

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HUMAN SERVICES

DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2012

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS STRAINER  
GIRARD  
FRASIER  
SOKOL  
WOOD  
LOEB  
VANSELOW

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

CHRIS HUNSINGER, DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING ADMINISTRATION  
SHARON SANO, SENIOR COUNSELOR OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING  
ADMINISTRATION  
CHRISTINE LITTLE, COORDINATOR OF SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE  
AGING  
DANIEL STEC, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
SUPERVISORS KENNY  
MASON  
TAYLOR  
THOMAS  
WESTCOTT  
JAMES SEELEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
JOHN STROUGH, QUEENSBURY TOWN COUNCILMAN, 3<sup>RD</sup> WARD  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
CHARLENE DiRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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Mr. Strainer called the meeting of the Human Services Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mrs. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Christine Little, Coordinator of Services for the Office for the Aging (OFA), who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes*. Ms. Little commented she was filling in for Christie Sabo, Director of the OFA, who was attending a conference in Long Lake, New York.

Commencing the agenda review, Ms. Little presented a request to fill the vacant position of Mealsite Manager for the Bolton Mealsite, annual salary of \$18,730 (30 hours per week), Employee No. 6792, due to retirement. She noted this was a Union position which was not mandated and was reimbursed 100% by the State. She mentioned that she was unsure if the request could be submitted due to the recently implemented hiring freeze. Mr. Strainer commented the position was necessary for Mealsite operation and was part-time with no benefits. He opined the request should be forwarded to the Personnel Committee for review. Mr. Vanselow noted the position was 100% reimbursed by State funding and Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, pointed out the position was also being reduced from 30 hours per week to 25 hours per week.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Loeb and carried unanimously to approve the request to fill the vacant position as outlined above and to forward same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes*.

Ms. Little requested a transfer of funds totaling \$31,697 between various codes in order to balance the budget for the end of the year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Wood, seconded by Mr. Loeb and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds form is on file with the minutes.*

This concluded the OFA portion of the Committee meeting and the Employment & Training Administration portion of the meeting commenced at 9:33 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Chris Hunsinger, Director of Employment & Training Administration (ETA), who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. Hunsinger requested to amend the 2012 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$255,000 to reflect the receipt of Workforce Innovation Fund grant funding through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). He explained the purpose of the funding was to offer assistance with educational expenses in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. He further explained the grant was awarded to four WIB's (Workforce Investment Boards) consisting of eleven counties and the Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties WIB was acting as the lead agency. He advised this was a three year grant and he anticipated receiving funding for all three years.

Mr. Strainer asked where the training would be received and Mr. Hunsinger replied it would most likely be through local schools such as B.O.C.E.S. (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) or SUNY (State University of New York) Adirondack. Mr. Strainer asked how many people would be assisted in the first year of funding and Mr. Hunsinger replied approximately 10 to 12 people would receive assistance with their first semester of school. Mr. Hunsinger added a second component of the Program consisted of on-the-job training for which he had begun to solicit employers.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Loeb and carried unanimously to amend the 2012 County budget as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Sharon Sano, Senior Counselor for the ETA, distributed copies of the Warren County Employment & Training Summer Program Report to the Committee members and reviewed the Report in detail; *a copy of the Report is on file with the minutes.* She reported 64 youths had enrolled in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) this year compared to 42 enrollees in 2011. She noted the numbers had increased due to the Governor's allocation of \$25 million in funding from the Office of General Services which was disbursed state-wide. She commented that 85% of the youths enrolled in the SYEP Program received some type of public assistance. She pointed out that the Report contained a list of the 42 SYEP Worksites for 2012.

Referring to the chart which listed program numbers from 1991 through 2012, Mr. Sokol questioned the dramatic increase in enrollees in 2009. Ms. Sano replied that in 2009 Federal Stimulus Funding was received allowing for additional enrollment. Mr. Hunsinger explained that approximately two years worth of funding was received in 2009 which allowed the number of yearly enrollees to double.

Mr. Strainer thanked Ms. Sano for her efforts and commented that her enthusiasm was transferred to the youth and the employers. He stated the SYEP Program was beneficial to the youth, the employers and the community. He advised he had attended the annual summer awards program

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picnic for the last few years and the proud expression on the faces of the young people receiving awards confirmed the importance of the Program to them.

Chairman Stec entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

A brief discussion ensued pertaining to the SYEP Program.

As there was no further business to come before the Human Services Committee, on motion made by Mrs. Frasier and seconded by Mr. Vanselow, Mr. Strainer adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist