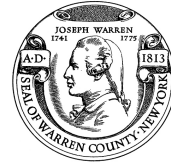


Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020**



Note: As per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1: "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed".

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 Beaty.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Simpson, Hogan, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Shepler, Geraghty and Thomas- 20; absent- 0

Supervisors Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Driscoll, Frasier, Merlino, Shepler, Geraghty and Thomas were present at the meeting, while Supervisors Conover, Braymer, Bruno, Simpson, Hogan, Dickinson, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Seeber and Beaty were present via teleconference.

Chairman Thomas apprised they would return to Congresswomen Stefanik and Senator Little's portion of the Agenda when they were present.

Chairman Thomas offered privilege of the floor to Assemblyman Stec, who apprised the past eight weeks had been very difficult for everyone and he wanted to begin by complimenting the County Supervisors and staff for their efforts to react and answer questions when the State was not in a position to do so. He said he felt the County had displayed patience and foresight while anticipating what would be needed in order to move forward in a safe manner to ensure the residents remained healthy and did not overload the local health care facilities, while at the same time preparing to reopen the regional economy. He stated everyone was well aware they were fast approaching the busy season where the bulk of sales tax collection originated from and although safety was a priority, poverty was also a concern. He advised the County was required to provide an abundant amount of services which cost a significant amount to do; however; he said he was grateful the State was not authorized to print money, as he believed this would create even more issues. He informed revenue sources were required in order to maintain the services that were desperately needed. He remarked he was appreciative of everyone attempting to work together. In regards to where the borders were drawn in the State for purposes of economic development eight years ago, Assemblyman Stec stated as a both a practical and political matter he did not foresee the Governors reinventing the wheel, but if he had time to spend on anything other than Coronavirus he would rather have him work on the issues of the day rather than trying to recreate and redraw those lines which would be difficult. He said the were ten regions that were already established were unlikely to change; however, he noted, this did not mean valid arguments could not be made that the County had more in common with the North Country region or that is was

*WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020*

better prepared than the rest of its region. He said as an example Chautauqua County in Western New York with a population of 130,000 only had four confirmed Coronavirus cases as of two weeks ago when he spoke with them, but because they were in the Western New York regional which included the City of Buffalo they would not be opening anytime soon. He mentioned there were a number of similar scenarios occurring across the State, but they did not want to hold back the North Country from being able to reopen. He said he believed the sub-region approach was the best way to develop a compromise there, but the Governor rejected that proposal. He advised he felt there was nothing wrong with considering a new granule level to some of these issues. He mentioned the remainder of the State was poised to begin reopening and he felt it was appropriate advice for the Board Members to do everything in their power to ensure the numbers the County could control were the best as they could be while recognizing not everything could be controlled due to the testing availability issues, etc. they were still dealing with. In regard to the issue with nursing homes not being able to meet the testing requirements for them, Assemblyman Stec apprised he and Assemblywomen Woerner co-authored a letter to the Governor requesting that he take another look at these testing requirements due to the nursing homes struggles to meet them. He said he believed the Administration was doing their best to keep up with all of the data regarding COVID-19, but it was difficult due to it being slow going in nature which was frustrating to the local governments and businesses who were seeking guidance. He advised he was aware that the County Administrator and Chairman Thomas were participating on the Control Panel as part of the Capital Region; he added it appeared the region was getting close to meeting the criteria to reopen until a few days ago when some of the numbers headed in the wrong direction, but he hoped this would rectify itself and the Capital Region would not be too far behind the other regions of the State that were given the go ahead to reopen as of today. He stated when the region did begin to reopen he felt everyone should encourage positive peer pressure amongst the businesses and organizations to do everything they could to make this work because if things took a turn for the worse it would be easy for the Governor to determine that the region needed to be shutdown again. He said they should make the most of this opportunity to reopen by doing it safely and get the economy up and running again, as he was well aware everyone was concerned not only about the County Budget, but also their municipal ones, as well. He concluded by thanking the Supervisors for all of the work they were doing for their constituents and he encouraged them to have their constituents who were having issues with New York State Unemployment services to contact his or Senator Little's office with their concerns.

Returning to the Congresswomen Stefanik, who was now present to address the Board regarding what her Office had been working on. Congresswomen Stefanik apprised she wanted to echo what Assemblymen Stec noted regarding the tremendous leadership at both the County and Town levels throughout this crisis; she added she had reviewed the wholesome report compiled by the County with the assistance of local organizations which she felt was helpful as they communicated this challenge with the public. She said she was presently in Washington D.C. where Congress would be voting on a partisan package that was not negotiated across the aisle which would result in some difficulties getting it adopted. She said she would like to discuss the past moving forward with the priority of the New York delegation being to provide direct aid to the State and its local governments, as this had been the number one issue raised by both County and local government officials. She informed they understood that these were unprecedented times and that direct aid was critical in order for the County and local governments to face the fiscal challenges and ensure the taxpayers were protected. She stated there had been bi-partisan support, but it needed to be negotiated out and her top priority was to ensure rural counties were provided access to direct Federal aid because in previously legislative packages there had been a cutoff when the population was less then 500,000 residents meaning twelve counties in her District would not qualify. She remarked her goal was to ensure no matter how rural a community was they had access to those direct Federal funds and that there were guardrails included to ensure the State did not take back a piece of this aid for the State Budget.

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020

Congresswomen Stefanik advised she would like to talk a bit about Glens Falls Hospital, stating she had a good conversation with the hospital leadership and the Deputy Secretary of HHN (*Health and Human Services*) this week in an attempt to address the fact that based upon the data and calculation that was used by HHN, the Glens Falls Hospital was left out of the rural pot of funding. She mentioned she had been proud to announce over \$100 million in direct Federal support to hospitals, but she had two hospitals in her District she was working directly with to ensure that HHN understood their unique circumstances and the fact that Glens Falls Hospital had served COVID-19 transfer patients, as well as the unique financial challenges in a regular year, let alone an unprecedented year like this one when there has been a pause in elective surgery. She informed they were working at the highest levels, as the HHN was at the cabinet level to address the hospital issue.

Congresswomen Stefanik apprised in addition she had conversations with Dr. Kristine Duffy, *President, SUNY Adirondack*, regarding the importance of direct Federal funds not only to the State and County Government, but also Higher Education Institutions. She said she had already announced over \$30 million of direct funds to the colleges and universities, including the community colleges located in her District; however, she noted, she was well aware they would need additional support moving forward given the budget cuts they were facing. She stated in her region she had three different economic regional zones which included the Mohawk Valley with some of her central counties who were affiliated with the Capital District and the North Country meaning there were three separate control groups that were following the data and she continued to work with each of them to ensure they could safely reopen as quickly as possible and meet the metric. She apprised that her Office was working remote and were available twenty-four hours a day seven days a week and they would continue to take all incoming calls and partner with all of the State and local officials address any concerns.

Supervisor Braymer inquired about Congresswomen Stefanik's thoughts regarding a bi-partisan package being approved for direct aid to State and local municipalities that covered rural communities and whether that would cover both lower and higher education institutions. Congresswomen Stefanik replied they had to have a bi-partisan package because this needed to be achieved; however, she said, she believed this would take a few more weeks, but she was hopeful for its adoption by the end of May. She apprised there were ongoing discussions going in the House of Representatives and in the Senate that she was partaking in for bi-partisan provisions to ensure that any funding that was provided to counties did not include a population cutoff and was being calculated in a manner so that this region would be represented and understood the economic shortfalls that the area was dealing with. She said in addition when discussing direct aid in New York State, putting up those guard rails was necessary to ensure the funding was allocated to school districts or SUNY institutions who were facing dire fiscal situations. She informed following her discussions with representatives of WSWHE BOCES (*Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex Board of Cooperative Educational Services*) and the local Superintendent of School Districts she realized just how well they had met the challenges that occurred as a result of the Coronavirus head on which was why it was necessary that the Federal Government stepped up. She indicated she was hopeful by the end of May they were moving in the right direction; however, she noted, they were currently working with a divided government with the Democratic party holding the majority of the House of Representatives and the Republican party having the majority over the Senate, as well as a Republican Party lead Administration. She continued, apprising it was necessary for all three of these entities to come together and deliver as they did in the last three CARES Act packages that were related to COVID-19 relief that provided a real bi-partisan solution that ensured rural parts of the Country were represented.

Supervisor Beaty stated he believed that Congresswomen Stefanik had addressed a significant concern of his that the aid was provided directly to the Counties because typically when it was allocated to the State to divvy out they usually kept a large portion of the funding for themselves; he added this same

concern had been expressed by representatives of other Counties in New York at the NACo (*National Association of Counties*) Conference he had attended in Washington D.C. at the beginning of March with Supervisor Seeber. Congresswomen Stefanik advised this was a substantial concern for the New York Delegates, as well and there was bi-partisan voices who worked together to ensure this funding was directly allocated to the Counties because they were all aware that the County Office of Public Health and the Counties in general had born the brunt of this crisis and risen to the occasion. She said this was why they had included guardrails to ensure that when they were discussing State and local aid, the aid could be directed as much as possible to the Counties. She remarked it was important to note that to date they had allocated \$9 billion of aid to New York State, as she was aware this was often portrayed inaccurately which was on top of direct Federal funds that had been allocated to the hospitals, higher education institutions, housing programs and other priorities that they had announced.

Chairman Thomas thanked Congresswomen Stefanik for all of her efforts and wished her well with what she was trying to accomplish.

Returning to the portion of the Agenda where Senator Little addressed the Board, Senator Little advised she would like to congratulate Congresswomen Stefanik not only on the hard work she had put into this program, but also on her ranking as one of the top bi-partisan representatives in Congress, as this was how things got accomplished. She stated there was a significant amount of concern in regard to the regional economic model which classified Warren County as part of the Capital District because the vast majority of residents from both Warren and Washington Counties traveled south for their jobs. She mentioned the North Country region stretched from Lake Ontario to Lake Champlain which was of significant size. She said she was hopeful the Capital region would be able to begin reopening soon, but the issue was with Albany Medical Center, which was a large urban hospital whose statistics were greater then the other hospitals located in the region.

In regard to the requirements placed on nursing homes, Senator Little indicated it was impossible for them to test their staff and patients twice a week; she added this would take away from the care they provided to their residents. She equated living in a nursing home to being similar to living in a family home because once the virus was brought into the nursing home by a staff member it was impossible to stop the spread. She stated although staff members had been having their temperatures taken before they entered the facility the virus had still managed to be brought into the facilities rendering it virtually impossible to keep it out. She pointed out if nursing homes had more money available to them they would have been able to provide single rooms, more staff, etc., but there Medicaid reimbursement rate was not sufficient enough. She cautioned everyone not to be too critical of these facilities because the staff was doing yeoman's work for a pay scale below what it should be.

With regard to testing, Senator Little informed the more testing that was carried out meant more test kits would have to be provided to the region. She noted there were a number of places offering testing including Hudson Headwaters Health Network, behind the Municipal Center Campus where the Glens Falls Hospital had partnered with the County to offer testing, as well as a number of private locations that were now offering testing. She cautioned them to be mindful that as a result of more testing being done the number of cases in the area would increase. She stated no places handling testing distinguished between those who tested positive that had no symptoms to those who tested positive and were symptomatic meaning the other test that determined if individuals were immune were important, as well.

Senator Little remarked she was unsure how the region was going to economically recover, as the local businesses were struggling and the unemployment rate was significant with there being eight million people applying at one point for benefits over the typical amount of several hundred thousand

individuals. She informed the Department of Labor was doing the best they could to handle this substantial increase in unemployment claims with the system they used being replaced, but then it crashed so google provided them with a new server, but that crashed, as well. She said she was focusing on notifying individuals that they would receive their payments, most of whom were not eligible for regular benefits, but had qualified for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance which had initially been a two step process, but these were recently combined into one step. She added of the three thousand individuals employed to work on unemployment benefits only one thousand of them worked for the New York State Department of Labor and were familiar with all of the issues that had arisen. She apprised she would continue to follow up on the issues until they were eradicated.

Senator Little advised she had spoken to a doctor at Saratoga Hospital who indicated they had patients pass away because they could not go to the hospital for testing which was why opening the hospitals back up for surgeries was imperative, but there were still individuals who did not want to go to the hospitals for tests so they were able to restart ambulatory surgery. She mentioned another thing they were going to be faced with was finding activities for children this summer since most of the summer programs had been cancelled, as she was concerned these children would find a place to swim with no lifeguards resulting in tragedies occurring. She said it was necessary to figure out the new norm with social distancing, wearing masks and encouraging others to do so, as well or to not get within six feet of others if masks were not worn, as the worst thing that could occur was reopening and then having to shutdown again. In regard to NYS DOCS (*New York State Department of Corrections and Community Services*), Senator Little apprised the ban of visitors was still in place. She thanked the Board members and County staff for all of their hard work during this unprecedented time.

Supervisor Conover remarked he felt he would be remiss if he did not mention the next ten weeks for the region made up 80% of the economy with the impact becoming more significant as they moved closer to Memorial Day and he implored for anything that could be done to allow marinas to offer boat rentals such as using a reservation process, as this was the manner in which many of the local marinas earned revenue. He said another notion was restaurants converting their establishments to car and boat hop type scenarios which was an interesting approach, as well. He asked if they could find a way to allow these restaurants to establish outdoor dining areas with certain types of protections in place as opposed to indoor dining to assist restauranters during the busy summer season. He mentioned he understood this would have to be balanced against the pandemic and the risks, but the more they could entertain creative ideas from the business community would assist the County through this. He thanked Congresswomen Stefanik, Senator Little and Assemblyman Stec for the assistance they had provided to the County.

Senator Little stated she was told on the call she participated in yesterday that the State was looking for more clarification under the recreation area such as why could individuals not go to a gun range, but they were allowed to hunt. She said golfing and tennis were permitted, but golf cart rentals were not permitted unless individuals were handicapped which posed issues for seniors who struggled to walk an entire eighteen hole course; she added driving ranges needed to be reopened, etc. She advised it was necessary to start with the initial steps and any additional clarification regarding recreation may assist them. She remarked she concurred this was the regions busiest time of year and the decline in sales tax revenue was horrendous. She pointed out she drove by the Factory Outlet stores yesterday, with all of them being closed, as well as many other businesses in the region which was resulting in a drastic decline in revenue for the County and its businesses.

Supervisor Seeber apprised she believed Supervisor Conover had touched on it with the recreation concerns, but this morning she had a call from a few of her constituents regarding baseball for children and what the summer would look like, as well as voicing their frustrations. She said she was

appreciative of Senator Little for fielding calls regarding issues with unemployment and direct assistance services. She asked Senator Little what the advocacy efforts for recreation programs for children were at the State level and Senator Little replied some form of recreation for children needed to be in place because if swimming beaches were not available children would find a place to swim. Senator Little pointed out personal pools were opened with pool supply stores reopening to be able to maintain them, but not everyone had access to private pools. She mentioned she had hoped the children would have been able to finish out the school year attending school in person to allow for them to be grounded in their school year. She pointed out teachers were never properly trained to conduct classes online and had very little experience with this when it was thrust upon them in March and the children had little exposure to this type of learning, as well meaning they were likely stressed. She voiced how important it was for recreational programs to be offered to children this summer, such as possibly opening a beach for a morning and afternoon session and cleaning in between them to protect the area and using a reservation service to control the number of people on the beach. She said people needed to learn how to distance themselves properly because hugging, shaking hands and large gatherings would not be permissible for the foreseeable future.

Supervisor Diamond informed he had a question for Congresswomen Stefanik, but because she was no longer available he would contact her office to ask his question.

Continuing with the Agenda review, Chairman Thomas called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17th Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board. The motion was made by Supervisor McDevitt, seconded by Supervisor Magowan and carried unanimously.

Proceeding with the Agenda review, privilege of the floor was extended to Jim Lieberum, *District Manager, Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District*, who was present to review the draft 2019-20 MS4 (*Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System*) Annual Report. Mr. Lieberum stated it was the end of the public review and comment period for the draft 2019 Warren County Municipal Storm System Annual Report which was only relative to County Facilities and infrastructure within urbanized areas designated by the United States Census and NYS DEC (*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*), meaning not all communities or County infrastructure were included in this report. The plan encompassed a limited area which included any County structure or facility in the Town of Lake George, the Village of Lake George, Town of Queensbury and the City of Glens Falls. He apprised this report was announced for public review at the April 21st meeting of the Public Works Committee and had been made available for review at both theirs and the County website since then, but no comments had been received. He explained the Annual Report was a summary of the reviews of the goals and activities outlined in the Storm Water Management Plan with the Plan and all of the maps relative to the Program available at the County website and theirs, as well. He advised upon finalization this report would be posted on the County and the District websites and hard copies would be available at the District Office, the Department of Public Works and the Clerk of the Boards Offices, as well. He mentioned anyone interested in additional information could visit the Districts website www.warrenswcd.org and was also available on the County website under the residents section. He encouraged all County residents to review the report and be aware of what was occurring, as this was something they tried to improve upon each year. He apprised the Town of Lake George, Village of Lake George, City of Glens Falls and Town of Queensbury all had their own MS4 Programs that they had to account for and were required to improve upon. He said following the approval of the Report it would be submitted to the NYS DEC by June 1st as required.

Motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried unanimously to approve the MS4 Annual Report.

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020

Proceeding with the Agenda review, privilege of the floor was extended to Dr. James Seeley, *Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County*, who was present via teleconference to address the Board regarding the 50th Anniversary of Arbor Day and the President's Volunteer Service Award given to Jack Sweet. Dr. Seeley thanked the Board Members for the opportunity to recognize and outstanding young person. He said Jack Sweet of Meadowbrook Road in the Town of Queensbury participated in the 4-H Program and was enrolled in the eight grade at the City of Glens Falls School District. He apprised Mr. Sweet watched a video when he was in the second grade which inspired him to assist his community with his idea of "Everyone has a Penny" which grew from \$50 to \$400 in its first year and then began expanding to other schools and each year it expanded raising \$22,000 over a seven year span. He stated all of these funds were donated to the Glens Falls Hospital Foundation who used it to purchase gas cards for people to use that needed to travel there for treatment. He advised Mr. Sweet's mission was to ensure the community was aware they had their backs with 830 gift cards being distributed thus far to these survivors. He mentioned Mr. Sweet had been a News Channel 13 Kids Who Care recipient and had been featured in *The Post Star*, as well as News Channels 13 and 10. He stated it was with great pleasure they awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award to Mr. Sweet, along with a letter from the President accompanying it. He asked that everyone join him in congratulating Mr. Sweet and his family. A round of applause was given.

Dr. Seeley offered privilege of the floor to John Bowe, *4-H and Family Living Team Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County*, for the presentation regarding the 50th Anniversary of Arbor Day. Mr. Bowe informed the 50th Arbor Day and Earth Day was celebrated in April, but they were unable to attend the April 17th Board Meeting. He said today around 11:00 a.m. these hemlock seedlings would be available for each of the Board Members at the DMV check-in station. He apprised they wanted to celebrate the 50th Anniversary because they felt it was a key time and a good symbol that as much as they knew about nature it could still bring society and its government to its knees at least on a temporary basis. He indicated he felt these trees would be a good representation of this year and a new start; he added he hoped everyone would enjoy them. He informed the Warren County Soil and Water District offered a hemlock woolly adelgid monitoring program which he encouraged everyone to review, as he had included information regarding that program in the letter they included with every tree.

Continuing the Agenda review with the report by the Chairman of the Board, Chairman Thomas advised he had attended four meetings of the Economic Recovery Group which evolved into the Economic Recovery Partnership, adding he would like to thank Supervisor Wild for establishing this group, as well as the leadership he provided to them. He said he would also like to recognize the individuals who were participating in this group including the County Administrator, Michael Bittel, *President & CEO of the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce*, Ed Bartholomew, *President, Warren County Economic Development Corporation*, Dr. Kristine Duffy, *President, SUNY Adirondack*, Mark Yarish, *Representing Arrow Financial*, Frank Dittrich, *Warren County Lodging Association*, Liza Ochsendorf, *Director, Employment & Training Administration*, and others he was probably neglecting to mention for their work on a report that included a snapshot of the businesses located in Warren County. Chairman Thomas informed he had participated in the NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) conference calls every week on Thursday evening with the exception of the April 23rd call which he was unable to partake in. He mentioned Thomas DiNapoli, *New York State Comptroller*, was a guest speaker on the April 30th call where he discussed the retirement system and how the contribution rate would likely increase by about 2% which was not as significant as what had been anticipated. He apprised on May 7th the Honorable Lewis Max, *Chief Administrative Judge for New York State*, was the guest speaker on the phone call during which he explained the changes that would be taking place in the local, Supreme and Surrogate Courts. He said Letitia James, *Attorney General, New York State*, had been posed to be the guest speaker for the call last night, but because she had been unable to attend she would be the guest speaker for the call next week. Chairman Thomas mentioned helpful information was provided

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020

on these calls and representatives from certain regions of the State being restless and talking about going rogue. Chairman Thomas stated he had reviewed the County Administrator's austerity plan on May 6th with Supervisors Frasier and Geraghty, adding he believed they had identified about \$5 million in reductions and savings, but the plan would not be distributed to the public until they had more information regarding the budget cuts that would be forthcoming from the State which was slated to be around 30%. He advised once they had this information they would be taking solid actions. He apprised on May 8th he had attended a portion of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee meeting, as well as a Zoom meeting with Senator Little, Assemblyman Stec and Assemblyman Jones, some of the representatives from the North Country the Directors of Public Health and the local Chambers of Commerce during which they discussed reopening, nursing homes and economic recovery. He indicated he believed the reopening process would be done in phases with some individuals being able to work from home, signage would need to be erected, work areas would need to be adjusted to ensure they were a safe distance apart, etc. He stated Executive Order 202.8 did extend the 50% essential workers until June 7th meaning nothing had changed; however, he noted, a plan was necessary for when the County was ready to reopen. He stated following this he had a Skype meeting with the eight chief elected officials from the Capital District with Albany, Schenectady and Rensselaer Counties compiling a plan for the Capital region going forward which he had signed off, but he was unsure of how much weight this would have because the Governor planned on reopening on a regional basis; he added during the call he had discussed Warren County's Economic Recovery Report. Chairman Thomas reminded everyone to complete the Census if they had not already done so because although the responses in the County had increased slightly they were still low. He informed he had signed off of a letter from himself and Messrs. Bartholomew and Bittel on April 16th to Senator Gillibrand and Congresswomen Stefanik requesting a second round of PPP (*Paycheck Protection Program*) funding, change the Medicaid formula for hospitals in New York State, Local Government aid and the J-1 Visa Program. He mentioned on April 21st with the assistance of Supervisor Braymer he had written a letter to the Chairman of the FCC (*Federal Communications Commission*) to make comments regarding opposition to Charter Communications request for a waiver through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund to exclude 2,400 Census blocks in Phase One of the Rural Opportunity Fund Auction with some of these Census blocks covering rural parts of the County which would result in residents being unserved if this waiver was granted. Chairman Thomas advised on April 24th he signed a letter from the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Warren County Economic Development Corporation, Employment & Training Administration and SUNY Adirondack for Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, Congresswomen Stefanik and the Russell Oliver, *Division Director, Employment & Workforce Solutions at New York State Department of Labor*, regarding grant funding for dislocated workers for Warren County for training, J-1 Visa Program, as well as to provide funding to assist with the changing workforce. He mentioned he signed off of a letter on April 29th at the request of Congresswomen Stefanik asking Governor Cuomo for guidance on the reopening of summer camps because these camps needed time to prepare to reopen if that was going to be permitted; he added they were also important to the local economy. Next, he informed he had signed off on a letter to the State Legislators on behalf of SUNY Adirondack and all State Community Colleges appealing for more Federal aid to replace the drastic reductions in State funding. Chairman Thomas reminded the Board Members to submit their calendars for retirement recording purposes to the Clerk of the Board prior to the June 19th Board Meeting. In conclusion, he stated he would like to make a comment pertaining to recreational vehicle parks, as there appeared to be a significant amount of confusion that as of today these parks were open; however, he noted, this was not the case. He explained the exception that Warren County obtained was considering them essential housing or a safe harbor intended only for those who resided in their campers, but other than that exception they remained closed to the public.

Supervisor Geraghty asked whether this meant families who were traveling from the Capital District were not permitted to spend the weekend in these parks, but those who resided in the County for half

of the year and then moved their camper somewhere else for the remainder of the year could reside in the parks and Chairman Thomas replied affirmatively. Supervisor Geraghty remarked he did not believe this information had been relayed to the public and Chairman Thomas agreed. Supervisor Geraghty voiced his concern that the lack of relaying this information would cause issues and he suggested they have Don Lehman, *Public Relations Manager*, post this information on social media because he received a significant amount of phone calls from individuals inquiring about whether it was permissible for them to go to these parks. Supervisor Geraghty advised he felt it would be helpful if the State would provide a more firm answer on summer recreation programs in their towns. He said he was holding off making a determination, but he was aware a number of towns had already cancelled them. He apprised his concern was the children had been cooped up since March and he would like them to be able to do outdoor activities, but he also did not want any to be stricken with the virus in his community. He restated he believed the issue with recreational vehicle parks would cause issues for all of the municipalities.

Returning to the report by the Chairman, Chairman Thomas he had also participated in the Regional Control Room phone calls which took place daily, but there appeared to be conflicting data regarding the present statistics pertaining to the Counties and where the State figures stood. He said they had mentioned yesterday there would be guidance coming from the Governors Office regarding low-risk outdoor activities within the next few days, but he was unsure of what these would consist of.

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

Supervisor Beaty informed the County Facilities Committee had met on April 21st, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 164-167 and he provided a brief overview of each. He stated he had been discussing with Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, about when his staff could return to work and would be included on the Agenda for the May 19th County Facilities Committee meeting. He apprised the Shared Services Committee, which he was the Chair of, would be meeting on May 18th to review if there were any areas that could be consolidated by merging departments or agencies where there could be duplication. He stated the Agenda for the meeting was distributed yesterday with the discussion being spearheaded by Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, who had an in-depth analysis of each department since he was charged with overseeing them. He surmised this may be a lengthy meeting because the purpose was to ensure the services provided by the County were maintained while also being more fiscally conservative than they ever had to ensure they were getting the most out of every dollar for the County taxpayers. He concluded by indicating he would be making some comments during the announcements portion of the meeting.

Supervisor Shepler indicated she had nothing to report on.

Supervisor Geraghty apprised on May 8th he had provided a synopsis of what he was working on in terms of the County Budget and he thanked Mr. Moore and all of the Department Heads and their staff for tirelessly working on their austerity plans. He requested that any Supervisors with ideas on how to save the County money to email them to himself and Mr. Moore for review going forward. He advised as Chairman Thomas had previously mentioned it had yet to be determined how much the County Budget would be impacted as a result of the decline in State aid and loss of sales tax revenue; however, he noted, he felt they should push for a Local Law to be adopted regarding the collection of occupancy tax from Airbnb dwellings in the County to prevent from continuing to lose out on these funds going forward. He advised he had discussed a hiring freeze, staffing analysis, as well as bans on travel authorizations, purchase orders and requests for transfer of funds from the Contingent Account, some of which would just be instituted, such as the ban on travel authorizations with the exception of travel

that was absolutely necessary or related to the Coronavirus. He requested that Chairs of the Committees work with the Department Heads they oversaw to adhere to not bringing forward these requests and if there was any confusion to contact himself or Mr. Moore to discuss it further. He stated although they had some challenges ahead of them he was confident he and Chairman Thomas, Supervisor Frasier and Mr. Moore could handle it and he thanked them for their assistance. He informed more detail would be provided at a future meeting of the Budget Committee.

Supervisor Conover reported on the April 21st meeting of the County Facilities Committee where they approved proposed Resolution Nos. 174-178 and he provided a brief overview of each. He noted the amount of funding allocated for work on the County Roads had been reduced substantially from over \$4 million to \$3 million. Supervisor Conover voiced his concern that the response in some of the towns, including the Town of Bolton, to the Census was weak with many of them running way behind even after direct mailing, advertisements, news articles, etc. He said he felt they should keep this in mind to determine if there was anything the County was doing wrong; he added the change in the way the Census was handled could be one of the reasons their numbers were lagging behind.

