

JOINT - LEGISLATIVE & RULES & ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEES
AGENDA
JUNE 28, 2012

Approval of minutes from March 27, 2012 Legislative Committee Meeting and May 31, 2012 Economic Growth & Development Meeting.

New Business:

- 1.) Discussion concerning broadband services for non-served parts of Warren County
Proposal from DANC (Development Authority of the North Country)
Proposal from Fred Engelmann from Rainmaker Network
- 2.) Resolution from Fulton County urging Congress to repeal a portion of the Universal Service Fund Surcharge which provides free cell phone service to "income eligible" individuals through federal subsidies.
- 3.) Resolution from Fulton County Supporting S.5509B/A.9489A to revise the sharing formula for Wireless E911 surcharge monies.
- 4.) Referral from the Social Services Committee requesting that State Legislators require anyone receiving public assistance to be subject to drug-alcohol testing and that benefits be suspended if they test positive.(4/11/12)

Pending Items:

- 1.) County Administrator to draft a letter to be distributed to the DPW superintendents of the individual towns and the County requesting a survey of areas where beaver dams have created a problem, such as flooding. (6/08/11)
- 2.) Discussion from March 7, 2012 meeting suggesting that the State offer an exchange for land previously acquired for forest preserve, but not used for such was referred back to committee.

Resolution No. 146

Supervisors BORN AND FAGAN offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
REPEAL A PORTION OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND
SURCHARGE THAT PROVIDES FREE CELLULAR TELEPHONE
SERVICE TO "INCOME ELIGIBLE" INDIVIDUALS

WHEREAS, Federal laws are in place that authorize the Federal Communication Commission to administer a "Universal Service Fund", which is funded through the collection of "Universal Connectivity Charge" surcharges on telephone bills; and

WHEREAS, through collection of this surcharge, Telecommunications companies are subsidized to provide taxpayer-funded cellular telephone services to individuals deemed "income-eligible". "Income Eligible" qualifications are incomes up to 135% of the federal poverty level; those who receive Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income, federal public housing, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or free lunch through the federal school lunch program; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that annual expenditures on Universal Service Fund programs have increased 86% during the last decade; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges Congressional representatives to introduce legislation to repeal the portion of the Universal Service Fund authorizing statutes that require free cellular service to individuals through federal subsidies; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Treasurer, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Paul Tonko, Congressman William Owens, Senator Hugh Farley, Assemblyman Marc Butler, All Counties, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski and Administrative Officer/Clerk of the Board.

Seconded by Supervisor HOWARD and adopted by the following vote:

TOTAL: Ayes: 17 Nays: 0 Absent: 3 (Supervisors DiGiacomo, Kinowski and Ottuso)

Resolution No. 228

Supervisor WALDRON offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING S.5509B/A.8489A
TO REVISE THE SHARING FORMULA FOR
WIRELESS E911 SURCHARGE MONIES

WHEREAS, in 1991, the NYS Legislature enacted a statute that placed a monthly surcharge of 70 cents on each cell phone bill and that monthly surcharge was increased to \$1.20 per cell phone in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the allocation of said wireless surcharge monies collected by the State was intended to help defray the costs of operating and maintaining county 911 centers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, counties now receive only a small portion of over \$2 million dollars collected from said surcharge by the State each year because the monies have been diverted to other state purposes; and

WHEREAS, S.5509-B/A.8489-A, as proposed, would require that 58.3% of E911 wireless surcharge funds must be used for grants or reimbursements to counties for the development, consolidation, or operation of public safety communications systems or networks designed to support interoperable communications for first responders, including Next Generation 911 and the remaining 41.7% would be used for miscellaneous state expenses; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges the State Legislature and Governor Cuomo to approve S.5509-B/A.8489-A that would revise the sharing formula for wireless E911 surcharges monies to ensure that local governments receive the funds necessary to upgrade 911 call centers and maintain emergency dispatch center operations in the name of public safety; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the County Treasurer, Governor Cuomo, Senator Hugh Farley, Assemblyman Marc Butler, New York State Association of Counties, All Counties, Budget Director/County Auditor and Administrative Officer/Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION REQUEST FORM NO. 20

MISCELLANEOUS*

"*Please List All Other Requests Not Covered by Previous Resolution Request Forms Here. Please attach any backup information available and be as detailed as possible.

DEPARTMENT NAME: Planning and Community Development

DATE: 31 May 2012

(a) Purpose of Request: Amend resolution 396 of 2012

(b) Details The resolution is to be amended to allow the County to submit multiple applications and not just a single application

(c) Previous Resolution Number: _____

Notes:

RESOLUTION REQUEST FORM NO. 20

MISCELLANEOUS*

"*Please List All Other Requests Not Covered by Previous Resolution Request Forms Here. Please attach any backup information available and be as detailed as possible.

DEPARTMENT NAME: Planning and Community Development

DATE: 28 June 2012

(a) Purpose of Request: Support actions and request for funding by the Adirondack Gateway Council regarding Broadband

(b) Details The Committee wishes to support the Adirondack Gateway Council's effort to undertake a broad and far reaching study of broadband needs and strategy for Warren and Washington Counties.

(c) Previous Resolution Number: _____

Notes:
