

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ARPA ADVISORY

DATE: OCTOBER 28, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

CLAUDIA BRAYMER (CO-CHAIR)
DENNIS DICKINSON (CO-CHAIR)
RACHEL SEEBER
RAY AGNEW
BETH GILLES
FRANK THOMAS
DOUGLAS BEATY
MIKE WILD
CRAIG LEGGETT, ACTING COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR
ETHAN GADDY

OTHERS PRESENT:

LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISOR STROUGH
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
GINA MARTIN, OFFICE SPECIALIST, PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PATRICK DOWD, CITY OF GLENS FALLS, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
JEFFREY MEAD, GENERAL MANAGER, COOL INSURING ARENA
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

WAYNE LAMOTHE

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 28, 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 9:01 a.m.

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

Ms. Braymer requested roll call for attendance; the following Committee members were present:

Ms. Braymer, Ms. Seeber, Mr. Agnew, Ms. Gilles, Mr. Beaty, Mr. Wild and Mr. Gaddy. (*Messrs. Dickinson, Thomas, LaMothe and Leggett absent*).

Motion was made by Mr. Agnew, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Dickinson, LaMothe, Thomas and Leggett absent*) to approve the minutes from the previous ARPA Advisory Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Messrs. Thomas and Leggett entered the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Commencing the agenda with Privilege of the Floor and Public Comment, the following spoke:

Jeffrey Mead, *Director, Cool Insuring Arena*, voiced his appreciation for the Committee's consideration of their request for funds to assist with costs to renovate Heritage Hall which had not been updated since the 1980's and explained how the funding would help to bring new business and visitors to the County. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Dickinson entered the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Patrick Dowd, *Director, City of Glens Falls Community Development*, apprised the City of Glens Falls planned to contribute \$200,000 to Heritage Hall for the renovation project. He informed the City of Glens Falls had submitted an application to the County for \$250,000 to assist with the \$500,000 the City of Glens Falls was funding to upgrade recreation outdoor courts in the City of Glens Falls. A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Braymer noted the amount of funding remaining was \$2,934,417.

Committee commenced review of the Action Agenda/New Business Items portion of the agenda which included the following:

- a. Award Funding to Non-Profits - A lengthy review of the “Address Neg Eco Impact-Assist to Non-Profits” table took place during which the Committee considered requests and negotiated amounts to be disbursed. During this time, the following motions were made:

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 9:20 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Agnew and seconded by Mr. Thomas to appropriate \$250,000 in ARPA funding to the Adirondack Civic Center Coalition to fund Heritage Hall project. Following discussion, and upon an opinion from Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, Messrs. Agnew and Thomas amended their motions to appropriate funding contingent upon County Attorney review. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Mr. LaMothe absent*), with Mr. Wild abstaining and Mr. Leggett voting in opposition, to approve the funding award in the amount of \$250,000 and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Agnew to appropriate \$50,000 in ARPA funding to the Park Theater Foundation, Inc. to fund their Summer Concert Series, a brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 9:51 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Mr. Leggett stepped out of the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Following discussion, Ms. Seeber amended her motion on the floor to change the funding category from “support public health response” to “assistance to not-for-profits or assistance to tourism, travel, hospitality”. A discussion ensued during which Mr. Elmen provided his legal opinion and Ms. Seeber amended the motion once again to leave the category as it was presented in the table before the Committee. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition, to approve the funding award as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Agnew to appropriate \$17,250 in ARPA funding to the Adirondack Theater Festival to fund their 7th Annual Adirondack Film Festival. Following discussion, Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition and Mr. Wild abstaining, to approve the funding award as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Gaddy stepped out of the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Agnew to appropriate \$32,400 to The Hyde Collection to fund The Hyde Collection School Connection, and \$5,400 to Charles R. Wood Theater, Inc. to fund their Welcome Home Johnny Workshop. Following discussion, Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe, Gaddy and Leggett absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition, to approve the funding awards as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Gaddy re-entered the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Gilles and seconded by Ms. Seeber to appropriate \$100,000 to Queensbury Community Scholarship Association, Inc.; discussion ensued following which Ms. Gilles and Ms. Seeber amended their motions to include the caveat that these funds must be used within the designated timeframe for ARPA funding. Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*) to approve the funding award as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Dickinson stepped out of the meeting at 10:14 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas to appropriate \$75,000 to Servants of the Word Inc. DBA The Open Door for their Life Path Program. Following discussion, Mr. Wild made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Gaddy, to table the request until the next meeting; the tabling motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*), with Mr. Dickinson, Ms. Seeber and Mr. Thomas voting in opposition.

Motion was made by Mr. Agnew and seconded by Mr. Dickinson to appropriate \$21,930 in ARPA funding to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Southern Adirondacks to fund their COVID-19 Mitigation: Combating the Mental Health Crisis program. Following discussion, Messrs. Agnew and Dickinson amended their motions to increase the appropriation to \$25,500; Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*) to approve the funding award as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

With regard to the City of Glens Falls' request for \$250,000 to fund Rebuilding their Recreational Courts, it was the consensus of the Committee to invite the Mayor of Glens Falls to join the next meeting for further discussion on the request, as well as to allow the County Attorney time to review and determine whether funding capital improvements for another municipality was an eligible expense.

Ms. Braymer called for a brief recess. Committee recessed from 10:42 a.m. until 10:47 a.m.

Mr. Leggett re-entered the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Ms. Seeber, Messrs. Thomas, Beaty and Wild re-entered the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Mr. Gaddy re-entered the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Committee resumed review of funding requests, with the following action being taken:

With regard to the request from the Warren County Office of Emergency Services for \$3,146 to fund COVID-19 PPE expenses, motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. LaMothe absent*) to refer the request to the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee for consideration.

With regard to the request to appropriate \$11,000 in ARPA funding to Jessica Taylor to fund safe water, motion was made by Mr. Beaty and seconded by Ms. Braymer to refer the matter to the Town of Queensbury for consideration. Discussion ensued, following which Ms. Braymer called the question and the motion carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. LaMothe absent*) to refer the request to the Town of Queensbury for consideration.

With regard to the request to appropriate \$5,000 to Roette Palmatier to fund Employee Premium Pay, a motion was made by Mr. Dickinson to not award the requested funding. Committee discussed whether formal action was necessary to refrain from awarding funding based on past precedence, following which Mr. Dickinson

withdrew his motion. It was the consensus of the Committee to remove the request based on the opinion of the County Attorney that this was not an eligible expense within ARPA funding guidelines.

Mr. Leggett exited the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

With regard to the request to appropriate \$800,000 in funding to CSEA Unit 9000 - Warren County General Bargaining Unit to fund COVID incentive, it was the consensus of the Committee not to fund the request based on the opinion of the County Attorney that this was not an eligible expense within ARPA funding guidelines.

With regard to requests to appropriate \$5,000 in ARPA funding to Small Tales Early Learning Center and Day Care to fund daycare, and \$30,000 to JLABS to fund a child center, a motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Agnew to approve the funding award as requested. Discussion ensued, during which Ms. Seeber amended her motion to appropriate \$50,000 to the Southern Adirondack Childcare Center, which would allow programs, such as those mentioned above, to apply for the funds from Southern Adirondack Childcare Center. Upon further discussion, Ms. Seeber withdrew her motion to fund \$50,000 to Southern Adirondack Childcare Center and maintain the main motion to fund Small Tales Early Learning Center and Day Care at \$5,000, and JLABS at \$30,000. Mr. Gaddy requested that these items be voted on separately and Ms. Seeber and Mr. Agnew agreed, indicating they were agreeable to separate motions for each item.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Agnew and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*) to authorize the appropriation of \$5,000 to Small Tales Early Learning Center and Day Care and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber and seconded by Mr. Agnew to authorize the appropriation of \$30,000 to JLABS to fund a child center. Following discussion, Ms. Seeber withdrew her motion in light of a number of unanswered questions. Consensus of the Committee was for the request to be revisited at the next meeting once more information was provided.

Mr. Wild stepped out of the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Gaddy, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe, Wild and Leggett absent*) to authorize the appropriation of \$75,000 to CWI to offset lost revenues caused by cancelled fundraisers and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Wild re-entered the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

The Committee discussed a date and time for the next meeting, which they determined would be held on November 15th at 2:30 p.m.

Upon motion made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. LaMothe and Leggett absent*), Ms. Braymer adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

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