the vacant position of Correction Officer #41, annual salary of \$33,534, Employee No. 11277, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. McCoy and carried unanimously to approve the request to fill the vacant position of Correction Officer #41 as outlined above and to refer same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York presented a request to amend the 2011 County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$7,138 to reflect the receipt of an insurance recovery for lightning damage.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2011 County Budget as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request to Amend County Budget is on file with the minutes.*

The next action item, Sheriff York stated, was to ratify the actions of the Sheriff in approving a request for Investigator Comeau to attend the New York State Emergency Medical Technician (NYS EMT) Refresher Class Certification in West Glens Falls from June 15 through August 18, 2011.

Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York said the first of three requests for a transfer of funds was in the amount of \$74,402, to be transferred from Corrections - Salaries - Regular, to Corrections - Salaries - Overtime.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. McCoy and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$74,402 as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Sheriff York presented a request for a transfer of funds from Law Enforcement - Salaries - Regular, to Law Enforcement - Salaries - Overtime, in the amount of \$61,211.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$61,211 as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.*

Concluding the Action Items portion of the agenda, Sheriff York presented a request for a transfer of funds from 911 Communications Center - Salaries - Regular, to 911 Communications Center - Salaries - Overtime, in the amount of \$8,154.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. McCoy and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$8,154 as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.*

With regard to dispatch services with the City of Glens Falls, Paul Dusek, County Administrator, stated that the only remaining issue to finalize was leave time accruals, such as sick and vacation time, which the City had agreed to compensate. Mr. Dusek apprised that the consolidation initiative was in the final planning phase, in keeping with the Committee's previous recommendations, and noted a plan would be presented to the Committee at a future meeting. Mr. VanNess raised the issue of Civil Service status and Mr. Dusek explained that Civil Service Law controlled seniority for layoff's and promotions; the Sheriff's Employees Alliance would determine shifts and would acknowledge transferred workers as new staff; and third-year service credit as a lateral transfer would be used for determinations relative to starting salary and benefits.

Responding to a question from Mr. Geraghty, Mr. Dusek confirmed that the City of Glens Falls was responsible for the cost of the eight-week training regardless of the start date, which he said, was originally targeted for early November. The staff, he said, would remain on the City's payroll until the completion of training.

Regarding the transition of services, Sheriff York expressed his full confidence; however, he added, he certainly anticipated a learning curve. He said the best scenario would be training sessions held in November and December. Responding to a concern expressed by Mr. Taylor, Mr. Dusek reiterated that it was his understanding that the City was responsible for the training costs even if same should occur in early 2012. Mr. VanNess stated that certain details, such as the number of staff and the starting dates, had not yet been determined.

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

Mr. LaFlure requested permission for Amy Drexel, Deputy Director of OES, to attend the Train the Trainer ICS Course in Plattsburgh, NY, from November 21 to 22, 2011.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to approve the request to attend training as outlined above. A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention is on file with the minutes.

Mr. LaFlure presented a request for himself to attend the Regional Fire Administrators Conference in Montour Falls, NY from November 30 through December 1, 2011.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to attend a conference as outlined above. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention is on file with the minutes.*

Addressing other topics for discussion, Mr. LaFlure stated that the Emergency Services Training Center had encountered road issues which would require more time for resolution and advancement of the project. Funding, he said, was in place and he noted the grant's timetable had been extended several times.

Mr. LaFlure advised of a recent Homeland Security Grant meeting held in Lake Placid where the State informed the counties of a 50% reduction in Federal funding. This funding, he said, represented the only monies the counties' received for necessities not included in their budget. Mr. LaFlure further explained that the State would allocate funding to the counties with the highest terrorism threats for which Warren County was not included. Subsequently, he stated, the reduction was not well received. On the Monday following the meeting, the counties were notified of a revision, whereby each county would receive a portion of the 50% remaining funding or in Warren County's case, \$85,000.

Concluding his agenda review, Mr. LaFlure requested approval to use the former WIC (Women, Infant & Children) building for airpack fire training which included the use of theatrical smoke for mock drills. He said he had discussed the issue with Frank Morehouse, Building Superintendent, and Mr. Dusek with regard to insurance. Mr. VanNess expressed his support for the critical training which was essential to the duties of the firefighters.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to support the use of the WIC building for fire training and to refer the request to the County Facilities Committee.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee on motion made by Mr. Bentley and seconded by Mr. McCoy, Mr. VanNess adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist