

Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 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 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYj pz96FqQo>

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 Diamond.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Bruno, Driscoll, Patchett, Geraci, Bean, Merlino, Strough, Magowan, Strainer, Etu, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty. Absent-4: Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2025 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Chairman Geraghty recognized Lexie Delurey, *Director, Real Property Tax Services*, who was retiring, for her years of service to the County, and he wished her well with her future endeavors. Chairman Geraghty and John Taflan, *County Administrator*, then presented Ms. Delurey with a commemorative flag.

Chairman Geraghty presented a Proclamation declaring the month of September 2025 to be Hunger Action Month to representatives of the Regional Food Bank, following which Sue Lintner, *Representing Regional Food Bank*, thanked the Board for their support. She then proceeded to provide an overview of the services their Organization provided.

Privilege of floor/Public Comment was called for:

Kathleen Boyle, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, thanked the Board for discussing a County level ban on the sale of nitrous oxide in smoke shops and gas stations at the recent Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee meeting which she was appreciative of. She also recognized several Supervisors and Dan Durkee, *Public Health Program Administrator & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator*, for their efforts to address this issue which she believed demonstrated leadership and care for the safety of the community. She indicated a County level ban would raise awareness locally while also setting an example across New York State and the Nation, adding although it was too late to assist her son, it was not too late to protect others in the region. She noted the Board of Health in Northampton, Massachusetts had recently approved a regulation restricting nitrous oxide sales to licensed kitchen and medical supply stores,

required age and identity verification, and imposing penalties for violations effective June 15th. She implored with the Board to adopt a resolution setting a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Local Law preventing the sale of nitrous oxide in places like smoke shops and gas stations while preserving legitimate culinary and medical uses, similar to what was enacted in Northampton, Massachusetts or other Counties where bans were in place. She noted commencing 2026 with this action would greatly reduce the likelihood of nitrous oxide overdoses occurring in Warren County. She concluded with reading a letter to the editor published featured in *The Chronicle* last week written in favor of the County taking action on the matter.

Diane Collins, *Representing CAT (Climate Action Team) of North Country Earth Action*, read aloud a prepared statement regarding environmental and climate concerns, as well as an article featured in *The New York Times* pertaining to the EPA; *a copy of the prepared statement and article featured in the New York Times is on file with the items distributed at the September 19, 2025 Board Meeting.*

Report by the Committee Chairs (including the Chairman of the Board's Report) were given, during which Supervisor Etu advised he would be requesting to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 319, *Approving Workforce Development Board (WDB) Budget for Program Year 2025-2026; Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding Relating to Cost Allocation Plan with the WDB and Other Agencies*, at the appropriate time and send it back to Committee for further discussion due to concerns expressed by the Washington County Board of Supervisors, who did not adopt a resolution approving the WDB Budget for 2025-26.

The County Administrator ceded his report to display a video produced by the Tourism Department advertising the region entitled "*Let It Go*".

No report was given by the County Attorney.

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

Reports from:

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

Letters/emails from:

1. Adirondack Folk School - letter of appreciation for Occupancy Tax funding.

Other:

1. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Notice of Public Hearing to be held by the Warren Washington IDA regarding Patten Property Management, LLC;
2. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Application for Real Property Tax Exemption - Patten Property Management, LLC; and
3. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Application for Real Property Tax Exemption - Native Development Associates, LLC.

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

Resolution Nos. 309-340 of 2025 and four Proclamations were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday September 12th; Floor Resolution Nos. 1-4 were distributed to the Board on Monday September 15th. The four Proclamations were:

Proclamation No. 36 - Hunger Action Month - *September 2025*;

Proclamation No. 37 - Preparedness Month - *September 2025*;

Proclamation No. 38 - Suicide Prevention Month - *September 2025*; and

Proclamation No. 39 - Special Olympics Support and Awareness Day (*October 17, 2025*).

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, noted motions were required to bring floor resolutions 1-4 to the floor.

Motion was made by Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Supervisor Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 entitled "*Waiving 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 a Resolution Authorizing Agreement with Fort Hudson Home Care, Inc. to Provide Personal Care Services to Recipients of Medicaid for the Department of Social Services*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 341.

Motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 entitled "*Authorizing Agreement with Fort Hudson Home Care, Inc. to Provide Personal Care Services to Recipients of Medicaid for the Department of Social Services*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen apprised proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 342.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bean, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 entitled "*Waiving 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 a Resolution Authorizing Agreements with Various School Districts to Provide Preventive Services to Children and Families of the School District in Accordance with New York State Laws and Regulations*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen indicated proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 343.

Motion was made by Supervisor Turner, seconded by Supervisor Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 entitled "*Authorizing Agreements with Various School Districts to Provide Preventive Services to Children and Families of the School District in Accordance with New York State Laws and Regulations*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen apprised proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 344.

