

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: APRIL 23, 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	OTHERS PRESENT:
SUPERVISORS MERLINO	JEFFERY TENNYSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CONOVER	JUSTIN GONYO, GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, SARATOGA & NORTH CREEK RAILWAY
WOOD	KEVIN GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
TAYLOR	JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRASIER	JOANN MCKINSTRY, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DICKINSON	FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SIMPSON	SUPERVISOR BROCK
VANSELOW	MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
	DON LEHMAN, <i>THE POST STAR</i>
COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:	AMANDA ALLEN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISOR SOKOL	

Mr. Merlino called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

Privilege of the floor was extended to Jeffery Tennyson, Superintendent of Public Works, who distributed copies of the Parks, Recreation & Railroad and DPW agendas to the Committee members; *copies of both agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.*

Commencing the review of the Parks, Recreation & Railroad agenda, Mr. Tennyson announced Justin Gonyo, General Superintendent of Saratoga & North Creek Railway (SNCR), was in attendance to provide an update on railroad operations. Mr. Gonyo reminded the Committee members that during their last meeting he had advised of a 10% increase in Snow Train ridership in comparison to the prior year, and he announced a 60% increase in spring train operations so far this year. He apprised that during the prior two weekends, SNCR had held two Easter themed events and he noted that another event would be held during the upcoming weekend in conjunction with the Town of Hadley's Maple in April Festival. Mr. Gonyo explained 45 bicycles and riders would be transported by train from the Saratoga and Hadley Train Stations to the Thurman Station, where they would all be dropped off to ride their bikes back. With regards to freight operations, Mr. Gonyo said SNCR had identified the need to utilize the Hadley Station as a crew reporting site and, therefore, they would be upgrading the Station equipment accordingly. Additionally, he noted that SNCR had decided to position a Station Agent at the Hadley Station for at least Friday through Sunday, beginning July 1st and extending through the fall season. Finally, Mr. Gonyo apprised that the rail line located to the north of the North Creek Station was being inspected that day by an engineering and contracting firm in order to provide bids on the upgrade and rehabilitation work necessary to prepare the rail line for the freight operations, which they anticipated would begin in May.

Continuing the agenda review, Mr. Tennyson directed the Committee members to Agenda Page 1 which included a request for a new contract with Northern Warren Trailblazers Snowmobile Club, Inc. to continue use of a .443 mile snowmobile trail on Warren County property located in the Towns of Bolton and Warrensburg. He said he had contacted the agencies located near the trail, *Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the Countryside Adult Home*, none of whom had any complaints to report; therefore, Mr. Tennyson stated, he recommended authorizing continued use of the trail, as requested.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the

aforementioned request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 16th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Mr. Tennyson announced Agenda Page 3 included a request to waive the gate entrance fee of \$.50 per person for the upcoming Boy Scout Spring Camporee event to be held on May 16-18 at the Warren County Fairgrounds property; he added that a copy of the letter received from the Boy Scouts of Warrensburg requesting this allowance was included on Agenda Page 4. Mr. Tennyson advised this was a new event, but noted that authorization to waive the gate fee for other similar events had been approved in the past.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request, as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 16th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

The next agenda item, Mr. Tennyson said, pertained to a request to authorize use of a section of the Warren County Bikeway after dusk on September 20th for the Flashlight 5K event. He explained that the Local Law establishing use rules for the Bikeway prevented use of the facility after dark, unless permission was granted by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Tennyson noted that this was the second year the locally organized event would be held and the Committee had approved use of the Bikeway in this manner for the 2013 event.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the aforementioned request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 16th Board Meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Proceeding with the Agenda review, Mr. Tennyson addressed the Items of Interest section, as follows:

- * Hadley and Thurman Station Construction - Mr. Tennyson apprised that the water was being connected at the Hadley Station that day, and assuming no issues were detected, backfilling work would be completed and the County equipment removed, concluding the construction work. As for the Thurman Station, he advised the only work remaining to be completed was the installation of an injector pump in the sewage pit; he added that ice in the sewage pit had prevented this work from being done, but said as soon as the ice melted, it would be addressed. Mr. Tennyson pointed out that the agenda packet included a schematic photo of the interior layout for both the Hadley and Thurman Stations for the Committee's reference.

Mr. Merlino questioned whether the Towns of Hadley and Lake Luzerne would receive keys to the Hadley Station for use in an emergency situation and Mr. Tennyson responded that he had not discussed this yet with SNCR representatives. He recalled the original intent was to leave the Station unlocked at all times to provide shelter for those using the train as a flag stop, but this was before SNCR had made the decision to upgrade the equipment kept inside to serve as a crew reporting site. Mr. Tennyson said he would discuss the matter with SNCR and provide an update at the next Committee meeting.

- * Spring Stocking - Mr. Tennyson advised the Agenda included a spring stocking update, indicating the dates of the stocking that had already occurred in the more southerly portions of the County. He further advised that the stocking work was driven by water temperature and stocking in the northern portions of the County would occur as the water temperatures allowed.

Mr. Vanselow noted an upcoming fishing derby in the Town of Johnsbury scheduled for May 4th and he questioned whether stocking would be provided prior to the event. Mr. Tennyson responded that typically, they did do the stocking just before the event, but said he would check with the Fish Hatchery staff to ensure this was the case.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Tennyson addressed the referrals section, as follows:

1. Mr. Tennyson advised he had been contacted by the local engineer handling the design work for the pedestrian railroad crossing proposed by The King's School which would allow their students to safely reach their athletic fields located on the opposite side of the tracks from the school. He said that once the crossing plans had been finalized and reviewed by SNCR and DPW engineering staff, they would be presented to the Committee. Mr. Tennyson commented that he anticipated the crossing work would proceed during the upcoming summer.
2. Mr. Tennyson said he had no new information to report relative to the requested conveyance of County-owned property located in the Town of North Creek to North Creek Woodworking.

Moving on to the DPW Agenda, Mr. Tennyson announced Agenda Page 1 included the DPW Overtime Report, but stated there was nothing noteworthy to point out. He said that beginning on Agenda Page 2 he had included the Fuel Usage Report, which indicated the budget was in good shape so far.

Mr. Tennyson directed the Committee members to Agenda Page 5, reflecting a letter from Jim Lieberum, Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District Manager/Warren County Stormwater Management Officer, regarding the Warren County 2013-2014 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report. He stated that Mr. Lieberum had intended to attend the Committee meeting to speak on this matter, but due to a scheduling conflict, had been unable to. Mr. Tennyson read the following excerpt from Mr. Lieberum's letter aloud:

"The Warren County 2013-2014 MS4 Annual Report will be available for review and comment by the public starting on Friday April 25th. Comments will be taken until May 9th and they should be sent to the Warren County SWCD Office by phone - 518.623.3119, fax - 518.623.3519 or hardcopy. The report will be available at the Warren County Website, at the Warren County SWCD website and hardcopies will be available at the Warren County DPW and Warren County SWCD."

Mr. Tennyson stated that he assumed copies of the Annual Report could be provided to the Clerk of the Board's Office, as well, for increased accessibility.

Continuing the Agenda review, Mr. Tennyson apprised the next three Agenda Items all pertained to the Blair Road over Mill Brook project, which he outlined, as follows:

- Page 7 - Request to amend the existing grant agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) to include an increase in the amount not to exceed \$14,425 for Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the Blair Road over Mill Brook Project.
- Page 13 - Request to amend the existing agreement with Clark Patterson Lee in an amount not to exceed \$14,425 to include Consultant Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the Blair Road over Mill Brook Project to add right-of-way incidental services.
- Page 17 - Request to increase Capital Project No. H342.9550 280, *Blair Road over Mill Brook*, in the amount of \$11,540.

Mr. Tennyson pointed out that the \$14,425 increase in project costs included only Federal and Local shares as the State's Marchiselli funding would be awarded later. With regards to the request to increase Capital Project No. H342.9550 280, he advised the increase only reflected the Federal Share of the increase as sufficient Local Share had already been contributed to cover this phase of the Project. Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the requests to amend the existing grant agreement with NYSDOT and the existing agreement with Clark Patterson Lee, as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the May 16th Board Meeting. *Copies of both resolution request forms are on file with the meeting minutes.*

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the request to increase Capital Project No. H342.9550 280, *Blair Road over Mill Brook*, in the amount of

\$11,540, as outlined above, and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Mr. Tennyson advised the next agenda item include a request for a transfer of funds totaling \$13,200 between various codes to cover a deficit in the County Roads, Snow and Ice budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds form is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Addressing the Pending Items section, Mr. Tennyson advised they continued to await NYSDOT documentation for a grant amendment regarding consultant work for construction on the NYSDOT-owned portion of Beach Road. He stated that once this information was received, he would submit an out-of-Committee request to approve the documents.

Mr. Tennyson noted the Items of Interest section included one item, pertaining to an increase in 2014 CHIPS (*Consolidated Highway Improvement Program*) funding in the amount of \$141,999.04. He advised they were currently reviewing road conditions as the frost dissipated, as well as the existing road projects, to ensure they were still planning to incorporate the correct treatments in certain areas and upgrading pavement grades in others. Mr. Tennyson said he intended to provide the Committee with a listing of possible road projects for which the additional CHIPS funding could be expended.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Tennyson announced there were no old business or referral items to discuss.

A discussion ensued relative to the Fuel Report, during which Mr. Conover indicated he was pleased with the figures reported and commended Mr. Tennyson and his staff for their efforts.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Vanselow, Mr. Merlino adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Allen, Deputy Clerk of the Board