Supervisor Leggett advised the Public Safety Committee had met on April 20th where they approved and referred a request from the Sheriff's Office to the Personnel & Administration Committee for consideration. He stated he would like to report as the Vice-Chairman of the Warren-Washington Counties Industrial Development & Civic Development Corporation that they were working on a land acquisition and sub-division of the former dewatering site in the Village of Fort Edward in order to accommodate a new manufacturer as soon as possible who would be a great addition to the Village of Fort Edward, well as the region. Supervisor Leggett apprised as Vice-Chairman of the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District he would like to report from them that their 2020 tree and shrub sale was more successful than any previous years sales over the past thirty years. He stated they were able to handle the pick ups with the proper social distancing measures in place; he added they would like to thank the Warren County DPW for providing them with the traffic cones for when individuals picked up their purchases. He informed they had also developed an online Envirothon exam for schools to participate in which was another example of adaptation for the current timeframe. He mentioned they had also picked up and dropped off trees for the City of Glens Falls, as well as the Towns of Queensbury and Warrensburg as requested through the Arbor Day Program. Furthermore, he said they were working on grant projects with funding reimbursements to the communities and were continuing on with the planning for that. He added the amount of time their Organization was working on the Farm and Agriculture Producers Program was significantly more than it had previously been in the past. Supervisor Leggett remarked he believed this program was very beneficial to the County with the majority of those who participated being small producers who benefitted from this resource. He informed the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District's 2019 Annual Report was distributed via email and posted on their website.

Supervisor Diamond indicated he had nothing to report on.

Supervisor McDevitt advised as Chairman of the Health Services Committee he was unsure of how heavily he should be involved in the daily activities of the Departments he was charged with providing oversight to. He said because Public Health was so well managed he had not gotten heavily involved with their undertakings because there was not much he could do to contribute to their work. He said he had contacted Ginelle Jones, *Director, Public Health/Patient Services*, in an effort to determine if there was a void in the assistance they provided with their programs during which Ms. Jones provided him with a persuasive response in terms of how Public Health was being administered in Warren County. He mentioned on May 4th sixty-two individuals were tested for the Coronavirus at the testing facility on the Municipal Center Campus and yesterday approximately forty were tested and on Monday there were forty-three tests completed. He informed currently as of yesterday there were 277 individuals quarantined which created a significant amount of work that consisted of monitoring,

tracking and paperwork to ensure that individuals were fundamentally doing the right thing in regard to their quarantine. He apprised Ms. Jones also discussed the new Tracing Program which was being funded by Michael Bloomberg, *former Mayor, New York City*, with a training program being offered that was a self-monitored six hour program to ensure that those taking the course were involved. He said thus far the County had twenty-two assigned tracers with around fifty people volunteering to go through the Program. He remarked that he believed the Public Health Department was doing a remarkable job in terms of keeping the residents healthy and safe and they should be recognized for the yeoman's work they were doing. Supervisor McDevitt informed he and Mr. Bartholomew had spent a number of hours last Friday meeting with the owners of a new industry in the County located on Big Boom Road in the Town of Queensbury referred to as KIRSH Helmets. He said they produced motorcycle helmets through the use of interesting technology that provided a safe outcome to those who fell off of motorcycles or got into accidents. He apprised he and Mr. Bartholomew had toured their facility and learned about their manufacturing process and they were requesting assistance to purchase some automatized equipment to enable them to speed up production. He stated this would be discussed in further detail next week at the meeting of the Local Development Corporation.

Supervisor Braymer stated the Environmental Concerns & Real Property Tax Services Committee only had one resolution going before the Board for approval today. She said she would like to echo what Supervisor McDevitt had just stated regarding how outstanding the County Public Health Department was and she thanked Ms. Jones on behalf of the Board for doing an excellent job representing the County and she complimented her on how well prepared the staff in that Department were. She voiced her support of proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 which concerned support of the Food Banks. She stated in light of this she would like to recognize all of the regions school districts who were doing an exceptional job distributing lunches to the children who participated in the School Lunch Program; however, she noted, she was concerned about what would occur during the summer due to the cancellation of the summer recreational programs for school aged children. She apprised she was hopeful they could work together to determine how they could use existing funds to distribute food to the children this summer when formalized summer programs were not operating.

Supervisor Driscoll apprised the Human Services Committee did not meet last month, but they would be holding a meeting this upcoming Monday, May 18th where Christian Hanchett, *Commissioner, Department of Social Services*, would be in attendance to review the Department of Social Services Agenda with them, as well as to discuss Countryside Adult Home. He mentioned throughout the month he received regular updates from the Department of Social Services and the Veterans' Office which he shared with the members of the Human Services Committee; he added anyone else interested in receiving these updates that did not already get them should contact him. He informed he would also be participating in the Zoom meeting of the Warren County Youth Board which he understood was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 18th. He asked if any of the Supervisors who had experience working with Airbnb properties could email him the letter they used to send to these property owners, as the City was looking for a template to use to contact these property owners in their municipality. He mentioned *The Post Star* recently recognized nurses throughout the region, including Karen Mattes, who was a Warren County employee working within the Homecare Nursing Division. He congratulated Ms. Mattes, as well as all of the County Nursing staff and Public Health officials for their dedication and hard work. He voiced his appreciation to the County Officials, staff and area businesses who had provided lunches to the Public Health Department, as this was greatly appreciated.

Supervisor Frasier advised the Finance Committee had met on April 30th and again on May 11th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 162, 163, 184-189 and 191-192. She stated she would like to echo Supervisor Braymer's remarks regarding the outstanding job Ms. Jones and her Department were doing, as she believed they were doing a wonderful job and she was pleased they were being recognized. She mentioned she had attended the Austerity Budget Meeting which she found to be very enlightening and informative; she added she was amazed by the amount of work handled by some of the County

Departments who had to make cuts which was not an easy decision to make. She offered privilege of the floor to Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, to provide an update on the County finances.

Mr. Swan stated as of yesterday morning all of the State and Federal payments that were due to the County for the Department of Social Services, etc. had been received on time for the anticipated amount; however, he noted, no payments from the casino had been obtained since the fourth quarter of last year nor had any of the State matching funds for tourism been allocated to the County. He apprised the interest rate on the County bank accounts had decreased from 2.75% to .75% which would result in a shortfall for the amount budgeted in 2020 for interest revenue. In regard to sales tax revenue, Mr. Swan informed as of the end of April they had fallen short around \$595,000 as compared to the same time frame in 2019 which was about the State average for the decline of 30%. In conclusion, he remarked he would like to commend his staff for their efforts, as the County was one of the only ones in the State who had been able to close their books for last year by the State deadline, as well as the fact that all of the bills were being paid on time, payroll was being handled, etc. with no disruption in services for any of the other departments of agencies.

Supervisor Beaty questioned how much money was due to the County from the State for the Tourism matching funds and Mr. Swan responded he did know the exact amount off the top of his head, but he knew it was a significant amount. Supervisor Dickinson asked why the funds had not been received and Mr. Swan replied he was unsure. Mr. Swan stated he had just become aware within the last week that these funds had not been obtained and he was working on finding out why, but he had yet to receive a response.

Supervisor Diamond apprised Chairman Thomas had mentioned in his report that State aid could possibly be reduced by 25% and he asked Mr. Swan whether he could provide an estimate as to how much this reduction would equate to in dollars and Mr. Swan replied this would be a good question for the Budget Officer to answer, but he would estimate that figure to be in the range of \$5 to \$6 million. He stated this reduction coupled with the loss in sales tax revenue would require the County to make budget cuts at the end of the year.

Chairman Thomas apologized to Supervisor Bruno for inadvertently skipping over him and he asked whether Supervisor Bruno had a Committee report and Supervisor Bruno replied in the negative.

Supervisor Simpson advised the Personnel & Administration Committee had met on April 30th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 179-183 which he requested support of. He stated he would like to thank those who contacted him regarding their suggestions on how to transition the County staff back to the Office and commence the reopening process as it pertained to the health and well being of the County employees. He said it was necessary to determine how to make this as smooth of a transition as possible as employees were brought back to work. He stated with the support of Chairman Thomas he would like to establish a working group which consisted of Supervisor Hogan, Tammie DeLorenzo, *Assistant to the County Administrator*, Jackie Figueroa, *County Human Resources Director*, Supervisor Magowan, Liza Ochsendorf, *Director, Employment & Training Administration*, Amy Clute, *Self-Insurance Administrator*, Patricia Nenner, *Personnel Officer*, and Chairman Thomas for the purpose of developing a plan on how to move forward and bring employees back to work under these new circumstances; he added Ms. Figueroa was working on scheduling their first meeting. Supervisor Simpson advised he would also like to recognize Supervisor Braymer's support of proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 which pertained to area food banks. He asked Supervisor Braymer and all of his colleagues on the Board to participate with him on the "Take 5 for NY Food Banks" challenge. He commended the Northeast Food Bank for the incredible job they did meeting the needs of the community over the past ten weeks.

Supervisor Magowan requested that Frank Morehouse, *Superintendent of Buildings*, and Supervisor

Seeber be added to the working group charged with developing a plan for bringing employees back to work and Supervisor Simpson replied he was agreeable to adding them to the group.

Supervisor Hogan apprised her report would be brief since they had already heard from he representatives of Cornell Cooperative Extension, informing she would encourage everyone to continue to check the organizations website for a wealth of resources to entertain and educate at this point in time. In response to Supervisor Simpson's request for his colleagues to participate in the "Take 5 for NY Food Banks" challenge, she stated she was in full support of the Regional Food Bank because as the former Director for a Food Pantry she fully understood how important there work was and she thanked them for bringing forward a resolution concerning same today which she was fully supportive of.

Supervisor Dickinson stated the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee had met on May 8th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 172-173 and he provided a brief overview of each.

Supervisor Merlino advised the results of a survey distributed by the Tourism Department a few weeks ago indicated individuals were interested in traveling to the region this summer with their main concern being how the region would ensure their safety. He stated they had not commenced with their advertising campaign because they were awaiting on the region to be permitted to reopen, but in the meantime they had been distributing some e-blasts for individuals who had family and friends visiting the region during Memorial Day weekend regarding suggestions of what to do and how to do it safely in the region, as well as what was open. He informed based off of the Smith Travel Report regarding room demands the daily hotel rooms booked was between 500 to 600 in April with that demand increasing to 1,000 in May. In regard to short-term rentals, Supervisor Merlino said once the region was reopened he would be focusing on working on being able to collect occupancy tax from these properties. He said according to Airbnb the demand in the region was for 300 units in the last month which equated to 300 hundred room nights the County was not collecting occupancy tax or sales tax on. He remarked he firmly believed the County should adopt a Local Law to require any business that rented rooms for under thirty days to obtain a permit from the County to make it easier to track these properties. He pointed out how these properties were renting rooms to individuals and yet small businesses such as his own were not allowed to be open to guests. He indicated he believed it was time for them to come together and work on a plan to be able to collect occupancy and sales tax from these properties. Supervisor Merlino advised the Tourism Department was revisiting the Marketing Plan for 2020 to remove some of the promotions they were going to purchase in 2020 which would have no impact on their operations, but would cut the departmental budget to save some money for next year. He expressed his appreciation of Supervisor Wild, Mr. Dittrich, Gina Mintzer, *Executive Director, Lake George Chamber of Commerce & CVB*, Mr. Bittel, Joanne Conley, *Director of Tourism*, and Mr. Bartholomew for their accomplishments in regards to the sixty page pamphlet regarding the plan on how the County can begin to economically recover from this pandemic and he applauded them for working together and developing this plan to restart the tourism industry once the region was allowed to reopen.

Supervisor Strough stated he had no Committee report, but he was requesting support of proposed Resolution No. 173 which would return the amount of Occupancy Tax funding awarded to the Adirondack Balloon Festival to same amount given to them in prior years. He said this funding would be used to safeguard the quality of the event, as well as to take precautionary methods in regards to safety and COVID-19 to accommodate such a substantial crowd. He commended the members of the Adirondack Balloon Festival Committee, which was solely made up of volunteers and lead by Mark Donahue.

Supervisor Magowan advised the Support Services Committee had met on May 11th, approving proposed Resolution No. 190 which he provided a brief overview of. He thanked the Board Members for pulling together to work in conjunction with one another to develop a plan on reopening rather then waiting

for the State because they were more aware of the region than the State officials.

Supervisor Seeber advised she had the opportunity to represent the County as a member of the NACo Resilient Standing Committee on May 13th and again on April 24th, as well as the Public Safety & Criminal Justice Standing Committee on May 1st and 6th, both of which provided the County with information regarding grant funding which required no matching funds along with best practices. She informed Marcy Flores, *Public Defender*, continued to participate in NACo Standing Committee meetings where there were opportunities, as well as the Sheriff Office and the District Attorney; she added she was appreciative of the Supervisors who attended these meetings when they were applicable, as well as to learn of the opportunities available to the County. She informed she and Supervisor Beaty ensured they returned from the NACo National Conference they attended in the beginning of March with as many handouts and brochures as possible which were distributed by Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, to the appropriate Chairs of County Committees. She apprised she and Supervisor Beaty had presented Chairman Thomas with a copy of the book NACo had provided to all who attended the Conference at no cost entitled "It Worked for Me: In Life and Leadership" written by guest speaker Colin Powell. She said they had also distributed as many as they could of the Awareness Pins involved in the Blue Ribbon Campaign to show support of frontline workers. She mentioned in addition there was a Floor Resolution before them that was circulated this past Wednesday afternoon pertaining to supporting the Glens Falls Hospital efforts to seek Federal and State reimbursements to offset the costs related to COVID-19 which Congresswomen Stefanik had mentioned earlier in the meeting. In regard to the public who was watching the meetings on Youtube that inquired about how to leave live comments or ask questions, Supervisor Seeber informed in order to do so the individual would have to create an account with YouTube and log in. She stated Mr. Lehman was working tirelessly managing the County's social media Youtube accounts to ensure all comments or questions were read into the record. She remarked how she felt from day one Mr. Lehman had demonstrated how imperative his position was to the County by providing information to the public as transparently as possible. She remarked how appreciative she was of the quick responses the public was getting to all of their phone calls and emails from the County staff.

Chairman Thomas thanked Supervisor Seeber for the copy of Mr. Powell's book, which he was appreciative of.

Chairman Thomas returned to Supervisor Wild for his Committee report and apologized for inadvertently skipping over him.

Supervisor Wild apprised he was asked by SUNY Adirondack to give a brief speech to their 2020 graduating class. He stated two students had been nominated by SUNY Adirondack that he specifically mentioned in his speech in terms of their accomplishments and their ability to excel in their courses and he hoped the Board would be able to recognize and honor them in person at either the June 19th or July 17th Board Meeting. He stated the Economic Growth & Development and Higher Education Committee had met, but did not approve any resolutions; however, he noted, Chairman Thomas had neglected to mention that Mark Behan, *Behan Communications*, was also a member of the Economic Recovery Task Force, and was a wonderful asset to the group. He advised one of the items this group was working on was referred to as the Communication Theme which concerned building an individual message for all of the organizations and agencies that were working together concerning the tourism industry in the County. He informed they were currently working on extending their guidance to the recreational vehicle parks located within the County to assist with supporting them. He referred to the procedural documents prepared by the hospitality and food and beverage industries which took the CDC (*Center for Disease Control*) guidelines, as well as those set by the Governor and matched them up to assist with guiding how both large and small organizations on adhering to those guidelines to develop their own procedures to help satisfy those. He indicated the Economic Recovery Task Force was not focused on Lake George, but rather how to assist with getting the County tourism industry going

on a County-wide basis and they were moving forward with taking some of these guidance developed a few of the businesses in Lake George and distributing them to the rest of the community; he said he was looking for the Supervisors to assist him with disbursing this information with the idea of having the County businesses come together to note that these were the guidelines and operating procedures that they supported to ensure the Governor was aware they were ready to reopen when it was permissible to do so in a safe manner for not only the guests, but the entire public. He remarked that Messrs. Moore, Lehman and Behan had done an excellent job putting together the Partnership for Recovery document and bringing together all of the businesses which Mr. Moore could discuss in more detail. In regard to safety and masks, Supervisor Wild stated he was unsure how they could ensure individuals complied, but he has spoken to a few individuals from Downstate New York who inquired about what would be open if they visited the region and about masks due to their concerns relating to the fact that the virus infection rate was significantly more in their region and they were concerned with their safety. He said he was unsure how they could ensure individuals wore masks, but he felt everyone needed to work together not only as a Board, but also as a community to try and reinforce that masks were important not only for yourself and the public, but also for businesses because the tourism industry played a significant roll in the regions economy with only a ten to twelve week season where the bulk of the County's sales tax revenue was gained and if anything disrupted this it would have a severe impact on everyone.

Supervisor Leggett requested an update from Brian LaFlure, *Fire Coordinator/Director, Office of Emergency Services*, regarding what his Department had been working on.

Mr. LaFlure stated his Office had become a warehousing operation for the PPE (*Personal Protection Equipment*) supplies being provided from the State's inventory that were being distributed to the hospitals, health centers, nursing homes and other agencies that needed them. He advised this had been challenging for them because they were not set up to handle this type of operation, but they were persevering and were appreciative of all of the assistance they were receiving. In regard to testing kits, Mr. LaFlure apprised as previously mentioned the nursing homes were being tasked with testing their own employees and residents on a bi-weekly basis which according to the Public Health Department equated to sixteen hundred test kits a week and did not include the test kits being used for the test site on the Warren County Municipal Center campus resulting in over two thousand test kits a week would be required; however, he noted, currently the State was only providing up to three hundred of them a week. He said this was a significant issue with the administrators of the nursing homes having serious concerns because there was a deadline of May 20th for when they were required to have a plan in place and the required testing kits; he added this was not just impacting the region here or across the State as this was a national issue because everyone wanted to do the testing, but there was not enough of a supply of testing kits to meet the demand. He informed his Office was attempting to acquire more test kits, but so were all of the other Counties in the State and he was unsure what the outcome would be. He advised his Office had received over thirty thousand cloth face masks which were distributed as quickly as possible, but he wanted to ensure everyone was aware they were required to enter what types of supplies they needed into a system referred to as New York Responds with daily entries being made and in response the State supplied what they decided they wanted to provide and not what was needed which meant they were typically unaware of what supplies they would obtain until they arrived. He said they were trying their best to get these supplies to the people in the field, as it was not productive to store it when there was a need for it. In regard to hand sanitizer, Mr. LaFlure apprised some information was distributed which indicated the County was giving away hand sanitizer, but this was not the case. He said what caused this issue was there was legislation in Executive Order No. 202.30 that indicated if an employer was unable to obtain the PPE's they needed for their employees to meet the requirements of them then they should contact the local Emergency Management Manager which in this case was him; however, he noted, the issue was they did not have any in stock nor were they set up to distribute them to every business that needed some. He thanked Mr. Lehman for posting on the County social media sites that his Office was not responsible for this nor was it a task they were taking

on. He said what was missed within the Executive Order was that businesses should contact their local Emergency Management Manager for hand sanitizer if they had it available which was not the case here in Warren County. In regard to the request last month for a transfer of funds from the Contingent Account to purchase face masks for County employees in order to be able to reopen, Mr. LaFlure advised they had purchased what was necessary and there were more on order with the price remaining reasonable. He thanked the public for donating face masks with the total received thus far being slightly more than 350, all of which were distributed to those in need at the large food pantry events such as the upcoming one for veterans' on May 23rd. He stated one quick thing he would like to mention was the forecast for today was calling for severe storms, but he was hopeful it would not be severe enough to cause issues in the County and he wanted to ensure everyone was aware the County was listed as one of the regions who may have more severe storms than other areas. Lastly, he voiced his appreciation of everyone's support for the storage building whose construction on the campus was in progress with no issues with the contractor whose work was being overseen by the DPW.

Supervisor Leggett thanked Mr. LaFlure for the update, apprising the Office of Emergency Services was doing a great job working behind the scenes assisting the County with its response to this pandemic in coordination with all of the other departments.

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

- * Kevin Monroe for 20 years of service to the DPW; and
- * Linda Lewis for 15 years of service to the Office for the Aging.

In regard to Supervisor Wild giving him credit for putting together the Partnership for Recovery report, he stated he should not get this credit because he only wrote three pages of the report that had fifty authors from various sectors in the economy who were all busy, but took the time to get a rough draft to the County by the deadline. He credited Messrs. Lehman and Behan for the significant amount of copy editing and supplemental writing they did for the report, such as the executive summary and Peter Girard from the County Tourism Department formatting it to make it look nice. He thanked all of the individuals who contributed to the report, adding they were the ones who deserved the credit for the report. He apprised Mr. Bartholomew was the one who came up with the idea and pushed to bring this to fruition and he was grateful to him for doing so.

In regard to the issue with conflicting data, Mr. Moore informed the County received data from the hospitals which the County provided to the public and the hospitals provided data to the State which was then relayed to the public creating a significant amount of room for error. He said although Warren County did not have an issue because it only had one hospital the Control Room which he was participating in was attempting to clear that up to ensure all the communication was flowing in the same direction so that everyone was working off the same figures. He apprised it appeared one of the southern counties hospitals was reporting hospitalizations that were essentially individuals from Downstate New York that were transferred to them and should not have been part of the Capital Regions figures. He stated their goal was to have this remedied by this evening.

Mr. Moore advised there was a significant amount of guidance on the New York Forward website regarding the rules that had been written regarding Phases One and Two, but there were not very many details regarding Phases Three and Four which was causing some frustration because businesses needed time to determine what they needed to do in order to be able to reopen. He apprised while the rules were not written yet for these phases he felt this was a good time for businesses to think about how they would go about reopening in a manner that was safe for the public's health by using all of the public health guidelines and social distancing recommendations that could then be proposed to the other County and State officials. He stated although this required a substantial amount of work the regions businesses were embracing it because they did not want to take any unsafe actions. He

informed there were two competing desires here, the first of which was to ensure everyone's safety by keeping the region closed and the other was to reopen businesses for purposes of economic prosperity and what the County was attempting to do was to push the border where they met to an area that satisfied all entities and he thanked everyone that was working with them on that.

In regard to recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds, Mr. Moore apprised these locations had never been part of other types of accommodations and included in the pause guidelines that were distributed in March were exceptions for hotels and other accommodations; however, he noted, recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds were classified under recreation. He informed some of the individual campgrounds and their advocacy organizations had made their own interpretations of what other accommodations meant, but the official position of the State was that all of these locations were to remain closed until the State determined it was permissible for them to reopen. He advised the County and more specifically Sheriff LaFarr had some concerns with that determination due to this creating situations of homelessness for those who lived in a recreational vehicle for part of the year in the southern portion of the Country and then traveled to the region to live the other half of the year here for the other half of the year. He said as an example there were individuals like this that were escorted out of the State of Vermont into New York State during the months of March and April. He apprised in situations such as this when all of the recreational vehicle parks were closed these individuals would end up parking in the Walmart parking lot and dumping their sewage tanks in public causing sanitation issues. He indicated as a result of this the County developed what was referred to as Safe Harbor Protocols with the assistance of Sheriff LaFarr and the Public Health Department which was approved by the State in early to mid April. He stated the notion that these had always been permitted and that some Counties were going out on their own was not true and was actually just the opposite because none of it was permissible, but to some extent Counties such as this one had been able to have minimal exceptions made to accommodate public health needs. He stated this had been a State-wide issue such as in Rensselaer County with one County that bordered them making no exceptions for these locations while the other County that bordered them allowed them to remain open for all visitors causing issues for them since they were located in between them. He remarked this was a good example of why Counties were threatening to go rogue as previously mentioned by Chairman Thomas, but Warren County had been attempting to do their best using the guidelines and he was working with individuals to develop something appropriate with regard to how they could turn the page and move forward.

Mr. Moore informed that County Departments continued to operate to the extent that they could with those who were able to work from home doing so and if there was something that needed to be done that could not be done from home then staff should try to complete the task with minimal staff as quickly as possible in the office. He mentioned during all of this the departments had not only maintained their essential services, but they had also handled a number of tasks that were outside of their scope of services to assist the County. He advised the Board of Elections and Department of Motor Vehicles had been working with Supervisor Magowan and the Buildings and Grounds Department to construct the County's own plexiglass shields for polling places and the Department of Motor Vehicles Office to be ready when the County was reopened resulting in a savings while also protecting the public's health. He pointed out a company had attempted to sell the County a shield that would be placed over one of the polling site tables for \$500 a piece, but instead Buildings and Grounds was able to construct something similar for about \$50 a shield.

Mr. Moore advised Mrs. Allen had worked with Countryside Adult Home to collect Mother's Day cards for the residents of the facility who were mothers and were unable to see their children or families. He stated Mr. Lehman posted photographs of the party the facility held on the County website which was uplifting. He apprised he was working on an even more pleasing initiative with the Probation Department, but he would not provide anymore details then this and encouraged anyone interested in knowing more to contact the Probation Department. He informed the Probation Department had been working in the field assisting the Sheriff's Department to educate the public about social

distancing and the importance of wearing face masks which he was very appreciative of because they were going above and beyond their normal duties to assist the Sheriff's Office. He apprised his understanding was that Mr. Hajos paid for the certificate of insurance out of his own pocket for the Food Drive being held at the County Fairgrounds next weekend which he acknowledged Mr. Hajos, as well as the Supervisors who were instrumental in this event. He stated Mr. Hajos had also been very proactive about establishing safety programs for his staff to phase them back to work while also ensuring there was no disruption in the work that needed to be taken care of, such as filling in pot holes on County Roads. He informed the Employment & Training Administration had been doing an exceptional job during this entire pandemic with a significant amount of progress made over this past week on the Workforce Development Board which would become critical link to getting individuals back to work while also ensuring businesses had workers who were trained and ready to begin working for them and he thanked Ms. Ochsendorf and her colleagues from the other two Counties for making these improvements. He advised the Department of Social Services staff were the unsung heroes because it was easier to observe the impact of the front line workers like the County nursing staff, Sheriff's Officers and the Office of Emergency Services then that of the Department of Social Services Caseworkers who had remained out in the field working with individuals in the community requiring assistance who continued to do a great job and were deserving of more credit then they received. He mentioned it was a constant struggle for the Office of Emergency Services staff to obtain PPE's, as the State was only providing a subset of what was needed, but the staff was doing their best under the circumstances to distribute the supplies they had access to accordingly. He indicated he had previously recognized the Tourism Department for their work on the Partnership for Recovery Report. He stated Sara Frankenfeld, *GIS Administrator, Planning & Community Development*, and Mr. Lehman had been a dynamic duo as it pertained to distributing information to the public which he was appreciative of. He remarked he would like to echo Mr. Swan's comments regarding the Treasurer's Office staff which he was also pleased with for not only completing their tasks on time, but also for doing things in the correct manner to ensure they remained compliant with the rules.

Supervisor Conover advised he was hopeful when the region reopened that the number of reservations at area hotels and other accommodations would increase; however, he noted, there was a concern with how they would feed those visiting the area since restaurants that were not offering take out service were required to remain closed until Phase 3. He requested that Mr. Moore address this by talking to the representatives of the NYS DOH (*New York State Department of Health*) and ask if it would be possible at the minimum to accelerate the process to allow for outdoor dining if adequately spaced as opposed to indoor dining. He indicated his concern was that indoor dining would not be permitted until mid to late June or even later which would be devastating from an economic point of view. He pointed out the vast majority of establishments had patios or some form of outdoor space that would allow them to comply with any type of spacing requirements that were instituted. He recommended Mr. Moore propose this suggestion to the NYS DOH to see if they would be agreeable like they were to his suggestion for car and boat hops. Mr. Moore commented that Supervisor Conover had made a good point because if restaurants were operating take out service with a skeleton crew they could certainly determine how to ramp up this service. He mentioned when the survey was conducted on individuals interested in traveling to the region about 70% of the respondents indicated they would be satisfied with take out food service with the remainder indicating they were only interested in dining in options. He stated customers would be able to go inside restaurants when it was deemed safe to do so, but the restaurants may not be permitted to operate their HVAC (*Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning*) systems and instead have to have a substantial amount of fresh air blowing in from the outside, as well as reduced capacity regarding the number of table permitted in the facility. He advised the car hop was an admirable idea he had worked on with others, as well as the NYS DOH to ensure that it could be done in a safe manner.

