

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ARPA ADVISORY

DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

CLAUDIA BRAYMER (CO-CHAIR)
DENNIS DICKINSON (CO-CHAIR)
RACHEL SEEBER
WAYNE LAMOTHE
RAY AGNEW
BETH GILLES
FRANK THOMAS
DOUGLAS BEATY
WAYNE LAMOTHE
CRAIG LEGGETT, ACTING COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISOR MAGOWAN
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
GINA MARTIN, OFFICE SPECIALIST, PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
TRISH MCKINNEY, GREATER ADIRONDACK HOME AIDES
BRANDON NATSUHARA, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, NACo
CHRISTINE V. NORTON, ADK EXCURSIONS
JIM SIPLON, PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

MIKE WILD
ETHAN GADDY
MICHAEL SWAN

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the September 27, 2022 meeting of the ARPA Advisory Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Ms. Braymer called the meeting of the ARPA Advisory Committee to order at 3:18 p.m.

The ARPA Advisory Committee agenda was distributed to those present; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Committee commenced the agenda review with the Discussion Items section in the following order:

- b. NACo Rep-Mental Health Toolkit - Power Point presentation entitled "Mental Health First Aid" provided by Brandon Natsuhara, *Program Director, National Association of Counties (NACo).*

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Beaty to appropriate \$65,000 in ARPA funding to the National Association of Counties (NACo) to fund Mental Health First Aid training seminars; however, the motion failed to obtain the majority vote required, with Messrs. LaMothe, Leggett, Thomas and Dickinson voting in opposition, *(Mr. Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent).*

Discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Leggett to appropriate \$65,000 in ARPA funding to NACo to fund Mental Health First Aid training seminars as part of the 2023 goals and objectives for the Board of Supervisors. A brief discussion ensued following which Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion to appropriate \$65,000 as outlined above failed due to the lack of majority vote required with Messrs. Dickinson, Thomas and LaMothe voting in opposition *(Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent).*

Motion was made by Mr. LaMothe to refer the matter to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee for consideration. Ms. Seeber suggested Mr. LaMothe amend the motion to refer the matter to the Health Services Committee for consideration under the agenda of the Office of Community Services which Mr. LaMothe was agreeable to. Discussion ensued, at the conclusion of which upon the suggestion of Ms. Seeber, Mr. LaMothe

amended his motion to indicate \$65,000 of ARPA funding would be allocated to fund NACo Mental Health First Aid training seminars for fifteen individuals who would then train County employees, as well as local municipal employees and members of the community; Ms. Seeber seconded the motion. A brief discussion ensued following which Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent*) to approve a \$65,000 of ARPA funding to fund the NACo Mental Health First Aid training seminars as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board Meeting.

- a. Update on applications for funding, evaluation process and next steps - Sara Frankenfeld, *GIS Administrator*, provided an explanation on how the applications were scored, assigned priority, sorted, ranked, divided by category and then ranked once more.

Committee commenced review of the projects to award funding according to order on the Top Scoring/Top Priority Projects list; a copy is on file with the minutes.

The first four projects reviewed were the highest scored in the Assistance to Non-Profits category as follows:

- To appropriate \$16,338 in ARPA funding to Tri-County Literacy Center, Inc. to fund additional staffing to support the major increases in requests for services.
- To appropriate \$20,000 in ARPA funding to Family Service Association of Glens Falls, Inc. to fund program support.
- To appropriate \$32,000 in ARPA funding to Caritas Inc. dba Nearcare to fund non-medical, non-hands-on-support for seriously and terminally ill individuals.
- To appropriate \$18,000 in ARPA funding to Greater Adirondack Home Aides to fund infrastructure investment.

Motion was made by Mr. LaMothe, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent*) to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the October 6th Board Meeting.

- To appropriate \$250,000 in ARPA funding to Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren & Washington Counties to fund Baybridge Mixed Income Housing.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Dickinson to approve the request as presented. A discussion ensued during which some Committee members spoke in favor of providing them with the total amount they requested while others were in favor of providing them with a lesser amount.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty and seconded by Ms. Seeber to amend the motion on the floor to reduce the appropriation of ARPA funding to Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren & Washington Counties to fund Baybridge Mixed Income Housing to \$100,000. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion to amend the motion on the floor and reduce the appropriation from \$250,000 to \$100,000 failed, due to a lack of majority vote, with Ms. Braymer, Mr. Dickinson, Ms. Gilles and Messrs. Thomas, LaMothe and Leggett voting in opposition (*Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent*).

Returning to the motion on the floor to appropriate \$250,000 in ARPA funding to Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren & Washington Counties to fund Baybridge Mixed Income Housing, Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present, with Ms. Seeber and Mr. Beaty voting in opposition (*Messrs. Wild, Gaddy and Swan absent*). The necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board Meeting.

The agenda review resumed with the following items:

- To appropriate \$50,000 in ARPA funding to Skye Farm Camp and Retreat Center to fund COVID recovery.
- To appropriate \$15,000 in ARPA funding to Greater Glens Falls Senior Center to fund the Senior Expo.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. LaMothe and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*) to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$32,335 to Research Foundation for SUNY to fund chrome books for students.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. LaMothe to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Messrs. Dickinson and LaMothe amended their motions to include the condition that the chromebooks would only be for Warren County residents. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*), with Mr. Agnew voting in opposition and Ms. Seeber abstaining, to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$100,000 in ARPA funding to Servants of the Word INC dba The Open Door to fund Life Path Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Agnew and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Agnew withdrew his motion due to unanswered questions regarding the services provided in the Life Path Program. It was noted the request would remain on the list and be revisited once more information was provided.

- To appropriate \$400,000 to Tri-County United Way for Warren County Non-Profit Impact Fund.

Following discussion it was the consensus of the Committee to hold off on making a decision until sub-recipients could be identified and the opinion of the County Attorney was provided.

Mr. LaMothe provided an update he had received from Rob York, *Director, Office of Community Services*, regarding the activities of the CSB (*Community Services Board*), who were charged with awarding \$1 million in funding for mental health services and initiatives, apprising they had received requests totaling \$4,077,413 and there were four referrals made to the Finance Committee on behalf of the Office of Community Services totaling \$142,884. He added the CSB determined three applications they received were better suited to be funded with opiate funding and five applications remained active. He said the amount of the applications still under consideration totaled \$3,552,804, the bulk of which pertained to a request received from The Glens Falls Hospital.

- To appropriate \$158,000 in ARPA funding to High Peaks Hospice for increased costs.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Dickinson to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*), with Mr. Agnew abstaining, to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$64,000 in ARPA funding to the World Awareness Children's Museum to fund development and tourism.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Ms. Seeber and carried by a unanimous vote of those present

(*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*) to appropriate \$35,000 in ARPA funding to the World Awareness Children's Museum to fund development and tourism and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$200,000 in ARPA funding to the North Warren Emergency Squad for ambulance replacement.

A motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. LaMothe to appropriate \$75,000 in ARPA funding to the North Warren Emergency Squad for ambulance replacement to include the caveat that the funds were expended before the end of 2023. Following discussion, Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*), with Ms. Seeber abstaining, to approve the request to appropriate \$75,000 in ARPA funding as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$206,880 in ARPA funding to the High Peaks Hospice to fund hospice education.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson to approve the request as presented, but no second to the motion was made; following discussion, motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*), with Mr. Agnew abstaining, to appropriate \$106,880 in ARPA funding to the High Peaks Hospice to fund hospice education and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

- To appropriate \$25,000 in ARPA funding to Adirondack Theater Festival, Inc. to fund the 7th Annual Film Festival.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*) to refer the request for funding from the Adirondack Theater Festival to the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee for consideration.

Mr. Leggett announced \$808,553 in funding had been allocated today, leaving a remaining balance in ARPA funding of \$3,712,345.

Privilege of the floor and public comment was called for.

Trish McKinney, *Representing Greater Adirondack Home Aides*, commended the Committee for their hard work and expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to submit an application along with approving funding to her organization.

Christine Norton, *Representing ADK Excursions, LLC*, apprised her business, which had applied for \$175,000, was expected to launch in 2020; however, she noted, as a result of the pandemic the launch was delayed until 2021. She added to date the business was still operating at a loss and there were \$30,000 worth of safety improvements that needed to be made. She indicated while she was not expecting to be provided with her total request, she would be appreciative of any funding awarded to her.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Ms. Seeber to appropriate \$100,000 in ARPA funding to ADK Excursions, LLC; following discussion Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion to appropriate \$100,000 in ARPA funding to ADK Excursions, LLC failed due to a lack of majority vote, with Mr. Thomas, Ms. Braymer and Ms. Gilles voting in opposition (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*).

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Mr. Agnew to table consideration of ADK Excursions, LLC application for ARPA funding until the next Committee meeting. Following further discussion, Mr. Agnew amended his motion to appropriate \$30,000 in ARPA funding to ADK Excursions, LLC to fund safety related capital improvements and consider the remaining amount requested at a later date; Mr. LaMothe seconded the motion. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*) to approve the request to appropriate \$30,000 in ARPA funding to ADK Excursions, LLC as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 6th Board meeting.

Regarding the Referrals/Pending Items the following items were not discussed:

- a. The funding application for the Glens Falls Hospital Behavioral Health project which was in the process of being prepared by the Finance Department of the Glens Falls Hospital would be reviewed at a future meeting.
- b. Meals on Wheels Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild, Swan and Gaddy absent*) to approve the minutes from the previous ARPA Advisory Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

There being no further business to come before the ARPA Advisory Committee, Ms. Braymer declared the meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
(*as transcribed by Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board*)