

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & HIGHER EDUCATION

DATE: MAY 2, 2024

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS	WILD	AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
	DRISCOLL	LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
	MERLINO	JACKIE FIGUEROA, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
	BEAN	REPRESENTING SUNY ADIRONDACK:
	ETU	DR. KRISTINE DUFFY, PRESIDENT
	THOMAS	ANN MARIE SCHEIDEGGER, VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES & TREASURER

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT: MARC MORIN, DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

SUPERVISOR	MADAY	KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
		JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
SUPERVISORS	BRUNO	
	CROCITTO	
	GERACI	
	PATCHETT	
	MAGOWAN	
	STRAINER	
	STROUGH	
		TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
		KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
		ROBERT LYNCH, DEPUTY COUNTY TREASURER
		LUKE MOSSEAU, <i>THE POST STAR</i>

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the meeting of the May 2, 2024 Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed using the following links:

Warren County website - <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Warren County's YouTube Channel - Part 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLCPoaJCZ8o>

Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeGO-5ycCKo>

Mr. Wild called the meeting of the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee to order at 9:29 a.m.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Mr. Bean and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*) to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the Floor/Public Comment was called for, but there was no one wishing to speak.

The agenda review commenced, as follows:

- 1) SUNY Adirondack representatives to provide an update on the College. Updates provided by SUNY Adirondack staff.
- 2) Request/item to be discussed by the Human Resources Director. Report on tracking of vacancies filled provided in the agenda for informational purposes.
- 3) Referral from the Economic Growth & Development Committee - request to authorize temporary positions for the Summer Youth Employment Program beginning on June 20, 2024 and ending September 29, 2024 and authorizing training slots for the Program Year 2024 which begins on July 1, 2024 and ends on June 30, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*)

and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 14, 2024 Board Meeting, contingent upon mirroring approval by the Finance & Budget Committee.

- 4) Requests/Items to be Discussed by the County Attorney - Request for an executive session pursuant to Public Officers Law Section 105(1)(d), to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation, as follows: 1. Lawsuits without Insurance Coverage Update: a. Cynthia Rich (Maxam), David Dellamonica, Estate of Alice Hennessey v. County of Warren *Federal Lawsuit served March 11, 2024 alleging violations of federal constitutional rights under 5th Amendment, 8th Amendment, and 14th Amendment, as well as section 1983 claims for deprivation of civil rights. *Claims arise from Tyler v. Hennepin County SCOTUS decision on May 25, 2023. *Multi-District Litigation No. 3117-Motion to Join 37 Counties. Response Due 5/7/2024. *Insurance Coverage Denied. b. Kathleen Innes v. Warren County and Correctional Medical Care, NDNY 1:22-cv-00641-BKS_TWD. c. John David Smith v. Warren County, Warren County Index No. 2020-68480. d. Michael Easterbrooks v. Schenectady County, et al, Albany County Index No. 907013-2021. e. Warren County v. Continental Insurance, NDNY 1:22-cv-328 & 431 (DJ Actions).

Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, suggested that the requested executive session be deferred to the end of the agenda review; Committee agreed.

- 5) Requests/Items to be Discussed by the County Administrator:
A) Request for an executive session pursuant to Public Officer's Law Section 105(1)(f) to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

John Taflan, *County Administrator*, suggested that the requested executive session be deferred to the end of the agenda review and be held jointly with the executive session requested by the County Attorney; Committee agreed.

- B) Request to create Capital Project No. H432, SUNY Adirondack Electrical Upgrade, in the amount of \$1.4 million. Referral to Finance & Budget Committee.
C) Request to issue Serial Bond in the amount of \$1.4 million to cover Warren County's sponsor share of Capital Project No. H432. Referral to Finance & Budget Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Bean, seconded by Mr. Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*) to approve Items 5B-C as outlined above and refer same to the Finance & Budget Committee.

- D) On behalf of the Department of Public Works - Request to create the new position of Fiscal Manager #2, Annual Salary \$65,807 - \$73,327, effective May 17, 2024. Referral to Finance & Budget Committee.
E) On behalf of the Department of Public Works - Request to create the new position of Temporary Fiscal Manager of Public Works, Annual Salary not to exceed \$14,000, effective May 17, 2024. Referral to Finance & Budget Committee.
F) On behalf of the Department of Public Works - Request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$15,071 from the Contingent Account to fund the Temporary Fiscal Manager of Public Works position. Referral to Finance & Budget Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Bean, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*) to approve Items 5D-F, as outlined above. The necessary resolutions for Items 5D-E were authorized for the May 14, 2024 Board Meeting, contingent upon mirroring approval by the Finance & Budget Committee; Item 5F was referred to the Finance & Budget Committee for approval.

- G) Request to appoint an Assigned Counsel Administrator at the current salary of \$118,995, due to a retirement to occur in June. Committee was notified that the current Assigned Counsel Administrator intended to retire and that a candidate had been identified to fill the position; it was the intention to discuss the chosen candidate during executive session, therefore Item 5G would be taken up upon reconvening from executive session order to name the candidate intended for appointment.

Moving on to the Pending Items section of the agenda, Mr. Taflan addressed the item listed which pertained to a request from the County Treasurer's Office to define County service as it related to retiree health insurance benefits to include previous service time with SUNY Adirondack and determine whether a policy should be developed regarding same would be discussed at a future meeting when the additional information was compiled by the County Attorney, County Administrator and County Human Resources Director regarding the request. Mr. Taflan requested that the item be removed from the Pending Items list and brought back to the Committee at a future meeting when ready to be acted upon. Committee initially agreed to remove the item from the Pending Items List; however, following a request from the Deputy County Treasurer to retain the Pending Item, it was the consensus of the Committee to continue to carry the matter as a Pending Item.

Returning to the matter of the executive session requests, Mr. Elmen advised the requests to enter into executive session were pursuant to Sections 105(1)(d) and (f), as outlined in Agenda Items 4 and 5A. Motion was made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Mr. Bean and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*). Executive session was held from 9:48 a.m. until 11:07 a.m.

Upon reconvening, Mr. Wild announced no action had been taken during the executive session.

Relative to Item 4, motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Bean and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*) to authorize the County Attorney to negotiate and bring the County forward to settlement action in the matter of Cynthia Rich (Maxam), David Dellamonica, Estate of Alice Hennessey v. the County of Warren (*1:24-cv-00314*) and authorizing the Chair of the Board to execute any future settlement documents; the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 14, 2024 Board Meeting.

Regarding Item 5G, request to appoint an Assigned Counsel Administrator at the current salary of \$118,995, due to retirement, motion was made by Mr. Bean, seconded by Mr. Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Maday absent*) to appoint Brian Pilatzke as Assigned Counsel Administrator effective June 1, 2024 at the aforementioned salary, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 14, 2024 Board Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee, on motion made by Mr. Etu and seconded by Mr. Bean, Mr. Wild declared the meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board