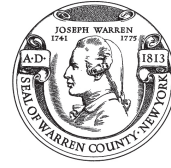


Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2020**



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. Frank E. Thomas presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Wild.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Simpson, Dickinson, Merlino, Wild, Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Shepler, Geraghty and Thomas- 18; Supervisors Hogan and Strough, absent- 2.

Commencing the Agenda review, Chairman Thomas noted a motion was necessary to approve the minutes of the January 17th Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board. The motion was made by Supervisor Magowan, seconded by Supervisor Simpson and carried unanimously.

Continuing to the presentation of the February Employee of the Month award, Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, informed Ginelle Jones was in attendance to present the award to Lisa Morton, *Community Health Nurse*. Ms. Jones thanked the Board for the opportunity for Department Heads to recognize and express appreciation for their employees. She said she would also like to introduce Joanne Morton, who was Ms. Morton's mother, and had served their agency as a Supervising Public Health Nurse until her retirement. She remarked today was the day she would be introducing not only one of their Departments best nurses, but also one of the best nurses in Warren County. She congratulated Ms. Morton on a job well done and she thanked her for the quality care she provided to their Home Care patients. She informed Ms. Morton had been a nurse with their Home Care Agency for over twenty years and she was a huge asset for the Department. She advised Ms. Morton had an Associates degree in Liberal Arts and Nursing and a Bachelor's Degree in History and was a seasoned home care nurse who was very self-motivated, energetic, goal-oriented and fun to work with. She mentioned Ms. Morton always went the extra mile, as she was one of the Home Care nurses that traveled to see patients that lived in the northern region of the County. She apprised Ms. Morton was dependable in her case management and her follow through skills were excellent; she added Ms. Morton readily connected with her patients in a very non-judgmental way by quickly establishing rapport with them. She remarked Ms. Morton was a special nurse that exemplified the best by being there for her patients, who trusted her and looked to her for reassurance. She pointed out Ms. Morton returned early from a vacation when a family member notified her that another family member was dying. She stated Ms. Morton was present to provide this family member with comfort and reassurance to allow them to pass away peacefully. She informed Ms. Morton had a special way of empowering her patients, apprising that she had received feedback from one of Ms. Morton's patients, who thanked her for providing her with information that helped her through a scary illness and credited her with helping them understand the illness and be more confident. She added another patient in his nineties wrote a sincere letter that indicated Ms. Morton had the remarkable capacity to restore his faith in the medical arts and that she instilled in her patients a high degree of optimism about the future and was very responsive to her patients needs and psychological concerns. She apprised the patients also indicated Ms. Morton's cheerful attitude as she went about her documentation made him feel as if she was there for a social

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call, rather than a medical mission. She advised Ms. Morton was an essential member of the department with her experience, expertise, compassion and sense of humor being very beneficial. She said Ms. Morton had also demonstrated leadership, as well as the ability to rise above adversity to serve and advocate the department's patients with talent, skills, and the respect of her co-workers. She remarked it was always a comfort knowing that Ms. Morton was present to serve the department's patients, as she was positive, caring, compassionate, always ready for a challenge, readily advocated for her patients in a gentle way. She concluded by thanking Ms. Morton for doing a top notch job, as well as the amazing job she did everyday, adding today was her day to be recognized. A round of applause was given.

Mr. Moore and Chairman Thomas presented Ms. Morton with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Board. Another round of applause was given.

Moving along to the report by the Chairman of the Board, Chairman Thomas advised from January 27th to 29th he had attended the NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) Conference during which he attended the Economic Development, Environmental, & Energy Standing Committee meeting, which he was a member of on the 27th, as well as three other seminars. He continued, apprising on the 28th he had attended the County Chief Executive meeting where the main focus was to ensure that the County's submitted their sales tax extenders, but this was not applicable to Warren County; he added that same day he had also attended a discussion on Medicaid. He stated on January 29th he and Supervisor Leggett had attended the Tier One training for Emergency Management. He informed on February 4th he had attended a special meeting of the LDC (*Local Development Corporation*) to discuss issues with Nettle Meadow Farm and Artisan Cheese and their move to the Town of Lake Luzerne. He stated on February 8th he had declared a weather-related State of Emergency to facilitate warming shelters due to the massive power outages and the forecast of below zero temperatures; he added on February 12th he had rescinded the weather-related State of Emergency. He apprised he had attended a meeting with Dr. Kristine Duffy, *President, SUNY Adirondack*, and Ann Marie Scheidegger, *Vice President for Administrative Services & Treasurer, SUNY Adirondack*, regarding SUNY Adirondack's upcoming budget and their needs. He said during the meeting they discussed changing the funding formula used by Warren and Washington Counties, as the two sponsors of the College. He apprised Dr. Duffy indicated to him one of the ways the County could assist the College was by encouraging its youth to attend SUNY Adirondack and he asked the Board Members to take any opportunity they had to do so. He stated on February 13th and again on the 18th he had attended Department Head evaluation and on February 19th he attended the Health Insurance Working Group meeting for the purpose of conducting an in depth review of the County's health insurance which he was pleased to report was currently in good standing.

Chairman Thomas then called for the reports by Committee Chairmen on the past months meetings or activities.

Supervisor Wild stated the Economic Growth & Development and Higher Education Committee had met on January 24th, during which they did not approve any resolutions. He apprised as part of Chairman Thomas's expectation that the Committee develop a new strategic economic development plan for the County, he had embarked on a listening tour where he had met with a number of individuals throughout the County and would continue to do so to assist him with determining what the needs were, what had been successful thus far, what challenges there were and what the wants and needs were. He stated he had attended the New York State Economic Development Council 2020 Economic Development Conference in Albany, New York where over two hundred representatives from across the State had discussed economic development. He said the main thing he took away from this Conference were that the entire State was concerned about workforce and how to expand this by attracting

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employees from other regions of the Country to allow them to continue to grow. He said another thing that he learned was that Warren County was competing with a number of other County's across the State that were also attempting to achieve economic development and increase its workforce to multiply the number of opportunities for their constituents, meaning Warren County would be faced with some challenges to be successful in achieving this goal.

Supervisor Magowan apprised that the Support Services Committee had met on January 24th, approving proposed Resolution No. 69 which he provided a brief summary of. He stated the Purchasing Department was getting busier with their work with municipalities as a result of Julie Butler, *Purchasing Agent*, and her staffs exceptional work assisting them with getting the best price for their purchasing needs and he recognized them for their efforts. He advised he had participated in the initial round of interviews for the Director of Weights & Measures position on February 7th following which they recommended two candidates to the Personnel & Administration Committee to conduct a second round of interviews with. He informed on February 14th he had attended Department Head evaluations for some of the Department Heads whose departments were overseen by the Support Services Committee, noting he was thoroughly impressed with the process which was developed by Supervisor Seeber during her previous term and had been continued on by Mr. Moore.

Supervisor Seeber stated the Criminal Justice Committee had met on January 22nd, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 31-35 and she called attention to proposed Resolution No. 31, *Approving the Warren County Assigned Counsel Plan which Replaces the Assigned Counsel Plan Authorized by Resolution No. 27 of 2019*, which concerned a minor change indicating that members of the Assigned Counsel Panel were now members of the Warren County Board. She added the additional resolutions that were approved at the meeting all pertained to State funding, meaning no County matching funds were required. She apprised a discussion regarding Criminal Justice Reform had taken place at the meeting and how the changes resulting from Bail and Discovery Reform had impacted the County. She said the discussion would continue in the future regarding these unfunded mandates and how the County was attempting to meet the needs of these changes which were effective as of January 1st. She informed she and Supervisor Simpson, as members had attended the NYSAC Public Safety Standing Committee on January 28th during which they had adopted three resolutions, the first of which pertained to the creation of a Task Force which she hoped Supervisor Geraghty, a chair of the EMS Committee, would be a member of. She said another resolution that they had adopted concerned support of efforts to improve Probation and Alternatives to Incarceration in New York State in order to protect the Public and reduce reliance on prisons, jails and detention, which would be discussed at the February 24th meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee and she commended Bob Iusi, *Director of Probation*, for doing an exceptional job as one of the co-chairs that lead those discussions and created those task forces; she added she felt it was important the Board was aware of Mr. Iusi's role at the State level and how much of an impact he had. She mentioned in addition to those meetings she had a chance to meet at length with Mr. Iusi, the District Attorney and the Assigned Counsel Administrator, as well as the Robert Gregor, Esq., *Supervising Attorney*, to discuss the changes and the demands upon them to allow her to get up to speed as the new Chair of the Criminal Justice Committee. She advised next week she and Supervisor Beaty would be attending the NACo (*National Association of Counties*) Conference, informing she was pleased to announce that she had been appointed to the Resilient Counties Advisory Board, as well as the Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee.

Supervisor Beaty advised the County Facilities Committee had met on January 22nd, approving proposed Resolution No. 30 which he provided a brief summary of. He stated he had also attended the NYSAC Conference which about half of the Board members had also attended. He stated he had attended the NYSAC Public Safety Standing Committee that Supervisor Seeber had mentioned during her Committee report. He voiced what an asset Mr. Iusi, who co-chaired that meeting, was to the County, adding he felt

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often times Department Heads and their staff were overlooked for the outstanding work they did. He stated he had also attended the NYSAC meeting regarding EMS which Supervisor Geraghty had also attended, where they were provided with useful information concerning how the County could work toward County-wide EMS coverage. He informed he had also attended the NYSAC meeting pertaining to Bail Reform during which he learned that the Albany County District Attorney was advocating against the Law due to safety concerns. He said this was a hot topic not only for the County, but also at the State level, apprising he believed it was necessary for the discussion to continue.

Chairman Thomas thanked Supervisor Beaty for taking the time to recognize Mr. Iusi for his exceptional work.

Supervisor Shepler indicated she had nothing to report on.

Supervisor Geraghty apprised the Budget Committee had not met, as they were awaiting the release of the Governor's State Budget to determine the impact on the County Budget. He informed he had attended the meeting at the NYSAC Conference regarding EMS coverage which was a State-wide concern. He said he would be commencing his meetings with the local EMS agencies shortly to work toward a County-wide plan.

Supervisor Conover reported on the January 22nd meeting of the Public Works Committee wherein they approved proposed Resolution Nos. 64-68 and he called attention to proposed Resolution No. 68, *Rejecting All Bids Regarding the Sale of the Boston & Main Caboose #482 Currently Located at the Thurman Station (WC 81-19)*. He recognized Brian LaFlure, *Director, Office of Emergency Services/Fire Coordinator*, James LaFarr, *Sheriff*, and their staff, as well as the County and its municipalities DPW employees and the EMS and Fire agencies for their remarkable response during the recent ice storm that impacted a number of communities in the region leaving over 115,000 residents without power. He stated dealing with power outages of that magnitude was always concerning, but what was more troubling about this one was that it occurred in the winter when temperatures were dipping below zero and he extended a sincere thank you for everyone who responded to that emergency.

Supervisor Leggett apprised the Public Safety Committee had met on January 24th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 52-63 and he provided a brief overview of each. He stated he had attended the NYSAC Conference where he was re-certified on Tier One Emergency Management. He said he would also like to thank Chairman Thomas for declaring the weather-related State of Emergency a few weeks ago, as it made it possible to take certain measures to accommodate the County residents who were impacted by the storm. He advised the Chestertown and Pottersville Fire Departments had set up a warming station during the day on Saturday and the American Red Cross set up a shelter for Saturday night. He mentioned he would also like to reiterate Supervisor Conover's gratitude toward the Office of Emergency Services and the Sheriff's Office for their outstanding response during the ice storm.

Supervisor Diamond indicated he had nothing to report on.

Supervisor McDevitt advised the highlight of the meeting of the LDC (*Local Development Corporation*) was providing assistance to Nettle Farm and Artisan Cheese with moving their operation from the Town of Thurman to the Town of Lake Luzerne in an attempt to retain a small amount of jobs in the County.

Supervisor Braymer reported on the January 24th meeting of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee wherein they approved proposed Resolution Nos. 36-38; she added she would be proposing an amendment to proposed resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for*

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Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19), at the appropriate time. She informed she had attended the NYSAC Conference at the end of January during which she was appointed by the President of NYSAC to serve as the Chair of the Resolutions Standing Committee. She said they had met on Monday afternoon and adopted all of the resolutions that were proposed by the various Standing Committees and then the entire body adopted them at the full body meeting. Supervisor Braymer apprised the Climate Smart Task Force had met on February 3rd and although they were not awarded any grant funding they were moving forward with some action; however, she noted, it would be a challenge determining what action they could take without spending a significant amount of money. She informed the Septic Inspection Working Group who was working on the Septic Inspection at the Transfer of Property Law had met on February 4th and she encouraged anyone interested in becoming a member of the group to contact her. She said they were currently working on some technical issues that were posing some difficulties, but they were hoping to rectify them and bring forward an appropriate resolution to the Committee. She apprised she had attended the working group meeting for the purpose of negotiating a proposed lease agreement with Revolution Rail Company on February 7th which was going before the Board for approval today; she added Supervisor Hogan, who was not in attendance, would appreciate support of this resolution. Supervisor Braymer advised there was also a working group meeting of individuals interested in establishing a County composting facility on February 19th and she thanked Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, for sending a representative of the DPW to attend the meeting. She mentioned although there was a significant amount of work to be done in order to accomplish this they planned on continuing to work on this because reducing the amount of County waste related to moving forward with Climate Smart Initiative, as well as researching the cost of transporting the County waste to the incinerator and/or landfill. She apprised she had attended Governor Cuomo's announcement regarding tourism in the North Country last weekend which included the winter advertisement and funding for the maintenance of snowmobile trails which Warren County would receive a portion of.

Chairman Thomas congratulated Supervisor Braymer on her appointment by NYSAC as Chair of the Resolutions Standing Committee.

Supervisor Bruno stated he had attended all of the meetings of the Committees he was appointed to, as well as several other Committee meetings; he added he found all of these meetings to be very informative.

Supervisor Driscoll apprised the Human Services Committee had met on January 21st, where they referred a budget amendment to the Finance Committee. He voiced his appreciation for being able to participate in the Department Head evaluations. He stated in the absence of Supervisor Hogan he would be providing a report on Cornell Cooperative Extension which had conducted a series of programs for youth this past week entitled "4H Public Presentation Training" that was geared toward teaching public speaking skills. He advised anyone who was interested in judging the Public Presentations during the month of March should contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension for more information. In addition, he said the Cornell Cooperative Extension would be hosting a Women's Archery Workshop at Dunham's Bay Fish and Game Club on March 15th from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for ages 8 and up, but any youth under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. He informed the VITA (*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance*) Program was well underway with a need for volunteer appointment schedulers and he suggested they encourage their residents with household incomes of \$57,000 or below to utilize the free program to have their income taxes prepared.

Supervisor Frasier stated the Finance Committee had met on January 30th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 28-29, 80-90. She called attention to proposed Resolution No. 84, *Establishing Budget Code A.917.00, Assigned Fund Balance, SUNY Adirondack Operations, for the Purpose Funding Warren*

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County's Share of SUNY Adirondack Operating Costs; Authorizing Transfer of Funds; and Amending Warren County Budget for 2020. Supervisor Frasier offered privilege of the floor to Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, to provide the monthly update regarding the County's finances.

Mr. Swan advised there was an increase in sales tax revenue and occupancy tax collections as compared to the same time frame in 2019. He stated he was cautious when the sales tax collections were so significant because typically there was a future adjustment that decreased the amount. In regards to the bonds that were being refinanced for the HSB (*Human Services Building*), he said the savings were more significant than they had anticipated as a result of the interest rate they had obtained being lower than what was originally estimated. He said the estimate was for 1.74%, but the actual amount obtained was around 1.2% resulting in a total savings of about \$4.1 million or \$280,000 on an annual basis. He advised as part of the bond refinancing process they had to go through a new ratings process with Standard & Poor's which resulted in the same rating they had been of AA Stable which was the outcome he had anticipated. He mentioned what surprised him about the process was the number of questions they had asked concerning Bail Reform and the proposed reductions to Medicaid by Governor Cuomo and inquiring whether the County had a plan to deal with the anticipated impact on the County Budget. He added the representatives from Standard & Poor's were surprised that the County was ahead of the curve and had been actively discussing these matters. He informed his staff was currently working on closing out the books for last year, apprising he hoped the work would be completed by the end of next month.

Returning to Supervisor Frasier's Committee report, she stated last month she had attended the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks meeting in Herkimer County where they took a tour of their new \$44 million jail which was under construction and had the capacity to hold 150 inmates, but currently there were only 33 resulting in concerns about the expense and there not being a need to incarcerate as many inmates. She informed she had also attended the meeting of the Adirondack-Glens Falls Transportation Council which she found to be very informative. She apprised she had attended the working group meeting concerning County Health Insurance, as well as NYSAC where she was a member of the Public Health & Mental Health Standing Committee which adopted two resolutions. She said she had attended a meeting in the Town of Horicon regarding the Swede Mountain Fire Tower where Mr. Hajos provided an update as to when work could commence cleaning up the trail during which several residents of the Town of Horicon indicated they were interested in volunteering to assist with that work. She remarked everyone involved was looking forward to moving forward as soon as the weather conditions allowed them to do so with the hopes that the trail would be ready to use by this summer.

Supervisor Simpson advised the Personnel & Administration Committee had met on January 30th and again on February 11th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 70-79 and he called attention to proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*, which he provided a brief overview of. In regard to proposed Resolution No. 79, *Appointing Jeffery Woodell as Director of Weights and Measures*, Supervisor Simpson remarked he was pleased that they had been able to hire from within the County, as he believed Mr. Woodell was a good fit for the position and he would do an excellent job. He recognized Amy Drexel, *Emergency Services Coordinator*, Sheriff LaFarr, Mr. LaFlure, the local fire departments and all others involved in assisting with the safety efforts during the recent ice storm which caused power outages during a time when the temperature dipped below freezing.

Supervisor Dickinson informed the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee met on January 21st and again on January 31st, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 47-50 and he provided a brief summary of each.

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Supervisor Merlino stated that the Tourism Committee had not met in January, but they would be meeting on March 2nd where he would be proposing a plan to establish an advisory group to boost tourism in the County. He advised Smith Travel Research indicated occupancy at the local hotels in January was up 8.6% or 3,000 rooms. He said there were 1,162 AirBnB units booked in January, as well and he thanked Mr. Swan and the County Attorney for their work on this agreement which had been in the works for quite some time. Supervisor Merlino apprised that he and Joanne Conley, *Director of Tourism*, had met with officials from Washington County to assist them with promotion by including some of their events, such as the Washington County Fair and highlight some of their attractions in the email blasts sent out by the Tourism Department. He recognized the first responders in his Town for their actions during the recent ice storm which caused a significant amount of power outages in his Town, as well as the employees of National Grid for working hard to get the power back on as quickly as they could.

Continuing to the report by the County Administrator, Mr. Moore recognized the following people for their years of service to the County which he said he was greatly appreciative of

- * Scott Rossen for 25 years of service to the Sheriff;
- * Wendy Decker for 20 years of service to Countryside Adult Home; and
- * Cathy Albert, who was retiring, and had served more than 39 years for Employment & Training.

In regard to an update on Bail Reform which was effective as of January 1st, Mr. Moore advised currently there were sixty-five inmates being held in the County Jail, which was a decrease from the eighty-two he reported at the January 17th Board Meeting. He informed three individuals who were being held in the County Jail were released over the past month due to the new law and he outlined the charges they were being held under as follows: criminal sale of a controlled substance in the 5th degree; criminal sale of marijuana in the 2nd degree; and criminal possession of a weapon in the 3rd degree.

Mr. Moore apprised in terms of the resolutions before them today the Certificate of Appointment that was on the bottom of the Resolution packet concerning the Youth Bureau had been pulled and those appointments would be returning to the Human Services Committee. He explained the process for these appointments encompassed the town's making them and then distributing them to the Department of Social Services who brought them before the Human Services Committee for approval and then the Chairman appointed them. He informed Supervisor Geraghty pointed out the appointee for the Town of Warrensburg was incorrect and in looking into this it was determined errors had been made by staff that resulted in another town's appointee not being brought before the Committee. He said as a result of this he had requested that the Department of Social Services review all of the appointees to this Board with the Town Supervisors and bring them back to Committee for approval at their March 2nd meeting.

Mr. Moore apprised proposed Resolution No. 78, *Adopting Proposed Changes to the Warren County Plans and Policies Manual to Revise Out of Unit Employee Policies to Match CSEA Negotiated Policy Changes and Benefit Levels, to Make Technical Corrections and Updates to the Out of Unit Policies*, needed to be tabled because the CSEA (*Civil Service Employees Association*) contract was voted down, with a vote of seventy-seven in favor and one hundred fifty-two against. He stated this was a mediated agreement as a result of the prior agreement offered by the County being declined by the CSEA and now it was necessary for the County negotiating team to determine whether they made another attempt at mediation or proceeded directly to fact finding.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*, Mr. Moore stated this agreement was drafted in accordance

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with the framework that was set by the Public Works Committee. He informed copies of that draft agreement had been distributed to the Board members for review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Moore informed proposed Resolution No. 79, *Appointing Jeffery Woodell as Director of Weights and Measures*, appointed Mr. Woodell to replace Herb Levin, who had retired, as the Director of Weights & Measures. He stated Mr. Woodell had been employed by the County for eighteen years and he felt he would do an excellent job in the new position.

Mr. Moore informed proposed Resolution No. 89, *Delegating Authority to the County Administrator in Authorizing Contract Approvals, Budget Amendments and Expenditures to Effectuate the Census Outreach Project*, pertained to authorizing the County Administrator to expend up to \$50,000 to move the Project forward. He apprised Sara Frankenfeld, *County GIS Administrator*, had been able to reconfigure the budget for the Project with an anticipated cost to the County of \$8,500 contingent upon receipt of the State funding that had been promised. He advised the State officials indicated to the County the application approvals would be distributed to all of the Counties by March 10th meaning any expenses incurred before then were the responsibility of the County. He said the hope was the State would be able to meet the March 10th deadline so the County could access the State funding for this program. He stated thus far he had executed an agreement with Sidekick Creative to manage web-based outreach, as well as traditional program promotion in an amount not to exceed \$20,000, but the goal was to try and keep this expense at \$8,500; he added the agreement indicated Sidekick Creative would not bill the County until the services were performed with the hopes of incurring these costs after March 10th. He advised thus far the County had worked with Sidekick Creative on developing a Warren County Census 2020 website and creating Warren County Census 2020 Facebook and Instagram accounts with the Planning & Community Development Department posting to these sites several times a week, as well as posts from Sidekick Creative which would be boosted to target all Warren County residents that had social media accounts. He mentioned Ms. Frankenfeld would be presenting these web pages and accounts to the Economic Growth & Development and Higher Education Committee Monday, February 24th and information regarding same would be distributed to the Board members to allow them to be circulated to County residents. He informed \$80,000 of the \$100,000 of funding that would be made available to the County had already been allocated in the plan they were presenting to the State for approval, including funding for the Southern Adirondack Library System which he was pleased to report had been approved by the State as a not-for-profit. He stated the remaining \$20,000 of those funds were in flux, as Ms. Frankenfeld was working with the local not-for-profits on developing plans to make use of those funds, but if they were unsuccessful the County would submit for a waiver of that 75% requirement for funds to be spent by not-for-profits which the State indicated they would entertain. In terms of the not-for-profits, he advised Ms. Frankenfeld was working with the following to get them certified: Family Services Association of Glens Falls; Cornell Cooperative Extension; The Conklyn Center; Tri-County United Way; and Open Door Mission. He mentioned 30,000 census flyers targeting different groups had already been ordered and Ms. Frankenfeld was working in conjunction with the City of Glens Falls Social Studies Department and the Drama Club to put together videos about the census. He advised the County had requested thousands of flyers from the Census Bureau at the end of January and in response the Census Bureau indicated they would fulfill that order, but they had yet to be received; he added as soon as they were received the materials would be distributed. He stated County representatives were available to make brief presentations about the census to any organizations interested and he encouraged anyone aware of any organizations that may be interested to notify him. In terms of the schedule, he stated the first mailing would be distributed and the census would officially be open on March 12th. He informed the next Complete County meeting was scheduled for March 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the third floor Conference Room of the HSB and anyone interested was welcome to attend. He stated a Census Day event was being planned for the official Census Day which was designated as April 1st at the Municipal Center Building with details being provided as they

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materialized. He acknowledged Ms. Frankenfeld for her tireless work on this substantial project which she had done a phenomenal job on; he added Ms. Frankenfeld requested that Supervisor Driscoll be recognized for the assistance he had provided her in coordinating with the not-for-profits to get them to where they needed to be.

Mr. Moore read aloud a listing of the meetings he had attended since the January 17th Board Meeting; *a copy of Mr. Moore's report is on file with the items distributed at the Board Meeting.*

Privilege of the floor was extended to Mary Elizabeth Kissane, *County Attorney*, to provide a report from the County Attorney. Ms. Kissane stated she would like to provide some clarification regarding proposed Resolution No. 31, *Approving the Warren County Assigned Counsel Plan Which Replaces the Assigned Counsel Plan Authorized by Resolution No. 27 of 2019*, apprising at Committee they had discussed that once the Board approved the Assigned Counsel Plan it would have to be approved by both the Warren County Bar Association and the Chief Administrative Judge; however, she noted, following the meeting she reviewed the State Law and the Plan and because the provision regarding the Conflict Defender was removed the Plan would need to be approved by the Office of Indigent Legal Services and not the Chief Administrative Judge. She remarked she was optimistic about getting the Plan approved due to that revision. Next, she said once the Board approved proposed Resolution No. 82, *Home Rule Request by Warren County for an Extension to the Law Authorizing the County of Warren to Impose an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax*, she would distribute it to Assemblyman Stec's Office for him to introduce to the State Assembly on Monday. In regard to updates on litigation, she informed oral arguments in front of the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals for the case of Dickinson Vs. York had been scheduled for February 27th. She apprised the Court had decided on the motion to dismiss on Kislowksi Vs. Warren County that they would dismiss all claims against Warren County, but there was one remaining claim which was not against Warren County which a conference would be scheduled for and a scheduling order would be issued for that. Finally, she advised Ryan Dickey, *2nd Assistant County Attorney*, did an excellent job arguing in front of the 3rd Department Appellate Division regarding Forest Enterprises and she encouraged anyone with questions regarding the case to contact Mr. Dickey.

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

Reports from:

1. Warren County Probation Department - Monthly Report of Criminal and Family Workloads for December 2019 and January 2020

Letters/emails from:

1. June Maxam - Emails dated February 15 and 19, 2020 regarding the residency of a member of the Board of Supervisors.
2. Peter Brothers - email dated February 21, 2020 regarding the Board's decision on an appointment to the Warren-Washington Counties IDA Board

Other:

1. Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation December payment in the amount of \$2,552;
2. Washington County Resolution No. 36 of 2020, Appointing Members to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation.

Continuing to the reading of resolutions, Mrs. Allen announced proposed Resolution Nos. 28-90 were mailed; she informed that proposed Resolution Nos. 29 and 84 were amended after a mailing and a

motion was needed to approve these revisions. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Dickinson, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried unanimously. She apprised proposed Resolution No. 91 was produced after the resolutions were mailed, and a motion was necessary to bring it to the floor. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Merlino and seconded by Supervisor Driscoll.

Supervisor Beaty apprised he would be voting in opposition of bringing proposed Resolution No. 91, *Appointing Member of the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*, to the floor because it did not go before the Personnel & Administration Committee before coming before the Board. He said regardless of whether it was the right of the Chairman to appoint members to the Counties of Warren and Washington IDA and CDC, the normal procedure consisted of bringing these appointments before the Personnel & Administration Committee for approval before they went before the Board and he felt they were circumventing the process. He stated he had never met the individual whose appointment was being proposed by Resolution No. 91, and although this gentleman was probably an upstanding citizen he could not vote to appoint someone who he and the vast majority of the Board members had never met for a position he believed was important. He added they were all aware of how advantageous it had been to have Travis Whitehead, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, on that Board; however, he noted, for reasons unknown he was not reappointed as a member. He reiterated that he would be voting in opposition of bringing proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor; he added he hoped others would follow suit so the matter could be brought before the Personnel & Administration Committee. He said if the proposed appointee was interested they could attend the Committee meeting and be interviewed, as well as anyone else interested, including Mr. Whitehead.

Supervisor Seeber stated in addition to Supervisor Beaty's comments, her concern was that proposed Resolution No. 91, *Appointing Member of the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*, was presented to the Board yesterday, as she felt a good practice would be to provide these resolutions for consideration well in advance of the night before the meeting. She informed for this reason she would be voting against the proposed Resolution coming to the floor, apprising she believed they could do a better job going forward and she hoped this would become a form of protocol. Chairman Thomas interjected that he would take responsibility for the late introduction of the proposed Resolution.

Supervisor Leggett advised he would like to address the Board regarding the nominee for the membership to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation. He informed Mr. Stephenson owned Stephenson Lumber which was a great asset to his community; he added Mr. Stephenson also owned Lincoln Logs and Adirondack Trucks in the vicinity of Johnsburg/Riparius. He apprised Mr. Stephenson was a regular attendee of the Economic Development Initiative Forums in the Town of Chester, was a good upstanding community member and he would highly recommend appointing him as a member of this organization.

Supervisor McDevitt inquired whether these appointments were required to go before Committee, as he had reviewed some documentation that suggested Committees were required to be involved with any appointments. Ms. Kissane responded she was unsure of these appointments were required to go to Committee before they came before the Board because she had never reviewed the bylaws that governed the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation. Supervisor McDevitt advised he would be voting in opposition of bringing proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor because the information he had reviewed indicated the appointments needed to go before the Committee.

Supervisor Braymer stated the appointments for the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation that were adopted at the January 17th Board Meeting were also presented to the Board with little notice which she found troubling, but she had voted in favor of

them. She pointed out the same thing was occurring this month even though she was aware that concerns had been expressed about resolutions being presented with little notice because it did not allow for a sufficient time to review them; she added for this reason she would be voting in opposition of bringing proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor. She remarked she was also in favor of this appointment being brought before the Personnel & Administration Committee for review. She emphasized this was not personal to Mr. Stephenson, as she was appreciative that he may be a good community member, but she would like the process to be more clear and have the resolutions available to review prior to the night before the Board Meeting.

Supervisor Geraghty advised during his four year tenure as the Chairman of the Board he always made the appointments to the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation and presented them to the Board, adding they were never handled through a Committee. Supervisor McDevitt asked Supervisor Geraghty if he would still have handled them in that manner if he saw a written document that outlined the procedure and Supervisor Geraghty replied he handled them in the same manner they had always proceeded in.

Ms. Kissane informed the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation had their own legal representation so she assumed for the past several years they had not allowed individuals to be members of their Board that should not be. She stated she was curious to know if anyone was aware of what their counsel felt about the issue of how members should be appointed. Supervisor Leggett remarked as Vice-Chairman of the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation, he was unsure whether their counsel had been asked that question and he was sorry that they were not present to address this. He surmised that their bylaws represented what they did. He said they took referrals from both Washington and Warren Counties Board of Supervisors as to who would be appointed to their organization; he added he believed the County's internal process was what was being questioned.

Supervisor Beaty stated he felt this matter was "as clear as mud", meaning he could not understand how they could proceed other than to vote in opposition of the proposed Resolution being brought to the floor. He said they should be ashamed of themselves if they moved forward with bringing the proposed Resolution to the floor without having clarity on a number of these issues. He added it made no sense to him that they received a copy of the proposed Resolution twelve hours before the Board Meeting, as this had also occurred at the last Board Meeting during which everyone had voiced their disapproval of resolutions being handled in this manner. He remarked he was disappointed the proposed Resolution was even going before them. He pointed out Supervisor Simpson had indicated for four months now that he was going to resign from the organization, meaning it was no surprise a seat was open and yet they only received the appointment twelve hours before the Board Meeting. He urged the Board Members to vote against bringing proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor so the Personnel & Administration Committee could interview Mr. Stephenson and any other individuals interested in becoming a member of their organization following which the Committee could refer their recommendation to the Board for approval.

Supervisor Magowan pointed out while he understood the confusion since this had been handled differently in the past, this ultimately was an appointment made by the Chairman of the Board and in respect to the Chairman he was supportive of the appointment. He voiced his concern regarding the appointments to this organization at the last Board Meeting being presented to them at the last minute, as well as this one; however, he noted, Chairman Thomas had taken responsibility for this and apologized. He reiterated while he was supportive of the appointment, he could not support it going before them with no notice which was why he would be voting in opposition of bringing proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor to allow them to get a better understanding of this process with the hopes of getting the proper way to handle the appointments going forward in writing to avoid anymore confusion.

Supervisor Merlino stated the only comment he would make on this matter was that during his first few years as a Board Member he had been a member of the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation because the Chairman of the Board at that time had appointed him after asking him if he would like to be member. He apprised he felt it may be time that they stopped doing last minute appointments unless it was an emergency to allow the Committees to make a decision regarding these appointments before they came to the Board, as this would allow all appointments to be handled in a uniform manner. He added anytime appointments came before them at the last minute he felt they should vote it down to allow a Committee meeting to be held where it could be vetted, as this would prevent confusion.

Mr. Moore apprised the Chairman had taken full responsibility for the delay; however, he noted, he was partially responsible because the Chairman had brought this resolution to Mrs. Allen Wednesday, February 19th, but he did not review the proposed Resolution until yesterday following he instructed Mrs. Allen to distribute it to the Board immediately, which she did. Chairman Thomas informed the reason Mr. Stephenson had not been included with the appointments that went before the Board last month was because Mr. Stephenson had asked for more time to consider the appointment and he had not responded to him until now.

Supervisor Leggett informed the Town Supervisors who had to prepare for their monthly Town Board meetings were well aware that matters come forward at the last minute and although they wished they could always provide everyone with sufficient time to review what was being decided there were occasions when this was not possible. In regards to the Board members not knowing the individuals being appointed, he admitted he was guilty of voting in favor of appointing individuals to outside Boards and agencies that he had never met, such as the Youth Board; however, he noted, these appointments were referred to the Board by the towns. He stated there were many other appointments that were brought before them on occasion from the Towns that were ratified by the Board without knowing them personally, but they did so because they trusted that the towns appointed them for a good reason and they would do a good job.

Supervisor Geraghty apprised if he knew what they were seeking to accomplish and they planned on making a decision regarding the appointment within the next month then he would be more than happy to make a motion to table proposed Resolution No. 91.

Supervisor Driscoll pointed out earlier this morning they had decided to pull the Youth Board appointments and return them to Committee; therefore, he said, maybe they should consider bringing the appointment to the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation before the Committee, as he did not believe holding off for a month would be an issue.

Supervisor Seeber stated it appeared as if the appointment was not urgent enough where it could not be held off for another month, apprising she was unsure if Supervisor Simpson might be willing to remain a member for a few months until this issue was resolved. Supervisor Simpson interjected that he had already resigned from the position. Supervisor Seeber advised she was unsure if this was a position that could remain open, but she was aware that in the past Supervisor Conover had brought the appointments he made to the Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation when he was the Chairman of the Board through the Personnel Committee when Mr. Whitehead was first appointed to this organization. She remarked she felt it was more of an issue with the procedure and if the County Attorney was unfamiliar with how th appointments were made and their bylaws, as well as the fact the appointment was presented to them with little notice, she felt they should hold off on making a decision to allow them to become more informed through the Committee or whatever process was deemed appropriate. She pointed out Supervisor Leggett had brought up a good point that the Youth Board appointments were referred to them from a Committee and not an individual and although she respected the fact that it was the Chairman's appointment to

make, she believed they should be aware of the procedure.

Supervisor Diamond remarked he concurred with Supervisor Geraghty that they should consider tabling this until they had a better idea of what was stated in the bylaws and whether it had to be before a Committee before it could be brought before the Board. He said historically speaking similar to Supervisor Geraghty, when he served as Chairman, having the privilege to make those appointments, when he was Mayor for the City of Glens Falls it was his honor to make independent appointments; however, he noted, if there was language within the bylaws that would require these appointments to go before the Personnel & Administration Committee, he could not understand why they did not hold off on making a decision for another month, as this would allow the Committee to meet and determine what the bylaws were. He mentioned if the bylaws were consistent with what they were hearing then this could possibly be officially adopted as a policy going forward.

Chairman Thomas called the question and the motion to bring proposed Resolution No. 91, *Appointing Member of the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*, failed with a vote of 287 in favor (*Supervisors Wild, Shepler, Conover, Leggett, Frasier, Simpson and Thomas*) and 592 against (*Supervisors Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Geraghty, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll and Merlino*) and 121 absent (*Supervisors Hogan and Strough*).

Chairman Thomas announced the motion to bring proposed Resolution No. 91 to the floor had failed. Mrs. Allen apprised proposed Resolution No. 91 and the Certificate of Appointment were not up for discussion today. She stated proposed Resolution No. 82, *Home Rule Request by Warren County for an Extension to the Law Authorizing the County of Warren to Impose an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax*, was not listed as a roll call vote on the Resolution Index, but it actually was one and would require a two thirds majority vote in order to be adopted. She apprised the last thing that needed to be mentioned was proposed Resolution No. 78, *Adopting Proposed Changes to the Warren County Plans and Policies Manual to Revise Out of Unit Employee Policies to Match CSEA Negotiated Policy Changes and Benefit Levels, to Make Technical Corrections and Updates to the Out of Unit Policies*, needed to be tabled or withdrawn.

A motion was made by Supervisor Braymer, seconded by Supervisor Diamond and carried unanimously to table proposed Resolution No. 78.

Supervisor Geraghty questioned whether it was proper to discuss the appointment at the next meeting of the Personnel & Administration Committee meeting or should they hold off until they received an opinion from the legal counsel for the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation. Chairman Thomas replied that his opinion was that the County Attorney would notify them what the proper practice was. Supervisor Geraghty asked whether the County Attorney would report on this at the next Personnel & Administration Committee meeting and Chairman Thomas replied affirmatively. Chairman Thomas apprised he could not recall interviews ever being held for appointments to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation during his tenure on the Board. Supervisor Geraghty apprised he had previously reported how he handled the appointments during his tenure serving as Chairman of the Board; however, he noted, it appeared there were differing opinions on how these appointments should be handled. He stated he wanted to ensure this would be included as an item on the Agenda for the March Personnel & Administrative Committee meeting to ensure this matter was cleared up. Ms. Kissane advised she would be happy to issue an opinion, but she needed to obtain a copy of the bylaws for the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation; she added she would like to request that the members of the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation ask their legal counsel to issue an opinion or attend the Committee meeting to speak to the matter.

Chairman Thomas informed the next meeting of the Personnel & Administration Committee was scheduled for March 5th at 10:00 a.m.

In regard to the Certificate of Appointment that was pulled pertaining to appointments to the Warren County Youth Board, Supervisor Geraghty stated the issue with these appointments was that they inadvertently listed the individual appointed by the Town of Stony Creek as being appointed by the Town of Warrensburg and the individual from the Town of Warrensburg was unintentionally omitted from the Certificate of Appointment. He stated these appointments had always been handled by the Towns; he added he did not believe this process should be changed because these positions would be difficult to fill if they were required to be interviewed in order to be appointed.

Chairman Thomas stated Mr. Moore had requested that his Assistant, as well as the County Attorney review all of the board's and their bylaws to ensure they were up-to-date, as a number of these appointments had been handled in the same manner for forty years.

Supervisor Merlino apprised there was an appointment to the Warren County Youth Board from the Town of Lake Luzerne and he asked if this was the one that was missing. Mr. Moore responded the appointment from the Town of Stony Creek was left off and the individual from the Town of Warrensburg was incorrect. Mr. Moore stated they would be reviewing all of the appointments with the Department of Social Services to ensure the appointments were correct when they went back before the Human Services Committee.

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

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*, Supervisor Wild informed although he had been in favor of the agreement because of the potential of bringing more opportunities to the northern portion of Warren County, he had some concerns regarding the language in the licensing agreement and he asked whether these could be discussed in open session since the agreement was stamped confidential. Mr. Moore stated he felt it was appropriate for any concerns to be discussed now. Supervisor Wild apprised there was a statement included which indicated the Rail corridor was a public asset and as such during the regular season a reasonable accommodation would be made for recreational uses to not interfere with the rail bike operations and he questioned what reasonably was considered to be. Mr. Moore replied the County Department of Public Works was the agency charged with ensuring any activities taking place in the rail corridor were safe meaning if this involved ATV's traveling on the track where rail riders were approaching this would not be considered reasonable. He continued, stating if they were referring to an individual walking their dog along the side of the tracks, this was reasonable as long as the dog was friendly. He mentioned the intent was for the Department of Public Works to work with Revolution Rail Company to ensure there was coherence with the individuals who were using the corridor. In regard to Item 77 of the agreement, Supervisor Wild inquired whether the County was aware how much it was going to cost to repair all of the washouts, removal of obstructions, mowing and material for the section of rail Revolution Rail Co. would be using. Mr. Moore replied Mr. Hajos could provide the gross cost, but it would be equal to 12.5% because 50% of the cost of clearing of the obstructions and repairing of the washout sections would be covered by FEMA (*Federal Emergency Management Agency*) and the State would cover 15% of this expense. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Hajos what the total cost of these repairs was and Mr. Hajos responded it was approximately \$100,000. Mr. Moore stated this meant the County's portion of the expense was about \$12,500. Supervisor Wild apprised there was also a statement in the same section which indicated the licensee shall monitor the physical condition of the premises, rail infrastructure, etc. and he inquired whether Revolution Rail Company was required to maintain it in the condition that it was presented to them similar to how other contracts were set up. Mr. Moore informed one of the challenges of managing the rail property was

accessing it by the Department of Public Works to ensure that the culverts were not plugged or an obstruction was not blocking the tracks. He said since it was difficult to get access unless a high rail was rented and Revolution Rail Company would be on premise they would notify the County should any issues arise. Supervisor Wild remarked while he concurred with that, he was concerned the County may be exposing itself to additional costs based on this licensing agreement. Mr. Moore pointed out the costs the County would be responsible for based on this licensing agreement pertained to the maintenance costs that related to the County's responsibility as an owner of a Rail Corridor; however, he noted, The County was not liable for the cost associated with Revolution Rail Company having a successful business. Supervisor Wild questioned whether the County was required to make the Rail Corridor operational within a certain time period if another big storm occurred which caused washouts and debris to fall on the tracks and Mr. Moore replied in the negative. Supervisor Braymer interjected that this was outlined in Paragraph 7, line four of the agreement.

Supervisor Diamond inquired whether it would make sense for the County to require Revolution Rail Company to submit a ridership report by then end of November to allow the Supervisors time to do their due diligence and examine the report to determine whether they wanted to renew the agreement, as the way it was currently written indicated it was due by December 31st which did not provide them with sufficient time to make an informed decision. Mr. Moore stated the due date could be changed in the agreement; he added it was in their best interest to provide the County with the report earlier because the County had to approve the extension by the end of the year. Ms. Kissane suggested they use the Board Meeting date in November as the deadline because Committee meetings occurred the following week, as this would allow them to have a copy of the report to review beforehand.

Supervisor Shepler questioned who would be responsible for maintaining the arms and lights to ensure the safety of the individuals who would be traveling on the rail and Mr. Moore responded this was the County's responsibility. She noted there were two sets of arms located in the Town of Thurman that there had been many issues with in prior years and she asked whether she should call the County if these issues were to reoccur. Mr. Moore replied all of the arms were currently pinned up because there was no rail traffic; however, he noted, the County DPW should be contacted for any issues that may occur. Supervisor Shepler inquired how fast the County DPW would respond to these issues and Mr. Hajos replied the arms would remained pinned up because Revolution Rail Company would not be traveling across any crossings. Mr. Moore added if there was rail traffic and there was an issue with one of the arms then the Warren County DPW would respond immediately. Supervisor Braymer added the working group who negotiated the contract with the representatives of Revolution Rail Company had made a point to ensure they were aware they could not cross any of the roads due to safety concerns. She stated Revolution Rail Company had agreed to turn around before they reached the crossing in the Town of Thurman.

Supervisor Braymer apprised she thought that part of the agreement required Revolution Rail Company to handle the mowing and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative. Mr. Hajos explained the initial clean up would be handled by the company the County contracted with to handle the storm clean up. He added Revolution Rail Company would only be charged with mowing the area surrounding the North Creek Station. Supervisor Braymer interjected that she had been under the impression that Revolution Rail Company would also be responsible for mowing along the line where they operated. Mr. Hajos stated Revolution Rail Company would not be mowing in that area. Supervisor Braymer asked if making this mowing their responsibility could be included in the agreement and Mr. Hajos responded that because these were rail bikes and not a railroad operation, Revolution Rail Company would not have the means to handle that type of work. He said they would take care of small things such as small branches that had fallen on the tracks, but they would not be doing any type of mowing along the tracks other them around the Station. Supervisor Braymer inquired whether the County would be handling the mowing and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative.

Supervisor Seeber stated she believed there were a number of questions surrounding the agreement with Revolution Rail Company which had only been distributed to the Supervisors last night, and while she was appreciative of the overview Mr. Moore had provided to them at the February 11th meeting of the Personnel & Administration Committee, she felt she needed more time to review the agreement in order to make an informed decision. She added some of her confusion pertained to the option to extend the agreement for an additional four years, as she thought they had a lengthy discussion in Committee that was lead by Supervisor Conover following which they determined they would only be addressing a one-year term; however, she noted, she may have misunderstood what occurred. Mr. Moore apprised the Committee had determined if they were going to have options to extend it would be by mutual agreement and the County would make a determination as to whether they wanted to extend the agreement for the subsequent year by December 31st contingent upon the receipt and review of a ridership report; he added this was included in the draft agreement. Supervisor Seeber advised since she had not had a chance to review the agreement she would support tabling the agreement to go back to the Committee.

Supervisor Wild mentioned he, as well voiced his displeasure about matters being brought before them at the last minute and he questioned whether there was a compelling reason why proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*, needed to be voted on today. Mr. Moore replied affirmatively, explaining Revolution Rail Company would not move forward with operating on the County Railroad if the agreement was not adopted today because they required lead time to invest in the additional equipment needed in order to begin operating on May 1st. Supervisor Wild remarked because of that he was fully supportive of moving forward with the agreement today.

Supervisor Beaty advised he was going to ask the same question Supervisor Wild asked because this was the first time he had been able to review the agreement which did not provide him with sufficient time to make an informed decision. He said because of this he would most likely be voting in opposition of proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*. He stated he felt Mr. Moore did a good job explaining the agreement; however, he noted, he could not vote in favor of a matter if he did not understand it. Supervisor McDevitt pointed out the information was available to review yesterday online.

In regard to matters being brought before the Board at the last minute, Supervisor Braymer stated she would like to propose an amendment to Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*. She informed this particular property had been an issue for over forty years now, but under her leadership as Chair, the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee had made progress in 2019, as well as this year which started with making a plan last fall to go out to bid to obtain estimates for demolition of the building located on the property to give them a better idea of what that cost would be before the County foreclosed on the property. She said since they had determined the cost of demolition was not unreasonable they had decided to move forward with the foreclosure process which the County Attorney had started working on. She mentioned her goal had been to have the opportunity to sell the building as is to a responsible individual to reuse that property if anyone was interested in doing so; however, she noted, she did not have anyone in particular in mind to sell the building to. She said her hope was for the property to be offered for sale in a public auction in an open process and if no one placed a bid they would then move forward with demolishing the building. She stated she was aware the lowest responsible bid they received for demolition was for a reasonable cost and she did not want to lose that opportunity for the County, but she was respectfully requesting as the Chair of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee for some leeway to have the opportunity to offer the building up for sale. She suggested they award the bid subject to seeing if they could procure a buyer and if not, then to move forward with the demolition, all within a six month

timeframe which was the amount of time the contractor was willing to hold the bid price for. She stated she had distributed a copy of her proposed amendment to the Board Members prior to the meeting which she proceeded to review it in detail; a copy of which is on file with items distributed at the February 21st Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Braymer and seconded by Supervisor Diamond to amend proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*, as outlined above.

Supervisor Geraghty voiced his opposition to the proposed amendment because after many years they were finally taking the necessary steps to move forward with tearing down the building and putting the property up for sale to get in back on the tax role and he felt delaying it further was inappropriate. He pointed out the building had been an eyesore for the Town of Queensbury for many years and he believed moving forward with the demolition was the right thing to do because if anyone was interested in the building they would have purchased it by now.

Chairman Thomas interjected before they moved forward any further the proper procedure was for a motion to be made to Waive the Rules of the Board requiring that a Resolution be presented in writing regarding amending proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*, to award the bid subject to seeing if they could procure a buyer and if not then move forward with the demolition. Supervisor Seeber stated for point of order she was inquiring whether a discussion could take place before they voted on the matter. Chairman Thomas pointed out what was before them was the Waiving of the Rules of the Board to allow for discussion on the proposed amendment. Supervisor Beaty requested clarification on the process and Mr. Moore replied they had to Waive the Rules of the Board before they could bring the proposed amendment to the floor. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Braymer and seconded by Supervisor Diamond and failed due to obtaining the lack of 2/3 majority vote required with a vote of 558 in favor (*Supervisors Wild, Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Leggett, Diamond, Braymer, Bruno and Driscoll*), and 321 against (*Supervisors Shepler, Geraghty, Conover, McDevitt, Frasier, Simpson, Dickinson, Merlino and Thomas*) and 121 absent (*Supervisors Hogan and Strough*).

Supervisor Thomas announced the motion to Waive the Rules of the Board had failed due to obtaining the 2/3 majority vote required because there were only 558 votes in favor, but 667 were required.

Supervisor Seeber inquired whether discussion was closed regarding proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*, and Chairman Thomas replied in the negative. Supervisor Seeber stated she believed a significant amount of the discussion regarding Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 had taken place prior to her returning to the Board which was why she thought about abstaining from the vote, but her understanding was that would count as a vote in opposition. She said her desire was for the resolution to indicate this property would be sold to a private landowner so it could be placed back on the County Tax Rolls, but in its current format the proposed Resolution did not imply this would occur. She remarked because of this she would be voting in opposition of the proposed Resolution; she added as a matter of respect she would also support Supervisor Braymer's request to hold off on the demolition because more than half of the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee members were absent from the meeting when matter was discussed. She stated she would also like to request roll call votes on two other proposed resolutions before them today at the appropriate time.

Supervisor Magowan stated he had attended the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services

Committee meeting where this matter was discussed, apprising he was aware that someone had expressed interest in purchasing the building. He said he believed the reason no one had come forward in prior years was because of all of the unknowns associated with the property such as the environmental concerns, as well as the cost to demolish the building. He said he concurred that the building was an eyesore and he would like to see it taken down; however, he noted, since there were some individuals who had expressed an interest in purchasing the parcel, he felt they should look into selling it to save the County money which was what he believed Supervisor Braymer had tried to accomplish with her proposed amendment to Resolution No. 38.

Supervisor Wild questioned whether there was anything in proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*, that indicated the County could not sell the property. Mr. Moore replied he believed that was what Supervisor Seeber was implying, as there was nothing in the proposed Resolution that committed the County to what would occur after the building was demolished. Supervisor Beaty asked whether this could be included in the proposed Resolution and Mr. Moore replied they would need to Waive the Rules of the Board in order to do so. Supervisor Wild stated he could not foresee any reason for an amendment, as they could make this determination at a later date. Supervisor Braymer interjected this would only be the case before the building was demolished.

Supervisor Diamond advised he concurred with a number of his colleagues that the building was an eyesore; however, he stated, he felt they should have a structural engineer assess the building to determine whether portions of it were salvageable, and if so, offer it for sale resulting in the County saving the cost of demolishing the building.

Supervisor McDevitt apprised the building was a polluted, unsafe structure and it was time to tear it down which was what proposed Resolution No. 38 would permit them to do. He noted the contractor they were awarding the bid to had provided the County with a reasonable rate for demolition; therefore, he said, he believed they should deal with the other issues once the building was demolished. He added he felt once the building was torn down potential purchasers would view the property in a more favorable light such as having some developmental possibilities. He urged the Board Members to support proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*.

Supervisor Braymer pointed out one of the reasons the building was never purchased related to the threat of environmental issues; however, she noted, the County had conducted testing that indicated the property did not require any soil remediation. She questioned why this property was any different than the recycling facility that the County recently sold which also required a new roof, but was purchased as is. She stated the other reason individuals would not purchase this parcel was because several hundred thousand dollars in back taxes were owed on it, but once it was foreclosed on those would be deleted. She said there was no documentation available that indicated the building was unsafe, as it had never been condemned or determined to be dangerous by neither the town or the County. She mentioned creative individuals could do something interesting with that building and revitalize the downtown area; she added this was why she would like to provide anyone with the opportunity to do so and the reason she would be voting in opposition of proposed Resolution No. 38 even though she understood what a great price the contractor was willing to do the work for. She said she would be willing to bring it back to Committee to determine what else they could do with this.

