

Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY JULY 18, 2025



Please note that the following is a summarization of the Board Meeting; the meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed using the following links on the Warren County website:

<https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Warren County's YouTube Channel -

Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OP4-DESE3g>

Part 2 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsTTYdtE5_I

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren convened in the Supervisors' Room at the Warren County Municipal Center, Lake George, New York; meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Conover.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Bruno, Driscoll, Patchett, Bean, Geraci, Crocitto, Merlino, Strough, Wild, Strainer, Etu, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty. Absent -1: Supervisor Magowan.

Motion was made by Supervisor Turner, seconded by Supervisor Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Magowan absent*) to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2025 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Continuing with the Agenda review, privilege of the floor was extended to Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, who proceeded to recognize Kaleb Stockman, *Warren County Department of Public Works Employee*, for offering medical assistance to an accident victim while on-duty. Chairman Geraghty then presented Mr. Stockman with a certificate in honor of his heroic actions.

Privilege of floor/Public Comment was called for:

A gentlemen who did not identify himself clearly voiced his opposition to proposed Resolution No. 250, *Authorizing Lease Agreement with Warren-Washington County Homeless Youth Coalition, Inc. d/b/a Wait House for Lease of County Owned Property, Commonly Known as Building #11, 48 or 50 Gurney Lane, Town of Queensbury for the Purpose of Running a Homeless Family Shelter*, indicating he believed the responsibility to house homeless families should fall upon their families and not the County.

Proceeding with the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty declared the public hearing on the proposed adoption of a tentative operating budget for Adirondack Community College for the fiscal year 2025-26 open at 10:07 a.m. and requested the Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud. Chair called for public comment, but there was no one wishing to speak.

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

Moving along, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025, entitled "A Local Law Superceding County Law Sections 215(3) and 215(6) and Authorizing the Lease of a Portion or All of Certain Warren County Owned Property, Commonly Known as Building #11, 48 or 50 Gurney Lane in the Town of Queensbury (hereafter, "Property") without Public Advertisement or Auction", open at 10:08 a.m. and requested the Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud. Chair called for public comment:

Upon the request of the Chairman of the Board, the County Administrator provided an overview of the plans for 50 Gurney Lane in the Town of Queensbury which would be renovated to temporarily house up to four homeless families until they found their own permanent housing. He noted the renovations would be fully funded by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance pending their approval of the site next week, adding the shelter would be fully managed and staffed by the Wait House. He advised adopting proposed Resolution No. 249, *Enacting Local Law No. 2 of 2025, Entitled "A Local Law Superceding County Law Sections 215(3) and 215(6) and Authorizing the Lease of a Portion or All of Certain Warren County Owned Property, Commonly Known as Building #11, 48 or 50 Gurney Lane in the Town of Queensbury (Hereafter, "Property") Without Public Advertisement or Auction"*, would permit the County to lease the property to the Wait House thereby allowing them to make the necessary renovations to same. He remarked this would provide families with more suitable accommodations than the current practice in place which was to house them in local motels.

Supervisor Driscoll spoke regarding the process used in Warren County to temporarily house homeless families, indicating a thorough review was conducted to ensure there were no other options available for housing before families were placed by the County. He added the temporary housing would provide appropriate accommodations to these families until they found permanent housing.

Supervisor Etu stated the difficulty was placing families in temporary housing that had sufficient accommodations before they could find permanent housing, noting the proposed shelter would provide more suitable accommodations than the local hotels and motels they were currently housed in that did not have proper equipment for them to cook meals.

A brief discussion ensued.

Chairman Geraghty once again called for public comment on the proposed adoption of a tentative operating budget for Adirondack Community College for the fiscal year 2025-26; there being no response, he closed the public hearing at 10:14 a.m.

Next, Chairman Geraghty once again called for public comment on proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2025; there being no one else wishing to speak, he closed the public hearing at 10:15 a.m.