Mrs. Allen called for a motion to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 319, *Approving Workforce Development Board (WDB) Budget for Program Year 2025-2026; Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding Relating to Cost Allocation Plan with the WDB and Other Agencies*. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Etu, seconded by Supervisor Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Conover, Maday, Crocitto and Wild absent*) to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 319.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Supervisor Driscoll requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 321, *Introducing Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2025, Entitled "A Local Law Imposing an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax in Warren County," and Authorizing Public Hearing Thereon*, noting he would recuse from voting on this particular proposed Resolution and leave the room. A brief discussion ensued during which Supervisor Driscoll advised he had mistakenly requested a roll call vote on the wrong proposed Resolution he would recuse from voting on, indicating his request for a roll call vote should have been on proposed Resolution No. 320, *Authorizing Agreements with Various Agencies to Implement*

Projects and Services to Address the Impacts of the Opioid Epidemic in Warren County.

Supervisor Etu suggested next year the Board consider using more funding from the Reserve Account set aside for Health Insurance to decrease the percentage increase employees pay as their portion of the cost for health insurance to a more reasonable amount than the 8% increase they would be paying in the upcoming year.

With regard to proposed Resolution No. 340, *Resolution Authorizing Payment of Surplus Money Claim*, Supervisor Thomas questioned whether there was an escrow account that could be used to pay the cost of the claim rather than transferring the funds from the Contingent Account and the Director of Real Property Tax Services replied in the negative.

Supervisor Bruno inquired what the impact was on the 2025 Warren County Budget with regard to the proposed Resolutions before them today that appropriated funding from Reserve Accounts such as proposed Resolution No. 339, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance to the Office of Community Services Budget to Cover the Cost of Court-ordered New York State Criminal Procedure Law Section 730 Competency Examination and Restoration Expenses Through the Remainder of 2025; and Amending 2025 Warren County Budget*, and Supervisor Thomas responded this decreased the balance of Budget Code A.909.00, *General Fund Unappropriated Surplus*. Supervisor Bruno asked what the current balance of Budget Code A.909.00 was and the County Administrator replied the balance was around \$33.8 million which was \$1.8 million more than the minimum balance required. He added any appropriation of funds from this account decreased the amount of funding that would be carried over into the next year. Supervisor Thomas added any proposed Resolutions appropriating funding from the Occupancy Tax Reserve had no impact to the County Budget. A discussion ensued regarding the 730 Competency Examination and Restoration Expenses which had a significant impact to the County Budget during which the County Administrator indicated the appropriation of funds noted in proposed Resolution No. 339 should cover this expense through the remainder of the year.

Voting on resolutions occurred during which Supervisor Driscoll exited the meeting during the vote on proposed Resolution No. 320, *Authorizing Agreements with Various Agencies to Implement Projects and Services to Address the Impacts of the Opioid Epidemic in Warren County*; at 10:46 a.m. and re-entered at 10:47 a.m. Resolution Nos. Resolution Nos. 309-344 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution No. 319, *Approving Workforce Development Board (WDB) Budget for Program Year 2025-2026; Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding Relating to Cost Allocation Plan with the WDB and Other Agencies*, which was withdrawn.

Privilege of floor/Public Comment was called for:

Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, recognized the County Treasurer and Tourism Departments for attracting their annual State conferences to the region, indicating Warren County had been added to the rotation of locations where the annual New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways Conference were held. Next, with regard to the Adirondack Balloon Festival, he requested that the Supervisors who were volunteering today for the event be at the Airport by 2:00 p.m. this afternoon and those volunteering for the morning shift should plan to arrive at 4:00 a.m. He concluded by acknowledging the Supervisors who were volunteering for the event.

Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, thanked the Supervisors and Department Heads who had worked with her over the past two weeks for their guidance on particular matters. She indicated she planned to continue to work with everyone in the best interest of the County and its taxpayers.

Supervisor Strainer announced the Board of Elections would be holding a class providing instructions on how to vote at the Crandall Public Library on Tuesday September 23rd from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Next, he recognized Marina Muldner, *Queensbury High School Swim Team*, for breaking the thirty-five year pool record in the 100 fly. In conclusion, he acknowledged the Department Heads he oversaw as Chair of the Health Services Committee, for the work they did not their 2026 Departmental Budget requests, all of which were well done.

Supervisor Driscoll apprised the Glens Falls Senior Center would be holding their annual Senior Expo at the Queensbury Hotel on Wednesday October 1st from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., stating last year over 80 Organizations participated. Next, he indicated he was scheduled to attend five open houses at school's located in the City of Glens Falls, apprising the purpose of him attending these events was to introduce himself to his constituents.

With regard to the information he had requested from Lake George TV at the last meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee regarding their contract with the County, Supervisor Patchett stated as of this morning he had not received a response. He voiced his desire for Lake George TV to provide a full accounting of what expenses had been covered by the occupancy tax funding they received, noting he could not comprehend why they were not required to provide the same information the municipalities were required to report on with regard to how the occupancy tax awarded to them was expended. Chairman Geraghty interjected he believed the information Supervisor Patchett had requested from Lake George TV would be forthcoming. Supervisor Patchett apprised he did not believe the County should be considering continuing the contract until a full accounting of where the \$800,000 in occupancy tax funding had been expended over the last three years was provided.

Chairman Geraghty announced Fire Prevention Week was October 8-12, 2025, apprising it was imperative for everyone to change the batteries in smoke detectors once a year.

Mr. Taflan encouraged all to attend the reception being held for Ms. Delurey in the Real Property Tax Services Office from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. in honor of her retirement.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Strainer and seconded by Supervisor Strainer, Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.