Supervisor Leggett questioned whether there was anything preventing the County from foreclosing on the property in its current condition and offering it for sale. Mr. Moore replied proposed Resolution No. 38 indicated the County would enact the contract with the demolition company. Supervisor Leggett

stated his understanding of why the County had never foreclosed on the property was because they wanted to ensure there were no environmental concerns that the County would be obligated to pay to take care of before they foreclosed on the parcel and he asked whether it had been determined there were no environmental concerns meaning the County could leave the building in place and foreclose on it. Mr. Moore apprised the foreclosure process had already begun and was moving forward with an anticipated ownership date of sometime in May. Mr. Moore explained if proposed Resolution No. 38 was adopted then the building would be demolished so if the parcel was offered for sale it would be without the building. Supervisor Leggett inquired whether there was a reason they were moving forward with the expense of demolishing the building instead of selling the property as is. Mr. Moore responded the Committee had discussed both of these options and they decided they would rather have the building demolished; he added the video of the Committee meeting was available online for review.

Supervisor Beaty apprised his concern and objective was to ensure this parcel remained on the public tax rolls, as he was aware there were individuals who would like the property converted into a parking lot for the Warren County Bike Trail, which meant it would be removed from the tax rolls for the County, as well as the Town. He stated his goal was for the parcel not to be owned by the County; he added he was unsure of whether the parcel was more enticing to potential buyers with or without the building. He reiterated he would like to get the parcel back on the tax rolls, as he believed it would be a disservice to the taxpayers if this was not accomplished. He pointed out there was no need to convert the property into a parking lot for the Bike Trail because there was one located about a half mile from there.

Supervisor Wild stated he had a question concerning proceeding as it related to the County foreclosing the property regarding whether the County was required to auction off the property, and if so would the County be required to accept a \$1 bid. Mr. Moore advised since the County was foreclosing on the property outside of the auction cycle because the contractor only agreed to hold his bid for six months they would like to sell the property before the regular foreclosure auction in October. He continued, apprising the law required the County to sell County property through a competitive process; therefore, he said, the County would be taking ownership of this property before ownership of the other properties in the foreclosure process was taken and the property had to be sold to the highest responsible bidder. Ms. Kissane added there was an exception under County Law Section 215 which indicated if a property was taken through the foreclosure process a competitive bidding process was not required; therefore, the County could take ownership of the parcel through the foreclosure process and then the Board could determine what they would like to do with it. Mr. Moore interjected the route they were currently taking was to dispose of the parcel as soon as possible as per the Committees wishes was to have a competitive bidding process. Supervisor Wild asked for clarification whether the parcel had to be taken to auction or could the County hold on to it and down the road sell it to the highest bidder. Mr. Moore explained if their desire was to take it to auction then the parcel needed to be part of the regular foreclosure process, but this was not how the Committee chose to proceed. He said the Committee had directed that the parcel be removed from that process to allow it be sold quicker.

Supervisor Braymer informed there were four Committee members absent from the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services meeting where this matter was discussed resulting in Chairman Thomas having to serve in order to make a quorum. She added the Committee had not had enough discussion regarding what their plans were for this property. She said getting the bids was part of their plan to better understand what the County's potential liability was, but now they were aware the liability was not as much as they had anticipated it being. She remarked she believed this matter should be tabled and return to the Committee for further discussion.

A motion was made by Supervisor Braymer, seconded by Supervisor Beaty and carried by majority vote, with Supervisors Geraghty, Conover, McDevitt, Frasier and Simpson voting in opposition, to table

proposed Resolution No. 38, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC for Building Demolition and Asbestos Abatement Services for Tax Map Parcel No. 302.8-1-2 Located at 275 Bay Road, Queensbury, New York (WC 83-19)*, and return to Committee for further discussion.

Supervisor Seeber apprised just as a point of order she was seeking guidance on this, as the individuals who watched the Board Meetings on television or online could not tell who was voting which way when a show of hands was used to determine the outcome of a matter. She said although it was the Chairman's call as to whether a roll call vote was conducted, she felt for purposes of transparency it was important for the public to know how their representative voted.

Supervisor Seeber requested roll call votes on proposed Resolution Nos. 49, *Authorizing Agreements with Certain Applicants for the Disbursement of 2020 Occupancy Tax Revenues*, and 50, *Approving the 2020 Occupancy Tax Spending Plan and Authorizing Agreements Between Municipalities in Warren County and Other Organizations for Tourism Promotion and Tourist and Convention Development Services*. She stated she had been very vocal in the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee meetings on occupancy tax, apprising she felt the schedule A scoring system that was currently in place was in her opinion modified and she did not believe they followed the proper procedure in terms of the awards. She informed she also felt occupancy tax could have been addressed in 2019; therefore, she said, she would be voting in opposition of both of these resolutions.

Supervisor Driscoll requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 40, *Appointing Members of Professional Advisory Committee*.

Supervisor Wild stated he would be voting in opposition of proposed Resolution Nos. 47, *Authorizing Warren County Tourist and Convention Development Agreement with the Adirondack Civic Center Coalition, Inc. for Occupancy Tax Special Event Funding*, and 48, *Authorizing Continuation of the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Village of Lake George to Provide Funding for Promotion Space Within the Lake George Visitor Center*. Chairman Thomas advised Supervisor Wild would have to vote against the collective vote unless he requested roll call votes on these resolutions. Supervisor Wild asked if they could do a collective vote on proposed Resolution Nos. 47-49 since they all concerned occupancy tax and Supervisor Dickinson replied this was not possible since they pertained to different matters. Supervisor Wild requested roll call votes on proposed Resolution Nos. 47 and 48.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 41, *Approving the 2019-2021 Warren County Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan*, Supervisor Leggett advised he would like to commend the individuals who put this plan together; he added it contained helpful information and displayed where the County fit within the region. He said what he found troubling were the high rates of mental health and chronic health issues in the County.

In regard to proposed Resolution Nos. 47-50, Supervisor Wild informed these all pertained to occupancy tax. He stated last month Chairman Conover had challenged him to determine what the County's long-term strategy was for economic development; he pointed out tourism was a large contributor to the County's economy and occupancy tax was the "gas that fueled the engine" of tourism. He said it was necessary for the Board Members to take a closer look at how this money was being spent, what the return on investment was and how that was truly moving the County forward with increasing the County's tourism. He apprised until that time when they had the opportunity to review this and go through the metrics in terms of how the County measured the return from occupancy tax he could not be supportive of any additional expenditures. He remarked he was well aware there were some valid expenditures referenced in those resolutions and there events these funds were used for that were worthwhile, but he would like some form of long-term planning in terms of how they were moving forward. He pointed out the County Treasurer had mentioned to them some of the money they had committed in the future may not be sustainable.

Supervisor Braymer advised she also had concerns with occupancy tax, as she thought a working group meeting was going to be held, but this had never occurred. She said she would like to hear more about how the County was going to develop a sustainable plan regarding the expenditure of occupancy tax funding which was why she was uncomfortable voting in favor of proposed Resolution Nos. 47-50.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 47, *Authorizing Warren County Tourist and Convention Development Agreement with the Adirondack Civic Center Coalition, Inc. for Occupancy Tax Special Event Funding*, Supervisor Diamond informed he believed the Adirondack Civic Center Coalition had presented the Supervisors with an annual report which indicated the value as a result of the contributions of the County toward the Cool Insuring Arena. He suggested any Supervisor with questions regarding whether the Cool Insuring Arena was performing at the level they felt they should be at should review the annual report.

Chairman Thomas apprised that Supervisor Beaty had indicated earlier in the morning that he would be voting in opposition of proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*, but no one had requested a roll call vote on this particular resolution and he asked Supervisor Beaty whether he would like one and Supervisor Beaty replied in the negative.

Christopher Lynch, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, stated he had been traveling by the dilapidated property on Bay Road for a number of years, apprising he felt Supervisor Braymer's idea for the property was the most consciousness thing he had heard all day. He apprised if the building was demolished another building would be erected in its place, pointing out there had been several buildings torn down in the region only to be replaced with convenient stores, housing for low income families, etc. He mentioned anyone who purchased the property would take into account what the cost of demolition was and he felt holding off on the demolition for a few months to see if anyone would be interested in purchasing it as is was a sensible notion. He remarked that he personally felt it was an attractive building.

Norman Dascher Jr., *Chief Executive Officer of The Hyde Collection*, informed the occupancy tax funding his organization received last year was used to work with a local web consultant to change their website and since those changes went live they had a significant amount of success. He said they had an increase of 14% overall traffic on their website, a 22% increase in page views, a 41% increase in mobile traffic, a 77% reduction in load speed going from 9.7 seconds down to 2.1 seconds, all of which was according to google performance metrics. He advised they now had 105% more traffic to the visitor page, a 302% increase to their donation page, 45% more overall traffic and 30% lower bounce rate, which meant visitors were staying on their website. He apprised this was a good investment for the County and he thanked them for their contribution. He outlined their three phase growth strategy for the Hyde for the next three years as follows: A regional growth strategy as the first phase; the second phase involved New England; and the third phase concerned national, apprising this year they had visitors from 47 different States. He informed they were focused on expanding the footprint to not only have a regional, but also a national reputation. He remarked he was appreciative of the investment Warren County made in the Hyde with occupancy tax.

Supervisor Seeber requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 74, *Authorizing License Agreement with Revolution Rail Company for Use of County Owned Railroad Tracks*.

