

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DATE: November 29, 2012

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS STRAINER
MONROE
DICKINSON
VANSELOW
MASON

OTHERS PRESENT:

KATHLEEN B. HOGAN, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ROBERT IUSI, DIRECTOR OF PROBATION
DANIEL G. STEC, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS FRASIER

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR BENTLEY
KENNY

LOEB
TAYLOR
THOMAS
WESTCOTT
WOOD
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
JOANNE COLLINS, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

In the absence of both Committee Chairman Bentley and Vice-Chairman Kenny, Mr. Strainer called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Mason, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Kate Hogan, District Attorney (DA), who acknowledged the elimination of the Youth Bureau Director and programs and the need to identify alternative ways to continue the programming. She said the Department of Social Services (DSS) would take over the administration of the "Alive at 25" program upon renewal of the contract. Ms. Hogan explained the mandatory program served drivers under the age of 25 with vehicle traffic violations. Program participants were required to pay a fee, she said, which covered the cost for the instructor and brought between \$10,000 and \$15,000 per year in revenue for the Youth Court.

Ms. Hogan presented a request to extend the agreement with Robert Lathrop, for the "Alive at 25" driver safety program, for the term commencing January 1, 2013 and terminating December 31, 2013, at no cost to the County.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Mason and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the agreement with Robert Lathrop as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 21, 2012 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Hogan complimented Margaret Sing-Smith on her directorship of the Youth Bureau and its programs. She thanked Ms. Sing-Smith for her instrumental role in the program's implementation.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Iusi, Director of Probation, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Iusi presented a request to extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DSS for preventive services funding in the amount of \$50,000, for the term commencing January 1, 2013

and terminating December 31, 2013. Mr. Iusi stated the funds were used to cover the salary for one Juvenile Probation Officer and he pointed out a \$10,000 reduction from prior year funding.

Motion was made by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the MOU with the DSS as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 21, 2012 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

With regard to the Community Services Program, Mr. Iusi stated that decreased funding and increased expenses for the Community Action Agency's Community Services Program had necessitated their request for additional funding to ensure continuation of their services and programs. He stated a Request for Proposal (RFP) had been developed with assistance from Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent, and he reviewed the responses as follows:

1. Community Action Agency, \$51,000
2. Youth Advocate Programs, \$199,000
3. The Altamont Program, Inc., \$136,000

Pertaining to the 2012 County Budget, Mr. Iusi outlined the funding sources for the Community Services Program through the Community Action Agency as follows:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Funds handled through</u>
\$27,000	Warren County	Probation
\$5,326	NYS Division of Probation	Probation
\$2,296	SDDP Youth Bureau/NYS	Youth Bureau

The total for 2012, Mr. Iusi stated, was approximately \$34,622 and he noted the Community Action Agency was the lowest proposal submitted. In order to effectively assess services provided, Mr. Iusi stated he had spoken with both Judge Tarantino (City of Glens Falls) and Judge Muller (Queensbury), who endorsed the Community Action Agency's Community Services programs citing Lori Donahue, whose efforts to hone many aspects of their operations had been successful, making the Community Action Agency the best option overall.

The fiscal challenge, Mr. Iusi advised, was a shortfall of \$16,378 due to the fact that the budget was completed prior to RFP activities.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mr. Mason to approve the request for a transfer of funds from the Contingent Fund in the amount of \$16,378 to cover the shortfall needed to continue the agreement with the Community Action Agency.

As a member of the Community Action Board, Mr. Mason expressed his support for the request based upon Mr. Iusi's research, and he noted the Agency was losing \$10,000 per year in order to sustain programs and services. Mr. Iusi noted that Ms. Ackershoek had managed to sustain programming through the use of Federal funds, which had since been eliminated.

Mr. Iusi explained the RFP differentials were largely due to the fact that a new provider would need to hire staff and identify and prepare a program site in Warren County. He also noted that historically, Youth Advocacy programs tended to be more costly. Mr. Mason commended the Community Action Agency for their proven dedication in continuing operations despite a reduction in funding, for the greater good of the community at large. Ms. Hogan advised that the services

provided by the Community Action Agency had a significant impact on plea deals and jail sentences, which reduced jail expenditures overall.

Mr. Strainer called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve the request for a contract with the Community Action Agency for the Community Services Program for Alternative Sentencing, for the term commencing January 1, 2013 and terminating December 31, 2013, for a total amount not to exceed \$51,000, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 21, 2012 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

As there was no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Vanselow and seconded by Mr. Mason, Mr. Strainer adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist

