

CONDENSED MINUTES  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 17, 2020

Fort Edward, New York, Friday, April 17, 2020.

The Board of Supervisors convened in regular session at 10:00 AM via teleconference.

CHAIRMAN HALL called the meeting to order and presided.

Mrs. Clary offered the prayer.

Mr. O'Brien led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and read the Fire Safety Notice.

The Clerk called the roll:

PRESENT: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward\*, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell\*, Skellie\*, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell\* (\*No response during roll call but teleconference indicated they were online and participated in meeting.)

The condensed minutes of the March 18 and April 1, 2020 meetings were accepted as mailed.

The Clerk reported no Communications. CHAIRMAN HALL asked Tim Hardy, Deputy Public Safety Director to update the Board on COVID-19. Mr. Hardy stated that the Incidence Response Team developed the Washington County COVID-19 information site which is updated daily. The site includes COVID-19 statistics in the County and current information on county operations in departments. The county is operating at reduced levels. They deployed an e-newsletter that comes out once a day that citizens can subscribe to. Also included are updated links from CDC and NYS Department of Health. Continue to conduct first responders and local official briefings twice a week. Yesterday the Governor extended the New York on pause through May 15, 2020 where schools and non-essential businesses must remain closed. The State of Emergency and Executive Order for Washington County was extended through May 15, 2020. COVID-19 statistics as of this morning: Mandatory PUI – 166, 6 precautionary: Positive cases – 50 with 4 hospitalized and 2 deaths: Tested – 562 with 385 released.

Patty Hunt, Public Health Director addressed the Board. Public Health is operating 7 days a week at 7 – 10 hour days. She cautioned that our numbers will continue to go up as testing is available in the community. She reminded that these are probably not brand new cases but cases that have been in and are in the community that we are better able to identify. Mrs. Clary asked if Public Health has to be involved with cases at Great Meadow Correctional facility. Patty stated that they are routinely in contact with the Infection Control nurse and staff at the prison. The prison, through the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision and their Medical Director are managing their staff. If they are residents of our county, we provide guidance and take them into our quarantine. Roger Wickes, County Attorney explained that inmates are not included in our numbers, guards and staff, if they are residents of Washington County, are included. CHAIRMAN HALL thanked Patty and her staff for the tremendous job they are doing.

A motion to adopt the April Audit Report, was moved by Mr. Losaw, seconded by Supervisors O'Brien, Griffith, Henke, Ferguson, Clary and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 13 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, O'Brien, Haff, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith

ABSENT: 4 Ward, Campbell, Skellie, Rozell

AYES: 3,341 ABSENT: 919

CHAIRMAN HALL announced a proclamation issued: April 12 – 18, 2020 is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Washington County.

CHAIRMAN HALL asked if any Supervisor had any request for Supervisors' Privilege of the Floor. There were no requests.

CHAIRMAN HALL asked that the resolutions be introduced. A motion to set aside the rules to present Resolution No. 137-139, moved by Mr. Henke, seconded by Supervisors Wilson, Griffith and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 14 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith

ABSENT: 3 Ward, Skellie, Rozell

AYES: 3,478 ABSENT: 782

Resolution No. 133 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Skellie – TITLE: A Resolution Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-aid Project, and Appropriating Funds Therefore; CR 46 US4 to Plum Road, Fort Edward, PIN 1760.97.

Resolution No. 134 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Skellie – TITLE: A Resolution Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-aid Project, and Appropriating Funds Therefore; CR35 and CR36 – US4 to the Warren County Line PIN 1761.52.

Resolution No. 135 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Hall – TITLE: To Amend 2020 Sheriff's Budget for Purchase of Bulletproof Vests.

Resolution No. 136 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Hall – TITLE: To Award Various Department of Public Works Bids.

Resolution No. 137 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Hall – TITLE: To Award MS4 Mapping Request for Proposal (RFP).

Resolution No. 138 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Hall – TITLE: To Award Bid for Joint Replacement of Dr. Johnson Rd. (CR64) over the Batten Kill and Cemetery Rd. over Black Creek (PIN 1761.03).

Resolution No. 139 April 17, 2020 By Supervisor Hall – TITLE: To Award Contract for Design of CR35 and CR36 Pavement Preservation Design Services.

The Board went on to consider the resolutions.

