

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren convened at the Supervisors' Room in the Warren County Municipal Center, Lake George, New York, at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Frederick Monroe presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Stec.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Monroe, Girard, Sheehan, Taylor, O'Connor, Kenny, Belden, Bentley, Goodspeed, Tessier, Merlino , Stec, Strainer, Champagne, VanNess, Sokol, Thomas, Haskell, and Geraghty - 19.

Absent: Supervisor Simmes 1.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Sheehan and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2008 Board of Supervisors Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Chairman Monroe announced that the Adirondack Balloon Festival would be taking place this weekend and acknowledged that Walter Grishkot, founder of the Festival, was present at the meeting today. Mr. Grishkot advised that the weather for the Festival would be fantastic this year and one hundred balloons would be participating in the event. He thanked the Board of Supervisors and the County for all the support he had received from them over the years. Mr. Grishkot introduced Mark Donahue, a balloonist, as well as a Coordinator of the Festival. Mr. Donahue extended his appreciation to the County, the City of Glens Falls, the Town of Queensbury and the Town of Lake George for their support and assistance. He also thanked William Lamy, Superintendent of DPW and his staff, as well as Don DeGraw, Airport Manager and his staff, and Sheriff York and his staff who made the event possible each year. The board members responded with applause. Mr. Grishkot distributed 2008 Adirondack Balloon Festival posters and a commemorative pin to the members of the board.

Chairman Monroe requested Margaret Smith, Director of the Youth Bureau, to come forward to receive a proclamation regarding the Warren County Youth Court. Chairman Monroe read the proclamation declaring the month of September 2008 as National Youth Court Month "Empowering Youth Through Education and Service", and presented the proclamation to Ms. Smith. Ms. Smith introduced the members of the Youth Court that were present at the meeting, as well as the adults that partnered with the young people to make the Youth Court possible. Chairman Monroe thanked the Youth Court members for their participation and their interest in the program. The board members responded with applause.

Chairman Monroe requested Supervisor Thomas to come forward and present a proclamation regarding the Cornell Cooperation Extension and 4-H Month. Mr. Thomas read the proclamation designating the week of October 5 through October 11, 2008 as 4-H Month in Warren County. Mr. Thomas presented the proclamation to James Seeley, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension Services. Mr. Seeley thanked the Board of Supervisors, the residents of Warren County and Mr. Thomas for all the support that Cornell

Cooperative Extension and the 4-H Youth Development Program received. The board members responded with applause.

Chairman Monroe requested Supervisor Tessier to come forward to make a presentation. Mr. Tessier presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Kathy Haskell in recognition of her twenty-four years of dedicated service to the Department of Social Services (DSS). He congratulated Mrs. Haskell on her retirement and wished her well. Lisa Zulauf and Kelly Barker, of DSS, were present on behalf of Sheila Weaver, Commissioner of DSS, and both thanked Mrs. Haskell for her dedication to the DSS and stated that it had been a pleasure to work with her and added that she would be greatly missed in their Department. Mrs. Haskell thanked the Board of Supervisors and the County for the opportunity she has had to serve and work for the County. The board members responded with applause.

Chairman Monroe introduced Mike Maenza of ProAct, Inc. who wished to address the board regarding a pharmacy services program. Mr. Maenza explained that ProAct was a New York State based company that was a pharmacy benefit management division that offered a discount prescription card program. Mr. Maenza distributed handouts to the board members, copies of which are on file with the minutes. He further stated that ProAct offered discount prescription programs to people in need, such as uninsured and under-insured residents of the County. He reviewed a list of counties currently participating in the program. He noted that three years ago there were approximately 6,151 individuals in Warren County that were uninsured. Mr. Maenza stated there was no cost to the County or the participants for this program. He added that the discounts came out of the pharmacies margins and the discount cards could be used at any participating pharmacy nationwide. He apprised that NYSAC (New York State Association of Counties) had endorsed the program as well.

Chairman Monroe questioned what steps would be needed to implement this program and Mr. Maenza replied it would require a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors, followed by the signing of an agreement.

Jon Premo, Labor Relations Specialist for the CSEA, advised that this program may need to be reviewed by the unions prior to the board making a decision. Mr. Merlino commented that this was not a union concern and would benefit uninsured residents of the County. Mr. Premo responded that he was obligated, under the Taylor Law, to represent the union membership. Chairman Monroe suggested that discussions regarding this program be referred to the Social Services Committee for further review and he thanked Mr. Maenza for the information.

