

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ARPA ADVISORY

DATE: MARCH 8, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

CLAUDIA BRAYMER CO-CHAIR
DENNIS DICKINSON CO-CHAIR
RACHEL SEEBER
WAYNE LAMOTHE
RAY AGNEW
BETH GILLES
FRANK THOMAS
DOUGLAS BEATY
MICHAEL WILD (ZOOM)
RYAN MOORE
MICHAEL SWAN
ETHAN GADDY

OTHERS PRESENT:

LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISORS DRISCOLL (ZOOM)
HOGAN (ZOOM)
GERACI (ZOOM)
MAGOWAN
MERLINO
STROUGH (ZOOM)
LIZA OCHSENDORF, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
ADMINISTRATION
KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
MAJOR LEO LLOYD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SALVATION ARMY OFFICE
KIM SOPCZYK, FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

MICHAEL BITTEL

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the March 8, 2022 meeting of the ARPA Advisory Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Note: Pursuant to New York State Legislation (S.50001/A.40001): "Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity, shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize 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." All Committee Members in attendance were physically present aside from Michael Wild who participated virtually.

Mr. Dickinson called the meeting of the ARPA Advisory Committee to order at 3:05 p.m.

The ARPA Advisory Committee agenda was distributed to those present; those participating remotely accessed the agenda via the Warren County website. *A copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.*

Mr. Dickinson transferred the Chair to Ms. Braymer as Co-Chair, announced Ms. Seeber would serve as Vice-Chair.

The meeting commenced with a review of the meeting agenda, beginning with Updates/ Housekeeping, Item A. where Ethan Gaddy, *Assistant Planner*, indicated there were additional projects that were added to the County website. Regarding Item B, he explained all project requests and drafts were placed on the County website in a timely manner for the purpose of transparency.

Ms. Braymer spoke regarding Discussion Item A, review of the draft spending plan, which she said did not have to be finalized today; Item B would have action taken; and Item C was a presentation of ideas to assist vulnerable populations which would be discussed by Wayne LaMothe, *County Planner*, who would provide an overview along with Liza Ochsendorf, *Director Employment and Training Administration*, who would discuss proposals from not-for-profit groups that she had worked with.

With reference to Item 2 a, which pertained to review of the draft Spending Plan, Mr. LaMothe explained he had spoken to Rob York, *Director, Office of Community Services*, regarding a concept of a \$250,000 allocation each year for four years if they would be able to allocate the funds throughout the various organizations they worked with. Mr. Beaty advised seniors throughout the County had been undeserved regarding hot meals and he suggested to allocate a dollar amount to guarantee they received five hot meals a week. Ms. Braymer suggested to allocate \$500,000 and Mr. Beaty asked to include this with the Office for the Aging discussion. Mr. Wild asked what happened when these programs no longer received funding and Mr. LaMothe indicated these programs were for services above and beyond to deal with pandemic issues that were not included in the Budget, but they were extended issues from COVID-19. Ms. Seeber indicated the County would receive broadband and opioid funding, as well. A brief conversation ensued regarding additional uses for ARPA funding and to draft a letter of support to the New York State Legislature regarding fuel prices.

Mr. Thomas entered the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ms. Ochsendorf, who explained her office provided gas cards to help support those who needed to get to job interviews. She apprised any ARPA funding her Department received would be for training, informing they supported individuals through CDL (*Commercial Drivers Licence*) and LPN (*Licensed Practical Nurse*) programs, along with mental health support.

Mr. LaMothe exited the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Major Leo Lloyd, *representing the Salvation Army*, who apprised during the pandemic 1,500 meals were provided a day for 13 months. He noted seniors should be visited five days a week through Meals on Wheels, advising he worked with the Department of Social Services and Employment & Training. He apprised the Salvation Army was interested in leasing a building in the City of Glens Falls, indicating they needed \$600,000 for start up costs to open a daycare that could handle fifty children, advising he networked everywhere within Washington and Warren Counties.

Ms. Ochsendorf expressed with additional funding she would use it for marketing to serve more people. Ms. Seeber asked her to present an amount that she needed at the next meeting.

Moving on to Item B, the following requests were presented for the distribution of ARPA funding:

- 1) For \$251,580 to fund appropriations for various expenses outlined in Resolution No. 453 of 2021.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by majority vote, with Mr. Wild voting in opposition, to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 18, 2022 Board Meeting.

- 2) For \$100,057 to the Airport for the escalated cost of materials related to the construction of the Snow Removal Equipment Building at the Warren County (Floyd Bennet Memorial) Airport.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Swan and carried by majority vote, with Mr. Wild voting in opposition, to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 18, 2022 Board Meeting.

- 3) Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, explained \$100,000 was set aside for the Office of Emergence Services to purchase PPE (*Personal Protective Equipment*) if needed. No action was taken on this item.
- 4) For \$250,000 for the Information Technology Department to fund technology needs for remote work.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to approve the requests as presented and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the March 18, 2022 Board Meeting.

Mr. LaMothe returned to the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

- 5) For \$950,000 to Countryside Adult Home for the upgrade to the HVAC (*Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning*) system to MERV (*More Efficient Reporting Value*) 13 standard for filtration of airborne viruses.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Swan and carried by majority vote, with Messrs. Wild, Beaty, Agnew and Swan and Ms. Seeber opposing, to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 18, 2022 Board Meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Swan and carried unanimously to recommend that the remainder of the funding required for the Countryside Adult Home project be provided through an appropriation from the general fund. and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 18, 2022 Board Meeting.

Mr. Gaddy exited the meeting at 5:15 p.m

Ms. Braymer announced the next meeting would be held March 29th at 3:00 p.m.

As there was no further business to come before the ARPA Advisory Committee, on motion made by Mr. Swan, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried by unanimous vote of those present, (Mr. Gaddy absent) Ms. Braymer adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist