

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, January 9, 2006

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 Amy Dlugos
William J. Partridge James Gleason David English
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche, Esq. Dan Farrand

OTHER: Olga 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.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2005 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

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. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Appointments**

a. *Environmental Management Council* – Ms. Dlugos presented the appointments to the Environmental Management Council for approval. She also distributed copies of the EMC Annual Report.

MOTION: APPROVING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND FORWARDING TO THE FULL LEGISLATURE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

b. *Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board* – Ms. Dlugos presented the appointments to the Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board for approval.

MOTION: APPROVING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD AND FORWARDING TO THE FULL LEGISLATURE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required

2. **Bus Bid** – Mr. Heffner commented they were part of a joint bidding process for new buses. The bids were received, however, the low bidder did not address the bid requirements. He requested the committee to reject the low bidder and put out to bid again. This time the rebidding will be with Ontario County.

MOTION: REJECTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF BUSES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING AND PURCHASING DIRECTORS TO REBID WITH ONTARIO COUNTY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. **2006 Contracts** – Mr. Heffner presented his 2006 contracts for review and approval. He commented their contracts with Finger Lakes Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Southern Tier Library System and Marvin Rethmel are paid out of the General Fund and the contracts for the Steuben County Conference and Visitors' Bureau, Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance, Inc., Finger Lakes Wine Country, Arts of the Southern Finger Lakes and Steuben County Dairy Festival are paid out of Room Tax.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2006 CONTRACTS FOR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT: FINGER LAKES SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (\$25,000.00), SOUTHERN TIER LIBRARY SYSTEM (\$75,000.00), AND MARVIN RETHMEL – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (\$17.00 PER HOUR) AND AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS WHICH WILL BE PAID FOR OUT OF OCCUPANCY TAX: STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE AND VISITORS' BUREAU (\$455,000.00), FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE, INC. (\$10,500.00), FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY (\$95,000.00), ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES (\$31,500.00) AND STEUBEN COUNTY DAIRY FESTIVAL (\$425.00) MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

4. **Work Program** – Mr. Heffner distributed copies of the 2006 Planning Department Work Program for their review.

B. **Buildings & Grounds**

1. **Capital Project Requests** – Mr. Partridge stated he had four capital projects that he would like to do this year. He requested approval for the following capital projects:

- a. Seal & Stripe Parking Lot – County Office Building (\$5,000)
- b. Seal & Stripe Parking Lot – Hornell Courthouse (\$1,500)
- c. Exterior Painting of Human Services Building (\$20,000)
- d. Construction of Additional Parking Spaces – Wilson Avenue Annex Lot (\$6,000)

Mr. Partridge stated he has money for these projects in his budget.

MOTION: APPROVING THE 2006 CAPITAL PROJECT REQUESTS FOR THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT: SEAL & STRIPE PARKING LOT – COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING (\$5,000.00), SEAL & STRIPE PARKING LOT – HORNELL COURTHOUSE (\$1,500.00), EXTERIOR PAINTING OF HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$20,000.00) AND CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACES – WILSON AVENUE ANNEX LOT (\$6,000.00) MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. **Capital Project Request for Courtrooms A and B** – Mr. Partridge stated this year the State has approved a project for voice activation systems for Courtroom A and Courtroom B. This will be reimbursed by the State Court System.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TO REQUEST BIDS FOR A VOICE ACTIVATION SYSTEM IN COURTOOM A AND COURTROOM B IN THE STEUBEN COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. **Contracts** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to renew their contract with Schindler Elevator for elevator maintenance. The cost is \$6,600 per year.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO RENEW THEIR CONTRACT WITH SCHINDLER ELEVATOR FOR \$6,600.00 MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C. Weights & Measures

1. **Vehicle Purchase** – Mr. Heffner requested authorization for Weights & Measures to purchase a new pickup truck.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING WEIGHTS & MEASURES TO PURCHASE ONE NEW PICKUP TRUCK OFF STATE BID AND AMENDING THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LIST TO REFLECT THIS CHANGE MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

D. Law Department

1. **Additional Licensing Fee – Dogs and Cats** – Mr. Ahrens stated he was asked to research the possibility of imposing an additional licensing fee on dogs and cats to be used by the County for Animal Control. The first question is how do you impose and collect the fines. You would have to go through the cities and towns requiring them to add on an additional tax. They would want a piece of that. Assuming that we can do this, there is the issue of collection and enforcement. This would generate a small amount of money and take a huge amount of effort. This will be an expensive tax to generate, as you will have to share the proceeds with whoever is collecting it. He stated that he doesn't see this as being an efficient tax to impose for revenue generation.

Dr. Baker commented there is no license required for cats. A lot of towns have dog officers that go after the licenses pretty well. At the rabies clinics, the town clerks are usually there selling the licenses. The idea is good, but he doesn't know how to do it.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. *Shared Service Initiative Grant Program* – Mr. Isaman asked if this committee would approve a resolution in support of the Town of Hornellsville to do a fund initiative with the Arkport Central School for an automated wash system at the bus garage.

MOTION: SUPPORTING THE TOWN OF HORNELLSVILLE APPLICATION FOR A SHARED SERVICES INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR AN AUTOMATED WASH SYSTEM MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. 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, February 6, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, January 30, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, February 6, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand Kenneth E. Isaman

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory C. Heffner William J. Partridge
James Gleason Twila O'Dell David English

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche, Esq. John Walsh

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath, Chair Lldon E. Jamison

OTHER: Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation District
Ginny Bates, Steuben Churchpeople Against Poverty, Inc. (SCAP)
Mary Perham, *The Leader*
Dave Shoen, WENY

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Baker called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Partridge stated that he had a change to last month's minutes. When he was reviewing his capital project requests, he had indicated that the cost for the construction of additional parking spaces in the Wilson Avenue parking lot would be \$6,000. The actual cost is \$6,500.

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2006 MEETING AS AMENDED MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Tree Sale** – Mr. Parker distributed the 2006 Spring Tree Sale order form.

2. **Stream Preservation Budget** – Mr. Parker distributed a copy of the 2006 budget for review. He commented that last year the AIP Committee had made a motion to increase the budget \$10,000 and forwarded that request to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee never acted on this request. Mr. Alger commented the Finance Committee didn't approve the increase.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning Department

1. **Snowmobile Grant** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that last March they had passed a resolution to sponsor a State snowmobile grant application. He requested the committee pass a resolution to accept the grant in the amount of \$29,500. This is a pass-through grant to the Bath Snowmobile club. They will get 70 percent up front and will have to submit a voucher to get the remainder. The Bath Snowmobile Club is working on putting together a county federation of snowmobile clubs. The New York State Office of Parks has encouraged participation in this grant. Mr. Partridge commented there is 75 miles of trail that starts in Bradford and goes to Arkport.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT THE STATE SNOWMOBILE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,500, SAID AMOUNT TO BE PASSED THROUGH TO THE BATH SNOWMOBILE CLUB MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

2. **Bicentennial Account** – Mr. Heffner stated that previously the committee had authorized the purchase of a reader/copier for the Historian's Office out of the Bicentennial Account. He requested authorization to purchase a lens for this machine for \$700 to be paid for out of the Bicentennial Account.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$700.00 FROM THE BICENTENNIAL ACCOUNT TO PURCHASE A LENS FOR THE READER/COPIER IN THE HISTORIAN'S OFFICE MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

3. **Small Cities Block Grant (Wells and Septic Systems)** – Mr. Heffner stated last year Steuben Churchpeople Against Poverty, Inc., were very successful with the Small Cities Block Grant for the replacement of wells and septic systems in Steuben County. Since this program was so successful, they would like to put in another application for funding.

Ms. Bates stated last year we applied for this grant and had two years to spend the money. We initially wrote the program for a minimum of 30 wells/septic system replacements. We have completed or nearly completed 26 of those projects and 3 additional projects are in the process of being set up. Last year we received \$219,000 and SCAP put in another \$75,000 - \$100,000 from another funding source. The septic systems are designed by engineers and engineers inspect the finished product. We did two wells and have one filtration system in the works. Mr. Farrand asked how do you advertise? Ms. Bates replied we already have started doing public service announcements across the County and we also place advertisements in the local newspapers. Mr. Isaman asked how much is the new grant that you are applying for this year? Ms. Bates replied it will be between \$300,000 - \$400,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE SMALL CITIES BLOCK GRANT ON BEHALF OF SCAP FOR THE WELL AND SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENTS MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. 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. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

MOTION: APPROVING THE HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS AS SUBMITTED BY THE HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE AND FORWARDING TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR THEIR APPROVAL MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE REJECTION OF THE CLEANING SERVICES BID MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. 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 6, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, February 27, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, March 6, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: DeWitt T. Baker, Vice Chair Kenneth Isaman Philip J. Roche, Esq.

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

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath, Chair Dan C. Farrand Lldon E. Jamison

OTHER: James P. Sherron, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Baker called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2006 MEETING MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. ROCHE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Windmills** – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that The Evening Tribune has a very good article regarding the windmills. Mr. Isaman asked do you have a forum for the number of speakers? Mr. Sherron replied we did for the meeting in Canisteo. They also set up booths for NYSERTA, IDA and Agriculture and Markets. They will be holding another meeting in Naples next week. We are doing as much as we can with regard to information. We are open to any kind of meetings.

2. **Industrial Park Update** – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that the County had given to the IDA, a parcel of land; 100 acres large, formerly known as the County Farm. Then we did a search for another entity to take possession and improve the tax base. When we decided to go forward, we were given a ten-year time period in which to do this. We established certain criteria, such as it had to improve the area, there had to be job creation, and there had to be a contribution to the tax base. Retail businesses were in more of an ancillary position to manufacturing firms. Warehousing could be a possibility as long as it didn't encompass more than 20 percent of the floor plan.

Approximately five or six years ago, a firm from Chicago that had a gasket operation took a look at this property. They later decided to build their plant in Florida. Bath National Bank also had looked at this property to place a data processing facility, but then they were bought out by Five Star Bank. Mr. Sherron stated six months ago, a food manufacturing plant in Chicago expressed some interest. They came twice, however, their operation was very sensitive to energy costs. An estimate they received from NYSEG showed that they would pay approximately \$20 million over a 30-year period and that prompted them to move on to a different location.

Mr. Sherron informed the committee that last summer they were approached by Smart Systems which takes truck units, modifies them and assembles them and came up with a truck for municipalities to use for snow removal. In November of this year they took over the old facility known as Suit-Kote which is located on East Washington

Street. They have expanded their operation after three months of being in business. They would like to build a building on our property, if the committee accepts their proposal. They currently have 12 employees and are looking to expand to 30 – 40 employees. They are projecting a project cost of \$4 million, \$2.5 million of which will be for the building. The building will be utilized for manufacturing, assembly and painting. There will be no retail and no warehouse, although there will be a parts department. Mr. Sherron stated that he thinks it will be very appealing and something that he would be proud to have in the park. We are trying to find a synergy with Mercury Aircraft or Clark Specialty where they would be able to do some of their manufacturing. There is also the potential for them to ship out their products by rail. Mr. Sherron stated this will be a 35,000 square foot building, which will be sited on 10 acres of property. They will build a screen around the mechanical portion of the facility. The entrance would face Route 113. Smart Systems has contracted with the builder and we have induced the project, but we haven't put together the PILOT yet.

Mr. Roche commented the committee doesn't have to approve this. Mr. Ahrens explained there is veto power given to the Legislature, within a certain window of time. There is a certification as to the use of the building with no more than 10 percent being used for retail and no more than 20 percent being used as a warehouse. Included in that is the site plan and work-up of the building. Your time to pass the resolution will be at the end of this month and we will want to discuss this with the Full Legislature to see that they are in agreement. Dr. Baker asked are there any hazard liabilities? Mr. Sherron replied no. This is a Build Now NY site and it is virtually ready to build. Mr. Alger commented if you are asking about the emissions inside, they would have to design some type of an exhaust system. Mr. Isaman stated this company is three months old. Are their financials okay? Mr. Sherron replied they have four principles and their financials are very strong. They anticipate breaking ground this spring. Mr. Alger commented this is the kind of operation that would fit. They will be building their facility on the small side of the lot that is across the road from our structures.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Fair Housing Plan** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that recently they had a monitoring meeting for the Small Cities Block Grant with the State. The monitor recommended that the County should strengthen our furthering of fair housing. With a Small Cities Block Grant, you are certifying many things and one of those things is that the County will further fair housing. The monitor recommended that in the future it would be helpful if we had a stronger position. Mr. Heffner distributed a copy of the Fair Housing Plan. The plan states that we will reappoint or appoint a fair housing officer and details what that person will do. He requested the committee adopt a resolution accepting the fair housing plan and appoint him or his designee as fair housing officer.

MOTION: ADOPTING THE FAIR HOUSING PLAN FOR STEUBEN COUNTY AND APPOINTING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNEE AS FAIR HOUSING OFFICER MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. ROCHE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Marsh Ditch Watershed Appointments

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF DAN C. FARRAND AND DENNIS ACOMB TO THE MARSH DITCH WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MADE BY MR. ROCHE. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. 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. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. ROCHE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. ROCHE. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. ROCHE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR.
MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, April 3, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, March 27, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, April 3, 2006

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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth E. Isaman

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

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Lldon E. Jamison

OTHER: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2006 AND MARCH 27, 2006 MEETINGS MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Bids**

a. **Human Services Building – Exterior Paint** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they sent out four packets and received two bids back. The high bid was \$35,230 and the low bid, submitted by Carone Painting was \$26,685. He stated that they had budgeted \$20,000 and they are short \$6,685. He recommended awarding the bid to Carone Painting and requested authorization to transfer \$6,685 from the Repairs and Renovations Reserve to the capital project for the Human Services Building Exterior Painting.

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING EXTERIOR PAINTING TO CARONE PAINTING FOR \$26,685 AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$6,685 FROM THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT ENTITLED HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING EXTERIOR PAINTING MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

b. **Parking Lot Seal and Stripe** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they received one bid back. They actually are doing two projects; one for the Hornell Courthouse parking lot and one for the parking lot in front of the County Office Building. The amount for the County Office Building is \$5,950 and the Hornell Courthouse is \$1,250. He has enough in the budget to cover the parking at the Hornell Courthouse, but is short \$950 for the parking lot in front of the County Office

Building. He requested authorization to transfer \$950 from the Repairs and Renovations Reserve to the capital project for the County Office Building parking lot.

Mr. Farrand asked why can't you use the workfare crew if you are just sealing the parking lots? Mr. Partridge replied they also will be filling the cracks with hot liquid tar. Also, these projects are typically done on the weekend.

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE PARKING LOT SEAL AND STRIPE AT THE HORNELL COURTHOUSE TO NELSON & STREETER CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., D/BA AIRPORT STRIPING FOR \$1,250.00 AND THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING PARKING LOT FOR \$5,950.00 AND REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER \$950.00 FROM THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT ENTITLED COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING PARKING LOT MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

B. Historian

1. **Hall of Fame** – Mr. Creath announced that the Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at 12:00 p.m. at the Bath Presbyterian Church.

C. Administrator

1. **Cell Phone Request** – Mr. Alger informed the committee that Mr. Abbey has requested cell phones for himself, Steve Bates and Gordon Swift. He believes these phones will give them additional communication ability that they don't currently have.

MOTION: APPROVING THE REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR THREE CELL PHONES MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. 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 1, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, April 24, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, May 1, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair
Lldon E. Jamison
Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth E. Isaman

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

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche, Esq.
John Walsh

ABSENT: DeWitt T. Baker, DVM, Vice Chair

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2006 MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. (MR. JAMISON ABSENT FOR VOTE)

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Windmill Projects Update** – Mr. Sherron informed the committee that he is here today to give an update on the six windmill projects that they are working on. These projects are located in Cohocton, Hornby, Hornellsville/Hartsville, Howard and two projects in Prattsburgh. Each project has different megawatts, but are averaging 80 megawatts. Mr. Sherron explained the PILOTS are based on a per megawatt charge, which is approximately \$400,000 per year per windmill. For the PILOT agreement, that is split amongst the taxing authorities. We are encouraging the towns to negotiate an impact related fee and that's approximately \$3,000 per tower.

Mr. Sherron distributed a chart showing all of the projects, the companies involved and what stage each project is at with regard to the SEQR process. All of the towns, with the exception of Cohocton have submitted a letter of support. Cohocton has not as they are going to be acting as their own lead agent. He explained that if the communities did not pass a resolution and send a letter of support, then the IDA would not do the project. In the Prattsburgh area, Ecogen and Global Winds are vying for that area. The grid is full or nearly full and as a result, the two companies may have to share the area.

Mr. Farrand stated on the chart you show the towns of Italy and Orange. Who does the PILOT agreements for them? Mr. Sherron replied their counties will do the PILOT agreements, however, we will be the lead agency for SEQR. He stated they have received the environmental assessment forms for all of the projects, with the exception of Cohocton as they are acting as their own lead agent. These are all Type I projects and will require full environmental impact statements.

Mr. Sherron stated the Ecogen project has submitted their draft scope, final scope, draft EIS (Environmental Impact Statement), final EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) and their finding statement. The determination is the final phase when we enter into the PILOT agreement and the company is able to start construction. In Prattsburgh, the Ecogen project will be issued the determination when they complete the items that we have put together for them. When those items are completed, we will look at them again. It has taken 20 months to get to this point.

Mr. Creath asked once they build the towers, can they upgrade the windmills? Mr. Sherron replied yes. Mr. Farrand asked when does Prattsburgh feel they can start construction? Mr. Sherron replied it has taken Ecogen 20 months to get through the SEQR process. They are now working on a checklist that we have put together and it will be awhile before they can start construction. The PILOT will come first and when they finish the checklist then we do the negative declaration and then they can start construction. Mr. Roche commented we are looking at 2007 or 2008.

Mr. Jamison asked are the towns listed on this handout the only ones that can be involved in windmill projects? Mr. Sherron replied no. There are more wind resources throughout the County. These are the only towns that we have been approached to do projects. There are wind resources in the Jasper, Canisteo area.

Mr. Walsh asked if all these companies go online will there be any grid left? Mr. Sherron replied that is determined by the New York State Independent Services Operators. They would have to upgrade the grid or divert it.

Mr. English asked since you are encouraging the towns to go after a \$3,000 per tower impact related fee, is the County involved in that? Mr. Sherron replied no. What happens is that the impacts felt are mostly by the townships. The County roads are upgraded prior to the delivery of the towers and they are responsible for any repairs that need to be made. After that, there is not a lot of impact. The road mitigation fee is a kind of impact fee. In talking to the town supervisors, it was determined that the \$3,000 should be paid to the town directly. Mr. English commented above that, their transmission lines run along County roads. Mr. Sherron replied that would be a right-of-way with the County. The companies are responsible for getting their own right-of-ways and leases.

Mr. Creath asked is there any ownership? Mr. Sherron replied this is a lease, lease back. Mr. Creath asked do the blades have built-in deicers? Mr. Sherron replied yes, they do monitor ice build up. If the blades are out of balance, the windmill will shut down. There is no built-in heat as such, but the materials they use shed the ice pretty well. If there is a build up, they shut the tower down and the maintenance people would have to go out.

Mr. Isaman commented there is the potential to have a couple hundred towers. Mr. Sherron stated each megawatt will serve 400 households. A lot of power will be generated. Mr. Jamison asked how many towers does a wind farm have? Mr. Sherron replied Clipper is looking at 40 towers with 2.5 megawatts. It really depends on the size and how many leases they have.

Mr. Farrand asked can you project what the County share of the PILOT would be? Mr. Sherron replied when all of the windmills are operational, you are looking at 500 megawatts which would be \$3 million per year. Every township is different and the County share would be 25 percent of that, so the County would get \$750,000 per year. The tower gets 11 percent – 25 percent and the school districts get 50 percent – 65 percent.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning Department

1. **Contract** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that with the Health Care Facility project, 90 percent of the new facility will be with Bath Electric Gas and Water utilities. The director of Bath Utilities has

said that they will give us whatever electric we want, however, should any other company disagree with that, the County will be on it's own. He requested authorization to enter into an indemnification agreement that states if there should be problems with another utility company, that the County will indemnify Bath Electric, Gas and Water.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH BATH, ELECTRIC GAS & WATER UTILITY COMPANY THAT SHOULD THERE BE PROBLEMS WITH ANOTHER UTILITY COMPANY, THAT THE COUNTY OF STEUBEN WILL INDEMNIFY BATH ELECTRIC, GAS & WATER MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. 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.D. DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROPOSED, PENDING OR CURRENT LITIGATION MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: REFERRING THE SALE OF 6.29 ACRES OF COUNTY PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ERWIN TO THE ERWIN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

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

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. 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, June 5, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Tuesday, May 30, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, June 5, 2006

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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth Isaman Ildon E. Jamison

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

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche, Esq. John Walsh

OTHER: Richard Stewart, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Andrew Roby, Law Department Intern

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. He opened the floor for comments by members of the public. There being none, he declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2006 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Creath asked was there any flooding from last week's rain? Mr. Heffner replied Mr. Spagnoletti had some roads whose shoulders had been washed out.

Mr. Creath asked when do we have the budget presentations? Mr. Alger replied the outside agency recommendations generally come in August and September.

Mr. Creath read the following piece of correspondence from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation into the minutes:

Dear Interested Party: Greetings! You have been identified as an organizational representative and/or potentially interested party in the development process of the Keuka Lowlands Unit Management Plan being prepared by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The Keuka Lowlands Unit comprises about 5,929 acres on five (5) parcels of State Land in Steuben and Schuyler County (see enclosed map). It includes Birdseye Hollow State Forest, Moss Hill State Forest, Mt. Washington State Forest, Cold Brook Wildlife Management Area and Waneta-Lamoka Wildlife Management Area. It does not, however, include any of the fishing access sites along the Cohocton River or Cold Brook/Keuka Inlet. The purpose of a unit management plan is twofold: 1) to define management goals and objectives for State Land and, 2) to prepare a ten-year plan of action to achieve those objectives. Public involvement is an important component to the process.

We invite you to provide us with any comments or concerns regarding the future management of the Keuka Lowlands Unit. Your comments may be general or specific. The plan has not yet been written, and your input will assist us in assembling it. The Unit Management Plan will include historical information, natural resources inventories, and proposed management strategies. Topics to be covered

include timber and wildlife management, public access, recreation, gas leasing, prescribed burns, and much more.

The draft plan is expected to be released by the summer/fall of 2007. Once the draft plan is completed, you are invited to review it and attend a public review meeting to share your views with the staff. All comments will be weighed against law, regulations, the Commissioners directives and other users wishes, and appropriate changes made to the plan. Any questions and/or comments made at the public meeting will be officially answered in the final draft.

To include your and your groups concerns, in the plans development, verbal and written comments are encouraged and will be accepted at any time throughout the process. In an effort to update our mailing list, please forward this letter to the appropriate person if you are no longer the current representative or let us know if you are no longer interested. We would like to keep in contact with all individuals and groups interested in the plan. Please take a few moments to reflect on your own interests in the State's Land by completing the attached mailer, email us at r8ump@gw.dec.state.ny.us or call us at (607) 776-2165 by June 19, 2006. Sincerely, Gretchen Cicora, Forester.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning Department

1. **Contract** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that they have a three-year contract with First Transit for the bus system. They are required to do an annual update and requested the committee's approval to renew the contract retroactive to January 1, 2006.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH FIRST TRANSIT FOR THE STEUBEN COUNTY BUS SYSTEM MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Steuben County Farm Bureau

1. **Local Law No. 1 of 2006** – Mr. Stewart stated that the County passed Local Law No. 1 of 2006 regarding a real property tax exemption for wind, solar and farm waste systems. This gave the Industrial Development Agency the authority to negotiate PILOT's for the wind farms. The farm waste management system was included in this and he was disappointed to see that. That local law could have only provided an exemption for wind and solar and not include the farms. Farms have methane digesters and burners. The methane is trapped and burned and turned into energy. He doesn't think it is critical now, but in the future it could be.

2. **Informational** – Mr. Stewart informed the committee that it has been a good planting season. We've had a little water and it's pretty wet and we hope that it dries up. Dr. Baker commented that out west, they have developed a car that operates on methane. This is probably something that will be coming. If we did the exemption it wouldn't be of any harm.

C. Law Department

1. **Property Easement** – Mr. English informed the committee that the County has received a request from an individual on State Route 54 who purchased the Mobile Station across from Simmons Rockwell. There is a sewer line that runs across the tracks and comes to the Bath treatment facility. The individual would like to hook up to the sewer line and the line crosses over property that the County conveyed to the Industrial Development Agency. The County still retains interest in that property. The easement would be for 25 feet. Mr. English explained the Industrial Development Agency would meet to decide if this is appropriate and the County would have to consent to that conveyance. He would recommend that a survey be done of the property so that we can get an exact location for the easement.

Dr. Baker asked when we did the transfer of property to the Industrial Development Agency, did we do the complete deed? Mr. Ahrens replied we transferred to them by plain deed that property. We had an agreement stating what the property could be used for. There is an opportunity for the property to come back to the County within a specified period of time. We still have a continuing interest in the property. We need to get consent for

the easement from both the County and the Industrial Development Agency. Mr. Ahrens commented that the concern he has is that this could be perceived as economic development.

Mr. Alger commented the sewer line ends at the Industrial Park. Mr. Farrand asked is there going to be a sewer into Smart Systems, the new business that will be moving there? Mr. Alger replied they will be able to hook in. We are talking about Stanbury's hooking into the Bath line and crossing our property to get to it. Mr. English commented the width of the easement would be 15 – 20 feet. He recommends doing a survey to specifically locate the line. This will end up being a public utility easement. Mr. Alger stated the location is in the very far back corner of the lot.

MOTION: GRANTING A PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL PURCHASING THE MOBILE STATION LOCATED IN FRONT OF STANBURY'S CONTINGENT UPON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY APPROVAL AND THE COMPLETION OF A SURVEY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Creath stated recently he read an article regarding the State sponsoring ethanol plants in Orleans, Seneca and Oswego counties. Why can't we look at the future and look at having a plan in the county? He would like to study this so that it would help the farmers. Cornell Cooperative Extension has a person who is providing information on ethanol and he would like to study this and present this issue to the committee next month.

Mr. Heffner commented the State is sponsoring, but the companies chose where to be first and asked the State for help. These types of plants need a lot of water. He commented that they can do a study, however, they would need at least two months. Mr. Stewart stated that he would approve of having an ethanol plant in the county.

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
Monday, July 3, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, June 26, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Friday, July 7, 2006

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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Lldon Jamison

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Amy Dlugos
Dennis Abbey James Gleason David English

ABSENT: Kenneth E. Isaman

OTHER: Carl Albers, Cooperative Extension
Dan Hubbard, VP Steuben County Farm Bureau
Emily Hubbard
Mary Perham, *The Leader*
Andrew Roby, Law Intern

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 JUNE 5, 2006 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER, SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Creath asked is there anyone from the public wishing to address the committee? Dan Hubbard, Avoca, introduced himself as the Vice President of the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension

1. **Alternative Fuel** – Mr. Albers stated that at the last meeting it was brought up to look at the feasibility of ethanol plants in the County. There was also significant coverage of this topic in the papers. He has been working on a study with Mr. Heffner. The market of biofuels is changing very rapidly. Mr. Albers stated ethanol got started because of a strong corn lobby in the United States and that has done a huge service in bringing alternative fuels to public attention.

Mr. Albers stated butanol is another alcohol related to ethanol, but has properties closer to gasoline than ethanol. It has a high energy content as it has 110,000 BTU's per gallon compared to 84,000 BTU's for ethanol and 115,000 BTU's for gasoline. It has low vapor pressure. You can pump butanol through existing pipelines. You cannot do that with ethanol as it attracts more water. Within the past month, there have been headlines in the paper that DuPont and BP have formed a partnership where they will work on producing butanol. They are planning to build a plant in England and make butanol out of sugar beets. Mr. Albers explained butanol can be made out of corn, sugar cane, sugar beets, livestock waste, perennial grasses and wood chips. Ethanol can also be made out of these as well. Mr. Albers stated there are two strong corn associations in the United States and they

got the whole thing rolling. Other bio food stocks can be used and it will be interesting to see what will come of it.

Dr. Baker asked who would build the plants, etc.? Mr. Albers replied the Farm Bureau had an article in their paper about plants already taking off in various places throughout the State. We have a lot of promise here. Cornell is looking at the use of perennial grasses as it requires low fertility and grows across the United States. Bill Gates has invested with a company to build plants that can be switched to different feed stock sources. Dr. Baker asked is the fuel industry fighting this? Mr. Alber replied that he wouldn't doubt it, but BP is in a partnership with DuPont. Dr. Baker asked what can the County do other than publicize? Mr. Albers replied that may be something that you would have to take up with someone like Mr. Sherron and the Industrial Development Agency. It would be nice if the committee could pass a resolution in support of further research on the part of the Federal government.

Dr. Baker asked is there a supply available of sugar beets? Mr. Hubbard stated that he appreciated the opportunity to come before the committee. Originally this started as an idea through the Farm Bureau Their idea was that the County could have a plant where the LaRue Mills is located. The County is not the best corn producing County as the we are limited in the number of growing degree days. The potato farmers do chip potatoes and that market has been dwindling for the past ten years. The contracts we have now are at break even prices. The yield for sugar beets per acre would be higher. The same equipment used for potatoes could be used for harvesting sugar beets.

Mr. Hubbard distributed a copy of his grant application. He stated that he has submitted a grant so that they can go around the various areas of the County and plant test plots of sugar beets in four locations. By doing that we would get a spectrum of soil types, etc. We would contract with a consulting food specialist to investigate the feasibility of turning sugar beets into fuel. Also, there would be a program to go out and address the farmers to form a co-op to put a plant in and that would be owned and operated by local businessmen. If we can do that and keep the money in the area, that would create a seven-fold multiplication of money. When he first applied for the grant they were looking at ethanol, but now they are looking at butanol. Mr. Hubbard stated that the IDA had mentioned 1,000 acres where they had the gas storage project in Avoca and there's an excellent opportunity there.

Mr. Hubbard stated that he is here today to get support for his grant application to allow him to go ahead with this study and do test plots to see if sugar beets are feasible in our area. If we can grow sugar beets here, it will help the potato farmers.

MOTION: SUPPORTING DAN HUBBARD'S GRANT APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PRODUCING SUGAR BEETS IN STEUBEN COUNTY AND ALSO MEMORIALIZING THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS TO ENDORSE FURTHER RESEARCH INTO ALTERNATIVE FUEL SOURCES SUCH AS ETHANOL AND BUTANOL MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. JAMISON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

V. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS**

A. **Weights & Measures**

1. **Bid Award** – Mr. Gleason informed the committee that they put out a bid for the sale of the 1980 Volvo Test Truck. They received three bids back. He recommended awarding the bid to Wayne Mitchell for \$3,841.00. He commented this is a reasonable bid for this equipment and he doesn't believe it is worth holding for the auction.

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE SALE OF THE 1980 VOLVO TEST TRUCK TO WAYNE MITCHELL FOR \$3,841.00 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. **Planning**

1. **Farm-City Day** – Mrs. Dlugos announced the 6th Annual Farm-City Day will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Duesenberry Dairy Farm located in Cohocton.

2. **Tourism Agency Designation** – Mr. Heffner requested the committee pass a resolution designating the Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau as the County's official tourism agency.

MOTION: DESIGNATING THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU AS THE COUNTY'S OFFICIAL TOURISM AGENCY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

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

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, August 7, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, July 31, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, August 7, 2006

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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Lldon E. Jamison

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

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Kenneth E. Isaman

OTHER: Ginnie Lupi, ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes
James Sherron, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency
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 JULY 5, 2006 MEETING MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. The ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes

1. **2007 Budget Request** - Ms. Lupi introduced herself as the relatively new executive director. She started in March of this year. She stated that for the past several years, Steuben County has supported The ARTS with \$35,000.00. She stated The ARTS serves the entire county and she reviewed the various programs with the committee.

Ms. Lupi stated for 2007, they are requesting \$55,000.00. The additional \$20,000.00 will be used to regrant an additional \$5,000 to the Hornell Area Arts Council. The remaining \$15,000 will be used for our purposes to build on the "Third Thursday Art Walk", developing other venues for artists to show/perform and perhaps sell their work, assess arts-in-education professional development needs in the County and assess, strengthen and expand The ARTS' services to its Steuben County partners.

Mr. Creath asked what is your service area? Ms. Lupi replied Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben counties. They also regrant to Tioga County, work with school districts and also a project in Allegany County. Mr. Creath asked are other county's contributing? Ms. Lupi replied Chemung County has not contributed anything for the last few years. Schuyler County has contributed \$5,000 each year for the last couple of years. We are asking for more money from each county that we serve. Steuben County has been the most generous and we are incredibly grateful for that. Mr. Creath stated that he would like to find a connection between the money that we give to you and the tourism development objectives. The education part of this development we are unable to address with room tax dollars. Ms. Lupi commented tourism is an economic component that goes along with education. When you introduce children to the arts, they take an interest and then they want their parents, friends, etc. to go. The local programs would see a side benefit from this.

Dr. Baker stated he thinks the program is great, but under the circumstances, he could not recommend any increase at all; in fact, he may even recommend a decrease. He can't understand why Steuben County is supporting this when Chemung County is not contributing anything. Ms. Lupi noted that Steuben County funds are spent on Steuben County activities. Dr. Baker stated he has supported this program in the past, but at this point, he can't.

Mr. Creath stated that he begs to differ with Dr. Baker. He sees this as an arts industry that we have to support. This is a way of increasing tourism collections. The arts convey our values to our children. If we support the positive arts, we will be better off in the long-term. If he were doling out the money, he would give them \$40,000.

Mr. Farrand asked have you gotten commitments from the other counties? Ms. Lupi replied that she has not yet made her presentation to them. Mr. Farrand commented at this point he would have to agree with Dr. Baker. Mr. Creath thanked Ms. Lupi for her presentation.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES REPORT MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Windmill Projects Update** – Mr. Sherron distributed a handout showing the progress of the various windmill projects in the County. He stated they have put together a proposed PILOT for all of these projects. Hopefully following that, we will be going forward with getting compliance from the towns. We don't want to move forward unless the towns sponsor these projects. The PILOT is \$5,300 per rated mega watt. There would be a 4 percent increase per year, escalator fee. In year 2020, the rate would be \$9,300 per mega watt. In addition, we are looking at providing up front relief for development. They do get a sales tax break through a letter of agency, which is a lease, lease back. There will be a \$1.2 million investment if these projects go forward.

Mr. Sherron commented West Union, Greenwood, Jasper and Troupsburg are areas that are considered good wind resources. We are working with Bell Independent Power on a bio-mass fuel project. This is a 30 mega watt producing facility and we are the lead agency. There is a brokered agreement and this could go to the Avoca Gas Project area. The facility would use wood chips. They would work with the forestry industry to cull trees, and work with loggers to take the tree tops and grind them. This will be a clean burning operation. We are seeing more conversions to ethanol, butanol, bio diesel, etc. We are keeping all of our options open. If these operations become a reality, the hope is to provide a location in the Avoca Gas Project area.

2. **Budget** – Mr. Sherron reviewed his budget with the committee.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE STEUBEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S REPORT MADE BY MR. JAMISON. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Health Care Facility Study** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that next month he would be reviewing the results of the study of options for the current facility.

B. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Parking Lot** – Mr. Alger stated they are expanding the parking lot behind the house on Morris Street. This is where Special Children's Services is located.

C. Weights & Measures

1. **Truck** – Mr. Heffner stated that Mr. Abby has given their old truck to the Public Works Department, rather than putting it in the auction.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **September Meeting Date** – Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2006. At the request of Mr. Farrand the time of the meeting has been changed to 2:30 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
****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**Monday, September 11, 2006**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****
@ 2:30 p.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Tuesday, September 5, 2006.

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE
STEBEN COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE
Joint Special Meeting**

Monday, August 28, 2006

9:45 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., Vice Chair	Dan C. Farrand
	Gary D. Swackhamer, Chair	Patrick F. Donnelly, Vice Chair	Robert V. Nichols
	John Walsh		
STAFF:	Mark R. Alger	Gregory P. Heffner	William J. Partridge
LEGISLATORS:	Francis L. Gehl	Patrick F. McAllister	
ABSENT:	Kenneth E. Isaman	Lldon E. Jamison	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath and Mr. Swackhamer called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Budget Transfer** – Mr. Alger stated this transfer is the result of increases in asphalt and other materials. Mr. Partridge had a project in his budget to do the parking area behind Special Children’s Services and to make additional parking spaces. Mr. Partridge informed the committee that he had \$6,500 budgeted in the 18 East Morris Street Parking Lot Capital Project and that he needs an additional \$5,000 to cover the additional cost of materials and for a retaining wall.

MOTION: APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF \$5,000.00 FROM THE OFFICE RENOVATIONS CAPITAL PROJECT TO THE 18 EAST MORRIS STREET PARKING LOT CAPITAL PROJECT MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0 (AIP) AND 5-0 (FINANCE).

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. DONNELLY. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, September 11, 2006

2:30 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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth E. Isaman

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

ABSENT: Lldon E. Jamison

OTHER: Mary Perham, *The Leader*
Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation
Tom Cornell, Cornell Cooperative Extension
Margaret Cook, Finger Lakes Wine Country
Peggy Coleman, Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau
Michael Rusinko, Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance
Alan Fusco
Beth Duane
Richard Stewart, Steuben County Farm Bureau

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 7, 2006 MEETING MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Water Softener Replacement Bid** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they received three bids. The bids included an option for either a fiberglass tank or a steel tank. He recommended awarding the bid to R.C. Kolstad Water Co. of Ontario NY for the fiberglass tank for \$8,300.

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR THE WATER SOFTENER REPLACEMENT TO R.C. KOLSTAD WATER CO., OF ONTARIO, NEW YORK FOR \$8,300.00 WITH THE FIBERGLASS TANK MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN.

Mr. Farrand asked why such a difference in price between the bidders? Mr. Partridge replied that he really doesn't know why the bids are so different. He commented that he does have the money set aside in a capital project entitled Office Renovations.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Planning

1. **Grant** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that they have received a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$301,525.00 for the continuation of the septic system and well replacement program. He requested authorization to accept this funding. Mr. Isaman asked is this pass through funding? Mr. Heffner replied yes. We contract with SCAP, but we administer the grant.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$301,525.00 FOR THE SEPTIC SYSTEM AND WELL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Creath asked if the Farm Bureau had anything to report? Mr. Stewart commented a couple months ago, this committee offered to investigate the feasibility of ethanol plants. Has anything come back to the committee pertaining to that? Mr. Creath replied Cornell Cooperative Extension is working on that.

Dr. Baker asked what is the difference between grain corn and silage corn? Mr. Stewart replied the main difference is longer degree-days. Our corn can be planted last and still have good production. Grain corn is measured by the bushel and silage corn is measured by weight.

VI. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Soil & Water Conservation

1. **2007 Budget Request** – Mr. Parker distributed copies of his proposed budget for the committee's review. He commented that in 2006 the County's contribution for the General Operation Budget was \$127,426.00 and for the District Streambank Program it was \$60,000 for a total contribution of \$184,426.00. For 2007, he is requesting a \$10,000 increase in both budgets, which would total \$207,426.00. Mr. Parker stated that with respect to grant funds, for every \$1.00 the County contributes, he has been able to find \$8.00.

Mr. Parker stated last year the County contributed \$60,000.00 for the District Streambank Program and we did \$138,000 in projects. We have another \$127,000.00 in projects coming up for next year. Mr. Isaman asked how long have we been at \$60,000.00? Mr. Parker replied 1999. In 2004, that amount was cut to \$45,000 but then was reinstated to the \$60,000 in 2005. With our General Operation Budget we had been at \$127,000 since 2001. Mr. Isaman commented between 1999 and 2006, the price of rip rap hasn't gone down. Mr. Parker stated no and fuel costs, etc. are killing us.

Mr. Farrand stated that Mr. Parker should be commended for all the work that he does. Mr. Isaman stated the stabilization of the streambanks is working. We can see that this money is really giving us a return.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2007 BUDGET PROPOSAL OF THE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET OFFICER FOR FURTHER REVIEW MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Cornell Cooperative Extension

1. **2007 Budget Request** – Mr. Tomsa presented his proposed 2007 budget for the committee's review as well as an overview of what the department has accomplished and future goals. There are three areas that they will be pursuing for the future. The first is localized food systems and nutrition education contributing to food safety and security, improved health and wellness. The second is localized biomass energy systems producing inexpensive and environmentally friendly fuels. The third area is the development of agriculture and natural resource-based tourism and recreation.

Mr. Tomsa commented that his goal for 2007 was to ask for \$20,000 less than what they have been receiving, however, he is asking for \$330,000 which is \$10,000 less.

Dr. Baker asked are you still going to have services for farmers? Mr. Tomsa replied we are not abandoning things we have always done, but we also need to look at where we are going. Dr. Baker asked with regard to alternative fuels, grass pellets have 5 percent less BTU's than wood? Mr. Tomsa replied yes, but they have higher ash. Things we are looking at are units where you could use either grass or wood pellets. Mr. Creath asked can ash be recycled? Mr. Tomsa replied that he didn't know.

Mr. Isaman asked have you had any involvement with the windpower farms? Mr. Tomsa replied they have seen presentations from some of the companies. We don't want to be in a situation where we are perceived as being advocates. Our involvement is that we brought information from all sides of the issue to the public. Our position is that it can't be bad in the long run. We are not going to advocate for it, but we will take the facts and present those.

Mr. Isaman asked what is your total budget? Mr. Tomsa replied \$1.5 million.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2007 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET OFFICER FOR FURTHER REVIEW MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau

1. **2007 Budget Request** – Ms. Coleman distributed a packet including a report of their activities as well as their budget proposal for 2007. She stated that they are the official tourism promotion agency for the County. Ms. Coleman reviewed national travel trends and stated for the future they will be focusing on pet travel, family reunion travel and “Grand Travel” or intergenerational travel.

Mr. Creath asked have you come back to pre-September 11th numbers? Ms. Coleman replied no. Leisure travel is starting to come back. Businesses are still being very cautious with their travel.

Ms. Coleman stated that she is requesting \$536,528.00 for 2007. Mr. Isaman asked what was your allocation prior to September 11, 2001? Ms. Coleman replied they received \$559,196 in 2002, \$396,000 in 2003, \$415,000 in 2004 and \$455,000 in 2005.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2007 BUDGET PROPOSAL FROM THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET OFFICER FOR FURTHER REVIEW MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Finger Lakes Wine Country

1. **2007 Budget Request** – Ms. Cook distributed a folder with information about Finger Lakes Wine Country. She commented that they have been able to decrease duplication of efforts among the agencies. During their 2005 campaign, they generated 280,000 visits which resulted in \$28.5 million in new revenue. In the past they have benchmarked themselves against ten competing agencies. When they first started we were 9 out of 10 and since 2003 they have been placed as the 3rd in places that people would like to visit. They produce and distribute 125,000 travel guides annually. A new venture for them is they now have a place in Menu Magazine which is distributed by Wegmans. They are now in all four issues and there are approximately 940,000 magazines in circulation. Ms. Cook state that she appreciates all of the support the County has given and she is requesting an appropriation of \$110,000 for 2007.

Mr. Isaman asked what was your budget for 2006? Ms. Cook replied \$729,000. Mr. Isaman asked do you have a reserve? Ms. Cook replied no. They would like to try to do that in the future. She commented that last year they received \$45,000 each from Schuyler and Yates counties and \$60,000 from Chemung County.

Mr. Farrand asked how many wineries are located in Steuben County? Ms. Coleman replied six. Ms. Cook stated Yates has the most and then Seneca, but Seneca County does not participate. Mr. Creath asked do you have a membership? Ms. Cook replied the wineries contribute to the organization each year, as well as the museums and accommodations in the area. They don't have a membership as they don't want to restrict anyone's ability to fund the chambers and SCCVB.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2007 BUDGET PROPOSAL FROM THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET OFFICER FOR FURTHER REVIEW MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

C. Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance

1. **2007 Budget Request** – Mr. Rusinko introduced himself as the President of the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance. He has been with the agency since March 2006. He explained that all of these organizations exist in harmony as they provide slightly different needs. They will continue to work as long as communication continues to be improved. Mr. Rusinko informed the committee that annually they publish 100,000 travel guides and 300,000 mini guides. He stated that for 2007 he is requesting \$11,500.00.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2007 BUDGET PROPOSAL FROM THE FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE AND FORWARDING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR FURTHER REVIEW MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Mr. Creath asked Mr. Alger to provide a table summarizing the room tax collections for 2005, what is estimated for 2006, room tax collection projections for 2007, the actual 2006 budget allocations and the requests.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY DR. BAKER. 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, October 2, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, September 25, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, October 2, 2006

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., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth E. Isaman

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

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Lldon E. Jamison

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2006 MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Update** – Mr. Alger stated that the old water softener equipment will be removed this week and the new water softener will be installed. At the Balcom House, the Judge has asked that security be installed for Supreme Court and that the entrance to the Judge’s Chambers be moved to the other side. All of that renovation is funded by the Office of Court Administration. Mr. Alger stated the parking lot behind Special Children’s Service is being scheduled and is expected to be done soon.