Report by the Committee Chairs (including the Chairman of the Board's Report) were given, during which Supervisor Geraci apprised he would be requesting at the appropriate time to amend proposed Resolution No. 235, *Authorizing Agreement with Viapath Technologies to Provide Warren County Correctional Facility Inmate Tablet and Telephone Services*, to delete the commencement date. Also during the Report by Committee Chairs, Supervisor Wild indicated he would be requesting an amendment to proposed Resolution No. 264, *Authorizing County Attorney to Determine Whether to File an Amicus Curie Brief Concerning the So-Called "Even Year Election Law" with the New York State Court of Appeals in the Matter of Onondaga County, Et. Al. V. the State of New York, Et. Al. To Support Specific Legal Claims Presented by Onondaga County and Other County-plaintiffs, in Opposition to the 2023 Amendment of County Law §400*, at the appropriate time.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report by the County Attorney was given.

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

Reports from:

1. County Auditor - Report of Real Property Tax Corrections for June 2025.

Letters/emails from:

1. NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation - Chestertown Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation.

Other:

1. Town of Queensbury - Notice of Public Hearing - to consider an application for sewage disposal variances pursuant to an application submitted by Adam Searles; and
2. Town of Queensbury - Notice of Public Hearing - to consider an application for sewage disposal variances pursuant to an application submitted by Paul Derby and Lorraine Stein.

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

Resolution Nos. 229-276 of 2025, one Certificate of Appointment and two Proclamations were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday July 11th. The two Proclamations were:

Proclamation No. 30 - National Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week - *July 20-26, 2025*;
and

Proclamation No. 31 - Parks and Recreation Month - *July 2025*

Mrs. Allen advised as noted earlier in the meeting a motion was required to amend proposed Resolution No. 235, *Authorizing Agreement with Viapath Technologies to Provide Warren County Correctional Facility Inmate Tablet and Telephone Services*, to change the commencement and termination dates of the contract to indicate it was commencing upon execution by both parties and terminating five years thereafter. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Bean and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Magowan absent*) to amend proposed Resolution No. 235 as outlined above.

Mrs. Allen advised a motion was required to amend proposed Resolution No. 264, *Authorizing County Attorney to File an Amicus Curie Brief Concerning the So-called "Even Year Election Law" with the New York State Court of Appeals in the Matter of Onondaga County, Et. Al. v. the State of New York, Et. Al. To Support Specific Legal Claims Presented by Onondaga County and Other County-plaintiffs, in Opposition to the 2023 Amendment of County Law §400*, to change the final resolved to indicate the County Attorney was authorized to file an amicus curie brief with the New York State Court of Appeal. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Bean, seconded by Supervisor Wild and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Magowan absent*) to amend proposed Resolution No. 264 as outlined above.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Linda Clark, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, spoke regarding the County-owned property located on 50 Gurney Lane, apprising she was opposed to renovating the property to temporarily house homeless families. She voiced her support of the original intent for the property which was for an extension of the Warren County Historical Society Museum, indicating she believed the building was not sufficient to house a couple of families due to its limited space and several safety concerns associated with its location. She suggested as an alternative the County purchase

and demolish the vacant car wash located in front of the Walmart Super Center on Route 9 in the Town of Queensbury which had been an eye sore for several year and construct a housing unit there. She concluded by commending the Board for addressing the homeless issue in Warren County; however, she noted, she did not believe it should be at the expense of other worthy programs.

A woman who did not identify herself clearly voiced her safety concerns with the proposed location of the shelter for homeless families on Gurney Lane in the Town of Queensbury, indicating the Town of Queensbury should research how to create better traffic flow from Interstate I-87 to Route 149 with a new exit of Interstate I-87 to decrease congestion. She also suggested a bike lane be created to connect Route 9 and the Warren County Bike Trail. In regard to the homeless issue within the County, she proposed the County work with Schermerhorn Real Estate Holdings to house these families in one of the many vacant apartments he owned, she believed this was a more suitable solution to this issue.

Supervisor Driscoll advised he had Supervisor Strough had the opportunity this past Wednesday to participate in a program with the Warren County Historical Society, apprising their executive director indicated her support for the temporary housing at the County-owned property on Gurney Lane.

Supervisor Strainer outlined his concerns regarding proposed Resolution No. 260, *Authorizing the Chair of the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee and the County Administrator to Negotiate and Award Vacation Leave Allowances for the Incoming Deputy Treasurer*, which included the fact that he thought the position had been filled, but he had recently learned this was not the case. He added he was unaware of any advertisements being placed regarding the vacant position.

A discussion ensued during which the County Administrator indicated in order to recruit an experienced individual for this position he believed three weeks of vacation time should be offered, adding this was the amount provided to new Department Heads upon hiring, as well as a few other positions within the past few years. He added going forward he believed additional requests similar to this one would go before the Board when individuals were hired for positions with significant experience when junior employees were not applying for positions.

Supervisor Bruno questioned why the funding referenced in proposed Resolution No 266, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance to the Sheriff's Office Budget to Cover the Costs Associated with the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) Memorandum of Agreement Between Warren County and the Teamsters Union Local 294 and to Cover the Associated Cost of Anticipated Shortfall in the Overtime Budget; and Amending 2025 Warren County Budget*, had not been budgeted for in 2025 and the County Administrator responded the funding had inadvertently been left out. Next, Supervisor Bruno asked for additional details regarding the contract referenced in proposed Resolution No. 271, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance to the Treasurer's Office Budget to Cover the Cost of the Agreement with Three+one Company New York d/b/a Three+One Company, Inc.; and Amending 2025 Warren County Budget*.

Privilege of the floor was extended to the County Treasurer who provided an overview of the contract, whose purpose was to conduct a detailed analysis of all of te County's banking to determine where additional interest income could be accrued, adding the representatives of the organization indicated they believed they could assist the County with accruing an additional million dollars in revenue for an annual fee of \$45,500. She added the County was under no

obligation to move forward with the contract should they decide not to do so, noting several Counties within the State had been successful in accruing additional interest income through their contracts with this particular company.

In conclusion, Supervisor Bruno questions the merits of the individual being re-appointed to the Saratoga-Warren-Washington Counties Workforce Development Board and it was noted the appointments and re-appointments to this particular Board were referred directly from them to the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Diamond advised he had similar concerns regarding proposed Resolution No. 260, *Authorizing the Chair of the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee and the County Administrator to Negotiate and Award Vacation Leave Allowances for the Incoming Deputy Treasurer*, that were expressed by Supervisor Strainer and he questioned whether it would be appropriate for the County Treasurer to be permitted to respond to them. Chairman Geraghty replied it would be more appropriate for the matter to be discussed further within an executive session.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bean and seconded by Supervisor Diamond to enter into an executive session. Chairman Geraghty requested the County Attorney outline the purpose of the executive session. Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, advised the basis of the executive session fell under Section 105(1)(f) of the Public Officer's Law for the purpose of discussing matters leading to the appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Attorney Elmen then requested that the motion be amended to indicate the County Treasurer was permitted to remain in the executive session; Supervisors Bean and Diamond amended their motions accordingly. Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion, as amended, was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Magowan absent*) to enter into an executive session pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the Public Officer's Law for the purposes outlined above, as well as for the County Treasurer to remain in attendance for the executive session.

Executive session was held from 11:35 a.m. until 11:54 a.m.

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

The agenda review resumed with Chairman Geraghty once again calling for discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions, but there was no one wishing to speak.

Voting on resolutions occurred; Resolution Nos. 229-276 were approved as presented, with the exception of Resolution Nos. 235 and 264 which were amended from the floor.

Prior to continuing with the Agenda review Chairman Geraghty extended privilege of the floor to Keith Kaplan, *Vice President for Administrative Services & Treasurer, SUNY Adirondack*, who introduced Dr. Anastasia Urtz, *President, SUNY Adirondack*, who had replaced the recently retired Dr. Kristine Duffy.

Dr. Urtz proceeded to provide an overview of her background, noting she was looking forward to working with the County.

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

Announcements were called for:

Supervisor Merlino apprised he has two tickets available to the Saratoga Race Course for next week

and he encouraged anyone interested in them to contact him.

Supervisor Turner announced a public workshop would be held regarding the City of Glens Falls Comprehensive Plan on July 30th from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Events Downtown Center on South Street, apprising individuals who attended could participate in "Take a Bite" which consisted of local downtown City restaurants offering small plates to guests and then attend the public workshop.

Supervisor Strainer recognized Hayden Knapp, *South Glens Falls High School Student*, for winning the 95th New York State Women's Amateur Golf Championship.

Chairman Geraghty advised the annual Warrensburg Blueberry Festival would be held later today from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Recreation Field Pavilion on Library Avenue and the annual Smoke Eaters Jamboree would be held July 25-26, 2025 at the Warrensburg Recreation Field.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Strough and seconded by Supervisor Bean, Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.