

# Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022



**Note: Pursuant to New York State Legislation (S.50001/A.40001): “Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity, shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.” All of the Board members were physically present aside from Supervisor Bruno, who attended the meeting virtually.**

**Please note that the following is a summarization of the Board Meeting; the meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed on the Warren County website: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren convened at the Supervisors' Room in the Warren County Municipal Center, Lake George, New York; meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Frasier.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Dickinson, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty. Absent - 2 Supervisors Hogan and Merlino. All Supervisors in attendance were physically present, aside from Supervisor Bruno, who attended the meeting virtually.

Motion was made by Supervisor Dickinson, seconded by Supervisor Geraci and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Hogan and Merlino absent*) to approve the minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Andrea Kinderman Galeno, *Coordinator, Employment & Training*.

The following individuals were recognized for completing their Leadership Badge Training in Senior Management which was offered to Department Heads and individuals in Senior Management positions: Tammy Cobert, *Senior Caseworker, Department of Social Services*; Kate Livingston, *Resource Coordinator, Department of Social Services*; Maureen Taylor, *Foster Care Supervisor, Department of Social Services*; and Tracy Terry, *Family and Youth Daycare Supervisor, Department of Social Services*.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Nick Rowell, *Natural Resource Specialist, Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District*, who addressed the Board regarding the end of the public comment period on the draft 2022 MS4 (*Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System*) Annual Report, copies of which were

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located at their office, on their website, as well as the County website. He encouraged anyone seeking additional information regarding the Report to contact their office or the Department of Public Works.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor and the following spoke:

Dennis Daly, *Warren County New York Department of Public Works employee*, spoke regarding the pay discrepancies between the towns and Warren County concerning the positions within the Department of Public Works. He implored with the Board of Supervisors to take action and increase the pay rates for all positions within Warren County Department of Public Works to be in alignment with the pay rates offered by the Town of Queensbury for similar positions.

Supervisor Merlino entered the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

A discussion ensued during which Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, outlined the reallocation process which was required in order to change the salary of positions included within the Collective Bargaining Unit, as noted in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He added if the CSEA was unwilling to make changes to the salaries through this process then it would need to be handled by reopening the CSEA contract which would require a formal request from legal counsel for that union.

Prior to proceeding with the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty requested a moment of silence in recognition of former Warren County Superintendent of Public Works, Fred Austin, who had recently passed away.

Report by the Chairman of the Board was given.

Report by Committee Chairs were given, during which Chairman Geraghty provided every Supervisor with the opportunity to speak regardless of whether they Chaired a Committee.

During the Reports by Committee Chairs, Chairman Geraghty thanked Supervisor Seeber for handling the presentation of the Certificate of Excellence to Otto Miller at the graduation ceremony for SUNY Adirondack, as well as requesting the Proclamation of Appreciation for Erin Pierone, whom she had worked closely with in the Criminal Justice field and was retiring after a long career.

Supervisor Beaty exited the meeting during the Reports by Committee Chairs at 10:43 a.m.

Report by the County Administrator was given during which Mr. Moore spoke regarding a proposed amendment to Resolution No. 215, *Amending Warren County Budget for 2022 for Various Departments Within Warren County*, to include the \$200,000 in ARPA (*American Rescue Plan Act*) funding to pay for the contract with The Dome. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Magowan, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Beaty and Hogan absent*) to amend proposed Resolution No. 215 as outlined above.

Robert Terwilliger, *First Assistant County Attorney*, indicated he had nothing to report on for the County Attorney's Office.

Reading of communications by Clerk of the Board was provided, as follows:

Reports from:

1. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation - Audited Financial Statements and Supplemental and Other Information (*bound report - not emailed*)
2. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation - Financial Report dated November

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- 30, 2021 (*bound report - not emailed*)
3. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation - Financial Report dated January 31, 2022 (*bound report - not emailed*)
  4. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation - Financial Report dated February 28, 2022 (*bound report - not emailed*)
  5. Warren County Treasurer - Warren County Annual Financial Report Update Document - 2021

Reading of resolutions by the Clerk of the Board was announced as follows:

Sarah McLenithan, *Deputy Clerk of the Board*, advised Resolution Nos. 216-263 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>, along with the Mortgage Tax Report and three Proclamations, which met the distribution deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The three Proclamations are:

PR25 - Elder Abuse Awareness Day

PR26 - Warren County Board of Supervisors' SUNY Adirondack Certificate of Excellence Award - Otto Miller