Chairman Thomas called for a vote on resolutions, following which 28-90 were approved, as presented with the exception of Resolution Nos. 38 and 78 which were tabled. Please note that proposed Resolution No. 91 failed to obtain the majority vote required in order to be brought to the floor.

Chairman Thomas called for public comments from anyone wishing to address the Board on any matter.

Mr. Whitehead stated he had spent a few hours preparing for this meeting and he would like to give the Board Members an update regarding what he had discovered pertaining to the Rules of the Board, some of which was discussed earlier, but none of which was very clear. He said he had started his research with a FOIL (*Freedom of Information Law*) request where he asked for every written rule that applied to the powers that had been delegated to the Chairman. He apprised following his review of this information he found nothing that indicated the Chairman had the authority to appoint anything beyond the Committee members and he felt this should be researched. He informed he also found the Oath of Office for his appointment to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation which he believed was the same as all the appointments to this organization, and the appointment never expired, as it stated it “was at the pleasure of the appointing authority”, which was the Warren County Board of Supervisors. He apprised although the resolution which appointed members to the organization for 2020 did not mention him, the Board, as the appointing authority, had never removed him and in January a sixth person was appointed to the organization, but only five members could be appointed by Warren County. He said it was fortunate that one of these six members had decided to resign because now there were five members. He mentioned it was his intention to serve on that organization when they met again in about a month unless he was so directed not to do so by the appointing authority. He apprised he would be pointing out some other things that Ms. Kissane should be looking into, as well, the first of which pertained to Resolution No. 1 of 2020 which referred to the Rules of the Board and Item D No. 7 indicated the filling of vacant positions could only be authorized with the following approvals: County Administrator; Budget Officer; and majority vote of appropriate oversight Committee. He said when he was appointed in 2018, the request was presented and approved by the Personnel & Higher Education Committee on October 4th which Supervisor Geraghty was the Chair of at that time. He apprised the minutes stated : Moving along Mr. Geraghty advised Agenda Item 7 concerned a request to appoint G. Travis Whitehead to fill Warren County’s vacant position on the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC due to the resignation of Louis Tessier. Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 19th Board Meeting. He advised the Board had handled these appointments properly in the past, but there was no need to go through Committee for individuals who had already been appointed because their appointments did not expire; he added in the case of vacancies it was rather clear to him these should be brought through Committee which was what occurred with his appointment in 2018. He mentioned the idea that these appointments were handled how they had always been in the past did not make it right; he pointed out if he was pulled over on the Adirondack Northway later today doing eighty miles an hour, he would tell the cop he normally did one-hundred he did not believe it would help his case with the cop or the judge. He mentioned it was a matter of what the rules were which Ms. Kissane could advise them on. He wished them luck in finding information regarding how appointments were handled in the bylaws for the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC, as the closest thing he could find was in the CDC bylaws, which were revised in 2012, and indicated that each County would appoint five members, the same as the IDA. He voiced his appreciation that there was a significant amount of discussion on a number of different matters which he believed resulted in better decisions by the Board and he complimented them for this.

Mark Westcott, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, apprised he had read the bylaws the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC, but they did not contain any information regarding how members were appointed. He said although he was not an attorney, he felt this would be relatively easy to fix by including a provision that stated “all members shall be nominated and appointed in conformance with whatever the nominations were in conformance with. Mr. Moore interjected the County was not in a position to do that because the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC were required to adopt their own bylaws. Mr. Westcott stated Ms. Kissane had mentioned she was going to review their bylaws, informing he was

only making an overall suggestion which he would also be suggesting at the next meeting of the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC. He noted there was no indication as to how an individual could be removed from the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC, in the bylaws, as well. He said this could be handled by recommending that the member was removed for just cause; however, he suggested, before removing them he felt it would be appropriate to contact them to discuss what they were doing wrong and explain why they should be removed, as this was a golden rule that should always be adhered to; he added no one should be removed without knowing the reason why this was occurring.

Mr. Westcott thanked the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC and their members who were present today, as he believed they were doing a good job. He informed he had attended their last two meetings and he voiced his pleasure that the meetings had been opened up for public comment, as he believed this was helpful. He stated the first meeting he had attended was ended early which was disappointing for the public who had traveled in inclement weather to attend. He said during this meeting subsequent to Mr. Whitehead pointing out they did not have a valid reason to enter into an executive session, the meeting was adjourned early; however, he noted, the next meeting was conducted in an open session and the public were allowed to voice their opinions which he felt was helpful to their organization.

In regard to the discussion today regarding documents and obtaining them at the last minute, Mr. Westcott apprised this had come up as an issue at the two Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC meetings he had attended. He said during the December meeting following a phone call with a representative from the WCC, LLC where they made a commitment, the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC based on good faith moved forward with an action centered around what that individual had promised. He stated if Supervisor Seeber had not pushed for those meetings to be videotaped there could have been a real issue with that, but because of the video it was clear what had occurred. He remarked how beneficial it was for these meetings to be videotaped because when decisions were made they were chronicled. He advised before the meeting he had discussed with Supervisor Wild about the lack of information before a decision was made which Supervisor Wild expressed concern with. He said ultimately Supervisor Wild's concerns were justified because the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC discussed the matter and decided to vote on it, but they did not have a copy of the actual lease that was involved with that decision. He continued, apprising they had taken it on good faith that the lease was appropriate, but since that time he and Mr. Whitehead had reviewed it and determined there were a number of issues there. He added this was the perfect example of what occurs when the information was not provided in a timely manner before the meeting to allow for review and he thanked Supervisor Wild for bringing that to the attention of the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC.

Mr. Westcott apprised he would like to conclude with explaining why removing Mr. Whitehead from the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC was a bad idea. He stated first and foremost no one wanted to be treated in that manner, as this was a golden rule which he believed everyone wanted to follow. He stated this also sent a message to other members of the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC, Committee members, staff, etc. that if they identified something that was wrong they could be treated in the same manner. He remarked he did not feel this was beneficial to anyone, as they should want individuals to point out when something was improper by supporting them for bringing the information forward and taking action to correct it.

In regard to Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Westcott stated he appeared to be a suitable appointment who would likely be a great addition to the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC; he added he felt they should recruit more business owners as members of the organization and he suggested doing so by removing some of the Supervisors to open up spots for local business owners. He apprised he felt the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC would correct their bylaws by taking the right steps so they could

move forward in the right direction and continue on with their good work.

Mr. Lynch advised following his review of the Rules of the Board, he determined there was no reference to the Supervisors having the authority to appoint individuals to outside agencies and board's. He restated what Mr. Whitehead had referenced earlier regarding Paragraph D7 of Resolution No. 1 of 2020 which indicated the filling of vacant positions would only be authorized with the following approvals: County Administrator, Budget Officer and majority vote of the appropriate oversight Committee. He said he was under the impression that the appointing authority for Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC members was the Warren County Board of Supervisors and what was stated in the bylaws for the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC was irrelevant. He stated in following local politics for fifty year he had rarely seen where a last minute resolution was beneficial for the public, as typically they involved something else. He mentioned the second reason he was present related to his displeasure with Mr. Whitehead not being reappointed to the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC, as he felt that was a travesty and there was no way to justify this. He advised the third reason he was present concerned his frustration with the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC and similar organizations taking taxpayer money to rich corporations without anyone knowing what was occurring. He said he often questioned whether those in charge of making these decisions were aware of what was transpiring. He informed he felt the purpose of the Personnel & Administration Committee was to vet personnel by advertising and conducting interviews to ensure the best person was selected to serve. He added the notion that the appointments not being released until the day before the meeting was not an issue was incorrect, as the members of the Warren-Washington Counties IDA & CDC were spending a significant amount of money. He remarked he was pleased the appointment had been tabled and would be going before the Personnel & Administration Committee, adding he had experience and may attend the meeting to express interest in being considered for the appointment.

Chairman Thomas called for announcements.

Supervisor Dickinson commended the Town of Warrensburg Fire Department for their recent response to a fire at the Town of Lake George Municipal Building; he noted the Town had always had a good relationship with the Town of Warrensburg Fire Department, who provided service to the northern portion the Town of Lake George for them and he commended them for their quick response to this recent incident.

Supervisor Seeber stated she was seeking five Board Members to participate with her on a team representing Warren County at Trivia Night which was being held at SUNY Adirondack on March 20th where one of their opponents would be a team made up of members of the Washington County Board of Supervisors and she encouraged anyone interested in participating to contact her. She noted the last time they had participated in this event a few years ago they were beaten by Washington County and she was looking forward to a rematch to be given the opportunity to be triumphant over them.

Supervisor Shepler announced the Town of Thurman was holding its annual Maple Jack Wax Party from 3:00 p.m. until the last person was served on March 14th and she encouraged all to attend, as the proceeds from the event were allocated directly to the American Cancer Society. She said this event had been held for a number of decades and they were pleased to have it up an running again.

Supervisor Simpson apprised tomorrow the North Warren Chamber of Commerce was holding their annual Crazy Downhill Derby which was a fun event and he encouraged all to attend. He suggested next year they consider having a sled representing each town to participate in the event.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Dickinson and seconded by Supervisor Beaty, Chairman Thomas adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:43 p.m.