Mr. Isaman asked with regard to the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency, have we heard anything more on the firm that was looking at our property? Mr. Alger replied no. He is under the impression that they are continuing to evaluate that site and options.

B. Planning

1. **Health Care Facility** – Mr. Heffner stated next month he will have an initial overview of possible future uses of the Facility. He is still talking with various department heads. Sooner or later, if the decision is made to go forward, we will need a more detailed architectural analysis of what we need to do to move into the building, and the cost.

2. **Local Law** – Mr. Heffner stated next month he will also be bringing a Local Law for presentation to the Legislature. Under State Law regarding Code Enforcement, there is a requirement that municipalities pass a new local law that lays out how they will enforce the State Building Code.

C. Historian

1. **Hall of Fame** – Mr. Creath informed the committee that this is the time of year when the Historian will be sending out requests for nominations for the Hall of Fame.

D. Weights & Measures

1. **Scanner Accuracy** – Mr. Alger commented we had a discussion some time ago regarding accuracy of the new scanning devices. Scanners are accurate 99.9 percent of the time, it's the price that may be wrong. The State passed an amendment allowing Weights & Measures to inspect scanners as a routine part of their responsibilities. The Weights & Measures Department is the most mathematically complicated operations we have.

Dr. Baker asked are they funded by the State? Mr. Alger replied the only funding they get is for the gasoline testing services we do for the State. He commented the scanner accuracy would extend out to the department stores.

Mr. Creath asked could we outsource the inspections? Mr. Alger replied they do certify the accuracy of the machines and our people follow up and test. Practically, you could contract out, but he doesn't know how you would do that. Mr. Ahrens commented that operation is so inherently governmental in nature that you have to do it and can't contract that out. Mr. Alger commented you are required to have a Sealer. This is something we could look at.

C. Administrator

1. **Room Tax Allocations** – Mr. Alger stated that Mr. Creath had asked for an update on room tax collections. He distributed a chart for the committee's review. It looks as though we have exceeded our collection projection for this year. He stated that Mr. Crossett has suggested that we would have \$680,000 to appropriate. This year we had budgeted \$529,000. Right now, excluding the request from the ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes, you have requests that total \$689,000.

Dr. Baker asked what is the Conference & Visitors' Bureau budget? Mr. Crossett replied \$455,000. They have requested \$536,528.00. Mr. Alger commented the chart tells you that the collections are up and that's a good thing. The committee reviewed the current year budget with the 2007 requests.

	<u>2006 Budget</u>	<u>2007 Request</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Conference & Visitors' Bureau	\$455,000.00	\$536,528.00	\$536,528.00
Finger Lakes Wine Country	95,000.00	110,000.00	100,000.00
Finger Lakes Tourism	10,500.00	11,500.00	11,500.00
ARTS	31,500.00	55,000.00	32,000.00
Dairy Festival	425.00	425.00	<u>500.00</u>
			\$680,528.00

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE APPROPRIATION OF ROOM TAX COLLECTIONS AS FOLLOWS: STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU \$536,528.00; FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY \$100,000.00; FINGER LAKES TOURISM \$11,500.00; ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES \$32,000.00 AND STEUBEN COUNTY DAIRY FESTIVAL \$500.00 MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. *Gasoline Price Gouging in New York State* – Mr. Creath commented that he recently took a trip to Virginia and he was able to purchase gasoline at \$1.97 on Route 15. It is cheaper to purchase gasoline across the Pennsylvania border. In Lawrenceville the price was \$2.35 and in Corning it was \$2.55. Last Thursday the price in Corning was \$2.65. Historically, between Lawrenceville, PA and Corning, NY there is a five to eight cent

difference per gallon. During his trip, he was able to purchase gasoline for \$2.05 in the Baltimore and Richmond areas. Mr. Creath stated what we are paying now is above the free market price. That's not right and he thinks that we should raise this issue with our State representatives and make them aware that this is a problem.

Mr. Farrand commented the State did pass legislation about price gouging. We could file a complaint with the Attorney General's Office. He commented that on his way to the NYSAC conference in Lake George, gasoline prices on the thruway were \$2.78. Mr. Alger stated that he could draft a letter to our elected officials at the State level and request that they look into price gouging in our area and see what they can do. Mr. Creath requested that he prepare the letter for Chairman Roche's signature.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO DRAFT A LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN ROCHE TO OUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES REQUESTING THAT THEY LOOK INTO GASOLINE PRICE GOUGING IN OUR AREA AND ASK WHAT THEY CAN DO MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY DR. BAKER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. 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 6, 2006
@ 11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, October 30, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, November 6, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair DeWitt T. Baker, Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
Kenneth E. Isaman

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Amy Dlugos
William J. Partridge Twila O'Dell David English
Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Lldon E. Jamison

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Stewart commented that he is here from the Farm Bureau and things are going pretty well. The farmers are thrashing corn now. There are no other pressing issues at this time.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2006 MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

1. **Alternative Fuel** – Brad Laverty, Prattsburgh introduced himself to the committee. He stated bio-diesel is an up and coming fuel in New York and is moving across the United States with rapid progression. It could happen in Steuben County or someplace else. Mr. Laverty stated he is doing his best to have bio-diesel here in Steuben County. He stated that he is looking to build a plant that will make diesel fuel. We take the waste vegetable oil and turn it into fuel that runs in trucks, tractors and furnaces. Mr. Laverty stated he has been making bio-diesel for a little over two years and has been researching it for over four years. It is a fantastic product.

Mr. Laverty commented the government has put limitations on fuels to encourage the use of low sulfur fuels. Sulfur fuels provide lubrication to diesel engines and vehicles run for 500,000 to 1,00,000 miles. We are moving to ultra low sulfur fuels, which will require more maintenance of our vehicles, and we won't get the longevity. If we replace low sulfur fuels with bio-diesel, you will be able to retain the lubrication properties. The emissions with bio-diesels are also a lot better. He stated that he doesn't have the specifics with regard to the differences in emissions, but the bio-diesel fuels are better for the environment.

Mr. Lavery stated that with regard to the creation of jobs, the plant that he is building in the first three to five years will need a dozen people. After that, the number of employees could grow to three or four times that. Of course, that all depends on money and how fast he can get the plant up and running. Everything is easier when you have the money to do it. He has been making the bio-diesel for over two years with a small processor/collection unit. Right now he has been using waste french fry oil. He also owns two presses for soybean and canola seeds. Mr. Lavery commented canola seeds are the best to use. He has been talking with Carl Albers of Cornell Cooperative Extension to try to get farmers to plant test plots of canola seeds. Farmers wouldn't want to do this if there isn't a market, but he will be purchasing the seeds from them. This is a win-win situation for everyone around. This would create a viable market for our farmers. Mr. Lavery explained that when he is done producing the fuel, he can resell the byproduct, which is a press cake, back to the farmers as feed.

The price of bio-diesel is not nearly as volatile as petroleum diesel. We would need to work it out with the farmers ahead of time, but any increase in price would be directly related to production. The way the process would work, is that he could come and get the canola seeds from the farmer and would run those through a press. After it goes through the press it comes out in two forms; oil and press cakes. The oil is collected and put into a tank and made into bio-diesel fuel. The press cakes are ultra high in protein and can be used as a feed for cattle. There is no waste.

Dr. Baker asked how does the price compare to that of natural fuel oil? Mr. Lavery replied he doesn't see how it could be that high and still be able to make a profit. The bigger bio-diesel plants are producing 25 million gallons per year. The larger plants are able to purchase the best equipment and the owners are not hands on producers. Including the profit, it could sell for around \$3.00 per gallon, but he doesn't see that.

Dr. Baker asked what do you expect from the County? Mr. Lavery replied he needs help financially. He needs help in getting set up. There are a lot of things that he doesn't know with regard to how to set up or sell his product properly. If nothing else, he is just looking for an endorsement.

Mr. Farrand asked have you talked with the Industrial Development Agency? Mr. Lavery replied he went to Mr. Sherron and a professional business plan writer. He told Mr. Sherron that right now his plan was to build a \$100,000 plant. Mr. Lavery stated that he has \$50,000 of his own money and he could come up with the additional. His only limitation is the amount of money that he has. If he had \$5 million, that is the size plant that he would want to build. He would like to build the biggest plant he can. Mr. Lavery stated he was told that the benefits from the IDA would not be worth the fees that would be incurred through them for all of the tests and SEQR requirements unless he was doing a plant for at least \$1 million. Mr. Sherron told him to go ahead and build his plant and in the spring he could come back and show the IDA what he had done.

