

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS WOOD
GIRARD
TAYLOR
FRASIER
BROCK
SEEBER
SIMPSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

BRIAN LAFLURE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
AMY DREXEL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
BUD YORK, SHERIFF
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISOR VANSELOW
JIM LIEBERUM, DISTRICT MANAGER, SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *THE 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 9:45 a.m.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Girard 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 (OES), who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the OES Agenda review Mr. LaFlure presented the following requests:

1. Request for a transfer of funds totaling \$1,503.72 between various budget codes in order to balance the 2014 Budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request for transfer of funds, as outlined above, and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

2. Request to amend the 2014 Budget to reflect the receipt of Local Emergency Management Planning Grant funds in the amount of \$4,211.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Finance Committee; *a copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

3. Request to amend the Table of Organization to reclassify the existing Account Clerk position, (*Grade 4, Annual Base Salary \$28,168*) to an Office Specialist, (*Grade 7, Annual Base Salary \$32,338*), effective January 1, 2015.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel Committee; *a copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

4. Request for a resolution indicating that Warren County is authorized to accept grant funds from the New York State Division of Homeland Security as a sub-recipient of the grant application submitted by the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District, with the \$37,500 Local Share funds to be provided through in-kind services performed by the Soil & Water Conservation District and the OES.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Seeber, Jim Lieberum, Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District Manager, confirmed that a mixture of service time and dollars could be used to meet the Local Share. He noted that volunteer attendance at meetings (*accounted for at a Department of State-determined rate of about \$25 per hour*) could be used towards the in-kind match, as well as mileage and travel time and various other expenditures. Ms. Seeber questioned whether Mr. LaFlure would be charged with the responsibility of making sure the in-kind services were determined and Mr. Lieberum replied he served as the Hazard Mitigation Coordinator for Warren County; he explained that the grant application had come through his office on behalf of the County, because Soil & Water was the eligible entity and he noted this grant opportunity had come about as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Lieberum referred to the Hazard Mitigation Plan that had been written and posted on the Soil & Water Conservation District website; he advised that development of the Plan was mandatory and had to be updated every five years. With regards to the \$37,500 Local Share, Mr. Lieberum advised it would not be necessary to provide the entire Local Share if the total grant funds of \$112,500 were not fully expended.

In response to a second question posed by Ms. Seeber, Mr. LaFlure advised the request to apply for the grant had already been approved and the current request was to approve acceptance of the funding granted. Mr. Lieberum stated that they had intended to accept the grant funds through the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District Office, but subsequent to discussions with Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, and Paul Dusek, County Administrator, it was determined that the County would need to serve as a co-recipient of the grant to handle the financial end of the process. He further explained that the verbiage included in the contract stated that any monies granted would go straight to the County.

Ms. Wood asked if the funding was to be included in the 2015 Budget and Mr. Lieberum replied this would be a two-year grant which was eligible for two one-year extensions.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board meeting; *a copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Concluding the review of the OES Agenda, Mr. LaFlure apprised that the OES, in conjunction with Glens Falls Hospital, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), had been working on plans and procedures for dealing with an outbreak of the Ebola virus. He stated that these procedures changed rapidly with new information received and they were working together to make sure that the same protocol was in place for each organization. Mr. LaFlure noted that the Governors of both New York and New Jersey had passed a law making it difficult for people who had been overseas to enter either State. He noted that when organizations steered away from the CDC's Ebola protocol, situations could become confusing, but he assured the Committee that his Office was in frequent contact with the various EMS groups of Warren County to ensure that the same guidelines would be followed in the event of an outbreak. Mr. LaFlure added that they had designated one ambulance that would be lined with plastic and used if needed for a patient identified with Ebola symptoms. He apprised that the State had issued certain orders for counties to make preparations so they would be able to address an issue such this indicating that the preparations must be completed within ten (10) days. Mr. LaFlure stated that

it was likely that they would have to use some of their Hazmat equipment in order to comply with these preparation requirements because some of the mandated items were currently out of stock due to a recent increase in demand.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Bud York, Warren County Sheriff, who distributed copies of his agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Sheriff York explained that there were no action items on his agenda and that he would start with Topics for Discussion. He informed the Committee that he had filled one Correction Officer position due to a resignation and explained that this action would have no budgetary impact. Sheriff York then apprised of some good news, advising that although the 2014 Budget had anticipated \$300,000 in revenues for the housing of Federal inmates, as of that morning the total amount received had exceeded the anticipated revenue amount by about \$200,000; he added that he believed the revenues would continue to increase through the end of 2014. Additionally, he noted that they were under budget in overtime expenses, and with only a few months remaining in 2014, he did not anticipate the overtime budget being exceeded.

Mr. Girard noted that the County had formally received \$400,000 in asset forfeiture monies and was curious as to how they intended to use the funds. Sheriff York replied that the monies had to be spent in specific ways and that he had to send a memo to the Treasurers Office to transfer monies out of the forfeitures account into the various appropriation codes. He added that they had to keep records for audit purposes to show where the money was spent. Sheriff York explained that they intended to purchase a couple of new vehicles as well as radio equipment and License Plate Reader (LPR) units. He added that at any time he could produce a printout of what these funds were spent on.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee on motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Girard, Ms. Wood adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Hogan, Assistant Secretary to the Clerk of the Board