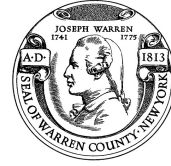


# Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026**



**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=MeDBH95ii1I>

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 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Geraghty called for a moment of silence in recognition of the recent passing of Supervisor Mark Smith, *Town of Johnsbury*, indicating a gathering to remember Supervisor Smith would be held on February 26<sup>th</sup> the new lodge at the North Creek Ski Bowl at 5:15 p.m.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Driscoll, Patchett, Butler, Crocitto, Niles, Strough, Etu, Strainer, Beaty, O'Neill, Runyon and Geraghty; 17 Absent 2 - Supervisors Bruno and Wild; and Vacant - 1

Motion was made by Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2026 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of Employee of the Quarter was made to Paul Tackett, *Tourism Coordinator, Tourism Department*.

Chairman Geraghty called for privilege of the floor/public comment which was limited to three minutes per speaker:

Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, provided an update from her perspective regarding the ACH (*Automated Clearing House*) fraud that occurred at the end of last year that she believed was more accurate than any other investigations taking place regarding this incident.

James LaFarr, *Sheriff*, spoke regarding the police lock up which was a secure facility that was outside the purview of the Corrections Division of the Sheriff's Office, but was under the oversight of the New York State Corrections Department. He explained the purpose of this facility was to retain post arrest individuals following their pre-arraignment. He stated in 2019 the County commenced with a centralized arraignment court where detainees could be held until a judge could arraign them. He stated the police lock up held detainees arrested not only by Warren County, but also the City of Glens Falls and the New York State Police. He mentioned due to changes with New York State Legislation they were temporarily not accepting detainees from the City of Glens Falls or New York State Police who were deemed harmful to themselves or if they took certain drugs that placed them medically at risk due to these individuals requiring constant supervision which caused a hardship on the Corrections Division staff which was operating at minimal staffing levels with mandated overtime requirements. He encouraged anyone with questions or concerns to contact him directly.

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Chairman Geraghty apprised he had requested that the Sheriff attend the meeting today to provide an explanation regarding the action of turning away detainees from the City of Glens Falls and New York State Police due to the number of inquires received regarding the matter and whether County policy regarding same had changed.

Report by the Committee Chairs (including the Chairman of the Board's Report), were given, during which Supervisor Beaty advised he would be requesting a resolution from the floor supporting Washington County, who had pushed back on paying for the unfunded mandate pertaining to NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses which were significant.

Prior to continuing with the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty advised he would like to address a comment made by the County Treasurer during the privilege of the floor for public comment portion of the meeting regarding the State Comptroller's Office. He informed employees of the State Comptroller's Office were on-site working with the Sheriff's Office on the investigation regarding the ACH fraud that had occurred; however, he noted, they planned on returning sometime between early to late summer to conduct a complete financial audit of the County finances.

The Agenda review resumed with the Report by the County Administrator being given.

Report by the County Attorney was given.

Prior to continuing with the Agenda review, The County Administrator announced he had just received an email from the Johnsbury Town Clerk indicating last night the Johnsbury Town Board had appointed Sterling Goodspeed as interim Supervisor.

Reports from:

1. Board of Elections - 2025 Annual Report;
2. County Auditor - Report of Real Property Tax Corrections - January 2026;
3. County Clerk - 2025 Annual Report;
4. Lake George Park Commission - 2025 Annual Report.

Letters/emails from:

1. NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation - Church of Saint Sacrament in Bolton Landing to be considered for nomination to the national and State Registers of Historic Places;
2. Washington County Board of Supervisors - Resolution No. 30 of 2026, "*Appointing Members to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*";
3. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Application for Real Property Tax Exemption on behalf of 178 Maple Street LLC

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

Resolution Nos. 51-87 and four Proclamations were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday, February 13, 2025; Floor Resolution Nos. 1-6 were distributed and posted to the Warren County website on February 17, 2026; however, it was noted proposed Floor Resolution Nos. 5 and 6 had been withdrawn and should be removed from the packets. The four Proclamations were:

- Proclamation No. 5 - American Heart Month (*February 2026*);
- Proclamation No. 6 - Black History Month (*February 2026*);
- Proclamation No. 7 - Cancer Prevention Month (*February 2026*); and
- Proclamation No. 8 - J. Walter Juckett Award to Dr. Jacqueline S. Touba.

## BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2026

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

Motion was made by Supervisor Turner, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno 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 Requesting the New York State Legislature to Designate the Bridge Identified as Bin 1033550 Located on Diamond Point Road at Exit 23 of the Adirondack Northway (I-87) in the Town of Lake George as the "Eco Stephen L. Raymond Memorial Bridge"*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 88.