Mr. Farrand asked have you contacted the State Energy Department? Mr. Lavery replied he had, but Cornell Cooperative Extension had provided him with contacts to call to ensure that he wasn't breaking any rules.

Mr. Isaman asked with a \$100,000 plant, how much fuel could you produce? Mr. Lavery replied he could produce 500 gallons per day. Production would be six to seven days per week. It is quite small, but is a good starting point.

Mr. Farrand asked are there zoning restrictions in the Town of Prattsburgh? Mr. Lavery replied no. Mr. Farrand asked have you talked to the Town Board regarding a tax exemption? Mr. Lavery replied when he is ready to expand, he probably would, but has not at this point.

Mr. Creath commented Cornell Cooperative Extension has a business development center. If you really want to expand, you will have to expand your concept to reach the economic levels for this kind of a project. You may have to work out a plan to get investors to help you. Mr. Lavery stated he had thought about asking the Legislature. Mr. Creath stated the Legislature can't offer you any money, but we can offer you verbal support. Mr. Alger stated if you have talked with Mr. Sherron, stay in touch with him about your business plan and if you want to grow. It may be that you need to borrow \$1 million to get going. As you get started, stay in touch.

Mr. Ahrens asked would Mr. Laverty be eligible for the Empire Zone as he is looking to hire several employees. By taking his plant to \$1 million instead of \$100,000 he would be tripling the number of employees and that meets Empire Zone criteria. Mr. Alger replied the best person to answer those questions is Mr. Sherron.

Mr. Isaman asked is anyone else testing this product? Mr. Laverty replied there are governmental standards to produce bio-diesel commercially and you have to have permits. Mr. Alger asked is this interchangeable with regular diesel fuel? Mr. Laverty replied yes. He has several people who have asked for his product and he has a waiting list. Mr. Creath commented this sounds like a good idea. He thanked Mr. Laverty for making his presentation.

MOTION: SUPPORTING BRAD LAVERTY'S EFFORTS FOR BUILDING A PLANT TO PRODUCE BIO-DIESEL FUEL IN STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Closing Completed Capital Projects** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to close four capital projects and return the balance of those projects to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE CLOSING OF THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS AND RETURN THE BALANCE OF THOSE PROJECTS TO THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE FUND: HB0107 SEALING & STRIPING COB - \$39.80 PLUS INTEREST; HB1004 EXT. PAINTING 117 EAST STEUBEN STREET - \$0.00 PLUS INTEREST; HB6002 SEAL/STRIP HORNELL PARKING LOT - \$250.00 PLUS INTEREST AND HB0108 PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM COURTROOM A&B - \$0.00 PLUS INTEREST MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Informational** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that the parking lot behind the building on 18 East Morris Street will be paved tomorrow.

B. County Historian

1. **Hall of Fame** – Ms. O'Dell requested approval to transfer \$900.00 from the Bicentennial Account to be used for the Hall of Fame program.

Mr. Farrand asked has anything been done with regard to restricting the number of nominations per year to five? Ms. O'Dell replied we were without the Hall of Fame for five years. To make up for those lost years, we increased the number of nominations to five and usually that is limited to three. We are still in the gray area with regard to that. Ms. O'Dell commented that she probably could make a statement to the newspapers explaining why the current number is five and that eventually they will go back to three. She stated that this past year, Senator Smith was finally inducted into the Hall of Fame after being nominated 20 years ago.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY HISTORIAN TO TRANSFER \$900.00 FROM THE BICENTENNIAL ACCOUNT TO BE USED FOR THE HALL OF FAME PROGRAM MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **County Farm Cemetery** – Ms. O'Dell stated that she had asked for a crew to clean up the cemetery but she was under the impression that was something the public would not agree with because we would be using tax dollars. The cemetery was cleaned up and she has only gotten good reviews. It looks very nice and the public is very happy that we took the time to do this. Ms. O'Dell stated that she talked with Mr. Heffner and they are going to see if they can put a road in and put up signs showing where the cemetery is. There is also a cemetery across the road. Between the two, we have 580 graves.

3. **Personnel** – Mr. Isaman commented Mrs. Springer is no longer with us, but previously there was a discussion about the Deputy Historian not being paid? Ms. O'Dell replied that is correct. She has talked with Mr. Heffner about that. She works three days a week and the Deputy Historian works two days a week. The

Deputy Historian made a request to be paid for her work. In her request, she also included how much she would like to be paid. If the Deputy Historian is not paid, our office will go back to only being open three days a week. Ms. O'Dell stated she is paid \$11,000 per year. Mr. Isaman asked what has the Deputy Historian asked for? Ms. O'Dell replied one of the figures she received was \$3,000 for the year.

Mr. Farrand commented this is something we need to look at. If the Historian is paid \$11,000 per year, then we should look at paying the Deputy Historian \$4,000 - \$5,000. Dr. Baker asked that Mr. Heffner investigate this further. Mr. Alger stated we will look around and see what other Deputy Historians are doing and we will come back to the committee with a recommendation.

C. Planning

1. **Resolution** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that Yates County, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Keuka Lake Association would like to apply for a Quality Communities Program Grant. The application requires a supporting resolution from the municipality, which would be the County.

MOTION: SUPPORTING YATES COUNTY, CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND THE KEUKA LAKE ASSOCIATION IN THEIR APPLICATION FOR A QUALITY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM GRANT MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Code Enforcement Local Law** – Mr. Heffner stated last year, the State passed a new statute concerning enforcing the building code. We also have to redo our local law, because in 1984 the County passed a local law stating that the County was opting into enforcing the building code. The new State law says that we have to do the local law over again because of the new rules. The new local law requires that we report to the Department of State annually. We do code enforcement on our building projects as well as for the Town of Addison as they are the one remaining municipality in the County that never opted in to enforcing the building code. That duty automatically goes to the County. We have appointed a building inspector and this new local law identifies the enforcement authority. Basically, the State went from their own building code to the International Building Code.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION TO BE SENT TO THE LEGISLATURE AMENDING LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF THE YEAR 1984 IN COMPLIANCE WITH NEW, NEW YORK STATE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE REGULATIONS MADE BY DR. BAKER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

3. **Health Care Facility – Proposed Uses** – Mr. Heffner distributed a report regarding the uses of the building. The first section of the report reviews what was presented in November 2005 as options for the use of the Health Care Facility. The second section of this report looks at one option; the option to do more extensive renovations for use by the County. This section looks at the building itself and includes a list that the architect came up with for items that don't meet the current building code. If we use this building for offices, which of the suggestions from the architect would we need to do to use the building? The biggest one is the roof. Other renovations that would need to be made in order to use the building for offices is the addition of a backflow preventer, smoke dampers, fire separation (for the Records Center), bathroom renovations and other code related repairs.

Mr. Heffner stated there are other repairs that could be made, but are not necessary in order to occupy the building and these include the main heating boilers, air conditioning/windows, exterior doors, parking lot and potable water lines and sanitary drain lines.

Mr. Heffner stated the third section of the report regards the placement of departments in the building. The Records Center is already located in the building and the assumption is that they would remain and as a result could obtain more space.

The Office for the Aging was the first department that said they could see advantages to moving to the Health Care Facility building. Since the time of this report, they have come up with both a list of pros and cons. Public

Health Nursing is another option as for practical reasons that would leave more room for Social Services. Also, a positive reason for moving is that they would have more space. Cooperative Extension is also very interested in moving.

Mr. Heffner commented we are looking for space to store voting machines and this building is the obvious place to do that. The Historian is in need of more space. It is not critical for that operation to be co-located with the Historical Society. Being located in the same building as the Records Center would allow them to readily access historical documents for research. This building would also work quite well for the Youth Bureau. Currently they are located with Community Services and are running out of space.

Mr. Heffner stated the Nutrition Program is currently located at Lakeview Apartments and that space is not large enough. The kitchen at the Health Care Facility is very nice and would work out very well for them. Common areas such the community room and the North 3 Dining Room would provide space for use by departments or public organizations that need a large area for training, etc. Also, Personnel would love to have a place where they know they could give the Civil Service tests.

Assuming those departments would move, the next question is what would we do with the space in the County Office Building. The Department of Social Services would be able to expand into the Public Health Nursing offices. Probation could move into Cooperative Extension. Special Children's Services, currently located across the street, could be relocated back into this building where the Office for the Aging is. Also, the Veteran's Service Agency could be moved back into this building.

Mr. Heffner commented one of the things we have in the County Office Building is security. That is some of the reasoning why some of the departments would move to the Health Care Facility, because they don't require or need that level of security.

Mr. Heffner stated attached to the back of the report are two floor plans; one for the first floor and one for the second floor. These plans show where the departments would be placed and how much area they would have. On the first floor there is not a lot of vacant space. There would be approximately a 50 percent increase in the Records Center and that is needed. The Senior Nutrition Program would also be located on the first floor along with the conference rooms and mailroom. The existing cafeteria would become a vending/break room. The second floor would house Cooperative Extension, Historian, Office for the Aging, Public Health Nursing Services and the Youth Bureau. There would also be space for the storage of the voting machines.

Mr. Heffner reminded the committee that this is just one scenario. We can continue to look at this. This is a first look and it seems to make sense. This shows that we certainly could use the building. The larger question that needs to be answered is do we want to use it?

