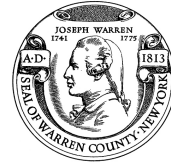


# Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 21, 2016**



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 10:01 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Vanselow

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, McDevitt, Braymer, Brock, MacDonald, Frasier, Simpson, Vanselow, Merlino, Strough, Seeber, Montesi, Sokol, Thomas, Wood and Geraghty -17; Supervisors Girard, Dickinson and Beaty absent-3

Motion was made by Supervisor Montesi, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2016 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Commencing the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty read aloud the listing of meetings he had attended since the September 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting; *a copy of the Chairman's Report is on file with the items distributed at the Board Meeting.*

Chairman Geraghty then called for reports from Supervisors on the past months meetings or activities.

Supervisor Vanselow reported on the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Support Services Committee, wherein the Department Budget requests for the Auditor, Board of Elections, Clerk of the Board, County Administrator, County Attorney, County Clerk/DMV, Historian, Information Technology, Purchasing, and Weights and Measures Departments were reviewed. He noted they had also approved proposed Resolution Nos. 427 and 444.

Supervisor Merlino stated that the Tourism & Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee had met on two occasions this month, the first of which was on September 26<sup>th</sup> wherein the Tourism Department's Budget Request was reviewed, as well as approving proposed Resolution No. 411. Supervisor Merlino advised that the purpose of the meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> was to review and approve the proposal to host the EVP Volleyball Tournament at Million Dollar Beach in the Town of Lake George as indicated in proposed Resolution No. 442; he noted proposed Resolution Nos. 440 and 441 were also approved at this meeting. Supervisor Merlino requested that the Board members stop by the Tourism Department to view the changes that had been made there, as well as to meet the two new staff members recently hired. He mentioned according to the data for the third quarter, tourism had increased by .2% within the region. He stated he felt the total amount of occupancy tax received this year would be comparable to last year's figure.

Supervisor Strough congratulated Supervisor Merlino for being recognized at the Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB's Annual Dinner at the Fort William Henry on October 19<sup>th</sup> for his outstanding support of tourism in Warren County. Supervisor Merlino stated he was honored to receive this recognition.

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Supervisor Strough provided a brief summary of the September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Legislative & Rules Committee and the action taken there.

Supervisor Seeber announced that today was New York State Domestic Violence Awareness Survivors Day and she noted although there was no resolution stating such, she felt compelled to highlight that October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She stated that each Supervisor had been given a cell phone holder from the Crime Victims Awareness Program in Warren County which highlighted the need for notification, offender accountability and justice for crime victims. She stated this would remind them that it was essential to advocate fiercely for victims of domestic violence. Supervisor Seeber advised that on October 4<sup>th</sup> she had attended a Marketing Conference sponsored by Trampoline Advertising and Design Co., who some may be familiar with through their work with the Tourism Department. She stated the focus of the conference was on marketing millennials in the Adirondacks. She said two items which related to the County workforce concerned the need for public WIFI in areas such as the Airport and the Festival Commons. She continued, in regards to the County job postings, she felt they needed to be more creative, and she apprised they had recently considered moving forward with discussions concerning Telenet which would provide a large pool of job seekers in the age range of twenty to thirty years old who were seeking Telenet options. She informed more creative job postings would notify job seekers that the County was a fun place to work and was seeking candidates who were excited about living within the region. Supervisor Seeber advised an interesting point made during the conference was that the Adirondacks and Miami Beach had the oldest demographics within the United States. She apprised that although they wanted to attract millenials to the region, they understood that they needed to review the current population in terms of whom they were attracting to ensure they met those needs, as well. Lastly, Supervisor Seeber said she had the opportunity to meet with Jeffery Tennyson, *Superintendent of Public Works*, and Ross Dubarry, *Airport Manager*, at the end of September regarding the Airport Advisory Committee. She said that they had developed guidelines and a tentative timeframe by December 1<sup>st</sup> to schedule the first meeting with the members consisting of community representatives, Board of Supervisor representatives, Pilot Association representatives and FBO (*Fixed Base Operator*) representatives. She stated that a report would be given to the full Board by July or August which allowed them to provide a recommendation concerning the FBO Agreement. She mentioned the goals for the Committee would be to focus on the FBO Operations, future development, future service of operations, innovative ideas, increasing revenue, decreasing expenses, social media and marketing the Airport, as well as events that were taking place.

Supervisor Montesi apprised that he had recently returned from the Annual Meeting of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee in Syracuse, New York wherein Warren County was awarded for the work that was completed on Exit 22 of the Adirondack Northway which encompassed diverting the storm water runoff to ensure it did not end up in the English Brook and/or Lake George.

Supervisor Sokol reported on the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Health, Human & Social Services Committee, wherein they reviewed the Department Budget requests for Office for the Aging, Veterans' Services, Department of Social Services, Countryside Adult Home, and Health Services, in addition to approving proposed Resolution Nos. 418-426 which he provided an overview of.

Supervisor Thomas advised that the Budget Committee had met on October 13<sup>th</sup> to review the proposed Budget for 2017 following which some changes had been made to further decrease the tax levy increase. He noted the Tentative Budget for 2017 would be presented to the full Board at the Special Board Meeting scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Supervisor Thomas requested support of proposed Resolution No. 441, *Authorizing an Agreement with the Town of Stony Creek to Provide Occupancy Tax Funding for the Purchase of Two Land Parcels to Connect the Town Park to Promote Tourism-Related Activities In the Town of Stony Creek*, due to the benefits it would provide not only to

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the Town of Stony Creek, but also the region.

Supervisor Wood informed the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee had met on September 26<sup>th</sup> wherein they approved proposed Resolution Nos. 412-417 which she provided a brief summary of. Supervisor Wood thanked the Supervisors who were able to attend the EMS Advisory Board meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup>. She said the discussion concerning the EMS coverage issues within the northern portions of the County would continue at the next Committee meeting.

Supervisor Conover apprised that the Finance, Personnel & Higher Education Committee had held two meetings this month, the first of which was on September 29<sup>th</sup>, wherein the Department Budget Requests were reviewed for Human Resources, Civil Service and the County Treasurer and had approved proposed Resolution Nos. 409-410 and 431-436. Supervisor Conover provided a brief overview of the October 5<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting wherein proposed Resolution Nos. 437 and 438 were approved. Supervisor Conover requested that proposed Resolution No. 437, *Authorizing Health Insurance for County Officers, Employees and Retirees*, be withdrawn so that a new resolution with the correct rates could be proposed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Conover, seconded by Supervisor Sokol and carried unanimously to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 437.

Supervisor Conover voiced his support of proposed Resolution No. 441, *Authorizing an Agreement with the Town of Stony Creek to Provide Occupancy Tax Funding for the Purchase of Two Land Parcels to Connect the Town Park to Promote Tourism-Related Activities In the Town of Stony Creek*, noting that providing funding which would promote tourism within the smaller municipalities was an appropriate use of the funds.

Supervisor Leggett advised he had attended the Forestry Forum sponsored by the Adirondack Research Consortium. He said he found the meeting to be very informative with discussion revolving around the economy of the forestry industry in the Adirondacks, climate change and the impacts the forest had on that. Supervisor Leggett informed he had attended a news conference with Senator Gillibrand regarding broadband initiatives, as well as the EMS Advisory Board meeting which he felt was a significant issue for the County. He added he was able to observe the Congressional Debate for the 21<sup>st</sup> District which took place at SUNY Adirondack.

Supervisor McDevitt read aloud the following prepared statement from Supervisor Beaty, who was unable to attend today's meeting due to a prior commitment: *"I apologize for missing my second Board Meeting in three years. Sometimes you have to make decisions based on doing the right thing, as I will be in Dallas representing my best friend at a cancer event. I have some thoughts on the 2017 Budget. I feel Mr. Thomas has done a good job with the 2017 Budget but there is still work to be done. Asking the County taxpayers to pay for a 3.4% or \$1,420,000 increase over last year is far too high in my opinion. The economy is clearly not back to where it should be. Social Security participants are getting less than 1% increase for 2017. This year they did not even get an increase. We can and we must do better. We should strive for a \$1 million reduction and getting the budget to only a \$1 million increase. We must as a Board respect all County taxpayers. How many people in Warren County got a 3.4% raise this year. Mr. Schermerhorn on record as stating that he can cut \$450,000 almost immediately at our Airport and I would hope that we could take a serious look at that. I am a supporter of the Airport but as stewards of the County taxpayers money we can and we must do better. Finally I am very encouraged by the early independent report on the Geothermal Project. I along with a few other Supervisors have been very vocal about how Siemens has conducted these Energy Performance Contracts. Hopefully when the final report comes out others on this Board will also join us in our position. I will go into much more detail at our next*

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*Board Meeting on this subject. Regards, Supervisor Beatty”.*

Chairman Geraghty asked Supervisor McDevitt if he had anything to report and Supervisor McDevitt replied in the negative.

Supervisor Braymer apprised in addition to attending the regular Committee meetings, she had attended the tour of the Saratoga North Creek Railroad which she found to be very informative. She stated that she had also attended the tour of the Just Beverage Facility located in the downtown area of the City of Glens Falls. Supervisor Braymer reported that she, as well as a few other Supervisors toured the current facility of The Open Door and their new building which they had requested financial support from the County for which she encouraged all Supervisors to consider supporting this initiative. She said she attended the Adirondack Planning and Zoning Forum, as well as the EMS Advisory Board Meeting.

Supervisor Brock stated that he had nothing to report on.

Supervisor MacDonald reported that he had attended the annual NYSAC meeting with Supervisor Seeber where he participated in some workshops concerning the issues and possible solutions associated with municipal restructuring, as well as some grant programs to assist with the process that were available through the State. He continued, he was also educated on how essential it was to address the funding concerns surrounding the updating of the 911 Dispatch System. He said it was necessary for the State to rectify the collection and allocation of these funds and he noted Supervisor Seeber had recently brought to matter to light at a previous meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee. He added Supervisor Seeber had appealed to the State Representatives to provide a louder voice in that regard and he was appreciative of her efforts. Supervisor MacDonald informed that he had attended a Workshop where the topic of discussion concerned various ways the County could work with the State to address the ongoing and widespread heroin epidemic. He apprised he had attended the EMS Advisory Board Meeting, along with thirteen other Supervisors to commence a working partnership to create a solution for the issues many of the municipalities and their EMS squads were facing. Supervisor MacDonald advised he had attended both of the Common Council Meetings for the City of Glens Falls this past month during which the topic of discussion had been tourism and how the County marketed each municipality, as well as an annual report from the Director of Tourism for the City. He said he met with representatives of the County Tourism Department, as well as Supervisor Merlino to discuss incorporating tourism for the City under the County umbrella. He thanked Supervisor Merlino for taking the time to meet with him and commended him on the impressive Senior Center the Town of Lake Luzerne had. Supervisor MacDonald reported that he had met with Ed Bartholomew, *President, Economic Development Corporation*, who provided him with an overview of the services the EDC provided for the region. He stated that he had met with a representative of the Warren County SPCA to discuss their funding request for 2017, as well as the EDC Forum for Planning and Zoning.

Supervisor Frasier advised she had nothing to report on; however, she noted, she had attended the tour of the Saratoga North Creek Railroad, as well as the EMS Advisory Board Meeting.

Supervisor Simpson reported on the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Public Works Committee, highlighting the upcoming schedule for the Saratoga North Creek Railroad. He thanked all the Supervisors who were able to attend the tour and requested permission to establish a working group consisting of himself, Supervisor Vanselow, Wayne LaMothe, *County Planner*, and a representative from DPW to work on the tourism aspect of the railroad, as he believed the potential was there to attract even more tourists to the region. In regards to proposed Resolution Nos. 429, *Rescinding Resolution No. 209 of 2016 and Rejecting the Bid Proposal of Grout Tech, Inc. for Grout Pumping for Various Projects in Warren County (WC 028-16)*, and 430, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Town & County*

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*Bridge & Rail, Inc. for Grout Pumping for Various Projects in Warren County (WC 028-16)*, Supervisor Simpson advised subsequent to the Committee meeting the County was able to obtain the information required from Grout Tech, Inc.; therefore, he stated, the proposed Resolutions were no longer necessary. A motion was made by Supervisor Simpson, seconded by Supervisor Vanselow and carried unanimously to withdraw proposed Resolution Nos. 429 and 430 of 2016.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Brian Reichenbach, *County Attorney*, to provide the report by the County Attorney. Mr. Reichenbach apprised that his Office upgraded their case management software thereby allowing them to view which cases were opened and closed. He stated he envisioned having a litigation report prepared and distributed to the full Board by the end of next week to ensure they were aware of the status. Mr. Reichenbach informed that there was an unnumbered resolution included within the resolution packet which was the substitution for proposed Resolution No. 437, *Authorizing Health Insurance for County Officers, Employees and Retirees*, which was withdrawn. He said the unnumbered resolution would allow the County to offer health insurance for employees and retirees pursuant to the plan that was outlined by Jaeger & Flynn Associates, Inc. which would ensure the combined premium would remain at 4% of the operating budget. He stated representatives from Jaeger & Flynn Associates, Inc. were present at today's meeting to answer any questions regarding the proposed Resolution.

Resuming the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty called for the reading of communications, which Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, read aloud, as follows:

**Reports from:**

1. Report of Criminal and Family Workloads for August 2016 from the Warren County Probation Department.
2. ProAct Discount Card Utilization Report for January 2015 - August 2016.
3. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corp. Financial Reports dated June 30, 2016 and July 31, 2016

Drescher & Malecki LLP, Basic Financial Statements, Required Supplementary Information, Supplementary Information and Federal Awards Information for the Year Ended December 31, 2015 and Independent Auditors' Reports

2016 NYSAC Fall Seminar Resolutions

Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corp. August 2016 Surcharge check in the amount of \$8,400.00 and September 2016 Surcharge check in the amount of \$4,700.

Moving on, Chairman Geraghty called attention to the Proclamation included in the resolution packet which proclaimed the month of November 2016 to be Epilepsy Awareness Month.

Before continuing with the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty recognized Brenda Ashline, *Buildings & Grounds employee*, for her efforts in maintaining and decorating the grounds of the Municipal Center Building which he noted, always looked festive this time of year. He said Ms. Ashline had been unable to attend the meeting today due to an injury so he was unable to formally present her with a Certificate of Appreciation and thank her for the work she did. He encouraged everyone to commend her on her efforts when she returned to work.

Supervisor Montesi stated that he neglected to mention during his report that the County Facilities Committee had appointed him to serve as a representative of the Working Group for the Court Space Expansion Project. He reported as of November 1<sup>st</sup> the groundbreaking would take place and the Family

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Court parking lot would be closed off and fenced in. He mentioned if feasible the work would continue through the winter; he noted they were on schedule with only one remaining contract which had not been awarded yet that pertained to the electrical work.

Supervisor Merlino inquired whether offering a parent and child policy was an option that could be included for health insurance to employees and Matt Schuette, *Agency Partner, Jaeger & Flynn Associates*, responded in the affirmative. He explained if this type of policy was offered it would require changes to the current rate structure. Supervisor Merlino advised that the Town of Lake Luzerne saved a substantial amount of money by offering the one parent and child coverage, as it was about \$8,000 less than the cost of the family policy. Mr. Schuette pointed out if they were to offer the coverage, the cost of the family plan would increase, as the same amount of funding would be allocated to the health insurance provided but the cost would be split up differently between the different coverages offered.

Supervisor Braymer requested further explanation as to why Resolution Nos. 429 and 430 were withdrawn. Supervisor Simpson advised subsequent to the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Public Works Committee where the aforementioned resolutions were approved, the issues with Grout Tech, Inc. were rectified; therefore, he stated, the resolutions were no longer required since they were moving forward with the contract that was in place.

Supervisor Braymer asked Supervisor Thomas to elaborate on the tourism related ideas that the Town of Stony Creek had for the park. Supervisor Thomas provided an overview of the project which consisted of the purchase of two parcels to extend hiking trails to various locations throughout the Town, as well as building a convention center that would accommodate up to five hundred people for the Stony Creek Library.

Supervisor McDevitt remarked he felt the Board should do whatever they could to encourage economic activity within the smaller communities north of Lake George. He thanked Supervisor Thomas for providing the additional information pertaining to the aforementioned project.

Supervisor Montesi remarked that the figures provided to the Tourism & Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee had indicated the trail systems were attracting visitors to Stony Creek. Supervisor Thomas stated although he did not have the exact figures available, he could attest to the fact that the trails were used on a regular basis by the locals, as well as individuals from out of the area.

