## Legislative Committee May 14, 2025

## **Attendees**

Committee: Allen Hinkley, Lisa Driscoll, Eric Wilson, Timothy Kelso, Art Merrill

Staff: Schuyler Kinneman, Haley Gransbury, Maria Kelso, Judith Garrison, Joe Ermeti,

Penny Bishop

Mr. Hinkley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Upon a motion by Mr. Merrill, seconded by Mrs. Driscoll, the draft minutes of the April 2 committee meeting were unanimously approved.

County Clerk Haley Gransbury reported that EDL and Real ID numbers are up 40% at DMV. They have been very busy. They have four new employees and some are not authorized to process them yet so managers in the DMV offices are going in early and staying late to complete transactions. The state DMV department takes their revenue daily so they have to get the revenues into their bank account every day. She announced the retirement of DMV supervisor Carol Pickett.

Board of Elections Commissioner Maria Kelso announced the primaries are coming up. They are preparing the new election machines and preparing the manuals for the machines. She said mail check cards have been mailed. They are the first department to get new computers with Windows 11. All of their grants have been finalized. She indicated that they are having staffing issues at the Cooks Falls polling site. Mr. Merrill said more people would be involved if split shifts were offered and it was understood they didn't have to be there for 16 hours. Ms. Kelso said election inspectors get paid \$50 for training and \$250 every time they work an election. Ms. Garrison said the primary is for County Treasurer and every voting district will be open. In addition, six towns have local elections.

Assistant District Attorney Schuyler Konier Kinneman gave an update on the traffic diversion program. They not only onboarded the diversion program, they also onboarded their write-in plea process. As mentioned previously, all the revenue went to the state and then was disbursed back to the towns. Since the start of the program through today, they have collected \$66,000 in revenue which goes directly to the county and then disbursed pursuant to the established agreement. They received a total of 905 applications which included plea agreements, diversion agreements, and people who fail out. The program has accelerated over the past few months and they expect dramatic increases in this program. ADA Kinneman announced that the DA's Office was notified that the Governor's budget for discovery reform would include further monies for discovery. He presented two reclassification forms and gave explanations for the requests. He announced his resignation and said the DA will be seeking to fill his position. His last day will be the end of this month. The Supervisors wished Mr. Kinneman luck.

Public Defender Joe Ermeti reported his office is running smooth. He has a great team and his office is fully staffed. He presented a travel and training authorization request for the New York State Defender's Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs July 27-29. The request seems costly, but the state allows his office \$14,750 each year with ILS to cover any CLEs, legal trainings, and the like. He has not used that and there is a carryover balance of approximately \$24,000. Everyone has been busy. Renovations are completed and they are pleased with the new space.

Clerk of the Board Penny Bishop presented training requests for the Assistant Clerk of the Board and the receptionist to attend the NYS Notary Public workshops in Delhi to prepare for the exams.

Upon a motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.