Mr. Farrand asked is there asbestos? Mr. Heffner replied we would have to look at that. Mr. Alger commented it would be most likely in the floors and doors.

Dr. Baker asked every year will there be more demand for space? Mr. Heffner replied sure. You will never run out of a need to have space. Dr. Baker stated our population stays the same, but everything else is growing. Mr. Heffner stated the number of employees has stayed the same, but we do things differently now than we did in the past. When we built this building there were major changes going on in the State which required departments to do things differently and required the use of more space.

Mr. Alger stated with regard to the use of the building, we looked at putting either Mental Health or Social Services out there, but there is not enough space for either one of them. Mr. Heffner stated Social Services currently has 30,000 square feet in the County Office Building. If you add up the total square footage on the second floor of the Health Care Facility, that is only 17,000 square feet.

Dr. Baker asked will you be evaluating renovation costs? Mr. Heffner replied that is one of the things we need to look at. We need to look at the cost to do the things we need to do to move into the building.

Mr. Creath asked what is the usable square footage at the Health Care Facility? Mr. Heffner replied without anyone in there, it is probably 30,000 square feet. He would have to go out and figure it out. Mr. Creath commented to bring it up to a first class building, you are looking at approximately \$100.00 per square foot renovation cost which would total \$3 million. Mr. Heffner stated we have to do renovations. Currently, every room has a toilet. We would need to cap the plumbing and make storage closets in every room. To make it usable, you need to look at how much money you are willing to spend. The building would also need updated wiring.

Mr. Creath stated this is a good study here. The next step is to meet with the architects to help us with planning and estimating costs. Mr. Heffner stated some of the information he obtained from the SWBR study that was done about four years ago.

Mr. Creath asked when will the old Health Care Facility be available? Mr. Alger replied January 2008 would be the earliest that you would want to occupy it. Mr. Heffner commented you won't be able to do nay physical work until the residents are moved into the new facility. Mr. Alger stated you have roughly another year to do the renovations. You would not start the exterior renovations until spring 2008 and you would bid in January/February 2008 to do whatever work you have in mind.

Dr. Baker commented the sooner we get an idea of the cost, it will be to our satisfaction and the public to tell them that we have a plan to utilize the building

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Creath asked if the committee would object to moving the December meeting to Friday, December 8, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. as he will be unable to attend the meeting on the regularly scheduled date. The committee was in agreement. Dr. Baker announced that since AIP was changing the date of their meeting, that the Public Safety & Corrections committee would also meet on Friday, December 8, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. 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**Friday, December 8, 2006**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**
11:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, November 27, 2006.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Friday, December 8, 2006

11:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: DeWitt T. Baker, D.V.M., Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand Kenneth E. Isaman

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

LEGISLATORS: John Walsh

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath

OTHER: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Baker called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2006 MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **2007 Contracts** – Mr. Partridge presented his 2007 contracts for approval. He commented that the contract with Emergency Power Systems has increased \$575.00 because they added the Civil Defense Center. The contract with Fire Alarm Service Technology increased \$330.00, as they will be monitoring the Human Services Building and the entire Pulteney Square Complex with the exception of the Balcom House. Mr. Partridge noted there was an increase of \$10.00 per trip for Holvevinski Mechanical and Salvage, LLC who do the snow plowing at the Hornell Courthouse and will now also plow a small portion for the school. Trane requested a 3 percent increase which brings their yearly contract to \$26,844.

Mr. Partridge commented that he will be bringing a new contract back to the committee for approval as 911 has requested that their electrical system be inspected and tested annually. The first year cost would be \$4,500 because they would do the full test. The next two years the cost would be \$1,500 and then the full test would be done on the third year. Once this contract is finalized he will bring it to the committee for approval.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2007 CONTRACTS FOR THE BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT: ACCESS LIFTS & RAMPS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF HANDICAP LIFTS (\$265.00 COB, \$162.00 CORNING COURTHOUSE); ADVANCED SAFETY SYSTEMS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR COMPUTER ROOM (\$1,040.00); DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER – INSPECTION AND TESTING OF SPRINKLER SYSTEM 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 (\$2,951.40); EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEMS – MAINTENANCE OF GENERATOR AT 911 BUILDING (\$825.00 911 BUILDING, \$575.00 CIVIL DEFENSE BUILDING); FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY – MONITORING, INSPECTION, TESTING, AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND HUMAN SERVICES

BUILDING W/ EXCEPTION OF BALCOM HOUSE (\$2,792.00); HOLEVINSKI MECHANICAL & SALVAGE, LLC – SNOW PLOWING HORNELL COURTHOUSE (\$95.00/TRIP); IMPERIAL DOOR CONTROLS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE ON POWER DOOR OPERATORS (\$435.00); SDS OF NY – REFUSE REMOVAL (\$780.00 HORNELL COURTHOUSE, \$626.88 CORNING COURTHOUSE); SOUTHERN TIER FIRE EXTINGUISHER – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS (\$350.00); THE TRANE COMPANY – A/C MAINTENANCE PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND 911 BUILDING (\$26,844.00); WEST FIRE SYSTEMS, INC. – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE 911 FIRE ALARM (\$900.00); SCHINDLER ELEVATOR – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE ON ELEVATORS PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$7,592.49); AND JAY’S PICTURE PERFECT LANDSCAPING, INC. – SNOW PLOWING CORNING COURTHOUSE (\$65.00 PER TRIP) MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

B. Planning

1. **2007 Contracts** – Mr. Heffner presented his 2007 contracts for approval. He commented that approval of the contract for the Finger Lakes Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would be conditional. They are still discussing whether the Animal Cruelty Investigator position can be continued.

Mr. Farrand asked with regard to the S.P.C.A., he received a phone call regarding a dog scratching a child and there was no record of shots. The dog control officer stated that the dog needed to be quarantined for ten days in a facility. Mr. Heffner commented or the animal could be quarantined at home. Mr. Farrand stated the dog control officer did not say that. They want to charge the family to pick up the dog plus the ten days it will be in quarantine. Dr. Baker stated it used to be that they always have been confined. They can keep the animal in their home and the dog control officer would go and check on it.

Mr. Heffner stated it has to be a confined area. That whole issue is discussed when someone gets bitten, there are no shots and they check on the animal once a month. The dog control officer is saying that it is not part of their job. It is a Public Health Nursing issue as they are responsible for bites and determining whether the animal is rabid. We are going to write into the contract that the animal control person will do the monthly checks. Once a bite is involved, it becomes another issue. That is something we will talk to the S.P.C.A. about.

Mr. Farrand stated this is a scratch. Dr. Baker stated if there is a bite, there is no question that the animal has to be quarantined. With a scratch, if the claws happen to have saliva and they penetrate the skin, then that could be a problem.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2007 CONTRACTS FOR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT: FINGER LAKES SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (\$25,000.00 – CONDITIONAL APPROVAL UNTIL NOTIFIED BY S.P.C.A.), SOUTHERN TIER LIBRARY SYSTEM (\$90,000.00), MARVIN RETHMEL – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (\$17.00/HOUR), STEUBEN COUNTY FEDERATION OF CONSERVATION CLUBS (\$3,000.00), FIRST TRANSIT (\$24,233.00) AND APPROVING THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS WHICH WILL BE PAID FOR OUT OF OCCUPANCY TAX: STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS’ BUREAU (\$536,528.00), FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE, INC. (\$11,500.00), FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY (\$100,000.00), ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES (\$32,000.00), STEUBEN COUNTY DAIRY FESTIVAL (\$500.00) MADE BY MR. ISAMAN. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. VOTE 3-0.

2. **I-86 Project** – Mr. Heffner distributed information regarding the I-86 project status. He attended an I-86 Coalition meeting two weeks ago. This has been a huge undertaking, but they are moving right along.

3. **Municipal Electric Aggregation** – Mr. Heffner informed the committee that east of here, they have a municipal electric aggregation which was first started in Tompkins County. They have more than 80 municipalities and schools which are organized to get a better price for electricity. If we join, under the current rates we would save \$17,000 per year. This would not cost us anything. They put out a bid and the best deal goes back to the members. The money they make to operate comes from the company that gets the bid. Right now, Alternative Energy, Inc. has the bid. Mr. Heffner asked if the committee would like him to pursue this further. The cutoff date for telling them that we would want to be considered a member is December 29, 2006.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO FOLLOW UP ON JOINING THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AGGREGATION MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

4. **Health Care Facility Building** – Mr. Heffner stated at the Health & Education Committee meeting, there was discussion regarding a roof repair. The suggestion was made that we may want to look at having a new roof put on as the Jail will be getting a new roof and the two buildings could be bid as one package. We haven't made a decision if we are keeping the building. He talked with Mr. Alger and they agreed to come back and ask this committee if you are prepared to suggest that yes we should keep the building and put a resolution on the Legislative Agenda for December or January. This would be a commitment by you that you would not tear down the building and would keep it and use it for something.

Mr. Isaman asked that we wait until next month to make a decision, as the Chairman was unable to attend today's meeting.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ISAMAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****Wednesday, January 3, 2007 @ 11:00 a.m.****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, December 26, 2006.**