

CONDENSED MINUTES  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
JULY 17, 2020

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

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

VICE CHAIRMAN HENKE 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: 16 Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Losaw, Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Campbell, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Clary, Griffith, Rozell

ABSENT: 1 Hall

The condensed minutes of the June 19, 2020 meeting were accepted as mailed.

Tim Hardy, Deputy Director of Public Safety gave the COVID-19 response update. There are 88 persons under investigation, no hospitalizations. He also directed people to the Washington County COVID-19 information site which is updated daily.

The Clerk read the communications.

A motion to adopt the July Audit Report, was moved by Mr. Losaw, seconded by Supervisors Ferguson, Griffith, O'Brien, Clary and adopted.

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

VICE CHAIRMAN HENKE asked that the resolutions be introduced. A motion to set aside the rules to present Resolution No. 185, a Resolution Appointing a Member of the Counties of Warren and Washington IDA and CDC, moved by Mr. Haff, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Rozell, Hogan, Wilson. Discussion. Mr. Campbell stated this is different for him because usually anytime we've confirmed appointments to the IDA, whichever county has put forward an appointment, we've received something from the County, and we've received nothing. He will abstain because he's on the IDA and has a problem with the way we are doing it, feels we are forcing the hand of another county before they've reached out to us to confirm their appointment. Mr. Haff stated that the resolution has a savings clause that states that this resolution is moot unless Warren County passes a similar resolution. A Supervisor from Warren County reached out to him to put this resolution forward. Mr. O'Brien feels this

would set a bad precedent, normally Warren County reaches out to us to present a resolution for their appointments to the IDA and he would vote for anyone their Board puts forward. Mr. Ward agrees that this would set a bad precedent. A motion to set aside the rules to present Resolution No. 185, moved by Mr. Haff, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Rozell, Hogan, Wilson and defeated by the following roll call vote:

AYES: 10 Fedler, Ferguson, Shaw, Hicks, Haff, Skellie, Hogan, Wilson, Griffith, Rozell

NOES: 4 Henke, Losaw, Ward, Clary

ABSTAIN: 2 O'Brien, Campbell

ABSENT: 1 Hall

AYES: 2,489 NOES: 1,115 ABSENT: 240 ABSTAIN: 180

Resolution No. 168 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Clary, Campbell, Skellie, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, Wilson – TITLE: Make Appointments to the Washington County Youth Advisory Board.

Resolution No. 169 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Skellie, Clary – TITLE: Amend Staffing Pattern – Sheriff.

Resolution No. 170 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Skellie, Clary – TITLE: Amend Staffing Pattern – Jail.

Resolution No. 171 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Skellie, Clary – TITLE: Amend Staffing Pattern – WIC.

Resolution No. 172 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Skellie, Rozell, Campbell, Haff, Hicks, Fedler, Shaw, Ferguson – TITLE: To Authorize Request to New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to Release Maintenance Jurisdiction for a Piece of Property Located at 16723 State Route 22 in the Town of Putnam.

Resolution No. 173 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Clary, Campbell, Skellie, Griffith – TITLE: Set Time and Place for a Public Hearing Concerning the 2020-2021 Adirondack Community College Budget.

Resolution No. 174 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend Budget – Youth Bureau for Riding Lawnmower.

Resolution No. 175 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: To Recognize Federal COVID-19 Stimulus Funds for Home Delivered Meals Program.

Resolution No. 176 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend Budget – Public Health for Delivery System Reform Incentive (DSRIP) Funds.

Resolution No. 177 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend the 2020 Sewer District No. 2 Budget for the CDBG Feeder Street Project in the Town of Kingsbury and the Village of Hudson Falls and Recognize DASNY (SAM) Grant.

Resolution No. 178 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend the 2020 Sewer District No. 2 Budget for the Purchase of a Sewer Jetter.

Resolution No. 179 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend Budget – Sewer District No. 1 & Capital Project No. 121 – Sewer District No. 1 Engineering and Rehabilitation.

Resolution No. 180 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend the 2020 Sewer District No. 2 Budget for Compost O&M Manual Update.

Resolution No. 181 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Amend Budget – Jail to Purchase Equipment.

Resolution No. 182 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: To Accept Canal Corporation Grant, Authorize the Chairman to Sign Contract, and Establish Project Budget.

Resolution No. 183 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Campbell, O'Brien, Hicks, Fedler, Skellie, Hogan, Clary, Losaw, Ward, Griffith – TITLE: Standard Workday and Reporting Resolution.

Resolution No. 184 July 17, 2020 By Supervisors Hicks, Ward, O'Brien, Skellie, Clary – TITLE: To Appoint Glenn Bristol as Fire Coordinator.

The Board went on to consider the resolutions.

Resolution No. 168, moved by Mrs. Clary, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Losaw, O'Brien, Campbell, Skellie, Wilson and adopted.

Resolution No. 169, moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Campbell, Skellie, Clary and adopted.

Resolution No. 170, moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Campbell, Clary. Discussion. Mr. Shaw asked if this change adds to the cost. Mr. DeBolt stated it depends. One part time position would be eliminated but the salary will increase for the other part time position to go full time and the fringe rate for that position would go from approximately 22% to 50%. That increase is due to health insurance and it depends on whether that person enrolls in health insurance and what plan they choose, if they do. Mr. Hicks added that the Sheriff stated he had enough funds in his .1's to cover this change. Resolution No. 170, moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Campbell, Clary and adopted.