Chairman Monroe announced that Mr. Premo and Mark Murray, President of the CSEA, had requested to address the board. Mr. Premo said there was a concern amongst union employees with regard to the utilization of the Sheriff's Department to conduct routine labor relation investigations. He stated there had recently been three incidents, one at the Countryside Adult Home and two at the Westmount Health Facility, in which the Sheriff's Department conducted investigations, rather than an internal investigation being completed and he explained those incidents in detail. Mr. Premo advised that a petition had been

circulated among the employees at the Westmount Health Facility and the Countryside Adult Home and he provided a copy of that petition to the Chairman of the Board, a copy of which is on file with the minutes. Chairman Monroe recommended that these issues be discussed at the Labor Management Committee meeting which would be held on September 29, 2008.

Privilege of the floor was extended to John Salvador, resident of the Town of Queensbury, who had requested permission to address the board. Mr. Salvador expressed his concern with the dredging work that had been done in Green Harbor under the supervision of Dave Wick, the District Manager of the Soil and Water Conservation District. He noted that he had sent a letter to the Chairman of the Lake George Town Planning Board with regards to his concerns, and requested it be sent to the members of the Warren County Board of Supervisors as well. He referred to three separate projects in which the Soil and Water Conservation District was involved and stated that it was his opinion that it was a waste of governmental resources to have the Soil and Water Conservation District involved with these specific projects.

Mr. Thomas said that as Chairman of the Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors he would like to respond to Mr. Salvador's comments. He clarified that while the County did contribute funding to the District, by no means did Warren County fully fund the Soil and Water Conservation District. Dave Wick, District Manager, stated he too would like to respond to Mr. Salvador. He apprised that the District did not operate under Municipal Law or Drainage Law; it was operated under Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District Law and overseen by the New York State Soil and Water Conservation District Law. He added that the District was not a direct County agency; however, he said, they were considered a contractual agency. Mr. Wick noted that if there were a question as to what the Soil and Water Conservation District could do, it would be referred to the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee, who set the policies for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. He explained the Soil and Water Conservation Districts involvement with the specific projects outlined by Mr. Salvador. He encouraged Mr. Salvador to attend a Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to further discuss his concerns.

Chairman called for reports by Committee chairmen on past activities and the following gave verbal reports:

Supervisor Geraghty, Budget; Supervisor Haskell, County Facilities; Supervisor Thomas, Personnel; Supervisor Sokol, Planning & Community Development; Supervisor VanNess, Public Safety; Supervisor Champagne, Community College; Supervisor Stec, Finance; Supervisor Tessier, Tourism and Criminal Justice; Supervisor Belden, Public Works and Supervisor Kenny, County Clerk and Occupancy Tax Coordination.

In connection with the Budget Committee, Mr. Geraghty advised that the Committee had reduced the increase to the 2009 budget to below 10% and they were continuing to work on reducing it further. He stated that the Committee would be meeting again on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 to continue reviewing the 2009 County budget.

With regard to the County Facilities Committee, Mr. Haskell stated that construction

had begun and the project was on schedule.

Concerning the Personnel Committee, Mr. Thomas expounded that the Committee had approved the reallocation of pay grades for Nurse Technicians in the Health Services Department. He noted there had been extensive discussions regarding the filling of the position of Fire Coordinator and Director of Emergency Services. He advised that the candidate had been selected and the salary was agreed upon.

Regarding the Planning & Community Development Committee, Mr. Sokol apprised that the focus of discussions were the summary of accomplishments for 2007 and 2008. He said that the Empire Zone Program had provided \$125,000 worth of zone capital credits for institutions, such as the World Awareness Children's Museum, the Glens Falls Hospital and the Crandall Public Library. Mr. Sokol added that a study was being considered to determine whether or not the property set aside in the Airport Master Plan could be developed into a technical park.

Chairman Monroe requested Hal Payne, Commissioner of Administrative and Fiscal Services, to report on information regarding the reinstatement of IGT funding for the Westmount Health Facility. Mr. Payne announced that for 2006, 2007 and 2008, there was approximately \$3.3 million in Intergovernmental Transfer money, which were federal funds paid for the difference between the Medicaid and Medicare rates in the County. He noted that the County would realize a benefit of approximately \$1.65 million following the 50% local match to be deposited to the State MMIS account. Mr. Payne added that the first payment would be received in November 2008.

Continuing with reports, Mr. VanNess commented on the Public Safety Committee. He announced that Brian LaFlure was selected for the appointment of Fire Coordinator and Director of Emergency Services, replacing Marv Lemery who was retiring. Mr. VanNess expressed his thanks and appreciation to Mr. Lemery for the dedication and hard work that he provided to the County over the years. He wished Mr. Lemery well in his retirement. The board members responded with applause.

In connection with the Community College Committee, Mr. Champagne advised that the Adirondack Community College (ACC) budget had been reviewed again and amended, reducing the County's share from a 5% increase to a 3% increase. He added that enrollment at ACC had increased slightly for the year. Mr. Champagne also reported on the Inter-County Solid Waste Committee and noted that there were six interested parties in the redevelopment and purchase of the Hartford Landfill and discussions would be continuing.

With regard to the Finance Committee, Mr. Stec reiterated Mr. Champagne's comments regarding the ACC budget, and he added that the meetings held with Washington County concerning ACC had been very productive this year. He stated there was a resolution included in the Supervisors' packets to increase the Soil and Water Capital Project in the amount of \$20,000 for the new Office building. Mr. Stec took a moment to address the comments made earlier in the meeting by Mr. Salvador. He said that he and the Queensbury

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008**

---

Town Board were delighted to have Mr. Wick involved in certain projects within the Town and he advised that he had the utmost respect for Mr. Wick and the projects that he did. The board members responded with applause.

Mr. Tessier apprised that the Tourism Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee conducted usual business this month.

Mr. Goodspeed said he had Chaired the Ad-Hoc Transportation Committee and they had brain stormed innovative ideas to better connect the northern portion of the County with the southern portion. He added that the Committee would be meeting again soon to generate additional ideas. He also announced that there had been a meeting in Lake Placid with ORDA (Olympic Regional Development Authority) in which a resolution was unanimously passed enabling the final phase of the Gore Mountain Interconnect project. He acknowledged Len Fosbrook, President of Economic Development Corporation and Senator Little for their hard work and assistance with this project.

Mr. Bentley commented on Mr. Salvador's statements and said that Mr. Wick and the Soil and Water Conservation District had done many great things in the Town of Horicon and he fully supported the District and their projects.

Concerning the Public Works Committee, Mr. Belden advised that the Committee had agreed to include a 5% increase in the 2009 budget for the individual towns snow and ice removal. With regard to the Airport portion of the meeting, Mr. Belden stated interviews were continuing for the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) for the Airport. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Wick and the Soil and Water Conservation District. He also thanked Mr. Lamy for all of his hard work and determination in reducing the Public Works portion of the 2009 budget.

Chairman Monroe thanked all Department Heads for the effort that had been put forth in trying to reduce the 2009 budget.

Mr. Kenny expounded that although the County Clerk Committee and the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee did not meet this month, there were resolutions included in the packets concerning both Departments. With regard to the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, he explained that there was a desire to attract new larger events and trade shows to Warren County; therefore, he said, included in the 10% for special events would be promotional expenses connected with attracting such events.

Chairman Monroe called for reading of communications.

Clerk read communications, including the following:

Minutes from:

Warren County Planning Board;  
Warren/Washington Counties Children and Youth Subcommittee;  
Warren/Washington Counties IDA and Executive/Park Committee.

Monthly Reports from:

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008**

---

Weights & Measures;  
Veterinarian;  
Probation.

Annual Report from:  
County of Warren for Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/07;

Capital District Off-Track Betting, August surcharge in the amount of \$25,051;

Whittemore, Downen & Ricciardelli, LLP, Independent Auditors' Report for  
Warren/Washington Counties IDA for year ended 12/31/07;

National Grid, Semi-Annual PCB Report for the period ending 7/31/07;

William Bingham, Letter of Support of Empire East Aviation as the Fixed Base Operator at  
the Warren County Airport;

Letters of Resignation from Warren County Youth Bureau, from Ruth Keller and Cameron  
Tessier;

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Notice of Application for New  
Telecommunications Tower;

Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board and Regional Development  
Corporation, 2007 Financial Statements;

Communications, resolutions and reports ordered placed on file.

Chairman Monroe called for reading of resolutions and discussion.

Chairman Monroe announced he would like to introduce two resolutions and noted that the draft resolutions were being distributed. The first, he said, concerned the Gaslight Village property and would authorize the County Treasurer to establish an account in which to deposit funds generated by the leasing or other use of the Gaslight Village/Waxlife USA Museum property. The other, he stated, was in relation to the Health and Human Services Building and would rescind, repeal and annul Resolution No. 186 of 2004, which required contractors on County construction projects of \$100,000 or more and subcontractors on County construction projects of \$50,000 or more to provide apprenticeship training programs.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to bring the two resolutions outlined by Chairman Monroe to the floor. Clerk noted they would be Resolution Nos. 668 and 669 respectively, for the record.

Concerning Resolution No. 669, Chairman Monroe explained that the contracts for the new Health and Human Services building did not include the provision requiring an

apprenticeship program. He added that Bovis Lend Lease had advised that if the contracts were amended to include the provision of an apprenticeship program, costs for the project would substantially increase. He noted that the County Attorney recommended rescinding the previous resolution from 2004 specifically for the current contracts associated with this project.

