

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DATE: APRIL 20, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SEEBER
LEGETT
BEATY
DIAMOND
DRISCOLL
MCDEVITT
SHEPLER

OTHERS PRESENT:

JASON CARUSONE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ROBERT IUSI, PROBATION DIRECTOR
FRANK E. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
ROBERT TERWILLIGER, FIRST ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BRAYMER
FRASIER
HOGAN
MAGOWAN
SIMPSON
STROUGH
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
GINELLE JONES, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES
JAMES LAFARR, SHERIFF
DON LEHMAN, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
JEREMY SCRIME, SENIOR COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the April 20, 2020 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: <https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/criminal/>

Note: As per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1: "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed". Committee Chair Seeber and members Leggett and Beaty attended the meeting by video conference; Supervisors Diamond, Driscoll, McDevitt and Shepler were physically present.

Ms. Seeber called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee to order at 9:32 a.m.

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

Copies of the District Attorney and Probation agendas were distributed to those Committee members in attendance, those participating remotely accessed the agendas via the County website; copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Jason Carusone, *District Attorney*, who provided an update on the latest criminal justice reforms and the judicial process during the pandemic, outlining the difficulties his Office was experiencing with them. A discussion followed during which Mr. Carusone answered various questions posed by the Committee. Mr. Leggett joined the meeting during the discussion at 9:42 a.m.

At Ms. Seeber's urging, Mr. Carusone spoke about Crime Victims' Rights Week, noting that although Warren and Washington Counties were not able to celebrate this event with their annual Breakfast due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he was hopeful that they may be able to hold the event later in the year. He advised that unfortunately domestic violence was on the rise and his staff was working hard to help the victims of these crimes; he went on to reference the changes in procedure occurring in light of the pandemic which included the use of virtual arraignments.

Finally, Mr. Carusone referenced the three Proclamations included in the agenda packet which included the Crime Victims' Rights Week, Law Day and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

A discussion ensued regarding domestic violence cases in Warren County and returning to changes in bail reform and its effects on the District Attorney's Office.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Iusi, *Director of Probation*, who provided an update on how the recent changes in bail reform affected his Office, noting that as they were already complying with most, the changes would not cause negative impacts.

In conclusion, Ms. Seeber noted that although the recent bail reform changes would not be impactful to the Probation Department, they seemed to be causing considerable issues for the District Attorney's Office. She said it was important for the Committee to remain apprised of these impacts and she thanked both Messrs. Carusone and Iusi for their updates.

There being nothing further to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Beaty, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously, Ms. Seeber adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board