

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE & RULES

DATE: MARCH 17, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: STROUGH
BRAYMER
DIAMOND
DRISCOLL
LEGGETT
MERLINO
SIMPSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

FRANK E. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS MAGOWAN
SEEBER
WILD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: CONOVER
BEATY

TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
RYAN DICKEY, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the March 17, 2020 Meeting of the Legislative & Rules Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link:
<https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/legislative/>

Mr. Strough called the meeting of the Legislative & Rules Committee to order at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. Strough indicated Action Agenda/New Business Item 1 pertained to Medicaid cap advocacy and a request from NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) to support their resolution calling on the Governor and the New York State Legislature to preserve the zero percent Medicare growth cap for all counties and New York City.

Following some discussion and an explanation on the purpose of the resolution from Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by majority vote, with Supervisor Leggett abstaining, to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th Board Meeting.

Moving on, Mr. Strough advised Agenda Item 2 pertained to Assembly Bill A8123, *An Act to Amend the Executive Law in Relation to Preserving Ecological Integrity, Wildlife and Open Space in the Adirondack Park*. He said he recalled this matter had been tabled in the past at the request of Mr. Simpson and he was confused as to why it was included on this agenda; Chairman Thomas explained he had added this item to the agenda to create awareness. Mr. Simpson informed the APA (*Adirondack Park Agency*) and the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, along with more than twenty-two other groups, had been involved in working on

this legislation for over two years during which time many changes and compromises were made. He said the legislation was introduced and pulled by the State Senate. Mr. Strough questioned if the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages supported the amended version of the bill and Mr. Simpson replied affirmatively. Mr. Geraghty stated this placed another burden on those who lived within the Adirondack Park. Mr. Simpson informed it was a balance between owning property and the environment. Mr. Leggett informed this was a loose end that needed to be tied up; he expressed the Adirondack Park was an area that was different than other areas. Ms. Braymer advised this bill was a consensus between many agencies and was drafted to protect the natural resources. Mr. Simpson urged the Committee to refrain from taking action at this time. Following some discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to take no action.

Mr. Strough announced Agenda Item 3 pertained to Broome County Resolution No. 45 of 2020, *Resolution Urging Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislator to Increase the Counties' Share of Department of Motor Vehicles Reserve to 25 Percent to Provide a More Equitable Share for Counties Operating Local DMV Offices*. Mr. Driscoll informed he favored the Legislation, but he was concerned how the State would balance their budget and if the County would truly benefit. Mr. Leggett suggested tabling the matter until they could hear from the County Clerk. It was consensus of the Committee to take no action on this item until an opinion from the County Clerk was provided.

Moving on to Agenda Item 4, Mr. Strough outlined a request from the US Geological Survey for a recommendation about a proposal to correct the name of Halfway Creek to Halfway Brook. Mr. Strough explained that the longstanding name known locally was Halfway Brook, but at some point on a Federal map the name was changed to Halfway Creek. He further explained the proposal made was to formally correct the name at the Federal level.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Diamond and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Strough announced Agenda Item 5 included a request to alter the standing Rules of the Board to include a night Board Meeting for 2020. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to change the time and date of the October 2020 Board Meeting to Wednesday, October 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve a resolution altering the standing Rules of the Board to change the time and date of the October 2020 Board Meeting, as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th Board Meeting.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Strough addressed Referral/Pending Item 1 which pertained to a referral from the Personnel & Administration Committee to establish a policy for nominations to appoint members of the Warren-Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency (WWIDA), and other agencies or organizations unless superceded by State or Federal Law. Mr. Strough asked the Committee if there were any particular rules they wanted in place regarding appointments. Mr. Merlino suggested continuing on as they had in the past. Mr. Strough explained currently the Chairman of the Board decided who the candidates were and the Board of Supervisors voted on them. Ms. Braymer apprised she wanted to receive advanced notice as to who the candidates were prior to a Board Meeting. Mr. Merlino voiced his opinion that he was not looking to get politics involved. Mr. Diamond advised the full Board needed time to reach out to potential appointees to determine if they agreed with the Chairman's selections; he asked if there were term limits for WWIDA members because they were not stated in the bylaws provided. Mary Elizabeth Kissane, *County Attorney*, replied

the terms were stated on the appointing resolution. A discussion ensued, following which it was the consensus of the Committee to take no action on this matter and to continue with the current process, provided that appointing resolutions were provided to the Board of Supervisors in the mailed resolution packet to provide sufficient review time.

As there was no further business to come before the Legislative & Rules Committee, on motion made by Ms. Braymer and seconded by Mr. Diamond, Mr. Strough adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist