

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 15, 2024

Present: Andrea Moroughan, Chair; Josh Leviker, Vice-Chair; Herb Frost; Thomas Kalamas; and Jeff Nellenback.

Legislator Moroughan called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Legislator Moroughan moved to approve the September 17, 2024 committee meeting minutes as recorded, seconded by Legislator Frost, and carried.

Second Chair Mentor Program – Michael Young

The Second Chair Mentor Program is part of the grant known as the Herrell-Herrings Grant. As part of the grant, there are certain funds that are to be used to help with the Assigned Counsel panel. The state usually suggests that attorneys have 3-5 years experience before they serve on any of the various panels. That is impossible in this county due to the shortage of attorneys in this area. We only have one attorney from our County currently serving on the Assigned Counsel panel. In order to benefit from the grant, we have to set up certain programs. He referenced Section B from the Master Contract for Grants where it mentions the Mentor and Second Chair Programs. One of the requirements for us to be able to take advantage of some of the funding is that an Assigned Counsel Handbook had to be created and reviewed. We are also required to provide a list of our voucher costs from 2015-Present to show how much we spent on Criminal and Family Court Defense. The third requirement was the institution of a Mentor and Second Chair Program. The intention of the Mentor program is to assist inexperienced or younger attorneys with a mentor and someone to assist them while they gain experience. The Second Chair program allows an inexperienced attorney to sit with the Primary Attorney on a case. All of the money that is paid to the Second Chair comes out of the grant so it is no expense to the County. Mike provided a list of 5 attorneys with the appropriate criminal and family court experience that have agreed to be either a Mentor or a Second Chair. After the state approves the Handbook, they will then look at the Vouchers to determine the amount that the County can apply for the Second and Mentor Program. Mike went on to talk about the costs of travel and assigned council noting family court as the majority of this cost. He spoke of the different grants he is working on applying for to assist with these costs.

The following draft resolutions were reviewed:

1. Finding and Determining that an Unsafe Structure at 6357 East Main Street in the Village of Turin shall be demolished and removed pursuant to Local Law No. 2-2007 and to set hearing for Final Order.

AYE 5 NAY 0

2. Authorizing the transfer of \$93,000.00 from Personnel Services into Professional Services in the District Attorney account lines to cover the expenses incurred for special prosecution services.

AYE 5 NAY 0

3. Authorizing Lewis County Highway Superintendent to act as sponsor for four Town BridgeNY/Culvert projects as follows: Town of Greig, Eatonville Road over Otter Creek; Town of Lowville, Boshart Road over Hufcut Creek; Town of New Bremen, Erie Canal Road over Black Creek; and Town of Watson, Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek and Authorizing intermunicipal agreements with each Town for said projects.

AYE 5 NAY 0

4. Authorizing a Master Agreement with NYS Department of Transportation for all phases of the Federal-Aid BridgeNY/Culvert project known as Pine Grove Road over Harvey Creek and to pay 100% of the cost of all phases with the understanding that qualified costs may be eligible for federal-aid, state-aid, or reimbursement from Bridge NY funds; along with appropriating \$1,036,000.00 to cover the costs as required under each phase of the project.

AYE 5 NAY 0

5. Authorizing the implementation and funding of 100% of the costs of the Preliminary Design and Right-of-Way Incidentals phases of the NYS Department of Transportation BridgeNY/Culvert project known as Eatonville Road over Otter Creek in the Town of Greig, which may be eligible for Federal-Aid and/or State-Aid, or reimbursement from BridgeNY funds; along with appropriating \$177,000.00 to cover the costs of participation in the above project phases for the Town of Greig.

AYE 5 NAY 0

6. Authorizing the implementation and funding of 100% of the cost of all phases, or portions thereof, of the NYS Department of Transportation BridgeNY/Culvert project known as Boshart Road over Hufcut Creek in the Town of Lowville, with the understanding that qualified costs may be eligible for Federal-Aid, State-Aid, or reimbursement from BridgeNY funds; along with appropriating \$1,500,00.00 to cover the cost of participation in the above project for the Town of Lowville.

AYE 5 NAY 0

7. Authorizing Supplemental agreement #1 to the contract between NYS Department of Transportation and Town of Watson, through its sponsor, The County of Lewis for the BridgeNY/Culvert project known as Bailey Road over Independence River for increased costs of the Preliminary Design Phase; along with appropriating \$161,500.00 to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the project for the Town of Watson.

AYE 5 NAY 0

8. Authorizing the County of Lewis to accept real property obtained by the State of New York relative to County Route 17 (Woodbattle Road) over Cobb Creek bridge replacement project.

AYE 5 NAY 0

9. Appropriating an additional \$155,000.00 of Indigent Legal Services Grant funding in the Public Defender account lines to recognize additional activity for contracted public defense work.

AYE 5 NAY 0

10. Authorizing the addition of 350 feet of new trail in the Town of Martinsburg, owned by Terrance Thisse, to the Lewis County Trail System.

AYE 5 NAY 0

11. Authorizing the addition of 985 feet of new trail in the Town of Turin, owned by Robert Dening, Darren Pominville, and Diane Gaylord, to the Lewis County Trail System.

AYE 5 NAY 0

There being no other business to come before the committee, Legislator Moroughan moved to adjourn at 1:20 p.m., seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Lawton, Deputy Clerk of the Board