Mr. Kenny questioned why there would be a significant cost increase to the project by including the apprenticeship program. Fred Austin, Building Projects Coordinator, explained the cost would increase due to an increase in workers on the site, which would be demanded by the Unions. He further stated that compromises had been negotiated by Paul Dusek, County Attorney, and the Unions; however, he said, agreements could not be reached and therefore it was necessary to abolish this resolution in order for the work to continue on schedule. Chairman Monroe advised the apprenticeship program could be reimplemented for future County projects after this project was completed.

Mr. Tessier referred to Resolution No. 660, Authorizing Repairs, Improvements and/or Renovations of Buildings on the Festival Space of the Former Gaslight Village/Waxlife USA Museum Property. He stated the resolution pertained to the 2 ½ acres that the County, Town and Village of Lake George owned. He further explained he had been on the property performing clean-up work and had been receiving emails and complaints regarding presence on the property. He expressed his concern that the agreement that the County, Town and Village entered into when the property was purchased was not being adhered to, in that either of the parties had the right to do any kind of work on the property until the environmental work began. Mr. Belden and Mr. Merlino agreed with Mr. Tessier in that the municipalities had full use of the property until the environmental project began. Chairman Monroe suggested that the issues be brought to the next Management Committee meeting.

With regard to Resolution No. 632, Appointing Brian LaFlure as Fire Coordinator/Director of the Office of Emergency Services for Warren County, Mr. Kenny apprised he was concerned with having one individual performing two different jobs; although, he stated, he was in support of the appointment of Mr. LaFlure. Mr. Strainer added he fully supported the appointment of Mr. LaFlure; however, he said, he felt it was very important to create a full-time position of Fire Coordinator, rather than it being a part-time position at only twenty hours per week.

Mr. Haskell requested a roll call vote on Resolution No. 669, Rescinding, Repealing and Annulling Resolution No. 186 of 2004, Requiring Contractors on County Construction Projects of \$100,000 or More and Subcontractors on County Construction Projects of \$50,000 or More to Provide Apprenticeship Training Programs.

Mr. Kenny requested roll call votes on Resolution No. 632, Appointing Brian LaFlure as Fire Coordinator/ Director of the Office of Emergency Services for Warren County; Resolution No. 655, Authorizing Superintendent of Public Works and/or Deputy Superintendent to Approve and Execute Change Orders Associated with the Construction of Warren County Rail Stations, Town of Hadley and Town of Thurman (WC 61-08) Project; Resolution No. 656, Amending Resolution No. 291 of 2008, Which Authorized an

Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Corinth Regarding a Railroad Crossing Signal at Antone Mountain Road, and Authorizing Use of Surplus Crossing Signal Equipment by Upper Hudson River Railroad, Inc.; Resolution No. 657, Authorizing Director of Parks & Recreation to Submit Application to New York State Department of Transportation Unified Rail & Port Program to Fund Improvements to the Warren County Railroad; and Resolution No. 658, Authorizing Director of Parks & Recreation to Submit Application to New York State Department of Transportation Unified Rail & Port Program to Fund Improvements to Railroad Stations.

Mr. Stec requested a roll call vote on Resolution No. 659, Rescinding Resolution No. 802 of 2006, Which Authorized the Acquisition of Railroad Tracks and Any Available Property Interests by Warren County Singularly or Together with Essex County, Hamilton County and Barton Mines for a Purchase Price of \$205,000 and Returning Encumbered Funds Back to the General Fund.

Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, advised that Resolution Nos. 622 through 659 were mailed and a motion was needed to bring Resolution Nos. 621 and 660 through 667 to the floor.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to bring Resolution Nos. 621 and 660 through 667 to the floor.

Chairman Monroe called for a vote on the resolutions.

Resolution Nos. 621 through 669 were approved.

Chairman Monroe announced that the County-owned property across the street had been advertised for sale. Mr. Payne noted the advertisement had been placed on the front page of the *Real Estate Journal*, as well as in the *Business Review*, *The Post Star*, the *Times Union*, the *Chronicle* and the *Glens Falls Business Journal*.

Mr. VanNess congratulated Mr. LaFlure on his new appointment.

Mr. Geraghty reminded the board members that the World's Largest Garage Sale would be held in Warrenburg the first weekend of October.

Mr. Lemery thanked the members of the Board of Supervisors, as well as the previous and current Chairman of the Board, for the privilege he has had in serving the County as Fire Coordinator for over twenty years. The board members responded with applause.

Mr. Sokol advised that the Adirondack Regional Business Incubator (ARBI) had relocated to the Adirondack Community College (ACC) and on Friday, September 26, 2008, ARBI would be hosting a luncheon to launch the new location.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Champagne and seconded by Mr. Strainer, Chairman Monroe adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.