Supervisor Leggett stated that he believed using occupancy tax funding for capital assets such as a trail system was one of the more suitable uses of the funding. He noted the proposed changes fell in line with the master vision for the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor. He apprised that the Town of Chester had over 17,000 individuals sign-in over this past summer on their trail system which the majority of was funded through occupancy tax funds.

Supervisor MacDonald commented although the project was located in the Town of Stony Creek, he felt it was a regional project. He applauded the Town's efforts in trying to increase tourism there, as he felt it was a benefit to the individuals who had already planned on going there, as well as attracting those who may not have traveled there.

Supervisor Thomas advised that the Town of Stony Creek felt they had developed a unique vision for their Town that could potentially lead into a regional destination.

Continuing to the reading of resolutions, Mrs. Allen announced proposed Resolution Nos. 409-438 were mailed; she informed that proposed Resolution Nos. 439-447 were prepared after mailing and a motion

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was necessary to bring them to the floor, as well as the alternate health insurance resolution proposed by Mr. Reichenbach. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Simpson, seconded by Supervisor Braymer and carried unanimously. Mrs. Allen announced the proposed Resolution concerning health insurance rates would be proposed Resolution No. 448.

Mrs. Allen informed that the County Treasurer's Office had brought to attention an issue pertaining to the appropriation of funds from the Unappropriated Surplus to Debt Service for the NSTEM (*Nursing, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*) Project. She explained subsequent to approving the transfer it was determined that a payment for the Project was not necessary until 2018. She said in order to fix this the Treasurer's Office suggested rescinding Resolution No. 356 of 2016 which authorized the appropriation specifically for the NSTEM Project and instead introducing another resolution which made the same transfer but permitted the funds to be used for debt service in general and not specifically for the NSTEM Project. Supervisor Montesi asked whether the proposed Resolution was included in the packet and Mrs. Allen replied in the negative.

A motion was made by Supervisor Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Sokol and carried unanimously to waive the Rules of the Board requiring that a resolution be presented in writing. This would be Resolution No. 449.

Mrs. Allen informed it was necessary to introduce a new resolution rescinding Resolution No. 356 of 2016 and authorizing the appropriation of \$292,000 from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to Debt Service.

A motion was made by Supervisor Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Montesi and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above. Mrs. Allen announced this would be proposed Resolution No. 450 and would require a roll call vote.

Chairman Geraghty called for discussion and public comment on the proposed resolutions, as well as requests for roll call votes.

Supervisor Seeber requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 428, *Authorizing Agreement with C&S Engineers, Inc. for Phase I Technical Support Services for the Airfield Guidance Sign Replacement/Pavement Repair & Markings Project at the Floyd Bennett Memorial Airport, Warren County, New York.*

Supervisor Leggett questioned whether the rates provided in proposed Resolution No. 448 pertained to the cost on a monthly basis or an annual basis and Chairman Geraghty replied that the rates provided were based on the monthly cost for health insurance. Supervisor Leggett suggested that future resolutions pertaining to the rates for health insurance include the total cost for the year and not just on a monthly basis. He pointed out the family plan cost over \$23,000 a year which he felt was substantial. Mr. Schuette pointed out that the figure depicted in the resolution was the total amount due on a monthly basis. He stated the figure was not broken down by County share and employee share. Supervisor Leggett commented he still felt it was important to provide the total cost of the premiums within the resolution, as the cost was significant.

Chairman Geraghty called for a vote on resolutions, following which Resolution Nos. 409- 450 were approved as presented, with the exception of Resolution Nos. 429, 430 and 437 which were withdrawn.

Chairman Geraghty called for announcements.

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Supervisor MacDonald apprised he would be holding his quarterly Town Hall meeting along with Jim Clark, *5<sup>th</sup> Ward Councilman, City of Glens Falls*, at the Big Cross Elementary School on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. along with guest speaker Assemblyman Stec, who would be answering questions regarding the upcoming legislative agenda.

Supervisor Wood reminded the Board that the classification public hearings for the Boreas Pond would be taking place in November and she encouraged all to attend.

Frank Dittrich, *Warren County Lodging Association, Board Member, Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB, Inc.*, congratulated Supervisor Merlino on receiving the award from the Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB, Inc, as it was the largest award they gave out on an annual basis. He stated he was encouraged that there had been an abundant amount of discussion during the Board Meeting pertaining to tourism, as it was the second largest industry within the County that contributed \$2,400 per household in tax benefits to the residents as of today. He said this attested to the fact that tourism was a key element to the region that contributed to its health and well being. He apprised following Columbus Day the “seasonal business” in the region had ended, leaving a significant amount of people unemployed. Mr. Dittrich informed the Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB, Inc. had recently announced their 365 initiative which did not concern Lake George but rather the region. He explained it was an effort to try and promote tourism on a broad basis outside of the region in order to attract more guests to the area. He mentioned the target area they were focusing on consisted of largely the greater New York, New Jersey area and making sure occupancy tax funds were used to target this area and bring new guests into the region. He reminded the Board occupancy tax was a function of the number of guests who traveled to the region multiplied by the rates they were able to rent rooms for. He said they were currently in an oversupply situation that was driven by the new development to the south on the Adirondack Northway which meant there were more rooms available without more guests that would cause rates to decrease and thereby decreasing the amount of occupancy tax collected. Mr. Dittrich remarked he was looking forward to viewing the results of the study that was being conducted concerning tourism in the region, as it would provide them with both observations and recommendations concerning organization for business and government which would promote tourism in a meaningful way and attract more guests here. Mr. Dittrich apprised the next matter concerned strategy and what should they be focusing on, as there were a number of great ideas and a limited amount of funds available to market them. He remarked it was easy to expend the \$4.2 million in occupancy tax funds rapidly. He stated with organizational elements in place, strategic discussions about where the County was headed and what they should be focused on in terms of the use of occupancy tax funds that would result in a strong return on investment. As an example he stated, if \$5,000 in occupancy tax funds was awarded, was the amount received in return greater than that and if not, perform a review to determine why the investment was made which would ensure good investments are made with the money. He informed once those elements were in place, he believed the County could be in position to move the region into more of a year-round destination which would lead into better tax benefits for the residents, as well as decreasing the unemployment rate.

Chairman Geraghty suggested that Mr. Dittrich encourage more of the Warren County Lodging Associations members to remain open year round. Mr. Dittrich apprised that the newly constructed Courtyard Marriott was open year round and attracted Corporate Business. He said the month of November would be a strong month for them with the majority of their business being Corporate travel which means area restaurants and businesses that remained open will reap the benefits from these travelers. He remarked the big effort had to be where the investments were made that would make the area visible south of the Capital Region.

Supervisor Merlino stated that he neglected to mention during his report that the hockey tournament



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authorized by Resolution No. 440, *Authorizing an Agreement with the Village of Lake George for Occupancy Tax Funding to Provide Activities in Lake George During the East Coast Hockey League (ECHL) All Star Week*, would take place at the Glens Falls Civic Center. He stated that the Mayor for the Village of Lake George had talked the organizers of the Winter Carnival into opening two weeks earlier so that the individuals who were attending the hockey tournament had additional things to do while they were in the area.

Supervisor Brock inquired whether the amount of money expended by area hoteliers for advertising had increased or was it being supplemented by occupancy tax funds and Mr. Dittrich replied he did not have the exact figures available but he could attest to the fact that it was greater than the \$4 million collected in occupancy tax funds. Supervisor Brock questioned whether the amount they expended had increased over the last few years and Mr. Dittrich replied in the affirmative. He explained they were expending more money due to the fact that the need to be in social media was critical to marketing their facilities, as well as the fact that although there were benefits associated with the third party agencies such as expedia.com, they charged more than 15% for the sale of the room. He informed each business felt they knew the best way to promote their business but required assistance in terms of the activities available in the region in order to draw guests here. He pointed out one of the hardest things for hoteliers this time of year was being aware of what businesses and activities remained open.

Brandy Bishop, *Glens Falls Hospital*, apprised she worked for the Living Tobacco Free Initiative which was funded through a grant from the New York State Department of Health. She said she wanted to introduce herself and offer services to the County, as she was aware that the Board was dealing with some issues associated with making the Municipal Center Campus smoke free. Chairman Geraghty apprised he would ensure their organization was invited to attend the County Facilities Committee meeting where the matter would be discussed further.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Sokol and seconded by Supervisor Merlino, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:20 a.m.