

**Legislative Committee  
Special Meeting  
September 13, 2023  
1:05 p.m.**

Attendees

Committee: Allen Hinkley, Art Merrill, Lisa Driscoll, Mark Tuthill, Patti Valente, Tina Molé  
Staff: Deb Goodrich, Christine Boest, Judith Garrison, Paula Schermerhorn, Amy Merklen, Joe Ermeti, Shawn Smith, Penny Bishop

Ms. Garrison presented the Board of Election's 2024 Budget request for committee review. She explained a large portion of the increase is due to having to replace voting machines which are 15 years old. The software is outdated and will no longer be supported, and they can no longer get hardware or parts to keep the machines operational. They will do all they can to recoup the costs through grants. The budgets were approved as presented.

Mrs. Goodrich presented budgets for the County Clerk and Records Management. They need to replace their wide-format printer and have included the cost for next year's budget. The budgets were approved as presented. She expressed concern about a Fraud Alert that people are fraudulently recording deeds. She can provide a website address where anyone in Delaware County can sign up to receive a notification whenever anything is recorded under their name. She asked that the link to the website be broadcast to all employees, however, IT prefers not to broadcast links. Mrs. Goodrich noted the state has asked her office to create a Christmas tree ornament for the holiday tree at the State Capitol. She also explained about a DMV issue that can cause a person's NY driver's license to be cancelled when they acquire a non-driver ID in certain other states. Their office has seen this happen a few times already.

Mr. Ermeti presented the Public Defender's 2024 Budget request for committee review. He indicated there is now an option for how to receive the Hurrell Harring contract funding—either over three years with no increase or a one-year contract that offers flexibility. He expressed that the committee would advise him on this decision. He noted that Delaware County received an additional \$60,000 this year with the stipulation that \$50,000 would fund salaries and \$10,000 would be used for special services (expert witness, private investigator, peer advocate.) The budget was approved as presented.

Mr. Smith presented the District Attorney's 2024 Budget for committee review. He noted that overall, there is an increase in revenues which will cover the contractual increases. He reported receipt of a grant that will provide revenue to fund the new discovery requirements. The budget was approved as presented.

Mrs. Bishop presented the Board of Supervisors, Clerk of the Board, Legal Aid to Indigents, and Medical Examiner 2024 Budget requests. She noted the increase in building security which is due to the contract for security at DSS South in Walton. The budgets were approved as presented.

On a motion by Mr. Merrill, seconded by Mr. Tuthill, the draft minutes of the June 7, June 14, June 28, and August 23 meetings were unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tuthill, seconded by Mr. Merrill, the committee entered into executive session to discuss the implications of the retirement of a particular employee.

Committee reconvened in regular session.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.