Resolution No. 133, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors O'Brien, Griffith, Fedler. Discussion. Mr. Henke stated he doesn't mind voting first on these roll calls if it makes it easier for the Clerk rather than randomizing. Mr. Shaw asked if due to not borrowing, do we have the money to continue the Marchiselli projects, seeing they are reimbursement projects. Chris DeBolt, Administrator stated that he didn't want to speak for the Treasurer but knows that we did not borrow the additional money for equipment but did renew a BAN which should give us enough cash flow for these projects. Resolution No. 133, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors O'Brien, Griffith, Fedler and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 15 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith

ABSENT: 2 Skellie, Rozell

AYES: 3,834 ABSENT: 426

Resolution No. 134, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Fedler, Losaw, Campbell, O'Brien, Griffith and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 16 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

ABSENT: 1 Skellie

AYES: 4,128 ABSENT: 132

Resolution No. 135, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Shaw, Griffith, Fedler, Ferguson, O'Brien, Losaw and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

AYES: 4,260

Resolution No. 136, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Fedler, Losaw, Wilson, O'Brien. CHAIRMAN HALL asked for discussion. Mr. Henke asked if this is all bridge project material. Chris DeBolt informed the Board that the majority is but several road project materials are

included too. Mr. Haff noted that the resolution doesn't state the company who was awarded the bid and asked how many different ones there are. Deb Donohue, DPW Superintendent stated that her department went through all of the bids and picked out the lowest responsible bidder and will forward the information to the Supervisors. Resolution No. 136, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Fedler, Losaw, Wilson, O'Brien and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

AYES: 4,260

Resolution No. 137, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, O'Brien, Losaw and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

AYES: 4,260

Resolution No. 138, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Skellie, Campbell, Losaw and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

AYES: 4,260

Resolution No. 139, moved by Chairman Hall, seconded by Supervisors Henke, O'Brien and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 17 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hall, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

AYES: 4,260

CHAIRMAN HALL asked Chris DeBolt, Administrator to address the Board prior to Supervisors' comments.

BOCES is currently leasing the north end of the Burgoyne Avenue school. The lease expires on June 30, 2020. They reached out to him and Matt Jones about the possibility of extending the lease agreement on a month to month basis until such time they can move out. Chris is looking for a consensus of the Board or if any Supervisor would object. If the Board doesn't object, Roger and he will work with BOCES to develop a month to month lease extension that the Board can approve at a later date. He added that operationally, it will not cause any problems for us. Roger Wickes stated that what we are asking the Board is if it is ok to negotiate, and then all the details will be worked out and would be presented to the Board for approval. All Supervisors were asked and no objections were expressed.

A group that included the Chairman, Vice Chairman, County Attorney, Deputy PS Director, Public Health Director and County Administrator met yesterday regarding getting county operations up and running. They prioritized what departments to bring back into operation. Looking into expanding the operations for Code Enforcement so they can start taking applications, DMV, DPW, DSS, IT and with that would need an increased operational presence for Buildings & Grounds. Chris added that it is highly dependent upon what parameters and restrictions the State and Federal officials set and things evolve on a daily basis.

The Governor issued an executive order that requires employers to provide employees with face masks. They were able to purchase a large number of masks and have issued two to each employee. Has also purchased 30 digital thermometers, which would not be enough if the County was in full operation and would be challenging operationally. Are considering staggering start times.

Currently DPW is only out for emergency operations. Mr. Haff expressed concern about money being spent for overtime. He would like DPW and Code Enforcement to be declared essential. The Administrator explained that as long as we are under the emergency order, employees reporting to work will be paid time and a half. The Chairman added that the hope is that we will get some of the money spent on overtime back from FEMA. Mr. Hicks asked that the Board be kept up to date on reopening the county.

Chairman Hall stated that Chris sent out a report updating the Board and he has heard from some Supervisors saying it was too much, some thought it was just right so he asked each Board member for their thoughts on it. Mr. Griffith thought it was long but valuable. Mr. Hogan felt it was well done but if it takes too much of Chris' time, it may not be worth it. Mr. Haff would like to see it weekly. Mr. Hicks suggested that Chris just highlight any changes in county operations in subsequent reports. He appreciated the report on overtime and asked that updated overtime numbers be included in each report.

Chairman Hall asked all committee Chairs to touch base with the departments under their committee and report to the other committee members. Mr. Haff would like to see committee meetings resume via teleconference. Chairman Hall stated there are technical difficulties conducting these meetings, with the lag and connectivity issues for some Supervisors. Mr. Campbell suggested having another special meeting in two weeks. Several Supervisors supported the idea of conducting committee meetings via teleconference, including the Chairman.

Sheriff Murphy stated that they have a temperature taking policy in place, adding that it is doable. He also complimented the task force and especially Washington County Public Safety for their twice weekly COVID-19 updates for local officials, adding that this isn't being done in most counties.

Chairman Hall thanked Public Safety, Public Health, DSS and task force member for their efforts and adjourned the meeting at 11:35 AM.

*Sandy Huffer, Deputy Clerk*