

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: OCCUPANCY TAX COORDINATION

DATE: AUGUST 24, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: CROCITTO
WILD
STROUGH
TURNER
RUNYON
BUTLER
PATCHETT

OTHERS PRESENT:**REPRESENTING THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT:**

HEATHER BAGSHAW, DIRECTOR
PAUL TACKETT, TOURISM COORDINATOR
JESSICA CARSON, FISCAL COORDINATOR
JOHN CARR, ADIRONDACK PUB & BREWERY
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 GILLIGAN
STRAINER

TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
TODD DRAKE, DRAKE'S LAKESIDE CABINS
GINA MINTZER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE & CVB
ED PAGNOTTA, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR, TOWN OF LAKE GEORGE
GARY THORNQUIST, LAKE GEORGE RV PARK
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 24, 2026 meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following links:

Warren County website - <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Warren County's YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEmY8CACV7w>

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed; a copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

Mr. Crocitto called the meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee to order at 11:30 a.m.

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

Privilege of the floor for public comment was offered to the following:

Todd Drake, *Drake's Lakeside Cabins*, spoke with regard to the Lake George Park Commission Septic Inspections and inquired whether septic replacement qualified for use of occupancy tax funding. Mr. Crocitto replied the Lake George Association had funding available for that purpose.

Mr. Wild spoke with regard to past efforts of a southern basin sewer system. Mr. Crocitto informed the southern basin of Lake George was on a sewer system and the Town of Lake George had held three workshops regarding a proposed Sewer District project.

The Committee commenced with a review of the Action Agenda/New Business Items portion of the agenda, which included the following requests:

- a. To authorize the addition of the Ironman 70.3 as a signature event for years 2027-2029 and approving funding

of licensing fees as follows: in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 in 2027; \$210,000 in 2028; and \$220,500 in 2029.

Motion was made by Mr. Wild and seconded by Ms. Turner to approve the request as presented.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ed Pagnotta, *Deputy Supervisor, Town of Lake George*, who spoke with regard to the request for the Ironman 70.3 event.

Following discussion, Mr. Crocitto called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- b. To extend the existing municipal supplemental funding contract with the Town of Hague, which is in an amount not to exceed \$150,000, through December 31, 2027. *(Previous Resolution No. 102 of 2026)*

Motion was made by Ms. Runyon, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Next, a review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda in the following order:

- a. Municipal Supplemental Funding in 2027 was discussed by Heather Bagshaw, *Tourism Director*. Following discussion, it was determined the Committee would review the proposed 2027 Occupancy Tax Budget and proposed 2027 Tourism Budget for further discussion.

Mr. Butler exited the meeting at 11:52 a.m. during the discussion on Item a.

- b. Air Race X Proposal - Ms. Bagshaw informed there was insufficient occupancy tax funding available to provide the \$1.2 million in funding requested for the event. Following a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee not to move forward with funding the event and refer the matter back to the County Facilities Committee.
- c. Cash Flow Report was reviewed by Jessica Carson, *Fiscal Coordinator*.
- d. Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Ms. Carson due to the absence of the County Treasurer.
- e. Occupancy Tax Committee advisory panel - John Carr, *Adirondack Pub & Brewery*, spoke with regard to his past suggestion with regard to the creation of an advisory group for the purpose of funding requests and spending review to ensure the laws and guidelines were being met. Following discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to have Mr. Carr return with a formal proposal regarding the creation and purpose of the advisory group for review at a future meeting.

Ms. Runyon exited the meeting at 12:40 p.m. during the discussion on Item e.

Privilege of the floor for public comment was offered to the following individuals:

Gary Thornquist, *Representing Lake George RV Park*, opined on municipal occupancy tax funding.

Mr. Crocitto voiced his support of municipal occupancy tax funding.

As there was no further business to come before the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, on motion made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Ms. Turner and carried by a unanimous vote of those present *(Mr. Butler and Ms. Runyon absent)* Mr. Crocitto adjourned the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist