

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS & REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

DATE: MAY 22, 2018

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS DICKINSON  
BRAYMER  
SIMPSON  
STROUGH  
MCDEVITT  
LOEB  
HYDE

OTHERS PRESENT:

RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS GERAGHTY  
LEGGETT  
SOKOL  
WILD  
JIM LIEBERUM, DISTRICT MANAGER, WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
WALTER LENDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE ASSOCIATION  
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS MERLINO  
HOGAN

*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the May 22, 2018 meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link:*

<http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2018/environmental/>

Mr. Dickinson called the meeting of Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee to order at 12:04 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Dickinson informed according to a recent newspaper article, the Fort William Henry Corporation had banned the use of small plastic bags in their museum stores. He remarked he was pleased they showed interest in the cause and commended them.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Jim Lieberum, *District Manager, Warren County Soil & Water Conversation District*, who reviewed a power point presentation outlining the Soil & Water activities; *a copy of the presentation is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Braymer inquired what relationship existed between the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Lake Champlain - Lake George Regional Planning Board (*LCLGRP*) and Mr. Lieberum replied the two were partners and worked on environmental planning aspects. He added the *LCLGRP* had been involved with the Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition which was comprised of seven Soil & Water Districts. He explained a roadside assessment had been completed for each county following which a planning document was composed for areas of concern, potential recommendations, and associated costs for repair as a result of the *LCLGRP* working with all of the Soil & Water Districts in the Upper Hudson region. Mr. Lieberum mentioned Beth Gillis served as the Planner for the *LCLGRP* and she coordinated the annual North County Storm Water Trade Show held in October.

Chairman Conover entered the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Mr. McDevitt thanked Mr. Lieberum for the presentation, noting he had learned about the City of Glens Falls storm water projects from the presentation and had been under the impression that the Soil & Water Conservation District only assisted with projects in the Northern portion of the County, but was pleased to learn their services were available to the entire County.

Mr. Lieberum welcomed the Committee to reach out to him with requests for assistance with projects.

He added the Soil & Water Conservation District did not just work Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30p.m., they worked weekends too. He referenced assistance provided by the Conservation District during the Clendon Brook Road washout, apprising that he had received a phone call from the Town of Queensbury Supervisor seeking assistance with the washout while he was at home splitting wood and he had happily obliged. He added his organization received a \$316,000 allocation on an annual basis from the County for operating expenses and hazard mitigation with the remainder of the money received through contracts, grants and earned income from presentations for erosion control.

Walter Lender, *Executive Director, Lake George Association (LGA)*, apprised the Conservation District was a critical partner for the LGA with the storm water and erosion control projects by providing advice and suggestions. He added that he very much appreciated the assistance provided by the Conservation District as they were always helpful and quick to respond.

Chairman Conover commended the Water & Soil Conservation District for a remarkable job done with storm water, sedimentation and erosion work. He reported it was nice to know that they were just a phone call away for an issue such as a road wash out. He informed they helped recycle and reuse the landfill for a ball field in the Town of Bolton, and without their assistance that would not have been possible.

Mr. McDevitt mentioned the significant periodic discharges into the Hudson River from the City of Glens Falls pump stations due to archaic infrastructure; he added that a plan could be developed to solve the issue over time. Mr. Lieberum replied the age of the infrastructure, infiltration of ground water and old pipes, combined with sewer overflows from storm water, were the cause of this problem. He agreed a long-term plan was required to address this issue which would include lowering storm water flowing into the sewer system.

Mr. Strough noted the Soil & Water Conservation District was a good organization.

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. McDevitt, Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board