



licensing fees. Mr. Alger commented that some of these agencies are paid quarterly and others receive a lump sum payment.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS TO BE PAID FOR BY THE ROOM TAX REVENUE WITH THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU \$455,000; ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES \$31,500; DAIRY FESTIVAL \$425.00; FINGER LAKES TOURISM \$10,500 AND FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY \$95,000; AND AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE FINGER LAKES S.P.C.A \$15,000 (TO BE PAID FOR BY DOG LICENSING FEES) AND THE SOUTHERN TIER LIBRARY SYSTEM \$75,000 (NOT PAID FOR BY ROOM TAX REVENUE) MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. JAMISON ABSENT FOR VOTE).**

**Update** – Mr. Creath asked for an update on the Lamoka-Waneta Lake millfoil problem. Mrs. Dlugos stated that in Waneta lake the millfoil has been killed, however, the natural vegetation has not grown back yet. They are not going to do anything with Lamoka Lake at this point, however, they did rake the bottom last fall. She explained that with the killing of the millfoil, this is presenting a problem for the fish as they have no breeding areas, there is too much oxygen and too much sunlight.

2. Buildings & Grounds

**2005 Capital Projects** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to activate the following capital projects for 2005: Wilson Avenue Parking Lot paving and regrading, Civil Defense Center driveway reconstruction, County Barn painting and Corning DMV, installing another reception window. He stated that they have budgeted \$232,000 for the Wilson Avenue Parking Lot project, \$8,500 for the Civil Defense Center driveway project, \$20,000 for the County Barn painting and the County Clerk has indicated that she has a \$10,000 grant to do the Corning DMV reception window project.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TO ACTIVATE THE FOLLOWING 2005 CAPITAL PROJECTS: WILSON AVENUE PARKING LOT PAVING AND REGARDING; CIVIL DEFENSE CENTER DRIVEWAY RECONSTRUCTION, COUNTY BARN PAINTING AND CORNING DMV RECEPTION WINDOW PROJECT MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

3. Historian

Mr. Creath stated that the Historian did not have any items to present, however, he announced that the Hall of Fame Committee will be meeting on January 24, 2005 to make their selections for the Hall of Fame that will then be forwarded to the Legislature.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Isaman asked when does the agreement with the Steuben County IDA on our property expire? Mr. Ahrens replied he thinks that it was for ten years and we may be in the seventh year of that agreement. Mr. Alger stated that they will check and let Mr. Isaman know.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.D. DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROPOSED, PENDING OR CURRENT LITIGATION MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**  
Monday, February 7, 2005  
**@ 1:00 p.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office**  
**NO LATER THAN NOON**  
**Monday, January 31, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Thursday, February 3, 2005*

*3:00 p.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M. John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Dennis Abbey  
William J. Partridge Twila O'Dell James Gleason  
David English

**ABSENT:** Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair Lldon E. Jamison

**OTHERS:** Mary Perham, *The Leader*  
Dave Shoen, WENY

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for public comment. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Creath stated that he received a copy of a correspondence from the Department of Agriculture regarding the renewal dates for agricultural districts. This has been referred to Planning.

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

1. Planning

**Small Cities Grant** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that last month Mrs. Dlugos had requested authorization to accept the grant for SCAP to replace faulty septic systems and wells for low to moderate-income families. The amount of the grant is \$219,480. He requested a resolution to accept that funding and to modify the 2005 budget.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE SMALL CITIES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,480 FOR SCAP TO REPLACE FAULTY SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND WELLS FOR LOW TO MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES AND MODIFYING THE 2005 BUDGET TO REFLECT THIS MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES. Resolution Required.**

**2005 Work Plan** – Mr. Heffner distributed a copy of the Planning Department's 2005 Work Plan for the committee's review.

2. Buildings & Grounds

**Balcom House Structural Renovation Bid** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they received three bids for this project. The bids ranged from a low bid of **\$32,883.38** to a high bid of \$65,220. The scope of the project includes putting in approximately 17 main beams and posts in the basement. On the first floor they will be removing the ceilings to get to the second floor and then replacing 30 floor joists. They also will be extending two of the main columns up from the basement and will be pouring a concrete footing. There is a lot of work to be done. Mr. Partridge recommended awarding the bid to the low bidder, Coots Construction. Mr. Alger commented this will give us support for the first and second floors and then we can decide what to do with the rest of the building. Mr. Partridge stated they do have money in the capital project.

**MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE BALCOM HOUSE STRUCTURAL RENOVATION TO THE LOW BIDDER, COOTS CONSTRUCTION, FOR \$32,883.38 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

3. Weights & Measures

**Test Truck Bid** – Mr. Abbey informed the committee that they put out bids for the replacement of the Weights & Measures Test Truck. They received one bid back; however, he is recommending rejecting this bid, as they did not meet the specifications that were set forth. Mr. Gleason explained the biggest deviation was in the horsepower that we had specified. We want to look at what we can live without. We may be able to lower the specifications to encourage more participation with vendors.

**MOTION: REJECTING THE BID RECEIVED FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE WEIGHTS & MEASURES TEST TRUCK AND AUTHORIZING PURCHASING TO REBID MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

**MOTION: PRESENTING THE NAMES OF PERSONS SELECTED FOR INDUCTION INTO THE STEUBEN COUNTY HALL OF FAME AND REQUESTING CONFIRMATION BY THE STEUBEN COUNTY LEGISLATURE MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by: Amanda L. Chapman, Senior Stenographer, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**

Monday, March 7, 2005

@ 1:00 p.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office

NO LATER THAN NOON

Monday, February 28, 2005.

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, March 7, 2005*

*1:00 p.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair                      Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair    DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger                                      Gregory P. Heffner                      Amy Dlugos  
William J. Partridge                                  Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.                Jacques Begin

**ABSENT:** Lldon E. Jamison

**OTHERS:** Bob Clark, Snowflakes  
Ginny Bates, SCAP  
Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation District  
Richard Winnett, RC&D  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. WALSH ABSENT FOR VOTE).**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for comment by the public. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

1. Buildings & Grounds

**Parking Lot Rehabilitation Bid** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee this is the bid for the Wilson Avenue Parking Lot. The parking lot will be closed for 14 consecutive days. They received three bids with the low bidder being A.L. Blades at \$142,600.00. This is \$100,000 less than last year when we bid it. Mr. Partridge explained last year Public Works did the piping. This bid is for the stripping, blacktopping, regrading, compacting, putting on the base and top and doing the curb.

**MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE WILSON AVENUE PARKING LOT REHABILITATION TO A.L. BLADES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,600.00 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. WALSH ABSENT FOR VOTE).**

2. Planning

**Grant** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee they have received a grant from Agriculture and Markets to implement the Agricultural Expansion and Development Plan. This is for the promotion and development of the farmers markets and u-pick farms. This is a matching grant, with Agriculture and Markets providing \$9,450. We will need an applicant cash match of \$3,850 and the remaining \$6,000 will be in-kind services through

Cooperative Extension. Mrs. Dlugos explained Cooperative Extension will work with the farmers and should have a driving map and a brochure that explains when produce is available. Mr. Alger suggested they take the cash match out of the Contingent Fund. Mrs. Dlugos stated this grant will be administered through the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATURE TO ACCEPT A MATCHING GRANT FROM AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,450 AND AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO TRANSFER \$3,850 TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT FOR THE APPLICANT CASH MATCH, WITH THE REMAINING \$6,000 TO BE IN-KIND SERVICES PROVIDED BY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. WALSH ABSENT FOR VOTE). Resolution Required.**

Mr. Heffner commented this will piggyback on the Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau preliminary designation of Route 36 through Jasper and Troupsburg as a scenic byway. This will be the first one that we have in the County. Mrs. Dlugos stated this will also help connect the local producers with each other.

**Public Hearing** – Mrs. Dlugos requested approval to set the Public Hearing on land submitted for inclusion in certified agricultural districts during the 2005 annual thirty-day period. There is approximately 600 acres of land going into four agricultural districts.

**MOTION: SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING ON LAND SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS DURING THE 2005 ANNUAL THIRTY-DAY PERIOD MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. WALSH ABSENT FOR VOTE).**

Mr. Heffner informed the committee that he received an e-mail from the Department of Agriculture and Markets telling him what a great job Steuben County is doing and we are a model for the rest of the State with regard to our agricultural districts. Mrs. Dlugos is doing an excellent job.

**Snowmobile Trail** – Mr. Heffner introduced Bob Clark who is here to talk about a snowmobile trail grant application. Mr. Clark stated the Legislatures in Allegany and Schuyler counties are sponsoring a State grant to expand, maintain and update snowmobile trails in those counties. Previously we had never asked because in Steuben County we were not ready, but now we are. For seven years our club, the Snowflakes, has been working on getting a trail across Steuben County. The trail starts in Bradford and is 70 miles across. There are 45 landowners that let us use property and we also use seasonal roads. This trail grant would allow us to do upkeep on the trails without having to do it through the club. There is no liability to the County. We write the grant ourselves, but the money comes through the County and the County distributes it. Mr. Clark stated Allegany County has been doing this since 1995 and last year they received a check in the amount of \$164,000 for 411 miles of funded trail. Allegany County is helping us with this. Economic impact studies have been done and riders who ride 80 miles spend approximately \$80 - \$100. There are currently 290,000 registered snowmobiles in New York. When we pay our registration, so much of it goes to funding the trail in upstate New York, we don't get any of that money back here. When we do our trail grant, that is how we are able to insure the trail for the landowners. There is blanket coverage. Mr. Clark stated they currently have 95 members in the Bath club. They will have different chapters that will take on different areas of the trail. Mr. Creath asked is there any insurance obligation or liability? Mr. Clark replied no. Mr. Partridge commented the individual snowmobilers have their own liability insurance.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE STEUBEN COUNTY FEDERATION OF SNOWMOBILERS TO APPLY FOR A SNOWMOBILE TRAIL GRANT, SAID FUNDING TO COME THROUGH AND BE DISTRIBUTED BY STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**SCAP** – Mr. Heffner introduced Ginny Bates. At last month's Board Meeting we had talked about the Small Cities Grant for well and septic system replacements. It is now time to apply for a new grant. Ms. Bates stated previously they have gotten grants for the owner occupied house rehabilitation program. This year we would like to go for the rental property rehabilitation program. Approximately five or six years ago we had

implemented a small rental rehabilitation program in the Village of Addison. Ms. Bates stated they are proposing to do a 75 percent grant to landlord owners and the remaining portion would be their contribution. We would limit the number of units to four per landlord. The housing would have to be brought up to standards both inside and out. The landlords would have to take out a mortgage on the property as a second lien and also sign a document stating that they agree to rent out that property to low-income renters for five to ten years. She stated that they are currently in the process of working up a budget. We will most likely apply for the full \$400,000 for 25 units. In the past the liens have all been in Steuben County's name.

Mr. Creath asked when you rehabilitate the house it will be brought up to code? Ms. Bates replied any work we do would have to be brought up to code. Mr. Creath commented in Corning, if the rehabilitation is 50 percent more than the cost of the house, then you have to bring everything up to code. Ms. Bates replied we would have to follow that. Mr. Walsh asked if you would have no trouble finding landlords at 75 percent, if you go with a 50 percent cap could you do more units? Ms. Bates replied because this is new, she would like to get it under their belt with as few units as possible so we can work out any problems. Dr. Baker asked are there any pitfalls to this? Ms. Bates replied no. We are improving the housing stock which is important for any community. It makes sense to get into the apartment units as it is good public policy. Mr. Walsh asked is this \$400,000 federal or state money? Ms. Bates replied it is federal.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE GOVERNOR'S SMALL CITIES GRANT FOR A RENTAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000, AND ALLOWING SCAP THE OPTION OF OFFERING 75 PERCENT OR 50 PERCENT GRANT FUNDS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**V. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

1. Soil & Water Conservation District

Mr. Parker stated last month he mailed out his accomplishment report to the committee. FEMA was the big ticket item as 412 projects were written for the County amounting to \$5,171,000. Soil & Water ended up with 97 of those projects at a cost of \$1.9 million. We will have 80 projects to do this summer.

**Tree Sale** - Mr. Parker announced the tree sale is taking place and distributed order forms.

**2005 Annual Plan of Operation** – Mr. Parker distributed their 2005 Annual Plan of Operation. Mr. Parker announced the Agricultural Environmental Management Plan was completed for the State program. This is a five-year plan and in the future we will outline it to the AIP Committee to see if you want to do a resolution accepting that. We won't do it this year as Agriculture and Markets hasn't looked at it yet. This will allow us to tap some State funds that would be \$20,000 per year. That would help him keep his part-time staff with funds, other than County funds.

**Marsh Ditch Appointments** – Mr. Parker stated the Soil & Water Conservation District approved the nominations of Steve Hoeffner, William Phelps and Andrew Merry to the Marsh Ditch Board.

**MOTION: RECOMMENDING THAT STEVE HOFFNER, WILLIAM PHELPS AND ANDREW MERRY BE APPOINTED TO THE MARSH DITCH BOARD MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

Mr. Parker distributed the 2003 – 2004 Activity Highlights for the Conservation District. He commented that he went to Albany last week and met with Legislators on possible State reimbursement of \$30,000. They are trying to make changes to allow Districts to obtain funding other than just reimbursement. They are opening it up to programmatic funding.

Mr. Parker also discussed the valuable services provided to the Soil & Water District by the Finger Lakes RC&D Council. He stated the President is proposing that the RC&D program nationwide be cut by 50 percent. He is also recommending that all RC&D Councils that have been in existence for more than 20 years be eliminated. Mr. Parker requested the legislature support funding of the RC&D Councils.

**MOTION: URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND CONGRESS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE USDA'S RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND REINSTATE ITS APPROPRIATION OF \$51.9 MILLION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr. Baker stated there is dumping in the County around houses. Is there anything the County can do? Mr. Heffner replied if they really want to do something about it, they can use the property maintenance portion of the New York State Building Code. This is an issue for the local Town Board's code enforcement.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
Monday, April 4, 2005  
@ 1:00 p.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, March 28, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, April 4, 2005*

*1:00 p.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M. Kenneth E. Isaman  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Amy Dlugos  
Dennis Abbey William Partridge James Gleason  
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr. David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq.

**ABSENT:** Lldon E. Jamison

**OTHERS:** James Sherron, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency  
Dave Shoen, WENY  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for comment by members of the public. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

1. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

Mr. Sherron stated that he would like to update the committee on four projects they are currently working on.

**Windmills** – Mr. Sherron stated they have contact with five different sponsors of windmills. This area is a prime area for wind power. Two things they look at is the wind resource proximity to the power grid as well as areas with low population density. Our area fits into that. The wind resources in Cohocton, Hornell and the Prattsburgh area are very good as they have sustainable winds on average of 15 mph year round. We have rural areas in the county that we could put windmills, particularly in the Prattsburgh area. Mr. Sherron stated there are two projects vying for the Prattsburgh/Italy Valley area and they are Ecogen and Global Winds. We are the lead agency for Ecogen. Global Winds has NYSEDTA as their lead agency and they have offered them a \$4 million grant. There is no outside funding for the Ecogen project. We have induced both of them for financial assistance. It will be one or the other. There is enough room on the ground for 53 towers. Each tower generates 1.5 megawatts and will serve well over 1,000 households. Each windmill will cost \$1.5 million. This would be a \$100 million investment in Prattsburgh.

Mr. Sherron stated in Prattsburgh we are working on the SEQR process. We have declared that it could have a negative effect on the environment. We have completed the scoping process and will hold a public hearing. We have developed the scoping document and we went back and built comments to that and did a draft GEIS. We have completed the document and sent it to the Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Transportation and Department of Health and we have hired a consulting engineer. We will ask the Board on April 21, 2005 to approve it's release to the general public for comment and then we will do the finding statement. There are a number of issues with regard to the windmills including noise, avian kill, bat kill, etc.

Dr. Baker asked who makes the final decision to go ahead with this? Mr. Sherron replied what it boils down to is the siting for each one of the towers. If they can't meet the criteria, then there won't be a project. Dr. Baker asked will the town have the final say? Mr. Sherron replied no. We will make the decision. We are looking for input from all of the agencies out there. We are particularly concerned with what the Department of Environmental Conservation says. The Industrial Development Agency will adhere to the recommendations of the Department of Environmental Conservation with regard to the siting. Without any specific direction, we are going to have to rely on information we have received and the Board will have to make a decision on the distance of the towers.

**Ingersoll Rand** – Mr. Sherron stated for the past one and one half years we have been working with a warehousing facility out of Ohio as they were looking for a site to serve the area as one of the major customers is Corning, Inc. They were looking for rail access. We looked at the Ingersoll Rand site which is the old foundry site. There are 53 – 54 acres. There are environmental issues as there is a 300 foot circle that was used as a dump site and we are working with the Department of Environmental Conservation to clean that up. The Town Planning Board turned the firm down based on the amount of truck traffic.

Mr. Sherron stated we haven't abandoned the site as Ingersoll Rand owns it and they have been reluctant to sell in the past. Hopefully they will voluntarily transfer title to the Industrial Development Agency or the Village. If we end up with the title to the property, we will review how we could enter the property from a different direction. We are entertaining some other sites. This firm would start out with a 400,000 square foot facility and could grow to 600,000 square feet. We are eager to get them here. They would be a real benefit to the County if we could get them here.

Dr. Baker asked what is the tax situation? Mr. Sherron replied the village was getting \$4,000 per year. We were looking at bringing it up to \$200,000 per year. This is a \$12 million project excluding the land. We hope to go forward.

**Avoca Gas Project** – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that Avoca Gas was purchased by Sem Group from Oklahoma. Previously, this was known as Blue Dolphin and they were bought out of bankruptcy by Avoca Gas and they didn't have the capital to develop it. Sem Group has the money and will do the testing. They are working on the application. In addition, they recently have taken an interest in the Wykoff Field. This is a depleted gas field and they want to inject gas into the wells and take it out whenever it is needed and would work in conjunction with Avoca Gas. The wells take up 6 billion cubic feet, which equals the Empire State Building and the facility is underground. We expect construction to be underway relatively soon. It will help the area and this will be a major storage area in the Northeast. It may provide stability to the supply and pricing in the area.

**Wilkins Recreational Vehicles** – Mr. Sherron stated Wilkins Recreational Vehicles currently is in Hornell. They have purchased a site on the Kanona exit which provides good visibility from the Interstate. All indications show that after moving closer to the Interstate, after three years they could expect business to double. That is a good reason to move. The project calls for a 52,000 square foot building. This is a \$5 million project with 40 employees and they would increase the workforce by 25. The Industrial Development Agency is interested in this because approximately 30 percent of the sales they have are from out of State. They are also looking at putting in a campsite of 100 acres and then increase to a large camping area to allow people to come in during rallies. They don't want to compete with the local campgrounds. There is a good increase in employment, but also the opportunity to grab money from other states.

Mr. Walsh asked is Wilkins planning to do it this year? Mr. Sherron replied yes. We have asked the Town of Bath to act at lead agency and they have agreed to do so. Mr. Isaman asked is the 100 acres near the truck stop? Mr. Sherron replied it is just east, right behind the nursery.

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

1. Planning Department

**Agricultural Districts** – Mrs. Dlugos stated last month the Legislature set the date of the public hearing for 303B additions. She requested a resolution to add 602.09 acres to four different agricultural districts throughout the County.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE ADDITION OF 602.09 ACRES OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO FOUR DIFFERENT CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

2. Buildings & Grounds

**Purchase and Installation of Panel System** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee they have a quote for the purchase and installation of panel systems for the Supreme and County Court systems. The quote is \$7,635.61 from State contract. The cost is 100 percent reimbursable from the State.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDING & GROUNDS TO PAY \$7,635.61 FROM STATE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PANEL SYSTEMS FOR THE SUPREME AND COUNTY COURT MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**Alarm Services** – Mr. Alger stated we no longer have alarm monitoring. The Village of Bath contracts have been severed because their alarm panel broke. Mr. Partridge has secured quotes as we need to have someone doing that. At the same time, we are deciding whether we have a service do this or if we do it ourselves. Mr. Partridge stated we have alarm services for all of the buildings on the square except for the Balcom House, Detention Center, Mental Health and the Health Care Facility which go to the Bath Police Department. Mr. Alger stated one option is to go to a security services such as Eastern Security, ADT, etc. They remotely monitor and are interfaced by an auto alarm. The other option is to do it in-house, but we would have to purchase an alarm panel. Mr. Partridge commented the Hornell and Corning Courthouses go to a service for both fire and panic alarms. Public Works has ten shops that go through ADT. He stated the buildings on the square and the Health Care Facility go through Eastern. Mr. Alger stated this is something we need to check into further.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO DO FURTHER INVESTIGATION REGARDING ALARM MONITORING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

3. Weights & Measures

**Replacement Truck Bid** – Mr. Abbey stated they received two bids for a cab-chassis truck with installed cargo/van body and optional equipment. He recommended accepting the low bidder, Albee Truck, Inc. for \$96,134.00. Mr. Alger stated this is something that we have put off and he doesn't know that we can put it off any longer. Mr. Abbey stated he is \$12,500 short. He has \$84,000 budgeted for this. Mr. Alger stated he would recommend this to Finance and expects we would take the money out of the Contingent Fund.

**MOTION: AWARDING THE REPLACEMENT TRUCK BID FOR WEIGHT & MEASURES TO ALBEE TRUCK, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$96,134.00 AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$12,500.00 FROM THE CONTINGENT FUND TO COVER THE EXPENSE NOT BUDGETED FOR IN WEIGHTS & MEASURES BUDGET MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION REPORTED OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
Monday, May 2, 2005  
@ 1:00 p.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, April 25, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, May 2, 2005*

*1:00 p.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair                      Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair    DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.  
Lldon E. Jamison    John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger    Gregory P. Heffner                      William J. Partridge  
Chris Kane    Lawrence Crossett                      David English  
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

**OTHERS:** James Griffin, Hornell Industrial Development Agency  
Steve Dennis, Director, Steuben County Empire Development Zone  
Dave Shoen, WENY  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

**I.     CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II.    APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (MR. JAMISON ABSENT FOR VOTE)**

**III.   OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for comments by members of the public. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV.    OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

1.     Empire Zone

Mr. Dennis stated that he is here to give the committee an update on the activities of the zone. The Hornell-Corning-Steuben County Empire Zone was designated in 2001 to support business start-ups and expansions. The Empire Zone program provides New York State tax credits and incentives to businesses that are creating new jobs and making new investments. This is a geographic designation and the businesses actually have to be within the zone to qualify. Mr. Dennis stated the zone consists of approximately 800 acres in Hornell, 140 acres in Corning and numerous other projects throughout the County. In order to be included in the zone, the business has to be creating new jobs and making new investments. Each business is required to submit a business annual report. As of December 31, 2003 we have 54 certified businesses in the zone, with 34 located in the City of Hornell. The businesses we are dealing with are clearly in the growth mode. Total capital invested for 2003 was \$41,219,755. Since the beginning of the zone, there have been 600 new jobs and that is a very significant number.

Mr. Griffin stated since the zone was established the administration of the zone has been done through the Hornell Industrial Development Agency. Originally the State was going to put up \$60,000 for administration and they have cut that back to \$30,000. The zone's budget is \$80,000. The Hornell Industrial Development Agency has been picking up the difference. Mr. Griffin stated the City of Corning was a participant this year and we are

looking at about a \$60,000 shortfall in the zone administration. We are looking for the County to participate and contribute up to \$15,000 or 25 percent. We wanted to reach out to the entire County and we asked the City of Corning to participate. We also have taken applications throughout the County. The new rules and regulations have been passed and are in effect. Those allow us to continue to provide zone benefits to the County. The benefits are substantial. Mr. Griffin explained typical economic development is that a new company comes in and builds and they don't have to pay taxes for ten years. With this, we don't have to extend that to them. The municipalities in the County and the schools get the full amount of the taxes and the State sends the business a check back. He stated that they are very pleased to have Mr. Dennis as the administrator of this program and he has done an outstanding job.

Mr. Isaman asked how many zones are in New York State? Mr. Dennis replied there are 71 zones. The State has proposed creating three new zones for four consecutive years. Every county in the State will have a zone. There are areas in the State that have a couple of zones. Mr. Griffin stated we have managed our zone well. Our zone was rated in the top five in New York State this year.

Mr. Creath commented he was under the impression that this program would be self-sustaining. Why are we in this bind? Mr. Griffin replied we are in this bind because the State dropped their contribution from \$60,000 to \$30,000. Mr. Creath asked if the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency could take the County's share? Mr. Alger replied we have our share in the budget. It is in the Economic Development Fund.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO CONTRACT WITH THE HORNELL-CORNING-STEUBEN COUNTY EMPIRE ZONE AND TO PAY THE ZONE \$15,000 FOR THE COUNTY'S SHARE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

1. Buildings & Grounds

**Contracts** – Mr. Partridge presented a list of the annual maintenance contracts that are up for renewal. He stated that one contract that is not on the list is Manpower Services. He stated currently they have an individual who is out on compensation and probably will not return until October. He would like to contract with Manpower Services for an individual to come and work through October. This is a per hour contract at the rate of \$13.46. We would not be liable for unemployment or other insurance. Our current contract expires on May 17, 2005. We are hoping to fund a position through October. Mr. Alger stated this contract would be for 40 hours per week until they don't have money in the budget to fund them. The intent was to pick up an individual sometime within the next month or so and that way they could do the lawn mowing at the various buildings. Mr. Alger stated this is a labor grade title and that is one of the reasons that we are able to do this through Manpower.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MANPOWER SERVICES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO WORK FOR THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH OCTOBER AT A RATE OF \$13.46 PER HOUR FOR 40 HOURS PER WEEK MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS FOR 2005 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: ACCESS LIFTS & RAMPS \$265 FOR COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING AND \$162 FOR CORNING COURTHOUSE; ADVANCED SAFETY SYSTEMS \$1,040; DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER \$3,120; EASTERN SECURITY \$2,891.40; EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEMS \$825; FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY \$2,462; HAKES EQUIPMENT \$85 PER TRIP; HOLEVINSKI MECHANICAL & SALVAGE, LLC \$80 PER TRIP; IMPERIAL DOOR CONTROLS \$405; S.D. LANG ENTERPRISES, INC. \$6,350; SDS OF NY \$1,103.76 FOR HORNELL COURTHOUSE AND \$626.88 FOR CORNING COURTHOUSE; SCHINDLER ELEVATOR CORPORATION \$7,240; SOUTHERN TIER FIRE EXTINGUISHER \$350; THE TRANE COMPANY \$26,062 AND WEST FIRE SYSTEMS, INC. \$900 MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**CDFTC Paving Project** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that he has reviewed this project with the Department of Public Works and they will do the demolition of the existing pavement and the regrading. The pavement is on the County bid and we are estimating the total cost will be \$13,107. We had \$8,500 budgeted for

this project. He requested authorization to transfer \$6,000 from the Wilson Avenue Parking Lot Project to this project. He stated that he is asking for a little extra in order to purchase any gravel fill that would be needed to do the grading.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$6,000 FROM THE WILSON AVENUE PARKING LOT PROJECT TO THE CIVIL DEFENSE FIRE TRAINING CENTER PAVING PROJECT MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.**

**Judges Bench Expansion** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that several years ago we did a bench expansion project in Courtroom B. The judges are now requesting the same be done in Courtroom A. We have received two proposals. The one proposal did not include the cost for having a contractor install the expansion. He recommended awarding the bid to Joe Conte Woodworking at a cost of \$7,500. He commented this is only \$500 more than what they paid several years ago for the same work. The cost of this project is 100 percent reimbursed by the State court system.

**MOTION: AWARDED THE BID FOR THE JUDGES BENCH EXPANSION IN COURTROOM A TO JOE CONTE WOODWORKING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,500 MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

2. Planning

**Contract** – Mr. Heffner requested a resolution to accept a grant to allow the purchase of two buses for the transportation system. The federal government has a 5311 capital program with a required 10 percent local share. We contract with First Transit and they pay the local share. We are purchasing the buses as a group of counties.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO ACCEPT A GRANT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BUSES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Creath asked for a report on the Hall of Fame Banquet. Mr. Isaman reported that there were five individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame. There were 112 people in attendance and it went very well.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by: Amanda L. Chapman, Senior Stenographer, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**

*Monday, June 6, 2005*

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME\*\* @ 11:00 a.m. \*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME\*\***

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office**

**NO LATER THAN NOON**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2005**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, June 6, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M. Lldon E. Jamison  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner William J. Partridge  
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr. David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq. Patrick F. McAllister

**ABSENT:** Kenneth E. Isaman

**OTHERS:** Brent Franklin  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for comment by members of the public. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

Mr. Ahrens introduced Brent Franklin, the Law Department's summer intern. Mr. Franklin attends Hamilton College and is employed by BOCES and has been assigned to the Law Department.

**IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

**1. Soil & Water Conservation**

Mr. Parker distributed a copy of his April and May Accomplishment Report. He stated that they have been working on the stream FEMA projects that we had from last year's disaster. We are getting about 20 projects done every two months. We had 70 – 702 projects that needed to be done. Mr. Parker stated that during the fish program they handed out 1,875 rainbow trout on April 30<sup>th</sup> and on June 18<sup>th</sup> they will be handing out catfish. They had received approximately 100 orders for catfish. He stated they had a volunteer group that planted willows along Meads Creek. Mr. Parker informed the committee that the hydroseeding program is going very well and they have already used 64.5 tanks for various county highway and Soil & Water projects. Mr. Parker stated that under the bond act grant activity they have done two stream restorations and a number of salt storage projects. Mr. Alger commented we have most of our own salt storage sheds now, and we have some with the towns.

Mr. Parker stated that the agricultural management program is going strong. The AMA applications totaled 100 with the majority of those signing up for prescribed grazing. Our office should know the results by mid-June of who were approved and who were not. We anticipate that 30 percent of the applications will get funded. Under

the EQIP program six applications were submitted and approved with the total funding being \$143,664. We have an individual hired through NCRS contract funds to work on the WRP/WHIP grant applications. That position is funded through shared services. We have been getting an excellent response with this.

Mr. Creath asked with regard to pond site reviews, do you do that for new or existing ponds? Mr. Parker replied we do site reviews for new ponds that have not been constructed yet. We do sometimes go out and investigate existing ponds if there are problems. Mr. Creath asked do you have a responsibility to inspect all ponds? Mr. Parker replied no. The only ponds we have the responsibility to inspect are hazard class. Mr. Walsh asked what is the acreage size? Mr. Parker replied there is a gallonage limit. A hazard class pond is identified as a pond with 3 million gallons or if the dike is higher than six or eight feet. Most ponds that we build are 1.5 million gallons.

**AEM Strategic Plan** – Mr. Parker announced that the State has approved the Agricultural Environmental Management Strategic Plan for 2005 – 2010. We are looking at receiving \$20,000 per year for the next five years to do agricultural environmental management. He requested that the legislature also approve this plan.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2005 – 2010 MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Mr. Parker commented that they are involved with the Chesapeake Bay tributary strategy planning. This involves addressing the nutrient loading and redesign by 2010 before the Environmental Protection Agency mandates it. Approximately 88 percent of Steuben County is in the Chemung River Basin. Mr. Parker announced they will be holding a stockholders meeting on August 16, 2005 to give everyone an update on the tributaries and where we stand. There will also be public comment on our strategy for New York. All of the Legislators will be getting an invitation to this. He commented that he would appreciate their involvement.

Mr. Parker announced that the Water Quality Coordinating Committee was approved for three mini grants for Level I, Level II, Level III and Level IV. The Level III grant involves the development and implementation of streambank housekeeping for highway departments. The Level IV grant is a low-impact development grant in the amount of \$13,000 for the stream drain system for the Salubria Lake infiltration basin.

2. **Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau**

**Mid-year Update** – Ms. Coleman stated that over the past few years there has been a lot of change in the travel industry. During 2001 there was a decrease in business, group and convention travel as well as the attacks on September 11<sup>th</sup>. During 2002 consumer confidence dropped and there was a continued decline in business, meetings and group travel and there emerged new behavior patterns. During 2003 there was the war, SARS, terrorism and continued economic concerns. She stated that 2004 saw some rebuilding, but at the 2000 levels until 2005. Now in 2005, we need to evaluate our marketing strategies to match new visitor trends. Ms. Coleman stated that during November 2004 – February 2005 we are seeing a steady increase while everyone else in the State is flat or is seeing a decrease. We have seen an increase in the international visits. The first quarter of 2005 is showing a return of business travel and that is the last market to rebound.

Ms. Coleman stated that their accomplishments for 2004 included unique visits to [www.corningfingerlakes.com](http://www.corningfingerlakes.com) are up 305 percent compared to 2003. She explained that unique visits represent individual computers rather than email addresses which may be shared. They also sent promotion and experience-based email newsletters to 193,807 qualified potential buyers. Ms. Coleman stated that their accomplishments to-date for 2005 are that the advertising response has already surpassed 2004 totals and the international marketing presence is ahead of pace for 2004. As of May, Steuben County has hosted over 48 international buyers from 11 countries. During the first quarter of 2005 they have distributed 43,000 travel guides. She commented that in what is traditionally their weakest quarter, they have seen a 9 percent increase in room tax collections over 2004 numbers. Our room tax estimates are based on a conservative 5 percent growth projection. Mr. Creath asked have you seen your numbers affected by gas prices? Ms. Coleman replied no, not at all.

Ms. Coleman commented that based on the Strategic Research study that was conducted in 2000 – 2001 by Randall Travel Marketing, they have redesigned the Steuben County Travel Guide which has resulted in better distribution. They have redesigned their marketing message from Destination Based to Experienced Based,

which resulted in national recognition and we developed more targeted, results focused messaging that benefits all sectors of the County. An example of that is the Women Only Weekend (WOW) in March 2004 which resulted in a 306 percent increase in website traffic and multiple return trip visits. During the period of March 2004 – March 2005 we sold 210 packages. Mr. Creath commented New York is the historical hotbed of the Women’s Movement, which is something to tie in with WOW. Ms. Coleman stated that they have tried to build on that.

Ms. Coleman stated that updated research can strengthen our position as we compete with other marketing organizations for funding, it will help reduce confusion by verifying our messaging in the marketplace for our visitors, it will arm us with accurate customer profiles to better capture the Leisure Market, it will identify the new behavior patterns of our potential visits to remain competitive and the definition of vacation has changed from go, see and do, to immerse and chill. We need to change in response to customer desires. She stated that the Conference and Visitors’ Bureau is asking the Legislature for a one-time request of \$10,000 to do an updated research study. Randall Travel Marketing has provided us with a quote for a follow up study to cover twelve months of data which is \$22,000. We are able to split the cost into two fiscal years and will budget for the remaining funds in our 2006 budget. The research can begin as soon as September 2005. At the end of 2004 we had a \$9,000 deficit. If we keep with our 5 percent conservative growth estimate, we anticipate that we will end 2005 with \$30,000 in the reserve. If we take out that \$9,000 deficit that would leave \$20,000 in the reserve. This is a room tax request.

Mr. Alger stated this committee can approve this request and send it to Finance and then we will have a better idea of what kind of money we have. The Treasurer’s immediate response will be that he hasn’t received the revenue, but we will look at it in Finance.

**MOTION: APPROPRIATING \$10,000 OF THE ROOM TAX REVENUE TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY AND CONFERENCE VISITORS’ BUREAU TO BE USED AS PART OF THE PAYMENT FOR THE UPDATED MARKETING RESEARCH TO BE CONDUCTED BY RANDALL TRAVEL MARKETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (Resolution Required)**

Dr. Baker asked with being able to ship wine, shouldn’t that increase interest in our area? Ms. Coleman replied there is great potential if that happens. The wineries already have their mailing lists ready to go once the Federal law comes through. They haven’t started shipping wine yet because they didn’t want to take any chances by not complying. She stated that she thinks this will help tourism.

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

1. Planning

**Designation of the Tourism Promotion Agency** – Mr. Heffner requested the Legislature pass a resolution designating the Steuben County Conference and Visitors’ Bureau as the official tourism promotion agency for the County.

**MOTION: DESIGNATING THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE AND VISITORS’ BUREAU AS THE OFFICIAL TOURISM PROMOTION AGENCY FOR STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (Resolution Required)**

Mr. Creath asked is the AIP Committee going to be involved in the disposition of the Health Care Facility? Mr. Alger replied no doubt. The issue will require some study and the logical location for that would be this committee. There is the issue of what to do with the old facility should it stand on it’s own. There are a lot of options. We need to look at the conceptual ideas and the broader parameters for the costs. It is difficult to fully cost before you make that decision. Mr. Creath stated that could be part of the local financing portion if we have salvage value. Mr. Alger stated perhaps, though he is not sure that would be the major consideration. He believes that the best recommendation from the Health Care Facility is to fund fully the cost of the facility through a borrowing, including the local share, so that wouldn’t directly impact the financing mechanism.

2. Buildings & Grounds

**Balcom House** – Mr. Partridge requested approval of a change order for S.J. Coots in the amount of \$1,578 for fabricated steel plates. There is money in the project.

**MOTION: APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,578.00 FOR S.J. COOTS FOR FABRICATED STEEL PLATES FOR THE BALCOM HOUSE STRUCTURAL PROJECT MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**Partitions** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that last month they received approval for the purchase and installation of partitions for the Supreme Court. One of the doors was not available, so he is requesting a change order in the amount of \$2,555.90 to purchase three new doors as well as the hardware and installation fee. This cost is 100 percent reimbursed by the State.

**MOTION: APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,555.90 FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE NEW DOORS, INCLUDING HARDWARE AND INSTALLATION FOR THE SUPREME COURT, COST TO BE 100 PERCENT REIMBURSED BY THE STATE MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**Fire Alarm Monitoring** – Mr. Partridge stated that last month the committee had talked about fire alarm monitoring for the County Office Building, Surrogates Building, County Courthouse and the Balcom House. He received a quote from Fire Alarm Service Technology for \$330.00 per year to monitor all four buildings, plus an equipment charge of \$450.00 for the alarm panel. He requested permission to amend the existing contract to include this service.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TO AMEND THEIR CONTRACT WITH FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY TO INCLUDE THE INSTALLATION OF AN ALARM PANEL TO MONITOR ALARMS FOR THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, SURROGATE'S BUILDING, COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND THE BALCOM HOUSE AT A COST OF \$450.00 AND A MONITORING COST OF \$330.00 PER YEAR MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Meeting Date** – Mr. Creath stated that due to the holiday in July, the meeting will be held on Monday, July 11, 2005 at 11:00 a.m.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.D. DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROPOSED, PENDING OR CURRENT LITIGATION MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by: Amanda L. Chapman, Senior Stenographer, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**

***\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\* Monday, July 11, 2005 \*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\*  
@ 11:00 a.m.***

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, June 27, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, July 11, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*3 East Pulteney Square*

*Bath, New York*

**MINUTES**

Committee: Donald B. Creath, Chair                      Lldon E. Jamison                      DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.  
John Walsh

Legislators: Philip J. Roche, Esq.

Staff: Mark R. Alger                                      William Partridge                      Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.  
David English

Other: Brent Franklin                                      Mary Perham, *Leader*

Absent: Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Creath at 11:05 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2005, MEETING MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Security System Software** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to renew the security system software protection plan and upgrade the control card access system. The cost is \$2,195 and there is funding available in the security system account. Discussion followed.

**MOTION: APPROVING SECURITY SYSTEM SOFTWARE PROTECTION PLAN AND UPGRADE OF THE CONTROL CARD ACCESS SYSTEM FOR \$2,195 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

2. **Parking Lot Project** – Mr. Partridge stated the parking lot project has been completed. It went very well. It was on schedule and they did a good job. Dr. Baker stated they should pass along to the employees that we thank them for their cooperation during this project.

3. **Informational** – Mr. Partridge stated they requested quotes for the painting of the storage barn. They came in higher than the limit so they are in the process of soliciting bids.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Jail Project – Mr. Creath asked what is the status of the Jail Expansion Project? Mr. Alger reported that the Public Safety and Corrections Committee has made the recommendation to the Finance Committee to proceed with the project. If the Finance Committee approves it, it will go to the full Legislature for approval.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Brenda K. Mori  
Deputy Clerk  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
Monday, August 1, 2005  
11:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE  
Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, July 25, 2005**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, August 1, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair                      Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair    DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.  
Lldon E. Jamison    John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger    Gregory P. Heffner                      William J. Partridge  
James Gleason    Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.                      David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 11, 2005 MEETING MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (Mr. Jamison absent for vote).**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for public comment. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

Mr. Creath informed the committee that there was a very good article in the Star-Gazette regarding the wine industry. The article was titled "Millions Invested in Wine" and stated that there are 23 million visits annually to the Finger Lakes wine industry. The wine industry is the second tourist attraction in the State with the first being New York City. Mr. Creath commented our investment in Wine Country and the Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau is paying off. The Seneca Lake wine tours are sold out three months in advance.

**IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **County Barn Exterior Painting Bid** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee they received bids from Carone Painting, Inc. for \$18,842.00; Kenneth Witter Painting & Renovations for \$24,826.00 and John H. Cook, Jr. Painting Contractors, Inc. for \$27,606.00. He recommended awarding the bid to the low bidder, Carone Painting, Inc.

**MOTION: AWARDING THE COUNTY BARN EXTERIOR PAINTING BID TO THE LOW BIDDER, CARONE PAINTING, INC. FOR \$18,842.00 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **September Meeting Date** – Due to the Labor Day holiday, the committee agreed to set the date of the September meeting to Monday, September 12, 2005 at 11:00 a.m.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**  
**\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\* Monday, September 12, 2005 \*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\***  
**@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office**  
**NO LATER THAN NOON**  
**Monday, August 29, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, September 12, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair                      DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.                      Lldon E. Jamison  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger    Amy Dlugos    David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche

**ABSENT:** Donald B. Creath, Chair

**OTHERS:** Tom Tomsa, Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Richard Stewart, Steuben County Farm Bureau  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*  
Dave Shoen, WENY

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Isaman called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (Mr. Jamison absent for vote).**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Isaman opened the floor for public comment. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension

1. **2006 Budget Request** – Mr. Tomsa stated for the 2006 budget, they are asking the County for \$340,000. This represents no increase from the 2005 request. For the County's \$340,000, Corning Cooperative Extension will provide a \$1.5 million program delivered by a staff of eighteen who coordinate the efforts of over 300 volunteers who serve over 15,000 Steuben County residents. All of the personnel salary and fringe benefit costs are paid for by the State. Every County appropriated dollar is matched by \$3.50 from outside sources to provide programming in Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Nutrition and Food Safety, Family Resource Management and Parenting and Child Care.

Mr. Tomsa informed the committee that last year they received a grant from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to develop a marketing program to shift the emphasis of the potato industry in our area from chippers to a more bonded table stock. Cornell University developed two new varieties of potato, the Reba and the Keuka Gold. We are currently in the process of developing distinctive packaging for these potatoes and he believes there is a lot of potential for this program. Mr. Tomsa stated they also received a new grant from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to produce the Steuben Farm Product Guide. This is a guide that will advertise all of the producers in the County. He stated there is a good deal of our budget that goes

to our participating in the grape program. Steuben County is the second largest producer of grapes in the area, behind Yates County.

Mr. Tomsa stated the 4-H Youth Development Program continues to enjoy its position as the second or third largest program in the State. This is a really important part of the lives of hundreds of families in the area. We currently serve over 2,800 youth through this program. He stated that their Family Resource (Financial) Management Program has been going very well. Last year was a busy year for the Financial Educator. He is afraid they will be overwhelmed this year with the expected increase in energy costs this season and they expect a steady increasing trend in the numbers utilizing this service.

Mr. Tomsa informed the committee that they have received New York State Legislative Initiative funding for the purchase and installation of videoconferencing equipment. They also have obtained a special laptop table and laptop computers to set up a wireless computer classroom.

Mr. Isaman asked with regard to the Grape Program, what are some of the things you do? Mr. Tomsa replied they hold a convention every year. There are weekly and monthly coffeepot meetings as well as numerous publications. They have had discussions relating to the development of new varieties. One of the big issues this year is winterkill and learning different cultivation methods to prevent that from happening.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE 2006 BUDGET REQUEST FOR CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

B. Steuben County Farm Bureau

1. **Hazardous Waste Collection Day** – Mr. Stewart stated this program is for household and farm hazardous waste. He commented the Farm Bureau has issues with this program because there is a registration form for farm hazardous waste. They don't feel that to collect names is that important. Mr. Isaman commented the registration forms have come in lieu of recent issues. Mr. Alger stated individuals do have to call in to register for other than agricultural hazardous waste.

2. **Property Maintenance Code – Howard** – Mr. Stewart stated New York State has adopted the International Code. The Town of Howard wants to adopt a Local Law for junk cars, grass that is taller than twelve inches, etc. The Farm Bureau has concerns about that. Many of the provisions of this code are not enforceable because of the Right to Farm Act. This Property Maintenance Code does not exempt farm properties or those properties that are located in agricultural districts and the Farm Bureau will be asking the Town of Howard to incorporate that. He thinks this is a bad idea. Everyone likes to see things neat, but when the enforcement is piecemeal, then you are asking for a lot of ill will. The stance of the Town is that they have to adopt this in order to enforce it locally. What is the County's stance on the enforcement? Another issue is that there are a lot of barns that are going to fall down or have fallen down. This is a huge undertaking. Does the County have the ability to enforce that?

Mr. Alger replied no. That whole code was created for the towns. In terms of enforcement, that really is a local issue. We are the enforcement agency of last resort for a couple of municipalities. We only enforce the building code. Mr. English commented New York State has adopted the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. This is a very substantial and comprehensive code. Property maintenance is a part of it. Each town has the authority to adopt or opt out of that code. The State does require that minimum standards be met. This code is automatically effective in the towns unless the towns opt out of them. The Property Maintenance Code has only been around a couple of years. The junk car ordinance is separate from that. Mr. Stewart commented under the Property Maintenance Code it allows for one unlicensed vehicle per property. Mr. English commented that there are seminars regarding this topic held on an almost monthly basis. This is a relatively new code. He believes that the towns have it unless they opt out and there are some requirements they have to follow if they opt out. Mr. Alger stated the town would have to opt out, then the County would do it. We don't want to do it. We would charge as much as we can on the fee schedule.

3. **Gas Leases** – Mr. Stewart stated that he was looking over his gas lease with Fortuna and noticed there is a clause that states that the lease never expires. The lessee's sole remediation for breach shall be

damages. If you sign one of these leases, you are in it forever. Mr. Jamison commented most of the leases have been that way for years. Mr. Stewart commented that clause hasn't been in there until recently. Mr. English stated a lease continues for as long as production continues. Mr. Stewart stated there is a new law being sponsored by Senator Winner regarding Compulsory Integration. This pertains to the recovery of drilling costs. The lessee can take 300 percent of the cost of drilling the well before they have to pay you. If the property isn't leased, then as the owner, you have rights to all of it. This is provided for ongoing marketing and production costs. The Farm Bureau saw the opportunity for abuse and that was our objective.

V. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

A. **Planning**

1. **Farm-City Day** – Mrs. Dlugos announced the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm-City Day will be held at Palmer Farms located in Howard on September 24, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**  
*Monday, October 3, 2005*  
**@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office**  
**NO LATER THAN NOON**  
**Monday, September 26, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, October 3, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair                      Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair                      Lldon E. Jamison  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger                                      Gregory P. Heffner                                      William J. Partridge  
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.                              David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq.                      Harley R. Mayo

**ABSENT:** DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.

**OTHERS:** Peggy Coleman, Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau  
Marcia Weber, Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board  
Jan Amaan, ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes  
Margaret Cook, Finger Lakes Wine Country  
Beth DeWayne, Chairman, Finger Lakes Wine Country Board  
Alexa Gifford, Finger Lakes Tourism  
Allen Fusco  
Richard Stewart, Steuben County Farm Bureau  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*  
Dave Shoen, WENY

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Isaman to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2005 MEETING MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Creath opened the floor for public comment. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

**IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. Soil & Water Conservation**

1. **2006 Budget** – Mr. Parker presented his 2006 proposed budget to the committee for their review. He commented that the proposed 2006 General Operation Budget is \$300,201.78, which is an increase over last year. Part of this increase is due to the fact that they will need to purchase a new copy machine and a new truck. The truck will cost \$27,000 - \$28,000. They are asking for the same County appropriation as last year, which was \$127,426.00. Mr. Parker noted that there is an increase of \$10,000 in the Streambank Program. They have a waiting list of 65 private homeowners who need to get streamwork done. Their total proposed budget for 2006 is \$197,426.00.

Mr. Isaman asked how do we compare to other Soil & Water Conservation Districts with regard to the streambank stabilization program? Mr. Parker replied Allegany County does not have a program. Chemung and Schuyler

counties did have a program, but he doesn't know if they still do. The other reason that it is good that we have this program is we have been able to bring in FEMA money. Last year we received over \$2 million.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

2. **Water Quality Coordinating Committee** – Mr. Parker informed the committee that the Steuben County Water Quality Coordinating Committee recently submitted an outline for Mini Grant Level I. This is a grant that is available through the Department of Agriculture and Markets. In order to qualify, we had to put together a synopsis for public officials and review some of the goals. The report is done and as a result, we will receive \$1,000. Mr. Parker reviewed some of the goals with the committee. *A Copy of the Steuben County Water Quality Coordinating Committee Report is on file in the Clerk of Legislature's Office.*

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE STEUBEN COUNTY WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

A. **Keuka Lake Association** – Mr. Creath informed the committee that he received a communication from the Keuka Lake Association regarding having a uniform docks and mooring law for Keuka Lake. They would like to see all of the towns and municipalities surrounding the Lake participate in this. They are requesting that the municipalities pass local ordinances.

**VI. PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board**

1. **2006 Budget** – Ms. Weber stated that some of the areas they cover with the regional planning agency include economic development, telecommunications and technology development, flood and hazard mitigation planning, geographic information systems and many more. The counties benefit from the work we do in the individual counties as well as in the region. There are cost savings from having a regional staff at your disposal. Studies and projects we develop for one county can be applied to others. Our regional committees, as well as our board, work together in an open and cooperative spirit. Over the last four years, we have been able to bring in grants of over \$5 million to benefit Steuben County. Two areas that STC has done a lot of work with are telecommunications and GIS. Ms. Weber distributed a handout showing a list of accomplishments over the last year and recent years. The committee can see that our emphasis on bringing in federal funding and job creation and retention has paid off.

Ms. Weber stated for the past several years, STC has been requesting an investment of \$75,000 from Steuben County. We have been extremely grateful for your support of the work we do. This year, she is requesting \$85,000. She stated that she does not do this lightly. She has been reviewing their budget and work programs and realizes that we must move forward on the telecommunications front to make our region competitive in these technology-oriented times. We need staff to work in the fields of telecommunications and planning as we pursue the regional need for increased telecommunications services. Ms. Weber stated that she has been proud that in the last three years, STC has been able to produce so much with a smaller staff than the agency has had in probably thirty years. However, we see needs that must be filled. As you know, federal and state funding is not increasing; our ARC and EDA revenues have remained the same for as long as she can remember, although that isn't true for the expense side of their budget. We have cut back in every way we can, and, in fact, are shrinking the space we occupy to save rent. We'll either move or give up a large part of our current office space at the end of this year. What we will do in return for your investment is work even harder to bring in the services and funding that this region needs. Over \$5 million over the last four years in federal funds and many thousands in state and other sources has come into the county through our office. We want to do more. She thanked the committee for their time.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE SOUTHERN TIER CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING IT TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

B. ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes

1. **2006 Budget** – Ms. Amann introduced herself as the Interim Executive Director of the ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes. She stated that they truly appreciate the support that the County has given their organization. With the county's funding, they have been able to maintain current programs and services and added new. The arts are a \$2.4 million industry in Steuben County. In American Style Magazine's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Readers' Choice Poll, Corning was ranked 22 out of the top 25 small art cities in the United States. Approximately 52 percent of money obtained through grants remained in Steuben County. Ms. Amann stated that for fiscal year 2004/2005 the ARTS administered the State Council on the Art's program which will provide \$19,640 to 11 community organizations in Steuben County. We also awarded \$10,277 to five Steuben County schools for arts programming in 2005. The ARTS also received \$26,800 in state funding to support the folk arts program displays and events in the region. Ms. Amann stated that the ARTS completed a \$164,000 project that implemented a website for regional artists to market and sell their work and to entice tourists to visit the area.

Ms. Amann informed the committee that they are beginning a new venture that will be known as the Cultural Partners Group. This group has eight members and they will be thinking as one unit, rather than acting individually to become a collective tourism destination. This will be much like the wineries coming together and it will be headed by the ARTS. The Cultural Partners Group will look into ways to share services to do more with our dollars. An example of this collaboration is the Orchestra of the Finger Lakes has moved into space that 171 Cedar Arts Center had. This is an initiative that has great potential to save money.

Ms. Amann stated that for 2006 they are asking for an additional \$2,500 to help them fund the Cultural Partners Group. In addition they are also asking to increase the allocation for the Hornell Area Arts Council from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The total request is for \$37,500 which will be broken down into \$10,000 for Hornell Area Arts Council, \$7,000 for Decentralization Grants, \$7,000 for Arts Education, \$6,000 for Folk Arts Program and \$7,500 for Cultural Partners Group. She thanked the committee for their consideration of this request.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR HIS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

C. Finger Lakes Wine Country

1. **2006 Budget** – Ms. Cook, President, introduced Beth DeWayne, Chairman of the Finger Lakes Wine Country Board. Ms. Cook informed the committee that this year their campaign is yielding positive results and they have seen 201,000 unique inquiries as of August 31, 2005. This is up from \$139,000 in 2004. Visits to their website are up 42.5 percent year to date which is an increase over last year. The average individual is spending 4 minutes on the site. She stated they obtained significant bonusing during their 2005 media campaign which totaled over \$200,000 in added value. They will be holding their strategic planning session on October 18, 2005 to discuss next year's strategy. In an effort to save money, they are trying to take on more in-house. With regard to their public relations campaign, they sold out the group press trip and they have been doing a great job of reaching out to the right audience. Ms. Cook stated they issue 2 e-postcards each month to database members and have seen open rates of 25 – 40 percent which is well above industry norms.

Ms. Cook informed the committee that another new program they have begun is the self-guided concierge books. This book showcases all of the tourism products in the area. These books are still a work in progress and we hope people will give us a sense of what tourists are asking for. The average tourist trip is 5 days and they are staying in Finger Lakes Wine Country 3.5 days. Our goal is to get them to stay an additional day. Finger Lakes Wine Country produced 125,000 travel guides this year.

Mr. Creath asked where are the wine trails located? Ms. Cook replied they have the Cayuga Wine Trail, Seneca Wine Trail, Keuka Wine Trail and the Canandaigua Wine Trail. She noted that the Canandaigua Wine Trail does not fund their organization. The Keuka Lake Wine Trail has funded us at a very fair level. We have tried to level the playing field. The Cayuga and Seneca Wine Trails will be asked to increase their contribution this year. She stated their total budget is \$725,000. She is requesting county funding to match the \$250,000 from Corning. In order for Finger Lakes Wine Country to receive the funding from Corning, the contributions from Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler and Yates have to match Corning's funding. Ms. Cook requested the county continue to fund Finger Lakes Wine Country at \$110,000 for 2006. They will be asking Yates and Schuyler counties to increase their contributions from \$45,000 to \$50,000 for 2006.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY'S PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR HIS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

D. Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance

1. **2006 Budget** – Ms. Gifford introduced herself as the President of Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance. She stated the Finger Lakes is a hot destination. The Associated Press picked up a story about the wine industry that generated nine different articles over the weekend. We couldn't be this successful without the county's support. We continue to investigate those things we can do together to more efficient. They have had over 117,000 total inquires which does not include any of their cooperative programs or Internet visits. Their biggest success has been media. They have been trying to sell to the travel writers that the Finger Lakes is the perfect road trip, and this has been working very well for them. Their travel guide recently won the Governor's Best Regional Travel Guide Award. Ms. Gifford stated from Steuben County's perspective, when we did our survey, Steuben County got the three tops spots out of 14 counties. These destinations were the Corning Museum of Glass, Downtown Corning and Hammondsport. Steuben County is well represented. She noted that their program with AAA has been very successful. They go in and do 45-minute individual training sessions with each of their agents regarding the Finger Lakes. With regard to participation opportunities, they have seven layers of basic private business partnerships that are offered annually. They also have niche program participation opportunities that are offered twice per year which include the thruway, consumer/trade shows, packaging and the AAA program. We continue to ask the private sector businesses to work with us.

Ms. Gifford respectively asked that the County fund them at \$11,500 for 2006, which is an increase of \$1,000 from last year. She commented that her total budget is \$900,000.

Mr. Creath asked what affect is the Ontario Ferry having? Ms. Gifford replied the Fast Ferry is doing well. We are capitalizing from people who are coming from there. The ferry has cut down their trips to one per day during the off-season. The Toronto market is a good market for us.

Mr. Isaman asked that Ms. Gifford come back to the committee in either January or February to give a presentation about Destiny USA.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR HIS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

E. Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau

1. **2006 Budget** – Ms. Coleman introduced herself as the Executive Director of the SCCVB. She stated their mission is to aggressively promote the tourism industry of Steuben County and stimulate economic growth by attracting visitors, groups, meetings and conferences to the county. Tourism is the second largest industry in New York State. We have become the leader in the industry with our packaging. Gas prices on tourism are a contributing factor, however, Americans surveyed have indicated that they are not going to change their vacation plans. Instead, they will drive shorter distances or save money on other aspects of their vacation.

Ms. Coleman informed the committee that online they are doing phenomenal. They have seen a 231 percent increase on pages viewed on the website compared to 2004. The page views are a better indicator and we have

had 8,427 average monthly page visits in 2005, up from 3,641 in 2004. Our top promotional markets are New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In our group tour/international market we attended the International POWWOW in partnership with I Love NY and as a result generated 20 direct sales appointments and 140 contact profiles. Our international numbers are back ahead of the pre-September 11<sup>th</sup> numbers. She commented that future books for meetings and conferences are ahead of pace for 2006 compared to 2005, but the group size and conference lengths are shrinking. They had printed 150,000 travel guides for 2005 and as of September 15<sup>th</sup> they have already distributed 93 percent of those. The inquires are up and the guides are moving. Ms. Coleman stated with regard to their public relations campaign, they provided 32 travel writers with direct assistance which in turn resulted in 34 print articles and 3 online articles. The equivalent media value for all coverage equals approximately \$983,395.

Ms. Coleman stated tourism is economic development. Estimated direct travel spending is \$109,748,072 which doesn't count money spent at gas stations or other miscellaneous areas. The estimated sales tax that is generated to Steuben County from tourism is \$4,389,923 which resulted in tax relief of \$174.93 per household. Tourism employees represent 5.2 percent of the Steuben County workforce and 2.7 percent of the total payroll. Ms. Coleman reviewed charts showing the 2005 average daily room rate and average occupancy rate. Room tax collections for the first quarter were \$87,945, and the second quarter was \$137,308. The third quarter has been estimated at \$244,909. They have projected the sales collections for the fourth quarter to be \$188,659 which is a 5.5 percent increase over last year. Ms. Coleman stated they are projecting to end 2005 at \$658,821 with a modest increase for 2006 to \$704,938. Ms. Coleman reviewed a budget breakdown of comparative New York State Conference & Visitors' Bureaus. The agencies compared are located in Ithaca, Saratoga, Steuben, Ontario, Oneida and Binghamton. She commented that they invest more of the County's investment in marketing than any of their competitors.

