

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: GERAGHTY
SIMPSON
WILD
MAGOWAN
SOKOL
DRISCOLL
MERLINO
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

ROBERT IUSI, PROBATION DIRECTOR
BRIAN LAFLURE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
AMY DREXEL, EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR
JAMES LAFARR, MAJOR
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY E. KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BEATY
STROUGH
TAMMIE DeLORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
RACHEL SEEBER, WARREN COUNTY RESIDENT
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: LEGGETT
HOGAN
BRAYMER
DRISCOLL

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the November 19, 2019 meeting of the Criminal Justice & 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/Archive/2019/criminal/>

In the absence of Committee Chair Leggett, Mr. Geraghty, as Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee to order at 9:22 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Wild 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 Robert Iusi, *Probation Director*, who distributed copies of the Probation agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. Iusi indicated he was not prepared to speak regarding the request for a contract with KMG for electric monitoring of adults. He mentioned they could not have a contract with KMG if they viewed the monitoring results, as the results could only be viewed by the Probation Department. For this reason, he noted that agenda item would be withdrawn.

Continuing, Mr. Iusi presented a request to extend the contract with Warren-Hamilton Counties Action Committee for Economic Opportunity Inc. (ACEO) to continue the Alternative Sentencing Program for the term commencing January 1, 2020 and terminating December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.

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

Next, Mr. Iusi introduced a request to extend the contract with KMG Monitoring Service to provide electronic

monitoring services for juveniles and adolescent offenders for a term commencing January 1, 2020 and terminating December 31, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$18,150 annually with a minimum monthly amount of \$1,450.

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

There being no further Probation business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Tammie DeLorenzo, *Assistant to the County Administrator*, who distributed copies of the Assigned Counsel agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. DeLorenzo advised she was presenting the request on behalf of Joy LaFountain, *Assigned Counsel Administrator*. She indicated the request sought authorization for a new contract with the Legal Aid Society of NENY, Inc. to distribute grant funds from OILS grant extension C#900052 Distribution #9 to commence January 1, 2019 and terminate December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

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

There being no further Assigned Counsel business to discuss, 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, Mr. LaFlure notified Amy Drexel, *Emergency Services Coordinator*, would provide an update on the Halloween storm. She informed they provided individual assistance and utilized the United Way 211 system and waited two weeks to obtain information on damages to business and private residents. She explained individuals did not notify their office of enough damage to document for the State. She advised individuals could still call her office with reports of damage from the storm. She informed two weeks prior, the State visited Warren County and worked with the Highway Superintendents for two days with two teams and determined there was \$4.5 million in damages. She reported when the State reached their threshold they contacted FEMA (*Federal Emergency Management Agency*), advising they were still within the thirty days of the Halloween storm before the Governor had to request a declaration from FEMA to obtain the Presidential Deceleration they were hoping for. She indicated FEMA would be at the County tomorrow with one team to view the worst cases of damage, adding the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Department of Public Works and Highway Superintendents were also participating. She explained if any towns had additional damage they should notify her and submit pictures and damage costs. Mr. Wild inquired if the railway was damaged and Ms. Drexel replied affirmatively. Mr. Magowan thanked Ms. Drexel and Mr. LaFlure for the work they had done during the storm.

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

Commencing the agenda review, Major LaFarr indicated he was not prepared to speak regarding Action Item G because he wanted more time to speak to the City of Glens Falls first. Moving on, Major LaFarr presented a request to authorize a new contract with PrimeCare Medical of New York, Inc. to provide medical care for inmates housed in the Warren County Correctional Facility in an amount not to exceed \$3,280,702.69 for a term commencing January 1, 2020 and terminating December 31, 2021. He advised contracting with this company would provide savings over

the two-year term.

Mr. Simpson entered the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Mr. Wild inquired how many inmates the contract was based on and Major LaFarr replied it was based on one hundred inmates, adding there was no refund if less were incarcerated. Mr. Wild asked how it would effect the staff and Major LaFarr replied that information was provided in the contract. Mr. Wild inquired if the County Attorney had reviewed the contract and Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, informed the terms of the contract were decided by the Sheriff.

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

Next, Major LaFarr introduced a request to amend the County Budget in the total amount of \$134,876 to reflect revenue appropriated from the second half of the School Resource Officer contracts.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Major LaFarr then presented another request to amend the County Budget, this one in the amount of \$71,232, to properly budget for several 2019 expenditures from the 2017-18 PSAP State Homeland Security Grant.

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

Continuing, Major LaFarr introduced the following requests:

- To amend the contract with FirstLight (*authorized by R312 of 2018*) to change the contract term to commence March 1, 2018 and terminate March 1, 2024; and
- To extend the contract with FirstLight Fiber to provide a fiber link between the Warren County Sheriff's Office and the Washington Department of Public Safety for primary 911 network traffic for a term commencing December 28, 2019 and terminating December 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$800.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the December 20th Board Meeting. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

Major LaFarr presented a request to create and fill the new position of Corrections Officer #80, *Annual Salary \$41,590*, and delete the position of Corrections Inspector, *Annual Salary \$64,823*, effective December 20, 2019.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to amend the Departmental Table of Organization to create and fill the new position of Corrections Officer #80 as outlined above and forward same to the Personnel & Higher Education Committee. *Copies of the resolution request form and the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form are on file with the minutes.*

Regarding Action Item G, Major LaFarr reiterated that he would bring this matter back to Committee after he spoke to the City of Glens Falls.

Major LaFarr introduced his final request to amend the contract with Great Escape Six Flags to remove the agreed amount of \$70,000 and to add that the police presence is to be paid at an hourly overtime rate plus fringe benefits, as well as to extend the agreement through the 2020 season at the amended terms and conditions.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 20th Board Meeting. *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, Major LaFarr spoke about the Preventative Maintenance & Service Contract for communication equipment was in negotiations with Capital Digitronics, and he noted there would likely be a rate increase. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Moore advised he was asked by Sheriff York to inform the Committee on the status of a lawsuit against the County and one Sheriff's Deputy who were sued by Chris Hanson, a former Corrections Officer from another municipality who was arrested for a domestic violence charge. He explained an offer for a settlement in this case had been made; however, he stated, upon discussion between himself, Sheriff York and the County Attorney, a decision had been made to take the matter to trial based on the validity of the County's evidence and witnesses. Mr. Moore announced the trial was held the week prior and a unanimous decision on both counts were made in the County's favor. He said this was good news that the Sheriff had wanted the Committee to be aware of.

Mr. Wild asked Major LaFarr to provide a one hundred day plan when they met next in reference to his plans upon assuming the position of Sheriff in January. Major LaFarr replied he had been working on this. He indicated he had met with the command staff and was getting feedback regarding what was good, what needed improvement and what could be changed. He said he wanted to retain staff, and have individuals who joined the Department of Corrections to look at their positions as a career and not a stepping stone. He mentioned he would make sure the incarcerated individuals were cared for and put on the path for a successful future upon their release. He apprised he felt they could do more for the community and he wanted the officers to hold their heads high and engage the community, returning to the type of relationship in place when he began working in the Sheriff's Office 28 years ago. He said the officers would be excited to do it; however, he advised it was something that had not been an expectation for them. He informed in the first one hundred days he wanted to be successful and ready for bail and discovery reform.

Mr. Moore commended the staff at the Sheriff's Office and the District Attorney's Office for being prepared for bail and discovery reform. He stated he was looking forward to working with Major LaFarr on what he had planned for the jail.

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, noted that although the District Attorney's Office was not included on the agenda, they had submitted the following requests for her to present on their behalf:

- To fill the vacant position of 8th Assistant District Attorney, *Annual Salary \$66,563*, and
- To fill the vacant position of Legal Clerk #5, Grade 5, *Annual Salary \$30,520*.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the requests and forward same to the Personnel & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

As there was no further business to come before the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Sokol and seconded by Mr. Magowan, Mr. Leggett adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist

