

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: MARCH 27, 2015

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS WOOD
GIRARD
TAYLOR
FRASIER
BROCK
SEEBER
SIMPSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

BRIAN LAFLURE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
REPRESENTING THE WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:
BUD YORK, SHERIFF
SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
MARK NEAL, SYSTEM MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
MARTIN AUFFREDOU, COUNTY ATTORNEY
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS McDEVITT
SOKOL
LARRY CLEVELAND, WARREN COUNTY RESIDENT
DAVID STRAINER, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*
SAMANTHA HOGAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

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

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

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

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. LaFlure presented a request to approve the Warren County Bio-terrorism Plan, which he noted was an annex to the Comprehensive Emergency Plan. *A copy of the Bio-terrorism Plan is on file with the minutes.*

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting; *a copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Mr. LaFlure presented a request to approve the Warren County Mass Care Plan, which he explained was intended to support the general public in times of disaster and recovery. *A copy of the Warren County Mass Care Plan is on file with the minutes.*

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the plan as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting; *a copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Moving on, Mr. LaFlure presented a request for himself and Scott Combs, Deputy Fire Coordinator, to attend the Intelligence Liaison Officer Conference in Cooperstown, NY on April 29 - May 1, 2015.

Mr. Simpson inquired as to what an Intelligence Liaison Officer did and Mr. LaFlure explained the Homeland Security Infrastructure operated through a liaison for each county. He stated Fire

Department and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel were in the field frequently and would report suspicious behavior or situations to the county liaison for further investigation. Mr. LaFlure stated there was also a liaison of this nature in the Warren County Sheriff's Office, and Shawn Lamouree, Warren County Undersheriff, confirmed that Lieutenant Steven Stockdale served in this capacity.

Ms. Seeber asked what the cost to attend the Convention was, and Mr. LaFlure answered there was no cost to the County for this convention as it was fully funded by the State of New York.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the travel request. *Copies of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention forms are on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaFlure noted the last action item on his agenda was a request to apply for the FY15 State Homeland Security Program grant. He explained his Office had not yet received guidance for this grant program, but noted that the turn around time for the application would be compressed.

Ms. Seeber asked if this grant would require matching funds from the County and Mr. LaFlure replied in the negative, explaining that Homeland Security grants did not require a local match.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting; *a copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Moving on to the Information for Discussion/Review section of the agenda, Mr. LaFlure stated he had some concerns relating to the proposed local law to allow the sale of sparkling devices during certain time periods in Warren County. He advised he had done a lot of research on the proposed local law and wanted to inform the Committee of his findings. Mr. LaFlure apprised the State of New York had not yet finalized the required permit process for selling sparkling devices and he was not confident it would be prepared in time for the initial device selling period which would commence on June 1st. He noted the New York State website provided information on how to apply for the permit to sell these items and it indicated that the fees collected were intended to support Firefighter training. He further noted he had received additional documentation on this issue which he felt pertained to Code Enforcement matters; he advised he had been in communication with Charles Wallace, Fire Prevention and Building Code Enforcement Administrator, on the matter and he intended to forward the aforementioned documents to the County Attorney for review. Mr. LaFlure opined the Committee would need to address issues relating to the responsibility for these sales which would fall upon what was referred to as the "Authority Having Jurisdiction" (AHJ), and he noted that in this case the AHJ would be Warren County. He said he would keep the Committee informed on this matter as new information presented itself.

Mr. Taylor asked Bud York, Warren County Sheriff, if the law was strictly enforced as it pertained to sparklers. Sheriff York replied that although complaints were made, there was very little enforcement; Undersheriff Shawn Lamouree added the arrests for firework violations were infrequent.

Next, Mr. LaFlure provided an update on the ice jam situation on rivers within Warren County, noting that everything seemed to be moving along well, even in the areas where problems were typically experienced. He advised the DPW staff also assisted in monitoring the rivers and would report any problem areas.

Finally, Mr. LaFlure reported on the filling of the 2nd Deputy EMS Coordinator position, reminding the Committee that at their last meeting he had requested authorization to fill the vacancy. He advised Travis Howe had been hired to fill the position and would start on April 1, 2015.

Mr. Brock inquired if Mr. LaFlure had thought about meeting with a representative of *The Post Star* to publish Fireworks Safety Tips and Information around the 4th of July. Mr. LaFlure stated the local media had published safety information around the July 4th holiday. He added that one of the State's requirements for obtaining the permit to sell sparkling devices was that safety information had to be provided with every transaction.

This concluded the review of the OES agenda; privilege of the floor was extended to Sheriff York who distributed copies of his agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, Sheriff York presented a request for Sergeant Kevin Scellen to attend Civil Supervisors' Training in Saratoga Springs, NY on May 11- 13, 2015 at a cost of \$300.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Brock a carried unanimously to approve the travel request. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention form is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Sheriff York presented a request for Lieutenant Steven Stockdale to attend the Bivona Child Abuse Summit in Rochester, NY on April 30- May 1, 2015. He added there was no cost associated with this training, other than for travel and meals.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried unanimously to approve the travel request. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention Form is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York then presented a request for Undersheriff Lamouree, Sergeant Robert Smith, and Patrol Officers Terry Combs, Jesse Wittenburg, Kevin Ordway, Bill St. John and Jason Palmer to attend the 2015 NYTOA (New York Tactical Officers Association) Tactical Conference in Verona, NY on April 28- 30, 2015 at a total cost of \$3,272 to be funded by asset forfeiture monies.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the aforementioned travel request. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention form is on file with the minutes.*

Item D, Sheriff York announced, included a request to authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute an amended health services agreement with Correction Medical Care, Inc. (CMC) and to ratify these actions as the execution would take place before the April 17th Board Meeting.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, who explained that Resolution No. 659 of 2013 authorized an agreement with CMC to provide comprehensive medical care for inmates incarcerated at the Warren County Jail. He advised the agreement had commenced in 2015 and allowed for two one-year extensions; he reminded the Committee of the price associated with the agreement, which was \$1,155,000 for year one, \$1,207,000 for year two and \$1,262,000 for year three. Mr. Auffredou noted that in September 2014, CMC had entered into an assurance with the Attorney General's Office, the only impact of which was that CMC was required to restructure their business operations as they pertain to how medical care was delivered to incorporate professionals who were licensed to provide medical care in New York State. He

apprised CMC had incorporated a medical professional corporation (MPC) for medical services as well as a dental professional corporation (DPC). He noted the assurance with the Attorney General stated once the contract had been completed, they would need to be reexamined with the various facilities and enter into new contracts if necessary.

Mr. Auffredou explained he had anticipated the arrival of a new contract and in order to protect the County, the current contract was extended to ensure a continuum of care; he noted earlier this year the Committee had approved the creation of an additional Registered Nurse (RN) position to ensure around the clock care (*Resolution 47 of 2015*). Mr. Auffredou announced that a new comprehensive contract had been received and as far as he could tell all the pricing had remained the same. Mr. Auffredou apprised the reason he wanted to bring this to the Committee today was because the contract had now become a multi-party contract which included not only CMC and Warren County, but also CBH Medical PC and SM Dental PC, as well. He noted there were a few new and modified terms included in the contract which he would discuss with the Sheriff and Undersheriff. Mr. Auffredou stated it was important for CMC to have the new contract executed by April 1, 2015 and he noted the contract would have to be approved by the Attorney General's Office and the New York State Education Department, as well. He advised he did not believe that it would be difficult for the County to approve the contract based upon County Attorney review for ratification at the April 17, 2015 Board meeting. He reiterated that he did not see any physical impact to the County; this was just a restructuring of business operations and had nothing to do with the level of care and services provided, nor the cost, and would only affect how CMC was delivering services to the County. Mr. Auffredou stated he was seeking authorization for the Chairman to execute the new contract contingent upon County Attorney review and approval, subject to ratification at the April 17th Board meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17, 2015 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. McDevitt asked if Warren County had to enter into a specific agreement with the Attorney General's Office and Mr. Auffredou responded in the negative, explaining the assurance agreement was between CMC and the Attorney General's Office. However, Mr. Auffredou noted, he intended to add a provision to the contract ensuring Warren County would be indemnified and held harmless for any non-compliance violation with the assurance by CMC or their two PC's.

Resuming the agenda review, privilege of the floor was extended to Undersheriff Lamouree who presented a request to extend the existing contract with Watch Systems, LLC for the term commencing May 1, 2015 and terminating on April 30, 2018. He explained this contract was for sex offender management and tracking and he noted there was currently a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in place between the City of Glens Falls Police Department, the Warren County Sheriff's Office and the Warren County Probation Department through which the annual contract cost of \$3,500 was split evenly amongst the three agencies. Undersheriff Lamouree advised he had spoken with the Acting Chief of the City of Glens Falls Police Department, Michelle Arnold, as well as Robert Iusi, Director of the Warren County Probation Department, both of whom had indicated they would like to continue the arrangement. He stated he had reached out to Watch Systems, LLC and a new contract had been drafted and was reviewed by the County Attorney to continue services at the same cost.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the agreement with Watch Systems, LLC as previously noted and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form*

is on file with the minutes.

Ms. Seeber inquired whether it was common in other Counties to implement cost sharing arrangements such as this and Sheriff York answered he believed similar arrangements were made across the State in relation to contracts with Watch Systems, but said he could not confirm this was the case. He added when this arrangement first started, the City of Glens Falls Police Department and the Warren County Sheriff's Department had agreed to take on the costs and had later decided to involve the Probation Department. Undersheriff Lamouree interjected that in 2009 they saw a value in what this contract could do for not only the Sheriff's Office and City Police Department, but the Probation Department as well.

Ms. Seeber stated that she felt this was something that should be highlighted to emphasize the collaboration of the County and different departments in an effort to reduce costs, rather than create them.

Next, Undersheriff Lamouree presented a request to extend the maintenance agreement with Wells Communication Services, Inc. for a term commencing January 1, 2015 and terminating December 31, 2015 to provide maintenance and repairs for the communication consoles. In response to a question posed by Ms. Seeber relative to the contract cost, Undersheriff Lamouree indicated the cost would be \$10,800, which was the same as last year.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Brock and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Finally, Undersheriff Lamouree presented a request to enter into a new agreement with Development Authority of the North Country for the installation of fiber optics on Maggie's Road in Warrensburg to improve communications at the Sheriff's Warrensburg sub-station. He advised the County Attorney had reviewed the agreement and requested an addendum to what the agreement was going to be. Undersheriff Lamouree explained Development Authority of the North Country had received grant monies to run the fiber optics to a location on Maggie's Road in the Town of Warrensburg where they were hoping to have a radio tower erected in an effort to improve communications at the Warrensburg sub-station and to the adjacent Warrensburg Sheriff's Office Headquarters. He noted that this work would typically incur a large expense; however, he said, through this agreement there would be no cost to the County to have the fiber optics installed or used for the first three years. Undersheriff Lamouree informed that while there would be no cost for the first three years of the agreement, for years four and five, the maximum monthly charge would be \$700 per location. He added that this agreement would allow for free installation of service where there currently was none, and would provide for three years of free service. Undersheriff Lamouree noted they anticipated a savings of approximately \$1,600 to \$1,800 per month once they switched over to this new system.

Ms. Seeber asked exactly how many locations there were and Undersheriff Lamouree responded there were three locations they wanted to add. Ms. Seeber requested confirmation of the contract costs, recalling there would be no cost for the first three years and for years four and five it would be \$700 per month, per location; Undersheriff Lamouree confirmed this was correct, noting the total cost could only be as much as \$2,100 per month for years four and five. Ms. Seeber commented it appeared this arrangement would clearly yield a savings to the County. Undersheriff Lamouree agreed, stating that currently, depending on the location, the County was spending \$800 to \$900 per month for each location. Ms. Seeber asked if the contract could be renewed after the fifth year and Undersheriff Lamouree responded he had some concerns about what would happen after the

contract expired, but noted that if the rates increased they could attempt to renegotiate with Time Warner. He added this would allow for competition in the market which could benefit Warren County.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 17th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Addressing the Topics for Discussion section of the agenda, Sheriff York informed the Committee that two positions had been filled within the Corrections Division, one due to resignation and the other due to retirement; he added that these actions had led to a savings of \$13,791.00.

At Chairman Geraghty's request, Undersheriff Lamouree provided a brief update on the radio communications situation in Warren County. Undersheriff Lamouree stated they anticipated grant monies would become available at the beginning of December 2015 to address radio communications deficiencies in Warren County. He continued that due to the changes at the Office of Homeland Security, the Emergency Services grant had been delayed; he stated the grant needed to be filled out by April 15, 2015 and would be awarded later in the year. Undersheriff Lamouree informed they were now being advised the contract process for the grant funds would not begin until the end of the year and he noted that even if the maximum amount was allocated for the grant awards (\$3.5 million), there was no guarantee Warren County would receive any of the funds. He apprised the grantor agency was pushing for municipalities to become P-25 Phase 2 compliant, meaning digital communication service, which Warren County did not currently have. Undersheriff Lamouree recalled that when Televate, LLC had made their presentation back in October they had noted it would cost around \$8 million for Warren County to introduce a digital communications system, not including all of the equipment that the Fire Departments and EMS agencies would need to use the new system.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee on motion made by Mrs. Frasier and seconded by Mr. Brock, Mrs. Wood adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Hogan, Legislative Office Specialist