Assemblyman Stec addressed the Board. He stated that a lot of us are depending on funding from the federal government to local governments and schools and that Representative Stefanik stated in an earlier meeting today that within the next few weeks she expects movement on a bill she has been working on for state aid from the federal government. This week had a full slate of committee meetings in the Assembly, mostly routine end of year business, in preparation for next week's session. Mr. Ferguson stated that there is basically no internet service in his town and if schools don't reopen, kids in his town could not participate in virtual schooling. Mr. Stec stated that the frustration is understandable but the reality of the mechanics is these are private companies who are seeking or have sought and in some cases received funding to build out. The construction takes time and it has all been slowed down because of COVID. He added that he would be surprised if you will see any change in internet access by September when schools would reopen. There are many communities with the same issue. Mr. Haff stated that it is no longer about how we wish we had broadband, but becomes a huge problem when kids are unable to do their homework, adding that this has to be done. Mr. Stec agreed and added that COVID has really heightened this issue. Mr. Haff asked about the possibility of some type of short term roll out of COW, a "cell on wheels" mobile tower that can also be used for internet with funds from either the state or feds. Mr. O'Brien stated that he has heard there will be funding available for Mi-Fi's that schools could distribute to students without internet. Congresswoman Stefanik answered that in the next COVID package, they are looking for direct funds, including technology needed for students, such as portable Mi-Fi's. She is anticipating another COVID relief package. There will be multiple parts to the package. She anticipates robust state and local aid, which is very important. Also anticipates school funding as the schools are making plans on how to proceed with student learning, with particular focus on those with special needs and technology needs. She has raised concern with the FCC Chair over internet access and federal broadband funds because originally we weren't eligible because of the way they map coverage but she doesn't consider satellite adequate coverage. She continues to support funds for hospitals and health centers, recently announcing \$4 million for Glens Falls Hospital. Mr. Campbell stated it is great that she is talking about direct funding to counties, towns, schools but if New York State doesn't get funding, they take a bigger percentage away from us. Does she have any idea how New York State is going to be covered? Ms. Stefanik stated that it is important to note that to date \$9 billion has already been provided to New York State, and that does not include funds provided hospitals, health centers and stimulus funds. Treasurer Nolette stated that he read last night that New York is opening testing sites in Houston, Texas, adding that is a hard pill for him to swallow, when the state is stripping away Social Services and Mental Health services funds to the county, where it is needed the most during COVID. Mrs. Clary asked if hazard pay will be included. Ms. Stefanik stated that she supports hazard pay for health care workers and essential workers. Vice Chairman Henke thanked Assemblyman Stec and Congresswoman Stefanik for the update.

Resolution No. 171, moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Campbell, Clary and adopted.

Resolution No. 172, moved by Mr. Skellie, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Campbell and adopted. Mr. Wilson abstained.

Resolution No. 173, moved by Mrs. Clary, seconded by Supervisors Losaw, O'Brien, Campbell, Skellie, Griffith. Discussion. Mr. Shaw stated that approving a 2% increase in our contribution to ACC sends the wrong message due to the extreme budget conditions. Mr. Hicks disagreed; voting no is saying no to public comment, as this resolution is just setting a public hearing. Mr. Shaw stated that he

would vote yes if their budget was flat and made a motion that Washington County's contribution would stay flat but did not receive a second. Resolution No. 173, moved by Mrs. Clary, seconded by Supervisors Losaw, O'Brien, Campbell, Skellie, Griffith and adopted. Mr. Shaw opposed.

Resolution No. 174, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Haff, Wilson, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 175, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Wilson, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 176, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Wilson, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 177, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Ferguson, Losaw, Clary, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 178, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Clary, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 179, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Clary, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 180, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, O'Brien, Clary, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 181, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, O'Brien, Wilson, Clary, Griffith and adopted.

Resolution No. 182, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Losaw, O'Brien, Clary, Griffith, Rozell and adopted.

Resolution No. 183, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ward, Griffith, Rozell and adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

ABSENT: 1 Hall

AYES: 3,987 ABSENT: 273

Resolution No. 184, moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Supervisors Fedler, Ferguson, Ward, O'Brien, Campbell, Wilson, Clary and adopted.

VICE CHAIRMAN HENKE asked for Supervisors' comments. Mr. Campbell clarified the difference in costs this year to date January to June, +\$2.7 million, compared to last year to date January to June,

as was in a newspaper article. The number isn't wrong, however some of the difference can be attributed to timing. \$700,000 of worker's comp was paid in June this year and July last year. Other discrepancies include \$134,000 in DA's office for positions added for discovery that weren't in last year. He feels that we have to do a better job at getting the message out there about what is real and what isn't. Mrs. Fedler cautioned regarding internet service that some residents don't realize that they have service in their area. Also noted that Mi-Fi's are better than nothing but some don't support video. Mr. Skellie thanked the Sheriff and Deputies who patrolled all the Battenkill swimming areas on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, especially the Eagleville Bridge. He estimated at any given time about 1,500 to 2,000 people on the river that day. Mr. O'Brien stated that WL Plastics pulling out was a corporate decision. Mr. Henke stating that we are seeing an alarming number of new COVID-19 cases in our region and if that continues, we could see another shutdown.

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM

*Sandy Huffer, Deputy Clerk*