Ms. Coleman informed the committee that this year she is asking for an increase to bring them back to what they were able to do in 2002. The cost of doing business has seen an increase of an average of 8 percent per year in advertising costs and rent has increased 4 percent per year. In addition, as services have declined, they have seen the creation of new expenses such as cleaning, lighting supplies and exterminating fees. Over the past five years, the Conference & Visitors' Bureau has been able to hold the cost of overhead steady. At status quo, we will not be able to be competitive in the market. She reviewed a list of their 2006 program plans with the committee. In order to get back to 2002 program levels, they are looking to increase the Steuben County room tax investment by \$72,921. Ms. Coleman stated in 2004 we saw a shortage in the total room tax account of \$9,000 and the County gets a 5 percent administration fee. We project that the reserve will be \$23,587 and if we take the one-time request for \$10,000 out, that will leave \$13,587 in your reserve. In looking at the anticipated collections for 2006, and if you funded our request today at the full amount, that would start the County off at \$20,000 in the hole. We don't want to see that happen. It is important for you to know where you could be.

Mr. Alger commented we will try to get all of the third quarter numbers in before we do a project. Then we will review it with the committee to see where we are.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET REQUEST AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR HIS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Health Care Facility Study – Mr. Alger informed the committee that Chairman Roche has asked that they study options for the use of the old Health Care Facility. He indicated that Mr. Heffner would begin collecting background information and we will begin discussions of this at next month's meeting.

B. Farm Bureau Update – Mr. Stewart informed the committee that he attended the Howard Town Board meeting and at that meeting, the Town decided there was no need to pursue a Local Law to enforce the Property Maintenance Code of New York State.

Mr. Stewart commented that during all of the presentations this morning, nobody mentioned sponsored links on the Internet. If Steuben County paid Google to put your name at the top of the listings that come up when someone did a

search, then every time someone clicked on your link, you would receive money from that. He commented this is something the tourism agencies might want to check into.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. CREATH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**  
*Monday, November 7, 2005*  
**@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office**  
**NO LATER THAN NOON**  
**Monday, October 31, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, November 7, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Donald B. Creath, Chair DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M. Lldon E. Jamison  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Twila O'Dell  
William J. Partridge James Gleason David English  
Richard McCandless Lawrence Crossett Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq. Harley R. Mayo

**ABSENT:** Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair

**OTHERS:** Ira Hale  
James Sherron, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*  
Dave Schoen, WENY

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2005 MEETING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (Mr. Jamison absent for vote).**

**III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

A. Bus System - Mr. Ira Hale informed the committee that he had contacted Mr. Heffner regarding riding the bus from Bath to Corning. At the time when he spoke to Mr. Heffner, the cost for a pass was \$60.00 per month. He works for Buildings & Grounds and he asked if it would be possible for employees to get a work pass. Now First Transit offers a pass for \$36.00 per month. He thanked the committee for getting First Transit to have a bus line, as it is very popular. There are a lot of people who are using it. He would also like to thank Mr. Heffner, as this was a great opportunity.

B. Building & Grounds Staff - Mr. Hale stated he works for Buildings & Grounds in the Corning Courthouse. When he was first hired in 1997 he worked the night shift. Then two years later he switched to days. At that time they had 5 cleaning staff. In 1999, the staff was increased to 6 and it has been at that number until a year ago. In 2004 we had an individual retire and the position did not get filled. That put us back to 5 cleaning staff. This year we had another individual resign and now we are down to three people and we have a temporary worker. He is here today to ask the committee to think about putting the positions back in. During the time that we were losing individuals, we also picked up more workload. In 1999 we picked up the courts which are cleaned nightly. When 911 was completed, we were asked to clean that building. Our staff has been depleted by 2 and we have more responsibilities and more buildings that need to be cleaned. He asked that they think about reinstating those two positions. He thanked the committee for the opportunity to speak.

There being no further comment, Mr. Creath declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

#### IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

##### A. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **2006 Budget** – Mr. Sherron distributed his proposed 2006 budget for the committee’s review. He commented that their Board of Directors has approved this. Mr. Creath asked are they County employees? Mr. Alger replied no, they are their own separate organization. Mr. Jamison asked how many employees are there? Mr. Sherron replied there are two, including him.

**MOTION: ACCEPTING THE PROPOSED 2006 BUDGET OF THE STEUBEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

##### 2. **Project Updates**

a. *Coopers Exchange* – Mr. Sherron informed the committee this is the exchange for the railroad between Painted Post and Wayland. They have applied for a grant through Southern Tier Central Regional Development & Planning to build the exchange at Coopers. This will allow the trains to come in and drop off cars. It will also provide relief for the traffic conditions in the village and increase the efficiency of the line itself. We are talking with the Sheriff to see if we can’t utilize the rail from the main line to the County Jail. We do need to do some tie work there. If we could utilize the rail to bring in the components for the Jail, we could save the County a considerable amount of money. We are trying to identify what the cost savings would be.

b. *Industrial Park* – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that they had a very good prospect that they are looking at. This is a company that is located out-of-state and they deal with some sort of manufacturing of food products. The hindrance is the cost of electricity. The reason they wanted to look at the park was the siting was very good and also that the rail was available. We have a real good situation with the rail availability. Mr. Walsh asked, that property doesn’t get Bath Electric Gas & Water? Mr. Sherron replied no. Bath municipal is getting very close to the amount of power they can provide. They may have to go to the open market. There is no more NYPA power available.

c. *Wilkins Recreational Vehicles* – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that the new building they are constructing in Kanona is coming along. They are expected to double the size of the operation within five years. We are hopeful that will create more jobs. They moved out of Hornell as they were looking for Interstate exposure.

d. *Distributing Facility* – Mr. Sherron commented that with regard to the distribution center, they have had problems with the Ingersoll-Rand site. The foundation is going in right now and the Ingersoll-Rand property is still available. It is in the hands of the village. They did show the property last week to a firm. There are 57 acres that are available.

e. *Windmills* – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that they currently have three projects and are looking at a fourth. We have two firms, Global Winds and Ecogen that are proposing 53 towers in the Prattsburgh area. These will be 70-megawatt facilities. That would provide about enough power for 35 thousand households. There is only room on the grid for one project. Both are going forward and we are waiting to see who will be selected. Either one will be selected, or they will split the grid. We are the lead agent for the Ecogen project. He explained we offer financial assistance to the windmill and we become the lead agent. Our board will meet and discuss our findings shortly. We hope to come up with the finding statement, which will be the criteria for which the towers will be sited. Construction is slated to begin in 2006. In addition, we endorsed another company, Clipper Winds, for a project in Hornby. We did hold an information meeting with the Town of Hornby. Mr. Sherron commented, they are working with the Town of Hartsville on another project and they expect to get the application shortly. We have a policy, if a town elects not to have windmills, we will not go forward with any financial assistance. We contacted the school districts and encouraged them to analyze what the potential taxes are should a windmill come into the area. There is a 15-year tax exemption for renewable sources of energy. We are educating everyone about that. Another project in the Cohocton area is being discussed. These projects could equate to \$500 million capital for the County.

Mr. Walsh asked what is the timeframe that something may be built? Mr. Sherron replied right now the companies that they are working with are in the 2006 class. If the Global Winds and Ecogen projects can get built in 2006, they can go on the grid. Mr. Walsh asked are there any towns that are totally resistant? Mr. Sherron replied no. We will not go forward with these projects if the towns are opposed. The towns have a say in this. Without us, it really doesn't happen. Mr. Roche commented that the 487 tax exemption applies to the County because if we don't opt out, that could result in us not receiving taxes. This month or next, we should have a resolution that the County opt out and require the vendors to deal with the Industrial Development Agency with regard to the PILOT. Mr. Sherron stated the SEQR process has been very time consuming and very demanding. We have decided that we need to be proactive in this as we have the knowledge and experience in the SEQR process. Mr. Creath asked what is the status of the grid in Hornby and Hartsville? Mr. Sherron replied it's open. Mr. Alger commented with regard to the 487 tax exemption, he doesn't see any reason why the County shouldn't opt out.

3. **Empire Zones** – Mr. Creath asked what is the impact of the ruling that the City of Corning zone needs to be contiguous? Mr. Sherron explained he thinks we have the advantage now as we are talking about three particular zones, Hornell, Corning and Epic Park. The important thing is that it can go anywhere in the County as long as it is regionally significant. You can virtually go anywhere in the County if you have job creation. Mr. Creath asked do we have three separate, distinct zones? Mr. Sherron replied we have three stationary zones and in addition, we have the regionally significant area.

## V. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

### A. **Planning**

1. **Coffee Cart** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that originally we had looked at doing this with the VA and the project was moving right along, and then for various reasons it didn't work out. Then we put out an RFP on the open market. We received one proposal from the Liberty Street Café. They would like to put a coffee cart in the building. They would pay a monthly fee and provide the infrastructure to allow this to happen. The coffee cart would be located in one place, on the main floor of the County Office Building in the corner by the Elections Office. This does not cost the County anything. They are proposing to have bagels, pastries, coffee, etc. Dr. Baker asked is there any liability? Mr. Heffner replied we have that covered in the contract with them. Mr. Creath asked will this have any effect on the vending services? Mr. Heffner replied no.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LIBERTY STREET CAFÉ TO PROVIDE COFFEE CART SERVICES IN THE STEUBEN COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

2. **Bus System** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that they are now selling bus passes which are available through the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Heffner requested authorization to submit the application for Section 5311 Annual Operating Assistance for Public Transportation. The amount of the grant that we are applying for is \$44,700.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR SECTION 5311 ANNUAL OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

3. **Health Care Facility Options** – Mr. Heffner distributed a handout that depicts the various options that are available for the existing Health Care Facility. The first option is to demolish the building which would require us to relocate the Records Center. The second option is relinquish ownership of the building. We could sell the building "as is", give the building "as is" to the IDA for development of an incubator or give the building "as is" to ProAction. The third option is for the County to retain ownership of the building. Under that option we could lease the building "as is", renovate the building for use as a lower-level health care facility, for example Assisted Living, renovate the building for office space and then lease that space, do "minimal" renovation for County use or do more extensive renovation for County use. Mr. Heffner commented, this is a very nice building, but deficient for use as a nursing home under today's standards. In the long-term we may want to consider a new roof. The heating system would need to be looked at and those would be significant costs.

Mr. Creath stated this is open for discussion. His reaction is that as the building is sound and has long-term potential, he would not demolish it. The other option is to sell "as is" to a developer. The option of giving it to the IDA is short-term. He doesn't believe that we should look at giving the building to ProAction as this would not solve their office space problems. Mr. Alger commented the most positive thing about the building for ProAction would be the kitchen. Mr. Creath stated that he likes the option to do more extensive renovation for County use. It seems like a good idea and we should explore that for sure.

Dr. Baker commented that he thinks that is the way we should start looking at this. We need to look at providing storage for the voting machines. Mr. Walsh commented we need to put dollar figures behind these options. Mr. Alger stated it will cost \$1 million to demolish the building. Mr. Creath commented we could eliminate the demolition of the building. Also, giving the building to the IDA as a development incubator would not be compatible with the neighborhood due to industrial traffic coming in and out, etc. Mr. Ahrens asked have we contacted any real estate brokers? Mr. Heffner replied no. Mr. Creath commented that would be a good idea. Mr. Heffner stated we will need appraisals based on the possible uses. He reminded the committee that the building will be in use until the fall of 2007.

Mr. Walsh commented that gives us quite a bit of time to decide. If you do anything short of keeping the building, you have to worry about the Records Center. We need to expand that anyway. Mr. Alger stated if we keep the building, we could expand the Records Center into other areas. Mr. Ahrens suggested it might be helpful to have the next meeting at the Health Care Facility so that the committee could take a tour to get a feeling for the amount of space we are talking about. Mr. Alger stated we will meet here first and then we can do the tour after the meeting. Dr. Baker commented if we sell the building outright, we have to look at the closeness to the new facility and we would want to control the use of it. Mr. Alger agreed that is a concern. The major issue with the sale is how to separate it from you land holdings. That is a consideration to look at. Dr. Baker stated that he is not in favor of selling the building at this point. Mr. Alger stated he would like to explore the option of giving the space to ProAction. That may be something where you end up with joint occupancy of the space. We would retain ownership. One of the concerns is that the electric is NYSEG. This is an option worth exploring.

B. Historian

1. **Hall of Fame** – Ms. O'Dell informed the committee that they haven't even sent out the nomination forms and they already have 13 nominations. This is good because it shows that we are in the public eye and they are thinking ahead. She stated last year she asked for \$800 to do the Hall of Fame program. They ran over by \$54.34. Her biggest problem is that they offer complimentary tickets and each nominee's family gets two tickets. We also offer complimentary tickets to the individuals who were inducted the previous year. The other expense she has is postage. Last year she spent \$315 on postage and \$253 on the complimentary tickets. The other expenses associated with the Hall of Fame are \$100 or less. She requested authorization to spend \$950. Mr. Alger stated this would be taken out of the Bicentennial Account.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY HISTORIAN TO TRANSFER \$950.00 FROM THE BICENTENNIAL ACCOUNT TO BE USED FOR THE HALL OF FAME PROGRAM MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

2. **Office Space** – Ms. O'Dell informed the committee that the library was given a sum of money and they are putting on a large addition which will come over to the McGee House. It is not handicapped accessible and they will be putting in an elevator on the same side as where the Historian's Office is located. She stated that right now the library is talking with the architects.

3. **Equipment** – Ms. O'Dell requested authorization to purchase a new microfilm printer reader. She stated they currently have two, but one of them is considered an antique. Mr. Gleason stated a new printer reader costs between \$6,000 - \$7,000 on State bid. Ms. O'Dell stated they could get a microfilm reader for \$1,000 less with a separate printer, but they only have one outlet which already has two computers and two scanners plugged into it. She has asked for more electrical wiring, but they can't give it to us. Mr. Gleason commented this item is on State bid. Mr. Heffner stated this money would come out of the Bicentennial Fund.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY HISTORIAN TO PURCHASE ONE MICROFILM PRINTER READER OFF STATE BID AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$7,000.00, WITH SAID MONEY TO BE TRANSFERRED OUT OF THE BICENTENNIAL ACCOUNT MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
Monday, December 5, 2005  
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Monday, November 28, 2005.**

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Monday, December 5, 2005*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Conference Room*

*Steuben County Office Building*

*Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

**COMMITTEE:** Kenneth E. Isaman, Vice Chair                      DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M.                      Lldon E. Jamison  
John Walsh

**STAFF:** Mark R. Alger    Gregory P. Heffner                                      William J. Partridge  
Lawrence Crossett    Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.                                      David English

**LEGISLATORS:** Philip J. Roche, Esq.    Harley R. Mayo

**ABSENT:** Donald B. Creath

**OTHERS:** Richard Stewart, Steuben County Farm Bureau  
Mary Perham, *The Leader*  
Dave Shoen, WENY

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Isaman called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Capital Projects** – Mr. Partridge requested permission to close three capital projects and return the balances to the Repair & Renovations Reserve.

**MOTION: CLOSING THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS AND RETURNING THE BALANCE OF THOSE PROJECTS TO THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE: HB2401 PARKING LOT – WILSON AVENUE (\$90,235.50), HB0701 PAINT – COUNTY BARN (\$1,158.00) AND HB1701 CIVIL DEFENSE PARKING LOT – SEAL/STRIP (\$1,154.86 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

2. **2006 Contracts** – Mr. Partridge requested approval of the annual maintenance contracts for 2006. He commented that the only contract that is not included is elevator maintenance as they are still working on that. Mr. Partridge noted they have increases in their contracts with Holvevinski Mechanical & Salvage, LLC for snowplowing at the Hornell Courthouse and Imperial Door Controls. They saw a decrease in the contract with SDS of NY as we will be taking care of the recycling for the Hornell Courthouse.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE 2006 CONTRACTS FOR BUILDINGS & GROUNDS AS FOLLOWS: ACCESS LIFTS AND RAMPS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF HANDICAP LIFTS (\$265.00 COB, \$162.00 CORNING COURTHOUSE); ADVANCED SAFETY SYSTEMS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION FOR COMPUTER ROOM (\$1,040.00); DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER – INSPECTION AND TESTING OF SPRINKLER SYSTEMS AT PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$3,120.00); EASTERN SECURITY – INSPECTION, TESTING, MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING OF FIRE AND SECURITY SYSTEMS IN HORNELL COURTHOUSE, CORNING COURTHOUSE AND BALCOM HOUSE (\$2,891.40); EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEMS – MAINTENANCE OF GENERATOR AT 911 BUILDING (\$825.00); FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY – INSPECTION, TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS AT PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$2,462.00 PLUS \$330.00 FOR MONITORING); HOLEVINSKI MECHANICAL & SALVAGE, LLC --SNOWPLOWING AT HORNELL COURTHOUSE (\$85.00/TRIP); IMPERIAL DOOR CONTROLS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE ON POWER DOOR OPERATORS (\$435.00); SDS OF NY – HORNELL AND CORNING COURTHOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL (\$780.00 HORNELL COURTHOUSE, \$626.88 CORNING COURTHOUSE); SOUTHERN TIER FIRE EXTINGUISHER – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS (\$350.00); THE TRANE COMPANY – A/C MAINTENANCE FOR PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND 911 BUILDING (\$26,062.00); AND WEST FIRE SYSTEMS, INC. – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE 911 FIRE ALARM (\$900.00) MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Steuben County Farm Bureau - Mr. Stewart informed the committee that things are quiet, although they were very pleased to hear about the development of an ethanol plant in the Albany area. Also, there is a proposal to put a broiler chicken operation in Nichols, NY, which is located in Tioga County. Apparently there have been discussions and we are now looking to see if this could be done in Steuben County. The proposal is to have 30,000 broiler chickens in each of 8 houses. Mr. Stewart announced they will be holding their annual meeting in Buffalo on Tuesday and Wednesday. One of the issues up for discussion will be the feasibility of putting signs up at the entrances to Steuben County announcing that there is a Right-To-Farm Law in effect.

B. Room Tax Allocations – Mr. Isaman asked Mr. Crossett to review the room tax issue with the committee. Mr. Crossett stated we had budgeted \$592,000 for 2005. As of the end of November, we were still \$99,000 short of that number, but the fourth quarter should cover that. We don't see revenues exceeding what we had last year. We had anticipated \$630,000 in revenue and took out 5 percent for administrative purposes, which left \$602,000. We have budgeted the same amount for 2006 as we had for 2005. Dr. Baker commented it is his understanding that certain people are not reporting? Mr. Isaman asked do we have any power if we don't get the room tax? Mr. Crossett replied the State could shut that business down. We do have the right to require a bond. We have cited them and issued warrants. Mr. Stewart asked is the name of the business public information? Mr. Ahrens replied yes. Mr. Stewart asked which business is it? Mr. Crossett replied it is the Super 8 Motel in Painted Post. Mr. Isaman asked the committee if they would be inclined to increase the allocation for the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance \$1,000? Dr. Baker commented that he would like to leave the allocations the same as last year.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TREASURER TO KEEP THE ROOM TAX ALLOCATIONS THE SAME AS THEY WERE FOR 2005 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

C. Tile Works – Mr. Isaman informed the committee that the Hornell Industrial Development Agency has found a new owner for the tile plant. The original company had gone bankrupt. A contract with the new company, Tile Works is being signed. The new company should employ approximately 30 employees once they are up and running. Mr. Jamison asked what is the status of Lowe's coming to Hornell? Mr. Isaman replied Lowe's has committed to the site directly across from Wal-Mart and they have made a down payment on that parcel. There has been a request for the City to have it annexed and in exchange there would be PILOTS for both the Town of Hornellsville and North Hornell. Mr. Alger informed the committee that they received notification that Hornell Waste Material has put in an application for brownfield cleanup on that site in Shawmaut Park.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  
MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman  
Senior Stenographer  
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR  
Monday, January 9, 2006  
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Tuesday, December 27, 2005.**