Continuing with the Agenda review with the report by the County Attorney, Mary Elizabeth Kissane, *County Attorney*, apprised she had nothing to report on.

Resuming the Agenda review, Chairman Thomas called for the reading of communications, which Mrs. Allen read aloud, as follows:

Letters/emails from:

1. NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation - announcing that the Hague Baptist Church is to be considered at their June 11, 2020 meeting for nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.
2. Town of Queensbury - Resolution No. 172 of 2020, *Resolution Setting Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law to Amend Chapter 179 "Zoning" of Queensbury Town Code to Revise §179-4-090 "Parking & Loading Regulations"*, and Notice of Public Hearing concerning same.

Continuing to the reading of resolutions, Mrs. Allen announced proposed Resolution Nos. 162-189 were mailed; she apprised Resolution Nos. 190-192 were produced after mailing, pursuant to action taken at the May 11th joint meeting of the Support Services and Finance Committees and a motion was needed to bring them to the floor. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Simpson, seconded by Supervisor Leggett and carried unanimously. She advised there were two Floor Resolutions before them for their consideration, the first of which was Floor Resolution No. 1 which pertained to the Food Bank Challenge and if the Board was interested in entertaining this resolution a motion was required to bring it to the floor. Chairman Thomas inquired whether it was necessary to first Waive the Rules of the Board and Mrs. Allen replied in the negative, explaining it was not necessary since the resolution was mailed on time. The required motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Magowan and carried unanimously. Mrs. Allen informed proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 pertained to endorsing Glens Falls Hospital's efforts to obtain Federal and State reimbursements and because it did not meet the distribution deadline required by the Rules of the Board a motion to Waive the Rules would be necessary to entertain this matter, as well as another to bring it to the floor. A motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by supervisor Simpson and carried unanimously to Waive the Rules of the Board as outlined above. Chairman Thomas called for a motion to bring the matter involving the Glens Falls Hospital to the floor. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Magowan and carried unanimously to bring Floor Resolution No. 2 to the floor. Mrs. Allen stated Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as Resolution No. 193, the resolution to Waive the Rules of the Board would be 194 and Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as Resolution No. 195.

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

Supervisor Diamond advised he would like to discuss Resolution Nos. 178, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Various Bidders for Warren County 2020 Highway Projects (WC 8-20)*, and Resolution No. 186, *Establishing 2020 Road Fund Projects and Amending Warren County Budget for 2020*. Mr. Diamond stated the reason he would like to discuss Resolution No. 178 was because he wanted to know if the total amount for the two contracts being awarded in Resolution No. 178 for road work was reflected in Resolution No. 186 which concerned the total amount of money being appropriated for Road Projects, as there appeared to be a difference between the two of \$268,642 and he was wondering what the reason was for the difference. Mr. Moore replied he believed the difference was from unexpended funds from last years Road Projects. Supervisor Diamond questioned where the \$268,642 would be spent and Mr. Hajos responded the difference was that it was money that was carried over from last year that were put into projects. He explained \$3 million had been budgeted for Road Projects in 2020 and then there was the funds that rolled over from last year which was a result of savings on Road Projects or from funds that were set aside in Road Projects in case unforeseen issues occurred and if not then the money set aside for that purpose was rolled over into the next year. He stated this year they had put out to bid a number of Road Projects, but they only moved forward with the Projects they could with the \$3 million that was budgeted and what was carried over from last year. Supervisor Diamond apprised he interpreted this to mean there was a contingency built into these Road

Projects for unforeseen changes that may occur. Mr. Hajos replied they billed by item number and used estimates for each one of the Road Projects, such as an estimate that 100,000 pounds of pavement would be used; however, he noted, if less than 1,000,000 pounds was used then the contractor would only be paid for what was consumed which would result in a savings. He stated each of these Road Projects included a ten percent contingency for unforeseen conditions, but it was not used then these funds were rolled over. He added the rollover was not just from the contingency, it was comprised of savings in Road Projects. Supervisor Diamond asked whether the contingent amount could increase or decrease depending on if it was used for unforeseen circumstances and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 179, *Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2020*, Supervisor Braymer apprised while she was aware the Sheriff had a plan for this position to come into play next year and she did question him a significant amount on this and the prior resolution at the Committee Meeting, she understood where he was going, she took to heart what Mr. Swan had mentioned about the loss of around 30% in sales tax revenue and would urge the Board Members to take action as soon as possible to reduce County expenses where it was possible and not on the personnel side, as she was opposed to laying off employees until they explored other options where expenses could be cut, but they had yet to do this. She expressed her concern as it related to current employees and were doing a great job and she would insist to look at places where expenses could be reduced to avoid any layoffs of existing employees.

In response to Supervisor Braymer's comments regarding proposed Resolution No. 179, *Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2020*, Supervisor Leggett advised it was explained at Committee this purpose of the position for the Sheriff's Office was to assist with filling a vacancy due to a Patrol Officer being called up on Reserve Duty to serve, as well as in anticipation of a retirement to have someone in place when that occurred. He said the argument for this was that if they did not have the full staff then others were required to work overtime resulting in an increase in that expense.

Supervisor Braymer informed she was not questioning the Sheriff, she was just concerned about adding an additional employee for next year when they were going to be dealing with a substantial decrease in the amount of revenue they received this year and were unsure how this would impact them next year. She said she wanted to note this to ensure they were keeping this in mind when they were considering adding new positions which she believed the Sheriff had done in this case.

Supervisor Diamond advised he had also attended the Committee meeting where the position for the Sheriff's Office was discussed; however, he noted, since he understood the financial situation the County was dealing with where there would be a reduction in sales tax revenue and the amount of State aid received he was unwilling at this time to make the commitment to hire someone new with the possibility that the position may have to be eliminated in 2021. He stated the Sheriff had mentioned at the Committee meeting that he would like the staffing level of his Department to return to where it was in 2009 before cuts were made. He said every law enforcement agency within the County was working diligently to provide the best service they could; however, he noted, realistically they were heading into the unknown as far as what the economy would be and he did not believe it was reasonable to think that staffing levels would return to where they were during better financial times. He apprised he was unwilling to create this position and hire someone when there position could be eliminated in 2021 which was why he would be voting in opposition of proposed Resolution No.179, *Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2020*.

Supervisor Wild apprised he was looking at this from a different angle because this related to a public safety issue with the Sheriff and his staff out in the field dealing with the public with no protection from this virus other than their own means and he could not fathom having to cut the departments resources which was why he would be voting in support of proposed Resolution No. 179, 179,

Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2020.

Supervisor Geraghty informed speaking as the County Budget Officer this position was vetted by the Committee and during their discussion on the County Budget and positions they determined they would move forward with positions that impacted public safety, were related to the Coronavirus, or were necessary for the County. He said he was fully supportive of this position because it would have an impact on the public's safety.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 193, *Accepting the County Food Bank Challenge to Lead a Public Awareness Effort Encouraging Participants to "Take 5 for NY Food Banks" by Donating Money, Time And/or Appreciation for the Dedicated and Selfless Contributions of New York State's Food Bank Workers*, Supervisor Driscoll stated he would like to thank all of the individuals who assisted in the coordination of the Take 5 for NY Food Banks challenge, as he believed this was an excellent opportunity to support the regional food banks efforts in a competitive, challenging way for the County. He mentioned many of the local food pantries were also in need of donations of money, food and personal care items, as well as volunteers. He pointed out there was a shortage of volunteers during the last few months as a result of the Coronavirus resulting in challenges for the food pantries to distribute food to those in need and he asked everyone to consider donating money and food to these agencies or to volunteer their time to assist them with their operations.

Supervisor Braymer advised that she and Supervisor Driscoll had attended the Salvation Army's Drive Thru Food Pantry at the Aviation Mall at the end of April which was well attended by volunteers with over five hundred vehicles going through that day. She stated there was another scheduled for May 22nd at the Warren County Fairgrounds beginning at 11:00 a.m. and was open for anyone in need of food donations. She concluded by encouraging all of the Supervisors to come with their face masks on and volunteer to assist with the operation of the event.

In regard to proposed Resolution No. 186, *Establishing 2020 Road Fund Projects and Amending Warren County Budget for 2020*, Supervisor Diamond informed the City of Glens Falls was responsible for 9% of the total cost of these Road Projects which he was supportive of regardless of where they were located, but he was questioning which Committee he should address his request that the County assist the City of Glens Falls with some ongoing paving projects in the future. Chairman Thomas responded the appropriate Committee to entertain this request would be Public Works.

Chairman Thomas asked Mr. Lehman if there were any public comments pertaining to resolutions and Mr. Lehman replied there were no specific questions or comments regarding the resolutions, but there were some remarks pertaining to issues that were not related to resolutions.

Chairman Thomas called for a vote on resolutions, following which Resolution No. 162-195 were approved.

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

Mr. Lehman apprised there were a few questions and comments, the first of which was from a woman named Cassie who asked the following question via the County Facebook account: There were non-essential businesses that had remained open and were not following State protocol and had risked workers and customers health out of greed, but nothing was being done about it. Who should be responsible for enforcement actions? Chairman Thomas responded local government which in this case was the County were responsible for enforcement actions; therefore, he said, this business should be turned into the Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement Office, Public Health or the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Lehman stated there was a comment from someone who was advocating for better internet service in underserved areas. He advised other than that there were also a significant number of individuals congratulating Supervisor Diamond for his presentation earlier. Supervisor Braymer interjected that was not all of the comments. Mr. Lehman informed a substantial amount of the comments pertained to topics that were not applicable to this meeting, but he would be happy to read all of them if that was their desire. Supervisor Braymer said she would like to read one of the which asked the following question: Could bulk PPE from manufacturers be a possibility of promoting the spread of COVID-19? Are shipments of PPE being tested validity? Supervisor Braymer apprised she was unsure of what the answer was, but she was uncertain why they would limit the public's comments, as this was not done under normal circumstances. Mr. Lehman restated he could read each comment if that was the desire of the Board. Mr. LaFlure responded to the question regarding PPE, informing the PPE the County received had already been validated by the State because it went through their warehouse first and had to be checked following which it was distributed to the County resulting in no need for concern regarding the PPE the County received from the State. He stated there were some businesses in the Capital Region who purchased PPE, but when they received their order it was not what was expected and did not meet the requirements and he cautioned against ordering these supplies from places who required the money up front. He apprised it was unfortunate that due to the demand for PPE, businesses had made purchases that they typically would not have made.

Mr. Lehman inquired if they would like him to read the remainder of the comments. Supervisor Conover pointed out if an individual was present at the meeting and standing at the podium to ask a question there may not be a Department Head present to answer the question or the relevant materials in front of them to answer the question. He suggested under the current circumstances with the Coronavirus and using Zoom for meetings that any of the questions that were not addressed at the meeting today could be forwarded to the appropriate Department Head for response to the individual asking the question. He said that would be his recommendation otherwise this meeting would be more like a Committee meeting when that was not necessary because the questions could be disbursed to the appropriate Department Head. He stated they were not structured to handle an influx of questions with their current meeting format. Chairman Thomas remarked he believed Supervisor Conover had made a good suggestion and he did not disagree with that he was proposing.

Supervisor Seeber advised while Supervisor Conover may have raised some valid points about procedure and policies as it related to the County's public comment during these unprecedented time, but she also believed what Mr. Lehman and Supervisor Braymer were bringing up was important because the residents had been told to watch the meetings on Youtube live to create an account and log in to make a comment. She said there were some very valid comments regarding feelings, concerns and frustrations and she encouraged every Supervisor to read all of the comments on the Youtube live posting and ensure that these comments were retained. She informed Mr. Lehman was fielding phone calls, emails and texts during the entire meeting from individuals from Facebook, Twitter, email, etc. She advised to the extent there were questions and she thanked Mr. LaFlure for answering the question regarding PPE; however, she noted, it was difficult to keep up with the multiple locations where the questions and comments were made to address those. She remarked Warren County was doing an incredible job with public comments while many other Counties were struggling which was why she preferred not to limit that participation with twenty-nine individuals watching the meeting and additional individuals listening. She apprised she believed the more individuals they were able to distribute their information to the better and she felt they could develop some procedures if in fact this became their new normal.

Chairman Thomas stated in regard to the Board Meeting he believed they were going to limit questions and comments to specific questions because if they reviewed all of the comments it would make the meeting going on for a long period of time. He added he concurred with Supervisor Seeber that the comments should be retained to allow anyone who wanted to review them.

Supervisor Diamond informed the briefing they had about the status of the community and region provided by Supervisor Wild and the Economic Growth & Development and Higher Education Committee was very informed, but he would like a half hour after the briefing to be provided for Supervisors and public questions to allow for ample time to understand the presentation and ask those questions. Supervisor Wild responded that he would do his best to ensure this occurred, but at the same time anyone could contact him via email or phone calls.

Chairman Thomas called for announcements.

Chairman Thomas advised he would like to bring everyone's attention to the Proclamation included in the resolution packet which proclaimed May 2020 as "Foster Care Awareness Month". He added the week of May 10-16, 2020 was proclaimed to be "Nursing Home Week" in Warren County.

Supervisor Driscoll informed a number of them had heard from constituents regarding individuals who chose not to wear masks and were not following the guidelines and protocols. He stated this past week someone had called to turn in a church located in his Ward in the City of Glens Falls for not following proper protocol when they were distributing food to the community, but it was determined they were in compliance. He apprised he would like to compliment the individual who called to turn them in because they were looking out for the health and safety of their neighbors and for the church for providing a meal to the public in need. He advised he had also received a phone call from one of his constituents who was under mandatory quarantine and received a phone call from Public Health everyday, as well as a visit from the Sheriff's Department who parked their patrol car in front of his home. He informed this individual voiced their concerns about civil liberties and all of those types of things for being called out as an innocent victim who caught the virus from a family member. He advised he concurred with him that no one wanted a Sheriff's vehicle parked in front of their home on a daily basis for a two week period, but he explained to this individual both parties were doing their jobs and he did not foresee an alternative to this because they were doing it for the public safety for the community.

Supervisor Beaty stated the residents of the Town of Queensbury were doing an exceptional job submitting their Census reports with them being ahead of the County and National average; he added the residents of the City of Glens Falls were also doing a good job with competing their Census. He implored with the residents of the other municipalities in the County to catch up in their responses which were vital for the County to get their fair share of Federal and State funding and this would not occur if individuals did not respond to the Census so they would be counted in the County's population.

In regard to the vacancy on the Queensbury Town Board that the Town would be appointing someone to, Supervisor Beaty apprised he was hoping the Town of Queensbury would conduct the interviews of the applicants seeking the position in an open format to allow the Town residents to hear the responses to the questions from the applicants and ensure the process was as transparent as possible.

Supervisor Beaty stated he and Supervisors Magowan and Seeber were delivering masks to seniors, convenient stores and restaurants to distribute to customers that did not have one to ensure the public's safety. He said this had been a time consuming task for all of them, but they felt it was worthwhile.

Supervisor Geraghty apprised while he applauded Supervisors Beaty, Magowan and Seeber's efforts, he wanted to ensure everyone was aware the Town of Warrensburg had been doing it since they received their first shipment of masks two weeks ago. He informed they had just received an additional shipment of 1,000 more masks and would welcome anyone in need to come to the Warrensburg Town Hall and knock on the door that was facing the Cumberland Farms convenience store or they could call

the Office to schedule pick up. He voiced his appreciation to the residents for wearing the masks, as he was well aware of how uncomfortable they could be at times and he had observed a few people without them in stores. He mentioned they would also accommodate request from other municipalities who had no supply of masks to the best of their ability.

Supervisor Wild advised he would like to expand upon what Mr. Moore had mentioned with regard to the Economic Recovery Task Force with a substantial amount of individuals involved with putting together their reopening strategy which rendered it impossible to thank everyone on an individual basis, but he wanted to express his gratitude toward them and note that he was looking forward to continuing to work with them.

Mr. Moore informed he would be distributing a link to a story that was broadcast on WNYT News Channel 13 regarding an individual who had been on a ventilator since around the beginning of this pandemic who received the plasma transfusion. He said not only was this a great story, but it was also of significance from the perspective that this individual who was a Warren County resident was one of the first in the Country to have a successful plasma transfusion and Glens Falls Hospital was one the first hospitals in the Country to offer this type of treatment. He stated this was a major success and he would email the link for the broadcast to the Board.

Supervisor Seeber stated Supervisor Geraghty was correct, as the towns had been distributing masks to the public for several weeks now thanks to the coordination and donations from the State and Office of Emergency Services, but not all Supervisors had this opportunity until this week. She advised she was pleased with the teamwork and effort to include the At-Large and Ward Representatives in all of the mask and hand sanitizer distributions. She stated she would like to take this opportunity to reach out to the shoppers who used the grocery delivery services because they had no method of transportation and were unable to attend the drive thru events where masks were distributed to notify them they were doing their best to deliver masks to them. She acknowledged Supervisor Geraghty for offering to provide masks to anyone in need, as she was aware there were a significant amount of residents who were looking for them.

Supervisor Simpson advised he would like to take a moment to thank Mr. Hajos and his staff, Supervisor Geraghty, Mr. Moore and Chairman Thomas for accelerating the process involved with the Drive Thru Food Pantry event at the Warren County Fairgrounds. He said the event was scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 22nd and he encouraged his colleagues on the Board to volunteer at the event.

Supervisor Diamond exited the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Supervisor Strough stated this was the first he had learned of any masks being given away, apprising the Town of Queensbury had almost depleted their inventory of them due to the steady stream of requests for them. He thanked Supervisor Geraghty for offering to share some of his inventory with the Town of Queensbury, as he was the only one who had extended an offer like this to them. He remarked he was looking forward to receiving an additional supply of masks to provide to the residents of the Town of Queensbury.

In regard to the interviews that would be conducted for the vacancy on the Queensbury Town Board, Supervisor Strough informed this was not a County issue, but he wanted to ensure everyone was aware whatever process the Town of Queensbury used to fill this vacancy would be a legal process that was in the best interests of the Town citizens.

Chairman Thomas apprised he would like to extend his condolences to the families of those who had a loved one pass away as a result of the Coronavirus who were residents of the local nursing homes and

recognize what was occurring there was a tragedy. He said the silver lining coming out of this was that the County and State officials would now be more mindful of these facilities and their residents.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Geraghty and seconded by Supervisor Dickinson, Chairman Thomas adjourned the Board Meeting at 1:02 p.m.