

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE & RULES**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2008**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS THOMAS  
TESSIER  
BENTLEY  
STEC  
MERLINO

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

CHAIRMAN MONROE  
HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FISCAL  
SERVICES  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISOR KENNY  
SUPERVISOR VANNESS  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR GIRARD

**VACANT:**

TOWN OF  
THURMAN

---

---

Mr. Thomas called the meeting of the Legislative & Rules Committee to order at 11:55 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2008 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Agenda were distributed to the Committee and a copy of same is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Thomas apprised that Agenda Item 1 consisted of a referral from the October 17, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting requesting a resolution be approved opposing the new Federally required \$25 annual service fee to individuals in receipt of child support who have never been recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits, or any form of public assistance.

Mr. Kenny stated that he had been contacted by an individual regarding this annual service fee and noted that he was opposed it. He pointed out that Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand had mentioned that she, as well as New York State Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward and New York State Senator Elizabeth O'C. Little, were in support of eliminating the service fee.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously opposing the new Federally required \$25 annual service fee to child support recipients as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21, 2008 Board meeting.

Continuing, Mr. Thomas apprised that Agenda Item 2 referred to a referral from the October 23, 2008 meeting of the Social Services Committee requesting a resolution be approved in favor of passing legislation allowing Counties to require that all recipients of Safety Net and TANF benefits be required to submit to random polygraphs and drug testing. Mr. Bentley pointed out that it seemed unfair that County Employees with commercial drivers licenses (CDL) were required to submit to the random drug testing, while individuals receiving public assistance were not.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously recommending to the State that individuals in receipt of Safety Net and TANF benefits be required to submit to random polygraph and drug testing and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21, 2008 Board meeting.

Mr. Thomas commented that he had spoken to Sheila Weaver, Commissioner of Social Services, in reference to putting forth specific proposals in resolutions requesting that the State modify certain programs within the Social Services Department. He added that Ms. Weaver had mentioned three programs that she felt were in need of reform and would research whether other programs existed that could be amended.

Mr. Bentley put forth a request for a resolution urging the State to refrain from purchasing land in the Northeastern Adirondacks, which would result in it being taken out of timber production, as required by Article 14 of the New York State Constitution. He pointed out that not-for-profit organizations were purchasing the property below the assessed value and then reselling the land for a profit and he was opposed to this action. Mr. Thomas suggested that in light of the current budget crisis, the State should consider selling some of their land to private parties or logging the property to generate revenue.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to draft a resolution urging the State to refrain from purchasing land in the Northeastern Adirondacks as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for November 21, 2008 Board meeting.

As there was no further business to come before the Legislative and Rules Committee, on motion made by Mr. Bentley and seconded by Mr. Stec, Mr. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McLenithan, Legislative Office Specialist