

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: OCTOBER 29, 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:
SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
MARK NEALE, SYSTEM MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS CONOVER
MERLINO
SOKOL
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
SAMANTHA HOGAN, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 29, 2015 meeting of the Public Safety Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/public_safety/

Ms. Wood called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 9:35 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Ms. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Public Safety Committee 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, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaFlure announced Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, suggested he apprise the Committee of a minor change made to the contract with Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex (WSWHE) BOCES, for no-cost tree cutting and removal at the Warren-Washington Emergency Services Training Center property. He stated Resolution No. 449 of 2015, passed at the September 18th Board Meeting, had approved this contract and since that time the program name had changed from the "Forestry Program" to the "Construction Program".

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to accept the changes made to the contract with WSWHE BOCES as presented.

There being no further Office of Emergency Services business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Shawn Lamouree, Warren County Undersheriff, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Undersheriff Lamouree presented a request to enter into a new agreement with Xybix, in an amount not to exceed \$20,716.08, to install monitor rack systems at six primary positions in the 911 Communications Center.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution request was authorized for the November 20th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Undersheriff Lamouree requested to enter in to a new agreement with TVC Albany, Inc. d/b/a FirstLight Fiber, in an amount not to exceed \$29,790, to provide a fiber link between the Warren County Sheriff's Office and the Washington County Department of Public Safety for primary 911 network traffic.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Brock and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Undersheriff Lamouree then requested retroactive authorization for travel by Patrol Officers Brandon Kommer and Ken Smith to attend the New York State Highway Traffic Symposium which was held in Binghamton, NY on October 18-21, 2015.

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

Moving on to the Topics for Discussion portion of the agenda, Undersheriff Lamouree informed the Sheriff's Office would be filling a vacant Custodian position at the Warren County Jail for a savings of \$6,060 due to a reduction in longevity pay.

Undersheriff Lamouree introduced Mark Neale, System Maintenance Coordinator for the Sheriff's Office, who lead a lengthy discussion regarding the radio system upgrade and the need to lease additional radio frequencies. Mr. Neale apprised he had received a letter advising there weren't any available public safety frequencies; therefore, he continued, in order to obtain other channels they would need to lease them through a vendor eligible to receive the proper licensing. He noted the cost for leasing frequencies for a five-year term would be \$8,000, which would be paid in full in advance, and was available within the existing budget.

With regard to the filling of the vacant Custodian position, Ms. Wood advised she was unsure whether this was one of the positions the Sheriff's Office was authorized to fill without prior Committee consent and therefore she requested a motion to approve the action, in the event it was needed.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Brock and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Ms. Wood announced she had received a letter from the City of Glens Falls containing a proposal for consolidation of the City of Glens Falls' Police Department with the Warren County Sheriff's Office; she noted the proposal needed to be reviewed by the proper offices and she stated she had made several copies for the Committee members if they were interested.

Supervisor Thomas questioned whether Undersheriff Lamouree had any information on the additional State mandated Corrections Officer positions, specifically whether they had been filled. Undersheriff Lamouree replied that Sheriff York and Michael Gates, Corrections Captain, had received an email from the County Administrator in regards to this matter and he noted they should have an answer later today.

Chairman Geraghty asked if there was an update on the Warrensburg Communications Tower. Undersheriff Lamouree advised an engineering firm had been hired to perform an analysis which had been completed, but the results were not available yet. He noted the bids to erect the Tower had been received and were all rejected due to the cost which was much higher than anticipated. He apprised information had recently been received from JNS Towers, a company that would erect the tower at no

cost to the County in return for the ability to market the tower for rental to cell phone providers for placement of their antennas; he added that this company would also share a portion of the revenues received for such rental with the County.

Discussion ensued with respect to the various aspects of the emergency towers and the restrictions imposed for placement in the Adirondack Park. During this discussion, Mr. Thomas pointed out that the narrowbanding enforced by the Federal Government had allowed them to make billions of dollars selling frequencies to cell phone providers while the municipalities were taxing their citizens to cover the costs associated with the use of the same frequencies for public safety purposes, which seemed to constitute an unfunded mandate. Mr. Thomas stated that the Federal Government was responsible for causing this issue and they should provide financial assistance to help rectify it. Ms. Seeber suggested that this matter be referred to the Legislative & Rules Committee to seek assistance from the County's Legislative representatives and the Committee was in agreement.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Ms. Seeber, Ms. Wood adjourned the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Hogan, Senior Legislative Office Specialist