Motion was made by Supervisor Crocitto, seconded by Supervisor O'Neill and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 entitled *Resolution Requesting the New York State Legislature to Designate the Bridge Identified as Bin 1033550 Located on Diamond Point Road at Exit 23 of the Adirondack Northway (I-87) in the Town of Lake George as the "Eco Stephen L. Raymond Memorial Bridge"*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen stated proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 89.

Motion was made by Supervisor Gilligan, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno 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 Making Supplemental Appropriations"*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen indicated proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 90.

Motion was made by Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Supervisor Turner and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 entitled "*Making Supplemental Appropriations"*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen apprised proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 91.

Mrs. Allen advised proposed Resolution No. 56, *Home Rule Request by Warren County for the Enactment of Senate Bill No. S8588 and Assembly Bill No. A9334 Entitled "An Act Transferring Certain State Property Located in the Town of Queensbury to the County of Warren"*, needed to be withdrawn and sent back to Committee.

Motion was made by Supervisor Gilligan, seconded by Supervisor Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 56 and send it back to Committee.

Mrs. Allen stated upon the request of the Director of Workforce Development a motion was required to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 57, *Authorizing Submission of an Application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Environmental Justice Green Jobs for Youth Grant Funding to Train Youth on Probation for Future Jobs for the Department of Workforce Development*. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Strainer, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 57.

Mrs. Allen indicated a motion was required to amend proposed Resolution No. 83, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the Occupancy Tax Reserve to the Tourism Budget to Cover the Cost of Approved Funding Awarded above the 2026 Approved Budgeted Amount; and Amending 2026 Warren County Budget*, from the floor to remove the appropriation in the amount of \$57,491.29 from Budget Code A.881.00, *Occupancy Tax Reserve*, and reduce the total amount of the appropriation accordingly, as well as remove the language that indicates utilizing unused 2025 funding. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Turner, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Town of Johnsbury vacant and Supervisors Bruno and Wild absent*) to amend proposed Resolution No. 83 as outlined above. Mrs. Allen noted proposed Resolution No. 83, as amended, would be subject to a roll call vote.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Motion was made by Supervisor Beaty and seconded by Supervisor Diamond 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 a resolution supporting Washington County's efforts to question the unfunded State mandate pertaining to NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses. Chairman Geraghty called for a roll call vote on the motion to Waive the Rules; he called the question and the motion was carried by majority vote of those present, with 835 voting in favor (*Supervisors Patchett, Butler, Crocitto, Niles, Strough, Etu, Strainer, Beaty, O'Neill, Runyon, Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Driscoll and Geraghty*); and 167 absent (*Town of Johnsbury vacant, Supervisors Wild and Bruno*).

Supervisor Beaty apprised he would like to propose a floor resolution in support of Washington County's resolution requesting that the State review their unfunded mandate regarding NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses which they were challenging; however, he noted, he was unsure what number resolution it was and requested that the County Administrator look into this for him. He indicated he believed a resolution of support for this resolution was necessary as a result of the NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses costing Warren County over \$1 million on an annual basis now that the State no longer covered a portion of this expense.

Chairman Geraghty asked for clarification that the resolution Supervisor Beaty was proposing did not relate to refusing to pay the expense and pertained to support of Washington County's efforts requesting that the State review the unfunded NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses and Supervisor Beaty replied affirmatively. John Taflan, *County Administrator*, explained he was awaiting to hear back from Washington County what the Resolution No. was, adding he believed the action taken by Washington County pertained to them opting not to pay the State for any NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses billed for those being detained from Washington County. He said one other County in the State had taken similar action, but he was unsure of which County it was. Supervisor Beaty apprised he was not seeking support of refusing to pay the State for these expenses, clarifying his intent was to support their efforts in challenging this particular unfunded State mandated expense. A brief discussion ensued following which Supervisor O'Neill seconded the motion as outlined above.

Supervisor Strainer indicated while he was supportive of the proposed Resolution, he believed additional information was required before they moved forward with acting upon it.

Mr. Taflan advised the last Washington County Resolution regarding the NYS CPL 730 competency examination and restoration expenses was in December of 2025 which authorized an appropriation of \$550,000 from their fund balance, adding the Resolution was defeated. The County Attorney stated he could not locate any Resolution adopted by Washington County challenging the State on

these expenses, suggesting it may be more appropriate to table the matter and refer it back to Committee to allow for additional information to be compiled for review. He informed of the difficulty with adopting a resolution in support without the Resolution No. Mr. Taflan apprised he had received an email from the Washington County Administrator indicating no resolution had been adopted by their Board of Supervisors challenging the State. Supervisors Beaty and O'Neill withdrew their motions; following discussion it was determined the matter would be referred to the Legislative & Rules Committee.

With regard to proposed Resolution No. 68, *Resolution Setting Forth the Basis for the Exemption from the Eminent Domain Article 2 Public Hearing Requirement with Respect to Acquisitions Accomplished in Connection with the Adirondack and Beaver Pond Bridges over the Mill Brook Replacement Project in the Town of Horicon, Warren County, New York (Pin 1761.49)*, Supervisor Etu inquired whether the eminent domain procedure for the parcel was exempt due to it being minuscule in size and the County Attorney replied this was part of the reason for this exemption. A brief discussion ensued during which the Superintendent of Public Works provided a brief explanation regarding the 1,100 square feet of property that would be acquired through the eminent domain process, 400 square feet of which was for temporary easement that the landowner would be appropriately compensated for.

Supervisor Driscoll requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 61, *Appointing Members of Warren County Professional Advisory Committee for the Health Services Department*, which he would be recusing from.

Voting on resolutions occurred; Resolution Nos. 51-91 of 2026 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution Nos. 56 and 57 which were withdrawn and proposed Resolution No. 83 which was amended from the floor. During the voting on resolutions Supervisor Driscoll exited the meeting during the vote on Resolution No. 61, *Appointing Members of Warren County Professional Advisory Committee for the Health Services Department*, at 11:05 a.m. and re-entered at 11:06 a.m.

Once again privilege of the floor/public comment which was limited to three minutes per speaker was called for:

With regard to Resolution No. 56, *Home Rule Request by Warren County for the Enactment of Senate Bill No. S8588 and Assembly Bill No. A9334 Entitled "An Act Transferring Certain State Property Located in the Town of Queensbury to the County of Warren"*, which had been withdrawn, the County Attorney inquired whether it could be referred back to the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee to discuss at their meeting on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, advising he had just been notified by Senator Stec's Office that amended bills had been adopted by the State Assembly and Senate this morning that included minor changes. He further explained referring the matter to Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services meeting on Monday would prevent further delay of moving the process forward. The Clerk of the Board advised she would ensure the matter was included on an agenda that would be distributed to the Board and posted on the County website this afternoon.

Announcements were called for:

Supervisor Runyon advised the Town of Thurman had received notification from National Grid indicating they were planning on switching their highway garage to a demand charge meter if their kilowatt usage exceeded two thousand for four consecutive months and would not change back unless it went below that amount for the same time frame. She stated she could nor perceive how it would be possible for their usage to remain below two thousand kilowatt's during the winter months in their highway garage due to their diesel trucks being stored there, noting they had to be

stored above a certain temperature. She voiced her disapproval of this action by National Grid for this action, adding she believed other municipalities would be impacted by this, as well. Supervisor Maday apprised he had also received notification from National Grid regarding the Town of Chester Highway Garage; Chairman Geraghty stated there were on demand meters on a few of the Town of Warrensburg buildings.

Chairman Geraghty indicated upon the request of Assemblyman Simpson, the County was working on scheduling a general meeting open to the public to allow residents to express their feelings regarding the electricity and gas rates which continued to increase.

Supervisor Strainer recognized Viet Nguyen, *Queensbury High School Senior*, for winning his 100<sup>th</sup> wrestling match and the Queensbury High School Varsity Boys and Girls Nordic Ski Teams for being crowned the Section 2 State champions.

Supervisor Niles announced the Lake George Winter Carnival would be holding car races tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. on Lake Luzerne and he encouraged all to attend.

Supervisor Maday advised the Krazy Downhill Derby would be held tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. at Dynamite Hill and he encouraged all to attend.

Supervisor Driscoll stated next weekend was the Adirondack Thunder Hockey Teams annual “Stick-It to Cancer” weekend, with games scheduled for Friday and Saturday evening, adding municipal employee evening was also being held this coming Friday, with tickets available for purchase at the Clerk of the Board’s Office.

The County Administrator announced the United States Mens Hockey Team was scheduled to play in the Olympics Semifinal game today at 3:00 p.m.

Supervisor Beaty apprised the son of former NHL announcer Dave Strader, who was from the region and passed away from cancer, would be singing the National Anthem at the Adirondack Thunder Stick-It to Cancer game. He added he believed a large turn out for the games would speak volumes regarding the County’s support of those impacted by cancer.

Chairman Geraghty recognized the Warrensburg-Lake George Wrestling teams for competing in the State Section II matches. He then encouraged all to attend the Thurman Maple Days event and the Maple Festival being held at Up Yonda Farm, both of which would be held in March.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisor, on motion made by Supervisor Etu, Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.