

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS CROCITTO
BRUNO
PATCHETT
BEATY
NILES

LIZA OCHSENDORF, DIRECTOR, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
REPRESENTING THE PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:
SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR
ETHAN GADDY, COUNTY PLANNER
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS WILD
DIAMOND

LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
NATHAN ETU, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS STRAINER
TURNER
KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER
JEFF FLAGG, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, CITY OF GLENS FALLS
JIM SIPLON, PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST
*SEE SIGN IN SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 24, 2026 meeting of the Economic Growth & Development 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 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1kLjvTs5CY>

Copies of the Workforce Development and Planning & Community Development meeting agendas were distributed; copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

In the absence of Committee Chair Wild, Mr. Crocitto, as Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee to order at 11:05 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Diamond absent*) to approve the minutes from the previous Economic Growth & Development Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Jeff Flagg, *Economic Development Director, City of Glens Falls*, who reviewed economic performance results from an article recently published in the Area Development magazine. He noted Glens Falls had ranked 175 out of 949 metropolitan statistical areas in the Country. He remarked Glens Falls had been over performing economically over the past few years but there was a need to grow the workforce to keep the momentum going.

The meeting commenced with a review of the Action Agenda/New Business portion of the Workforce Development agenda, which consisted of the following requests:

- A. To provide a temporary quarterly compensation in the amount of \$500 per quarter (total amount not to exceed \$5,000) to a Senior Employment & Training Counselor to support data analysis goals as long as funding is available through June 2028. (*Previous Resolution No. 621 of 2015*)

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mr. Patchett to approve the request as presented. Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, apprised the request would be subject to further legal review and discussion with the Human Resources Department if the item was approved for the Personnel Committee. Mr. Crocitto called the question and the motion was carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Diamond absent*), with Mr. Beaty voting in opposition, to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

The Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda was reviewed, which included the following:

- A. General workforce updates
 - a. Unemployment rate and workforce trends.
 - b. Upcoming initiatives.
 - c. Presentation: Overview of department and 2025 review.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were called for:

Mr. Etu expressed his support of Action Item A due to data entry necessary in order to obtain grant funding which was especially important with current and future funding cuts. He requested Committee support moving the matter forward.

There being no further Workforce Development business to discuss, review of the Planning & Community Development agenda commenced with the Action Agenda/New Business Items, which included the following requests:

1. To authorize the Chair of the Board to execute a grant agreement with Northern Borders Regional Commission (*NBRC*) to support capital improvements to fish rearing ponds at the Warren County Fish Hatchery under the *NBRC* Catalyst Program, as well as to determine a funding source to cover the local share in the amount of \$32,920.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mr. Niles to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Crocitto called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Diamond absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

2. To authorize submission of an application to New York State Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund to support digitization and improved access to municipal planning and zoning records in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Committee was advised Item #2 was withdrawn as an alternate funding source had been obtained which would be explained later in the meeting.

3. To authorize submission of an application to Empire State Development (*ESD*) to support a county-sponsored infrastructure project advancing economic development, placemaking, tourism, and/or housing-supportive improvements under the County Infrastructure Grant Program for grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mr. Niles to approve the request as presented. Mr. Elmen clarified the request was only for authorization to apply for the grant and if awarded, a request to determine a funding source to cover the local share would be brought back to the Committee. Following discussion, Mr. Crocitto called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Diamond absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Sara Frankenfeld, *GIS Administrator*, explained Action Item #2 was withdrawn due to there being dual components of the project with multiple funding sources. She apprised they had received notification just prior to the meeting that funds were awarded from the Technical Assistance to Grow Pro-Housing Communities grant; therefore, they would be delaying the New York State Archives Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund application until next year.

Next, the Discussion Items portion of the agenda, included the following items:

1. Annual Report - This item was deferred until next month.
2. Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board Update - This item was deferred until next month.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were called for, but there was no one wishing to speak.

There being no further business to come before the Economic Growth & Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Niles, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Diamond absent*), Mr. Crocitto adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist