

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE, RULES & GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

DATE: AUGUST 23, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS STROUGH
DRISCOLL
CONOVER
THOMAS
MCDEVITT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS:

ELIZABETH McLAUGHLIN, COMMISSIONER (D)
WILLIAM VANNESS, COMMISSIONER (R)
PAMELA VOGEL, COUNTY CLERK
SUPERVISOR CRAIG LEGGETT, INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS FRASIER
SEEBER

AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD

SUPERVISORS BRAYMER (ZOOM)
GERACI (ZOOM)
HOGAN (ZOOM)
MAGOWAN

STAN CIANFARANO, WARREN COUNTY HISTORIAN
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN BERRY, TOWN HISTORIAN, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 23, 2022 meeting of the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

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 Committee Members in attendance were physically present.

Mr. Strough called the meeting of the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee to order at 1:38 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations, Board of Elections and County Clerk/DMV agendas were distributed to those in attendance; those participating virtually accessed the agenda via the Warren County website. *A copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.*

The Committee began with a review of the Discussion Items portion of the Legislative agenda which consisted of one item regarding to the need for a second Board Meeting.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to amend section B(1) of the Rules of the Board to remove the language pertaining to the second monthly Board meeting to be held on the day of the regular Personnel and Finance Committee meetings and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 16th Board meeting.

Committee proceeded to the Board of Elections agenda, which included the following requests:

- A) To amend Resolution No. 215 of 2017 to increase fees to City/Towns from a flat rate of \$1,500 per district to the rates outlined in the schedule provided.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- B) To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$38,994.04 to fund year two of a three-year contract with Thundercut Technology Varonis which was reimbursed with the Cybersecurity grant proceeds (*Resolution No. 223 of 2020*) in 2021.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

A review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda including the following items:

- A) Discussion of two new positions for BOE office - Committee was advised the idea of including two new positions in the Board of Elections office has been discussed in their recent meeting with the Budget Team and an official request would be presented at the next Committee meeting.
- B) Discussion of Election Night reporting - Committee was apprised Board of Elections staff were working with the Purchasing Department to use the company Sage Smith for election night reporting and more information would be presented at the next Committee meeting.

There being no further Board of Elections business to discuss, the Committee commenced with a review of the County Clerk/DMV agenda which included the following requests:

- To fill the vacant position of Motor Vehicle License Registration Clerk #8, *Grade 8, Base Annual Salary \$43,638*, extending authorization.
- To fill the vacant position of Motor Vehicle License Registration Clerk #10, *Grade 8, Base Annual Salary \$43,638*, extending authorization.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover and seconded by Mr. Driscoll to approve both requests, following which discussion ensued with regard to the Civil Service test results for the positions. Mr. Strough called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

There being no further County Clerk/DMV business to discuss, the Committee returned to the Legislative agenda and a review of the Referrals/Pending Items commenced as follows:

- 1) Regarding creation of a separate per diem FOIL (*Freedom of Information Law*) Officer position, Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, informed while he had no information to provide relative to a FOIL Officer position, he spoke to the the current Warren County FOIL policy which he had compared to the Committee

for Open Government's model and found differences. He apprised he would distribute a model policy at a later date with his recommendations. It was determined that the FOIL Officer position would be discussed at a later meeting once the Committee had adopted an updated FOIL policy; Mr. Elmen indicated that input from the Board was necessary to determine whom would be designated to determine what Supervisor information was appropriate to be released.

- 2) With regard to reimbursements to Supervisors for non-education related expenses clarification of what qualified for reimbursement had been requested, it was determined additional information would be provided at the next meeting relative to State laws or regulations allowing for reimbursements to elected officials.
- 3) Discussion with regard to consideration for adding Juneteenth as an official County holiday included opinions that the holiday would need to be negotiated through the CSEA Union. Information would be obtained as to how other counties were handling the holiday, as well as contact made to NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) on the subject, for further discussion at the next Committee meeting.
- 4) Discussion ensued with regard to interpretation of Senate Bill 1145, *Conservation Subdivision Design*, following which it was the consensus of the Committee to invite representatives of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, and the Adirondack Park Agency, to provide more information on the matter.
- 5) Discussion ensued with regard to amending the Rules of the Board for all resolutions to be adopted by a simple majority vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to amend section E(7) of the Rules of the Board to remove "(not new positions, these can only be created by a 2/3rds majority vote of the Board)" and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 16th Board meeting.

Mr. Driscoll exited the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Although not listed on the agenda, Mr. Thomas requested privilege of the floor be extended to Stan Cianfarano, *Warren County Historian*, and John Berry, *Town Historian, Town of Queensbury*, to speak on their request for a resolution of support for the establishment of a 250th American Revolution Committee. Mr. Cianfarano and Mr. Berry spoke on behalf of the request and a copy of Town of Queensbury Resolution No. 229 of 2022 authorizing the establishment of a 250th American Revolution Committee was distributed; a copy is on file with the minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Driscoll, Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*) to authorize a resolution in support of the establishment of the 250th American Revolution Committee for presentation at the September 16th Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Driscoll, Mrs. Frasier and Ms. Seeber absent*), Mr. Strough adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

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