

Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2013**



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

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Mason.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Monroe, Girard, McDevitt, Taylor, Loeb, Kenny, Frasier, Bentley, Dickinson, Merlino, Montesi, Mason, Strainer, Westcott, Sokol, Thomas, Wood and Geraghty - 19.

Supervisor Vanselow absent - 1.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2012 Board Meeting and the January 4, 2013 Organization Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Commencing the agenda review, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing for proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2013, entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 3 of 1981 Entitled A Local Law to Provide for the Establishment of a County Self-Insurance Plan Pursuant to Article 5 of the Workers' Compensation Law", open at 10:02 a.m. and requested that Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, read the Notice of Public Hearing. Chairman Geraghty summarized that the purpose of the Local Law was to amend a prior Local Law pertaining to the Self-Insurance Administration to include the recently created position of Deputy Self-Insurance Administrator. He called for public comment on the proposed Local Law and there being none, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing closed at 10:03 a.m.

Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing for proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2013 entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 2 of 2007 Prohibiting Entry Into and Remaining in County Buildings by Persons in Physical Possession of a Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Instrument" open at 10:04 a.m. and he requested that Mrs. Sady read the Notice of Public Hearing. Chairman Geraghty called for comment on the proposed Local Law and Mr. Montesi questioned whether this would be a "feel good" measure or if the updated legislation would prompt the introduction of magnetometers to detect the weapons being outlawed in County Buildings. Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, responded that the suggestion to update the Local Law had been referred to him by Amy Clute, Self-Insurance Administrator, following which he had reviewed the Law to determine whether it was compliant with the current State Law and whether any amendments were required. Mr. Auffredou stated that the Local Law did not suggest the introduction of magnetometers for County Buildings and was just being updated. Mr. Montesi concluded that this would be a "feel good" measure because there was no means to determine the presence of a person was carrying a concealed weapon or dangerous instrument. There being no further comment, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing closed at 10:07 a.m.

Continuing, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing for proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2013 entitled "A Local Law Amending, Superceding and Consolidating Local Law No. 4 of 1981 - Rules and Regulations for the Administration of the Warren County Self-Insurance Plan and as Subsequently Amended", open at 10:08 a.m. and he requested Mrs. Sady read the Notice of Public Hearing. Chairman

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Geraghty summarized that proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2013 sought to consolidate amendments made to the rules and regulations for administration of the Self-Insurance Plan and incorporate them into one new Local Law. Mr. Auffredou confirmed this was a correct assertion, and he advised that the new Law would also provide clarification on the process required by a municipality to separate from the Self-Insurance Plan and the obligations to the Plan upon doing so. There being no comments, Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing closed at 10:09 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Blais, Mayor of the Village of Lake George, to address the Board with respect to the issue of casino gambling. Mayor Blais commented that Governor Cuomo's recent State of the State Address gave the impression that provisions to allow casino gambling in certain parts of the State would soon become a viable possibility with the issue being voted on by public referendum on the November 2013 ballot. He noted that neighboring Saratoga County had already approved a resolution indicating their interest in having Saratoga County named as one of the sites approved for casino gambling and he suggested the Board of Supervisors consider commissioning a study to answer many of the prevalent questions about whether casino gambling was a desirable option for Warren County. Mayor Blais advised that he had received copies of similar studies completed for several other areas, but noted that after reviewing them he had determined that none could be directly applied to Warren County, due to its unique features, thereby requiring an independent study. He stated that he had yet to form an opinion as to whether he was for or against casino gambling in Warren County and he anticipated that the recommended study would assist himself and the members of the Board of Supervisors to form an opinion on the issue, as well as to answer the many questions they were likely to receive from constituents. Mayor Blais advised there were many important and complex questions to be answered, such as the effects to the area and the anticipated location and impact fees to attract a casino gambling outfit to Warren County. He said it appeared casino gambling had the potential to introduce an enormous revenue stream and year-round tourism to the area, and although they might ultimately decide the option was not right for Warren County, he felt it was a matter that should be seriously considered before forming an opinion that would ultimately be relayed to Governor Cuomo when Warren County was asked about their interest.

Chairman Geraghty informed that he had asked that this issue be discussed at the next meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee to determine a potential source of funding to cover the County's costs for such a study. Mr. Dickinson asked for a general estimate of cost for the gaming study and Mayor Blais responded that he could not provide one. He said the studies he had accumulated were performed by the Spectrum Gaming Group, located in Lynwood, NJ, and based on the substantial nature of the studies, he would assume they might be a bit costly. Mayor Blais commented that while certain facets of Warren County made it very different from the areas identified in other studies, much of the information provided would be the same and could be transferred to the Warren County study without requiring extensive work, possibly lowering the study costs. He advised that much like the purchasing policies employed by the Village of Lake George, the County would be required to seek out quotes for the study before selecting a firm to proceed with the work.

Mr. Kenny advised that while he had no objection to Chairman Geraghty's request that the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee review this issue at their next meeting, he would request that assurances be made by Governor Cuomo that Warren County was being considered as one of the possible sites for approval of casino gambling allowances before an investment in a study was made. He noted that Governor Cuomo had indicated seven sites in the upstate NY area would be determined, but he had not been specific about exclusive territory; he added that it appeared Saratoga County was destined to be identified as one of these areas, due to their readiness to accommodate through the presence of their Racino facility, and he was unsure whether Warren County would be a viable candidate due to the close proximity of the two Counties and the fact that Warren County would have to start from scratch to introduce a gaming establishment. Mr. Westcott agreed with Mr. Kenny's recommendation and

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suggested that the Economic Development Corporation of Warren County be consulted on the matter, as well.

Mr. Monroe said another element to consider was whether the legislation approved would authorize casino gambling in certain areas or if there would be a local option. He said that many years ago a proposal had been introduced to leave the final decision to each local government and he suggested that this issue be discussed by the Legislative & Rules Committee to possibly renew these provisions.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Assemblyman Dan Stec who reported that he was settling into his new position and advised that he had retained all of the same contact information as his predecessor, former Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward. He said that although the State Assembly building was very large and easy to get lost in, he was learning his way around and becoming more comfortable. In comparison to the process recently used to achieve a State-wide ban on assault rifles, Assemblyman Stec stated that the Board of Supervisors employed a preferable legislative process when adopting Local Laws which included a transparent process and public participation and he said the public should be aware and proud of the way business was being conducted. He commented that regardless of an individual's position on the gun control issue, everyone should be concerned with the process used to achieve the recent State legislation, which he felt was an embarrassment to the democratic process.

With respect to the recent press release from the NYSDEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) regarding mandatory boat washing, Assemblyman Stec commented that although most were disappointed that more financial assistance was not provided and there was a general feeling that their attempt would not address the problem fast enough, at least the process was still ongoing in an attempt to get to synchronize and implement the boat washing effort to get it in place. He stated that it did not appear the boat washing would be implemented in 2013 and he hoped that this delay would not lead to introduction of new invasive species. Assemblyman Stec said he also understood varying opinions as to whether solutions implemented should be only for Lake George or on a State-wide basis and he opined that while he felt a State-wide plan should be developed, he could not fault the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) for focusing solely on Lake George as that was their charge. Additionally, he noted that NYSDEC was trying to do their job but had a lot of concerns to address and he commented that bureaucracies were not always able to act upon issues as quickly as some might like. Assemblyman Stec advised that if assistance was necessary, he could be contacted with respect to either the invasive species or casino gambling issues. A round of applause was given.

Chairman Geraghty thanked both Mayor Blais and Assemblyman Stec for attending the meeting, as well as for their comments, noting that they were fortunate to have heard leaders from both ends of the political spectrum speak.

Resuming the agenda review with the Report by the Chairman of the Board, Chairman Geraghty apprised that he had been invited to attend Governor Cuomo's State of the State Address and he commented that it had been very interesting to see how things worked at the Capitol during these events; he added that he felt it was a good way to begin his tenure as Chairman.

Chairman Geraghty called for reports by Committee Chairmen on the past months meetings or activities and the following gave verbal reports: Supervisor Conover, Finance; Supervisor Monroe, Legislative & Rules and Park Operations & Management; Supervisor Taylor, Personnel and Economic Growth & Development; Supervisor Loeb, Social Services; Supervisor Dickinson, Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks; and Supervisor Merlino, Tourism.

Mr. Conover announced the Finance Committee had met on January 8th and approved proposed

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Resolution Nos. 23-39, 52 and 53, all of which were very straightforward and needed no explanation.

The Legislative & Rules Committee had last met jointly with the Invasive Species Sub-Committee during the month of November, Mr. Monroe advised, to discuss the invasive species issue in Lake George and the proposed general APA (Adirondack Park Agency) permit for the matting process associated with the Asian Clam eradication effort. He said while both Committees were in favor of the general permit for matting, they felt it should be expanded to allow more than three acres to be treated, to allow the mats to stay in place for more than two years and to remove the restrictions requiring separations of 200' between the mats. Mr. Monroe announced that at their recent meeting the APA had approved the general permit, but had not made the requested modifications. He said the APA's position was that excessive treatment would negatively impact wetland areas; however, he noted, their counter argument was that the Asian Clam and other invasive species had a greater impact on wetland areas. One thing they could move forward with, Mr. Monroe stated, was appropriating funding for education as all groups agreed that education had to be part of the eradication effort. He continued that a line item should be added to the County Budget not only for the education part, but also for rapid response when necessary as sometimes these problems had the potential to grow out of control while trying to identify a source of funding. Mr. Monroe advised these issues would be discussed further at the next Legislative & Rules Committee meeting.

With respect to the last Park Operations & Management Committee meeting, Mr. Monroe advised Mayor Blais had presented information on a few winter events slated for the former Gaslight Village property, which were voted on and approved at the December 21st Board meeting. He stated that the Big Apple Circus would be returning to the property in 2013 and they were seeking access to Beach Road, which was causing an issue because the land swap agreement associated with the former Gaslight Village property was not yet complete; he asked Mr. Auffredou to comment on the status of the agreement. Mr. Auffredou advised that the final step in the land swap process was the finalization of the property survey and he said that earlier in the week he had received a copy of the final compilation plan by email. He noted that the email copy was difficult to read, but said that when he received the hard copy being mailed to him, he would be sure to review it with both Mr. Monroe and Jeffery Tennyson, Superintendent of Public Works. Mr. Auffredou said that some of the other parties involved have a couple of title and mortgage related tasks to complete with their respective lenders and the resolving of these issues were the only factors that might delay the closing date for the land swap. He concluded that he had received an alternate email which included a proposed schedule for closing that estimated a March or April closing date and Mr. Auffredou said he felt this was a realistic timeline. Mr. Monroe thanked Mr. Auffredou for the update.

Mr. Taylor noted that the Personnel Committee had met on January 8th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 44-49, most of which authorized the filling of positions vacated during the hiring freeze, as well as a couple that deleted and created new positions to make operations more efficient. He pointed out proposed Resolution No. 54, Amending Resolution No. 308 of 1996; Affirming, Restating and Amending Personnel Policies for Employees Outside the Bargaining Unit, which was also approved during the Personnel Committee meeting. Mr. Taylor advised proposed Resolution No. 50, Authorizing Agreement with the Warren County Local Development Corporation to Administer and Perform Economic Development Programs and Initiatives, County and Community Planning Services and Grant/Loan Programs, was approved by the Economic Growth & Development Committee to provide for an agreement similar to the one secured for the prior year. Finally, he pointed out proposed Resolution No. 25, Approving the Issuance of Certain Bonds by the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency (Hyde Collection Trust Project), which was approved by the Finance Committee, and he noted that the attorney representing the Industrial Development Agency was in attendance if there were any questions relative to the bond.

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The Social Services Committee had met briefly on January 8th, Mr. Loeb announced, approving and forwarding requests to the Personnel Committee which translated into proposed Resolution Nos. 47-49 to deal with changes in staffing and improve organization within both the Department of Social Services and the Countryside Adult Home. He said that during the meeting an email notification received from the State had been circulated commenting on the quality of the services provided by the Department of Social Services and he read aloud an excerpt from an article written by Don Lehman and printed in *The Post Star* on January 15th “...the state survey of Child Protective Services productivity found Warren County’s Department of Social Services was among the better performing Departments of Social Services in New York State.” Mr. Loeb stated that this complimentary report was attributed to the high level of services provided by the Social Services staff, as well as to the support the Board of Supervisors had given by providing resources for staffing and training; he thanked the Board of Supervisors for their support and commended the Department of Social Services on their efforts. He continued to make a few other observations, noting that he had recently spoken to an area snowmobiler who provided high compliments for the Warren County trail system. Mr. Loeb noted that he had become interested in the bus services to the Municipal Center Campus and wondered if a schedule more favorable to employee work schedules would lead to an increase in the use of public transportation. He requested a survey of employees to determine whether the bus schedule coincided with employee work schedules. Finally, Mr. Loeb stated that he had been very saddened and disheartened to read the article in that morning’s edition of *The Post Star* which indicated a lack of support by the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks for the invasive species effort. On the upside, he said, they might have one more window of opportunity in the upcoming spring season to take leadership steps unilaterally to save Lake George and he stated that he had not given up hope on the effort yet. Mr. Bentley commented that regardless of the information printed in the article Mr. Loeb referred to, the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks had unanimously approved Warren County’s request for a resolution of support for the eradication efforts, with only one minor change.

Chairman Geraghty announced that Warren County was serving as the 2013 host for the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks and he noted that Mr. Bentley was serving as Committee Chairman.

Mr. Dickinson advised that the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks had met on the prior day, during which the Committee had considered support of Warren County Resolution No. 732 of 2012, Proclaiming Warren County’s Commitment to Reduce and End the Infestation and Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in Publicly Accessible Water Bodies Throughout Warren County. He said the request was well received and he had answered many questions on the matter, some of which were ill founded based on a lack of education on the topic. Mr. Dickinson confirmed that the Committee had voted unanimously in support of the resolution proposed, leaving only the Town of Ticonderoga to adopt a similar resolution in order to have acquired support from all of the towns surrounding Lake George. He clarified one item misinterpreted by *The Post Star*, advising a suggestion had been made to contribute .25% of the sales tax revenue to the invasive species effort, not 1%, as indicated in the article. Mr. Dickinson concluded that he had been quite happy with the outcome of the meeting and advised he was glad Mr. Bentley was serving as Chairman of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks, which was one of the Committees that he most enjoyed serving on.

With respect to the satellite Tourism Office located at the Adirondack Outlet Mall, Mr. Merlino reported that the Office setup was complete and he invited all of the Board members to visit. On another note, Mr. Merlino complimented the efforts of Chairman Geraghty, in his previous position of Budget Officer, and Paul Dusek, County Administrator, as well as all of the members of the Board of Supervisors for their efforts and cooperation in straightening out prior issues relating to the mealsites in the end of 2011 and beginning of 2012. He apprised that due to the revisions made, the Lake Luzerne mealsite had successfully provided 2,195 more meals in 2012 than they had in 2011, for a total of 9,179 meals

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served, and he sincerely thanked everyone involved for their assistance.

Moving on to the report by the County Administrator, Mr. Dusek advised he had nothing to report.

Chairman Geraghty called for the reading of communications, which Mrs. Sady read aloud as follows:

Monthly Reports from:

1. Weights & Measures
2. Probation

Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corp., December 2012 surcharge in the amount of \$6577., as well as Financial Reports for 10/31/12 and 11/30/12;

Board of Trustee of The Hyde Collection, letter thanking Warren County for Occupancy Tax Funding to support two of their 2013 exhibitions;

Attorneys Judge & Duffy, Copy of Application for Real Property Tax Exemption and PILOT Agreement for the City of Glens Falls I.D.A. and 21 Bay Street Properties, LLC.