PR27 - Proclamation of Appreciation - Erin Pierone

Discussion on resolutions was called for; a lengthy discussion was held in regards to Resolution No. 262, *Authorizing ARPA Funds Disbursement to Adirondack Sports Complex, LLC*. During discussion, Supervisor Conover requested a roll call vote on this resolution and Supervisor Wild made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss with the owner of the Adirondack Sports Complex, LLC some specifics about their business which should not be made public; Chairman Geraghty called for a second to the motion and there being none, he announced that the motion failed. Following further discussion, Supervisor Conover announced he would second Supervisor Wild's motion to enter into executive session pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the Public Officer's Law; Chairman Geraghty requested a roll call vote on the motion to enter into an executive session. Roll call vote was taken and the motion failed due to a lack of majority vote, with 256 voting in favor (*Supervisors Wild, Thomas, Runyon, Conover, Leggett and Geraghty*); 624 voting in opposition (*Supervisors Frasier, Geraci, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Magowan, Seeber, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno and Driscoll*); and 122 absent (*Supervisors Hogan and Beaty*).

Discussion was held in regard to Resolution No. 246, *Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2022*, as introduced by Supervisor Magowan.

Supervisor Seeber introduced discussion regarding Resolution No. 221, *Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreement with Saratoga County for Shared Police and Related Law Enforcement Resources, Personnel and Equipment with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office*, and she requested a roll call vote for same. During discussion, a motion was made by Supervisor Wild to amend proposed Resolution No. 221 to include that the agreement would be effective contingent upon execution by Saratoga County. Supervisor Magowan seconded the motion, which was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Beaty and Hogan absent*). Supervisor Seeber withdrew her request for a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 221, based on the amendment made.

Chairman Geraghty asked whether the roll call votes for proposed Resolution Nos. 251 and 252, could be combined and there were no objections from any Board member present; he then suggested also combining the roll call votes on proposed Resolution Nos. 252-255 and there were no objections.

Voting on resolutions occurred; Resolution Nos. 216-263 were approved as presented with the exception of Resolution Nos. 215 and 221 which were amended from the floor. **Note: Subsequent to the meeting it was determined that Resolution No. 246, Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2022, failed because it only achieved a vote of 631 and a 2/3 majority vote was of 668 was required because the resolution included the creation of a**

*position.*

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor and the following spoke:

Supervisor Braymer spoke regarding the proposed gas tax relief resolution that would be forthcoming from a bi-partisan group of Supervisors which she hoped would gain the full support of the Board to assist the taxpayers of the County during this difficult economic time, noting this would have no impact on the collections during the summer season when tourism was most active in the County, as it would not be effective until September 1<sup>st</sup> if adopted. She added a number of Counties, as well as the State had moved forward with this type of action to assist their residents.

Next, Supervisor Braymer mentioned it had come to her attention the Warren County Ethics Board had been meeting without providing proper notice to the public which she was troubled by and she requested that they consider adopting a resolution indicating that these meetings were to be held subject to Open Meetings Law or the matter be referred to the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee to discuss whether a resolution was required to amend the Local Law pertaining to the Warren County Board of Ethics. Chairman Geraghty advised he was not aware this was occurring and he would ensure this matter was taken up.

Finally, Supervisor Braymer recognized Edward Fitzgerald and Diana Palmer for their recent appointments to the SUNY Adirondack Board of Trustees.

Supervisor Dickinson thanked Chairman Geraghty for requesting a moment of silence for Mr. Austin at the beginning of the meeting which was well deserved for all of his accomplishments. He added there would be a celebration of life for Mr. Austin scheduled in the future.

Supervisor Strough echoed the comments made by Supervisor Dickinson regarding Mr. Austin.

Supervisor Seeber advised last year Mr. Austin had been presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the County.

Supervisor Driscoll stated the Memorial Day Parade sponsored by the City of Glens Falls and Town of Queensbury was scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup> and he invited everyone to attend.

Supervisor Bruno indicated he would like to echo the comments made by Supervisors Dickinson and Strough regarding Mr. Austin, apprising he had known him for fifty years and he would be sorely missed.

Supervisor Leggett announced the Town of Chester would be holding a Memorial Day Parade on May 30<sup>th</sup> in the hamlet of Pottersville and all were welcome to attend.

Chairman Geraghty apprised the Memorial Day Parade was scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on May 30<sup>th</sup> in the Town of Warrensburg. He encouraged the Board members to stop and shake the Veterans's hands and thank them for their service anytime they saw them selling poppies.

Supervisor Dickinson informed he had sold his surveying business last week and he was officially retired after forty-five years.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Dickinson, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:56 a.m.