

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: JANUARY 10, 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS CONOVER  
TAYLOR  
SOKOL  
MONROE  
WOOD  
MERLINO  
FRASIER  
DICKINSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

KEVIN GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
MARTIN AUFFREDOU, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BEATY  
SEEBER  
SIMPSON  
STROUGH

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR KENNY

WALT LENDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE ASSOCIATION  
DAVE WICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE PARK COMMISSION  
TONY HALL, *LAKE GEORGE MIRROR*  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*  
AMANDA ALLEN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
*Please see sign-in sheet for all others present*

Mr. Conover called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 10:08 a.m.

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

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed to the Committee members and a copy of same is on file with the meeting minutes.

Commencing the agenda review with Section III, Action Items, Mr. Conover announced Item 1 consisted of a request for transfer of funds as included in the agenda packet for Committee approval.

Motion was made by Mrs. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request for transfer of funds and the necessary resolution was authorized for the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Mr. Conover advised Item 2 consisted of several requests from the Clerk of the Board for renewals of annual contracts, as follows:

- 2A) Authorizing agreement continuing contractual relationship with Economic Development Corporation, Warren County, New York, for Economic Development Program for 2014, in the amount of \$335,000, said funds to be expended from A.6421 470 Warren County Economic Development- Contract.
- 2B) Authorizing agreement with Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board for funding of operating costs, in the amount of \$7,500, said funds to be expended from A.8026 470 Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board- Contract.
- 2C) Authorizing agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County for the youth camping program at Skye Farm Camp, in the amount of \$25,000, said funds to be expended from A.7310 470 Youth Program-4-H Camp-Contract.
- 2D) Authorizing agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County in the amount of \$310,463, said funds to be expended from A.8750 470 Agri. & Livestock- Ext. Serv.-Contract.
- 2E) Authorizing payment to the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board in the amount of \$7,000, said funds to be expended from A.8025 470 Regional Planning Board-Contract.
- 2F) Authorizing payment to the Southern Adirondack Library System in the amount of \$25,000, said funds to be expended from A.7410 469 Southern Adirondack Library-Other Payments/Contributions.

- 2G) Authorizing agreement with the City of Glens Falls for capital improvements and operation and maintenance for various recreational facilities, in the amount of \$99,000, said funds to be expended from A.1010 470 Legislative Board- Contract.
- 2H) Authorizing agreement with Adirondack North Country Association for promotional and economic development, in the amount of \$750 said funds to be expended from A.1010 470 Legislative Board- Contract.
- 2I) Authorizing agreement continuing contractual relationship with the Warren County Historical Society for historical programs for the public for an amount not to exceed \$1,250, said funds to be expended from A.1010 470 Legislative Board- Contract.
- 2J) Authorizing renewal of agreement with Warren County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Inc., in the amount of \$8,000, said funds to be expended from A.3510 470 Control of Dogs- Contract.

Mr. Conover said he assumed that all of the aforementioned were renewing contracts already anticipated and included in the 2014 Budget and Paul Dusek, County Administrator, advised they were.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve items 2A-K, as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Continuing, Mr. Conover noted Item 3 included a request from the County Administrator to appropriate funds in the amount of \$916 from the Computer Reserve Fund to the Human Resources/Civil Service and Purchasing departmental budgets for the purchase of computers and related equipment/software.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request, as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Mr. Conover apprised the final agenda item listed, Item 4, consisted of a referral from NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) requesting a resolution of support urging residents to join the Donor Registry, and he pointed out that a copy of the resolution adopted by the Washington County Board of Supervisors was included in the agenda packet.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to authorize a resolution urging residents to join the Donor Registry to be presented at the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Mr. Conover announced that at the Invasive Species Sub-Committee meeting held earlier that morning a referral to the Finance Committee had been approved and he asked Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, to recite the referral.

Mr. Auffredou explained that in light of the County becoming the successful recipient of a CFA (*Consolidated Funding Application*) grant in the amount of \$482,000 for the invasive species eradication program, the Invasive Species Sub-Committee had requested that the Finance Committee consider advancing \$200,000 in County dollars to the program, with \$100,000 to be used to purchase five boat washing stations, and the remaining \$100,000 advanced to the Village of Lake George who would administer the funds for expenses related to implementation of the boat washing program. Mr. Auffredou advised that if approved, this action should be made contingent upon the receipt of correspondence from the State of New York which he deemed satisfactorily indicated that these pre-contract expenses to be incurred would be eligible for reimbursement to the County under the CFA grant. Additionally, he recommended that a capital project be established and authorization provided to the County Treasurer to transfer the \$200,000 requested. Finally, Mr. Auffredou advised the Committee would need to determine a source of funding for the advance, if they were in favor of the request.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Taylor to approve a resolution authorizing the advance of \$200,000 for the invasive species program to include the recommendations made by Mr. Auffredou.

Mrs. Wood questioned what source of funding was available for the advance and Mr. Dusek responded that while they could take the funds from the Contingent Account, he would not recommend it because they counted on this funding for other expenses and this use would diminish the Account. He advised the only other source of funding available would be the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus. Mrs. Wood noted it was her understanding that the extra funds placed in the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus were intended to be used for additional road improvements. Mr. Conover interjected that the County funds would essentially be loaned to further the boat washing program and would be returned when the grant funds were received.

Messrs. Dickinson and Taylor amended their motion and second to include that the source of funding for the \$200,000 advance would be the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus.

Mr. Thomas asked when the grant funds would be received and Mr. Conover responded that he did not know. Mr. Auffredou said he believed it would take some time to get the appropriate contracts in place to receive the grant funds, but noted that once they were executed, invoices for reimbursements could be submitted. He noted that as per information recently received from the State of New York, he expected to be contacted by representatives of the State's Planning Office in the immediate future and hoped the contracts would be secured within a matter of months; however, he added, he could not attest to how long it would take for the reimbursements to be made once the contract process was complete. Mr. Conover said he hoped that this process would be swiftly undertaken, but noted that the State was willing to contribute a considerable amount of money to the initiative, but assistance would be required to fund expenses in the near term while waiting for the grant funds to arrive.

Mr. Taylor said he was a bit uncomfortable with the County serving as the cash flow source for this project with no contract in place and no guarantee of reimbursement. Mr. Auffredou responded that no funding would be contributed by the County unless, and until, he was satisfied that the State of New York had sufficiently stated in writing that these pre-contract expenses would be eligible for reimbursement when the grant funds were released.

Mr. Thomas noted that the 2014 Budget included \$300,000 for the invasive species program, \$150,000 of which had been earmarked for the Lake George program, and could be used to cover the majority of the advance; Mr. Conover admitted this was good point.

As there was no further discussion on the matter, Mr. Conover called the question and the previously mentioned motion to authorize the advance of \$200,000 to the invasive species project, with the source of funding to be the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus, contingent upon the County Attorney's receipt and approval of satisfactory correspondence from the State of New York confirming that this pre-contract expense would be eligible for reimbursement under the CFA grant, as well as to establish a capital project and authorize the County Treasurer to transfer the funds thereto, was carried by majority vote, with Mrs. Wood voting in opposition, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the January 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, on motion made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Sokol, Mr. Conover adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Allen, Deputy Clerk of the Board