Mrs. Sady also read aloud a letter from Mr. Tennyson advising of his appointments of deputized staff beginning in 2013. A copy of the letter is on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

Chairman Geraghty called for the reading of resolutions and Mrs. Sady advised proposed Resolution Nos. 24-54 were mailed; she noted that the resolutions relating to the filling of vacant positions were proposed Resolution Nos. 45-49, and she said that unless a roll call vote was requested, all would be approved in the collective vote. Mrs. Sady announced that a motion was necessary to bring proposed Resolution Nos. 23 and 55-57 to the floor.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Mason and carried unanimously to bring proposed Resolution Nos. 23 and 55-57 to the floor.

Chairman Geraghty called for discussion on resolutions and Mr. Monroe requested a roll call vote for proposed Resolution No. 36, Authorizing Agreement with Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board for Funding of Operating Costs, which he intended to abstain from voting on.

Chairman Geraghty then called for a vote on resolutions, following which Resolution Nos. 23-57 were approved as presented.

Concluding the agenda review, Chairman Geraghty called for announcements.

Mr. Loeb requested further clarification on the invasive species issue, noting that as per his interpretation, a recent NYSDEC report seemed to indicate that the invasive species battle in Lake George was already lost and that noone was in favor of the boat washing initiative other than Warren County. Chairman Geraghty responded that they would continue to move forward with plans to contact neighboring Counties to continue to gain support for the invasive species eradication efforts, as well as to proceed in making attempts to implement the boat washing initiative. He stated that while NYSDEC may have formed a negative opinion on the subject, at the last meeting of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks there seemed to be consenting agreements that there was an invasive species issue at hand and the Committee members supported the eradication efforts and he expected these discussions to continue.

Dave Wick, Executive Director of the LGPC, stated that the battle to eradicate the Asian Clam from Lake

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George had not been lost and he said they would not know how successful the fall treatment applications had been until an analysis was performed in the upcoming spring months. He said that if the treatment was termed a success, they would move forward from that point with similar applications, and if it was not successful, they would need to have honest discussions about what steps should be taken; however, he added, he did not feel it was appropriate to spread the message amongst the populous that the battle was lost. Mr. Wick confirmed that he had commented that the chances of completely eradicating the Asian Clam from Lake George were slim, but he was confident that a program could be implemented to control and minimize growth of the species in a manner such that it would never effect the water quality of Lake George.

Mr. Wick said a press release from Governor Cuomo's Office indicated the State was engaged in the eradication process and had pledged \$200,000 in State funds towards the effort, which would be very helpful, as would the \$50,000 pledged by NYSDEC. He added that the \$200,000 Governor Cuomo had promised was from the prior years budget and did not account for any additional funding that might be contributed from the current State budget. Mr. Wick advised it was not likely that the LGPC would be able to move forward quickly enough to develop and implement a mandatory boat washing program in 2013 as it would take a significant amount of time to develop the associated regulations, as well as to complete the associated SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act) process. He noted that for this reason, a local law enforcing boat washing measures was being considered, because it could be implemented much faster. Mr. Wick stated that when Governor Cuomo stepped forward and provided \$200,000 with the indication that it should be used to develop the best eradication plan they had ever had for Lake George, or any other lake in the northeast, he had made an accurate statement. Mr. Wick advised that they would use the funds as directed, to implement the best protection for Lake George that they were able to and they were working towards that effort. He said he had received a call from Commissioner Martens, of NYSDEC, following which it appeared himself, Commissioner Martens and the Governor's Office would work together to fast track the SEQRA process. Mr. Wick stated that the efforts had not been derailed and if anything, had actually been expedited, which he felt was a tremendous positive.

As for outreach and education, Mr. Wick advised that the LGPC would be scheduling a meeting of various parties to discuss how best to spend the \$10,000 recently provided by the Governor's Office to promote education and outreach efforts and he invited County representatives to take part in this meeting, as well. He said he would email the meeting date and time to Chairman Geraghty and to Mrs. Sady as soon as it was scheduled and noted they were always looking for other perspectives on how best to address this effort. Mr. Wick advised the LGPC had been contacted by the Lake George Power Boaters Association who had donated \$9,500 towards the education and outreach effort, as well. He concluded that he had been working with the County for many years and had come to expect the high level of participation and support they continually provided; he added that he felt the program was on the right path and he encouraged anyone with questions to contact him directly.

Chairman Geraghty suggested that Mr. Wick meet with the Warren County Conservation Council (WCCC) to gain their support of the initiative and Mr. Wick responded that he already had. Mr. Wick advised that during their meeting, they had reviewed the boat washing proposal presented by the WCCC at the December 21st Board meeting; he said the suggested program presented challenges through enforcement of the self certification program and in reviewing the proposal, the WCCC members had begun to understand those challenges. Mr. Wick stated that they welcomed any suggestions and the opportunity to discuss them.

Mr. Montesi asked if there were any concerns with the restrictions imposed by the APA permitting process and Mr. Wick responded that there were concerns surrounding the limitations imposed by the new general permit. He noted that the APA had taken the opportunity to expand upon the general

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permit to accommodate a lot of the work being done and he clarified that the LGPC had asked for concessions and the APA had conceded, but not to the extent requested. Mr. Wick said representatives from the LGPC, Village of Lake George, Warren County and several towns had stepped forward to voice their concerns and indicate that they would appreciate the limitations being removed as they were not beneficial to the efforts to protect Lake George. He expounded the response received from the APA had stated that removing the limitations would allow increased matting which had the potential to negatively affect the wetland areas, and the counter argument from the LGPC had been that if the increased matting was not done, the wetland species would be destroyed by the Asian Clam. The APA's final statement was that this was a general permit for all invasive species management in the Adirondack Park, and did not pertain solely to the Asian Clam, nor exclusively to Lake George, and so they had done the best they could to provide as many of the allowances requested within the general permit. Mr. Wick stated they still had the option of meeting with APA representatives to obtain individual permits for treatment of larger areas over multiple years.

Mr. Mason commented that through the invasive species eradication effort, he had gotten to know Mr. Wick pretty well and he said Mr. Wick always operated very calmly and on an even keel, many times serving as the voice of reason during tense conversations. He stated that Mr. Wick was very easy to talk to, was always able to provide the information requested and provided valuable assistance when formulating strategies. Mr. Mason said that the invasive species eradication effort was going to be a lifetime issue for Lake George requiring the development of a solution to address the problem on a long-term basis and he opined that the availability of Mr. Wick's leadership and knowledge would prove to be a valuable resource in this process; therefore, he added, if the County was able to do so, he would be in favor of a letter of support or confidence for Mr. Wick in his current position. Mr. Wick thanked Mr. Mason for his comments.

With respect to the APA general permit, Mr. Monroe advised the original permit provided only pertained to eradication efforts for invasive plants, but had subsequently been expanded to include allowances for eradication of the Asian Clam and other invasive species, which was a good thing. Additionally, he said the APA had committed to expedite the normal permitting process to provide the additional permits identified by Mr. Wick to treat larger areas for longer periods of time.

Mr. Conover agreed that Mr. Wick was doing an excellent job in his position as Executive Director of the LGPC. He said that representatives for the Town of Bolton and their Local Development Corporation had been discussing the possibility of acquiring a second boat washing station and he noted that the one station currently in their possession had been purchased with donations provided by various municipalities including the Towns of Bolton, Hague, Lake George and Queensbury. Mr. Conover stated there were many things that needed to be done to protect Lake George, as well as the other waters of the area and the State, and he hoped that additional assets to further this effort would become available in 2013.

Mr. Monroe apprised that in the past weeks he had held several conversations with representatives of the Adirondack Landowners Association, comprised of large landowners throughout the Adirondack region. He said this group was interested in providing assistance to develop and distribute educational materials on the invasive species; he noted that this group had already made some progress in distributing materials in the Adirondack region.

Mr. Dickinson commented that in the invasive species fight there were both high and low periods that sometimes made it difficult to continue the efforts and in those low times, people like Mr. Wick were the only encouraging factors that kept the process moving forward. He said he felt they were progressing in the right direction, although very slowly, and he noted that they continued to search

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many different areas in an effort to obtain funding for the cause. Mr. Dickinson stated that he was confident that they would get the necessary programs in place to address the invasive species, he was just not sure if they would be able to do it quickly enough.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion made by Mr. Merlino and seconded by Mr. Strainer, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board meeting at 10:58 a.m.