

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ARPA ADVISORY

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS CLAUDIA BRAYMER CO-CHAIR
DENNIS DICKINSON CO-CHAIR
RACHEL SEEBER
RAY AGNEW
BETH GILLES
FRANK THOMAS
DOUGLAS BEATY
MICHAEL WILD
CRAIG LEGGETT, ACTING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISOR MERLINO
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
GINA MARTIN, OFFICE SPECIALIST, PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
JIM SIPLON, PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
EMMA BARTSCHERER, DIRECTOR, SUNY PLATTSBURG AT
QUEENSBURY
SHANA GRAHAM, PAINTED PONY CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO
RACHEL MEACHER, KIND CYCLING
KAITLYN ST. JOHN, JSJ TRANSPORTING LLC
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS WAYNE LAMOTHE
MICHAEL SWAN
ETHAN GADDY

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 4, 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 10:37 a.m.

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed; a copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

The meeting commenced with Ms. Braymer announcing the resignation of Committee member Michael Swan.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Emma Bartscherer, *Director, SUNY Plattsburg at Queensbury*, who thanked the Committee for consideration for ARPA assistance to purchase chrome books for SUNY Plattsburg students who were studying in Queensbury to complete a four year degree locally. She indicated she had submitted three applications for funding because they did not receive funding from SUNY Adirondack, indicating the other two applications were for a mental health advocate and a workshop to teach life skills. She apprised she would appreciate any amount of funding.

Mr. Dickinson entered the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Shana Graham, *Painted Pony Championship Rodeo*, who indicated her business had to close due to COVID-19 with no revenue and they were behind on their feed bill, adding they were able to reopened last year. She expressed she was grateful for any amount of funding.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Kaitlyn St. John, *JSJ Transporting LLC*, who apprised her husbands business hauled wood to Finch Paper where prior to 2020 they earned \$500,000 a year, but after COVID-19 they were \$90,000 in the negative, adding they still maintained their fleet and paid their employees.

Mr. Agnew entered the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Rachel Meacher, *Kind Cycling*, who advised her business was immediately shut down due to COVID-19 and was the last type of business to reopen at 30%, adding she had to rent a tent and move all of her spin bikes outside to hold her class. She mentioned she had to file for unemployment and sell half of her spin

bikes, informing her business was now located in the Grey Ghost building in The City of Glens Falls.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Jim Siplon, *President, Economic Development Corporation*, who spoke regarding broadband support, informing there were less than 200 homes for sale that were under \$500,000 which was double that of the year prior, adding jobs could not be filled until the housing shortage was addressed. It was mentioned the housing shortage was partly due to short-term rentals within the County, advising until the County addressed the issue there would continue to be a housing shortage.

Ms. Seeber stepped out of the meeting at 11:23 a.m. and re-entered th meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Mr. Beaty stepped out of the meeting at 11:26 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 11:26 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Discussion ensued with regard to the ARPA funding awarded to Doug Miller, *Adirondack Sports Complex*, and the process of filling out an application and providing financial documentation. It was consensus of the Committee for Supervisor Braymer, as Co-Chair of the Committee, to reach out to Mr. Miller to obtain the essential information.

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 11:39 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Ms. Braymer indicated there were no minutes to approve.

A discussion ensued regarding vacancies on the Committee, following a motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Gaddy absent*), with Mr. Wild voting in opposition, to amend Resolution No. 419 of 2022 to delete the vacant position, as well as the vacancy created by the resignation of Michael Swan, and refer the same to the Personnel, Administration and Higher Education Committee.

Ms. Braymer indicated they had eight categories of applications and \$3.5 million remaining in ARPA funds. A discussion ensued with regard to how to handle distributing the remaining funds in the best maner to serve the County tax payers.

Mr. Thomas stepped out of the meeting at 11:59 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Mr. Beaty stepped out of the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

It was discussed that the Committee use between \$500,000-\$750,000 to fund small business, adding to focus on the top seven small business applications.

A motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Beaty to fund the Painted Pony Championship Rodeo at the full amount they requested. Upon further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Seeber to amend the prior motion to fund the Painted Pony Rodeo at 50% of their ask.

It was noted most of the small business that applied for ARPA funding had lost more than they were asking for. Following, Mr. Dickinson withdrew his motion. It was suggested to use the percentage of each application to determine how far the funds would go.

Speaking on behalf of the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board, Ms. Gilles requested the Planning Board request be reduced to \$150,000.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding different funding scenarios for the small business request received.

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 12:23 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Mr. Wild stepped out of the meeting at 12:39 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Braymer to award funding to the Painted Pony Championship Rodeo, LLC, Queensbury Community Scholarship Association, Inc., Alchemy Bagel Café, Mammoth Recycling DBA Rocket Recycling, Glens Falls Regional Venture Ecosystem, Kind Cycling and JLABS, at the priority percentage amounts provided in the scoring sheet.

Mr. Leggett exited the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Mr. Wild exited the meeting at 12:49 p.m. resulting in the lack of a quorum of the Committee.

Ms. Braymer withdrew her motion.

The Committee decided the next meeting would be held on October 14th at 9:00 a.m., at which time discussions regarding funding awards would continue.

Ms. Braymer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist