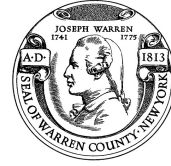


Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023**



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 10:01 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Driscoll.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Smith, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Magowan, Beaty, Stec, Thomas and Geraghty 17; Absent 3- Supervisors Diamond, Wild and Runyon.

A presentation of the Proclamation Proclaiming March 17, 2023 to be "Mayor Blais Day" was made to Robert Blais, *Mayor, Village of Lake George*, in recognition of his decades of public service.

Chairman Geraghty called for privilege of the floor/public comment:

David Judkins, *Warren County Resident*, spoke regarding his concerns with the Local Development Corporation (LDC), which included the fact that the majority of the members were elected officials, apprising this was in contrast to the recommendation of the NYS ABO (*New York State Authorities Budget Office*). He also noted their lack of providing loans over the past few years and suggested disbanding the LDC and re-appropriating the funding the County allocated them to the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board (LCLGRP).

Supervisor Magowan apprised he had offered to give up his seat on the LDC Board to allow Travis Whitehead, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, to continue to serve as a member. He added he concurred with Mr. Judkins regarding the disbanding of the LDC.

Supervisor Beaty voiced his concerns with the LDC due to its lack of providing loans over the past few years, as well as the absence community members on its Board. He added he also supported the disbanding of this organization.

Supervisor Braymer advised of her concerns with the removal of the community members from the LDC, as well as the organizations lack of providing loans over the past few years.

Motion was made by Supervisor Braymer and seconded by Supervisor Magowan to refer the concerns regarding the LDC to the Economic Growth & Development Committee for further discussion. Following a brief discussion, Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to refer the aforementioned matter to the Economic Growth & Development Committee was carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Diamond, Wild and Runyon absent*), with Supervisor Thomas voting in opposition.

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2023

Chairman Geraghty welcomed the Hilary Stec, the new At-Large Supervisor for the Town of Queensbury.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Diamond, Wild and Runyon absent*) to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2023 Board Meeting and March 2, 2023 Special Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Kristy Miller, *Confidential Secretary to the County Administrator*.

Continuing with the Agenda review, Chair declared the Public Hearing open on Warren County's current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project 1197CP110-21 Housing Needs Assessment open at 10:32 a.m. and requested the Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud. Chair called for public comment; there being no one wishing to speak

Chairman Geraghty advised he would keep the Public Hearing open and proceeded with the Agenda review.

Report by the Chairman of the Board was given.

Report by Committee Chairs were given.

Chairman Geraghty once again called for public comments on Warren County's current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project 1197CP110-21 Housing Needs Assessment.

Wayne LaMothe, *Director, Planning & Community Development*, spoke regarding the progress on the Housing Needs Assessment.

Supervisor Braymer inquired whether a draft report was available and Mr. LaMothe replied in the negative, noting the contractor would be providing an update in April

There being no one else wishing to speak regarding Warren County's current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project 1197CP110-21 Housing Needs Assessment, Chairman Geraghty closed the Public Hearing at 11:02 a.m.

Report by the County Administrator was given during which an executive session was requested pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the Public Officer's Law for the purpose of discussing matters leading to the demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Supervisor Conover and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Diamond, Wild and Runyon absent*), to enter into an executive session.

Executive session was held from 11:07 a.m. until 11:39 a.m.

Upon reconvening, Chairman Geraghty announced no action was taken during the executive session.

Motion was made by Supervisor Leggett and seconded by Supervisor Conover to approve a settlement agreement regarding a personnel matter and authorize the Chairman of the Board, County Attorney and County Administrator to execute the necessary documents regarding same. A roll call vote was called for. Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to approve settlement agreement as

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2023

outlined above was carried by majority vote, with 768 voting in favor (*Supervisors Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Smith, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Magowan, Stec, Thomas, Conover, Leggett, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno and Geraghty*); 89 opposed (*Supervisor Beaty*); and 145 absent (*Supervisors Wild, Runyon and Diamond*).

It was noted the Report by the County Attorney would be given at the end of the meeting.

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

Reports from:

1. Warren County Auditor - February 2023 list of real property tax corrections processed.

Letters/emails from:

1. Letter from Special Olympics New York - letter of appreciation for occupancy tax funding.

Other:

1. Information submitted by Darlene McGraw at February 17th Board Meeting - Statement of the Department of Justice on Enforcement of the Integration mandate of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and *Olmstead v. L.C.*

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

Resolution Nos. 122-175, as well as five Proclamations were distributed to the members of the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday March 14, 2023, which met the distribution deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The five Proclamations were:

No. 7 - Mayor Bob Blais Day;

No. 8 - Women's History Month;

No. 9 - Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month;

No. 10 - Autism Awareness Month; and

No. 11 - Child Abuse Prevention Month

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for.

Proposed Resolution No. 144, *Adopting Amended Warren County Computer Usage Policy*, was discussed at length during which Supervisors Braymer, Beaty and Magowan voiced their concerns which involved the lack of the requirement that all Board members be required to use a County issued email address when discussing County matters through email.

Motion was made by Supervisor Beaty and seconded by Supervisor Magowan to amend proposed Resolution No. 144, *Adopting Amended Warren County Computer Usage Policy*, to indicate the members of the Board of Supervisors were required to use a County issues email address when discussing County matters through email. A roll call vote was called for. A discussion ensued, during which point of order was called for by Supervisor Braymer, indicating the comments made by Supervisor Conover should only pertain to the amendment before them and not the Computer Usage Policy. Chairman Geraghty ruled in favor of allowing Supervisor Conover to continue with his comments. Further discussion ensued during which Supervisors Beaty and Magowan agreed to amend their motions to indicate paragraph 19 would be added to Section I, Subsection A to indicate "all County Supervisors shall use only County email addresses when conducting County business".

Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to amend proposed Resolution No. 144, *Adopting Amended Warren County Computer Usage Policy*, as outlined above failed to obtain the majority vote, with 404 votes in favor (*Supervisors Driscoll, Frasier, Magowan, Beaty, Stec, Braymer and Bruno*); 453 opposed (*Supervisors Geraci, Smith, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Thomas, Conover, Leggett, McDevitt and Geraghty*); and 145 absent (*Supervisors Wild, Runyon and Diamond*).

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2023

Further discussion occurred regarding proposed Resolution No. 144, *Adopting Amended Warren County Computer Usage Policy*, during which Supervisor Bruno exited the meeting at 12:16 p.m.; and Supervisor Frasier exited the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Supervisor Driscoll requested that the roll call votes be combined on proposed Resolution Nos. 124-129 and no one objected.

Supervisor Thomas requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 131, *Adopting Draft Warren County Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plan*.

Prior to voting on resolutions, it was noted a motion was required to waive the Standing Rule of the Board relating to the requirement that all resolutions be approved through the established Committee structure in advance of a Board Meeting in order to entertain the proposed resolution authorizing settlement agreement and payment and authorizing the Chairman of the Board to sign any documentation necessary for said settlement agreement, which was brought to the floor earlier in the meeting. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Magowan, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Frasier, Wild, Runyon, Diamond and Bruno absent*) to waive the Standing Rule of the Board as outlined above.

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, noted the resolution waiving of the standing Rules of the Board would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 166 and the proposed Resolution pertaining to authorizing settlement agreement as outlined above would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 177.

Voting on resolutions occurred; during the voting on resolutions, Supervisor Beaty requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 144, *Adopting Amended Warren County Computer Usage Policy*. Resolution Nos. 122-177 were approved as presented.

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

Adam Levine, *Professor, John Hopkins University*, spoke regarding his partnership with NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) and another professor from Cornell University on a new initiative to better connect research and policy at the County level pertaining to any issues relating to children and families.

Harold Halliday, *Captain, North Queensbury Fire Department*, thanked the County for awarding his organization with ARPA funding to purchase much needed equipment, indicating providing financial assistance to volunteer fire companies allowed them to purchase the equipment needed to make it worthwhile for individuals to continue volunteering.

Chairman Geraghty encouraged all to attend the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Basketball Tournaments being held at the Cool Insuring Arena in the City of Glens Falls this weekend.

Report by County Attorney was given.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Dickinson and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Frasier, Wild, Runyon, Diamond and Bruno absent*), Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:40 p.m.