WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: **HEALTH SERVICES**

DATE: **JUNE 22, 2026**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
SUPERVISORS STRAINER
GILLIGAN
BRUNO
MADAY
BUTLER
WILD
O'NEILL

OTHERS PRESENT:
REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH:
PATRICIA BELDEN, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES
JIGNASHA SHAH, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
TAWN DRISCOLL, FISCAL MANAGER
DAN DURKEE, PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR
ROB YORK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
TINA DEMARSH, WIND OF CHANGE WITHIN
ASHLEY SPAULDING, BAYWOOD CENTER
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KIMBERLY RICHARDS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
NATHAN ETU, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS CROCITTO
DRISCOLL
STROUGH
TURNER
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER
MARILYN RIVERS, PROPERTY AND CASUALTY RISK MANAGER
TRACEY HUDSON, AMSTERDAM RESIDENT
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the June 22, 2026 meeting of the Health Services 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=3Huf40YLuPU

Mr. Strainer called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 9:35 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild, seconded by Mr. Butler and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the previous Health Services Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the Health Services and Office for Community Services meeting agendas were distributed; copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

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

Prior to commencing review of the Health Services agenda, Mr. Strainer commended Patricia Belden, *Director, Public Health/Patient Services,* for her 36 years of employment at the County.

Next, Committee began with a review of the Action Agenda/New Business Items portion of the Health Services agenda which included the following requests:

1. To adopt the 2026 - 2030 Warren County Rabies Plan. *(Previous Resolution No. 134 of 2022)*

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the July 17th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes*.

2. To authorize an agreement with Sidekick Creative for the County Anti-Vaping Campaign in an amount not to exceed $25,000 for a term commencing September 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2026.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mr. Wild to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Strainer called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the July 17th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes*.

3. To accept $500 from Adirondack Health Institute *(AHI)* as a stipend for attending the NYS 1115 Waiver conference sponsored by AHI.
4. To amend the 2026 County Budget in the amount of $500 to reflect receipt of $500 from AHI as a stipend for attending the NYS 1115 Waiver conference sponsored by AHI.

Motion was made by Ms. Gilligan, seconded by Mr. O'Neill and carried unanimously to approve Items 3 and 4 as outlined above; the necessary resolution for Item 3 was authorized for the July 17th Board meeting and Item 4 was referred to the Finance & Budget Committee. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

5. To authorize a transfer of funds in the amount of $300 from Budget Code A.4189.130, *Bioterrorism - Part time Salaries,* to Budget Code A.4189.423, *Bioterrorism - Telephone Expenses,* to cover phone expenses for the year.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Ms. Gilligan and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Finance & Budget Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes*.

A review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda proceeded with an overview of the following documents included in the agenda packet:

Report of Revenues and Expenditures for 2026
Revenue and Expense Comparison Report for 2025 vs 2026;
Status of Referrals;
Emergency Response and Preparedness; and
Rabies Program Report and Rabies Clinic Schedule.

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

There being no further Health Services business to discuss, review of the Office of Community Services agenda commenced with a review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda, which included the following item:

1) Presentation and discussion urging a local law prohibiting the sale of Nitrous Oxide and Kratom in Warren County - Tina DeMarsh, *Wind of Change Within,* and Ashley Spaulding, *Baywood Center,* spoke with regard to the dangers of Kratom and Nitrous Oxide and answered questions posed by Committee members.

Kimberly Richards, *County Attorney,* acknowledged and agreed the sale of Kratom and Nitrous Oxide being sold locally was an issue, but advised she needed time to research the proper procedures necessary to create a law against the sale, as well as the proper means to enforce it.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were called for.

Tracey Hudson, *Amsterdam Resident and Business Owner*, spoke to the benefits of natural leaf Kratom as opposed to the synthetic version being sold in local smoke shop and gas stations; she encouraged the Committee to take into consideration the legitimate health benefits of the natural leaf version when writing their regulating local law.

A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Wild exited the meeting at 10:17 a.m. and re-entered the meeting at 10:19 a.m. during discussion.

There being no further business to come before the Health Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. O'Neill and carried unanimously, Mr. Strainer adjourned the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board