

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, January 3, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand Joseph J. Hauryski

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler William J. Partridge
James Gleason Ken Isaman Alan Reed

LEGISLATORS: Lawrence P. Crossett Carol A. Ferratella Gary B. Roush
John S. Walsh Randolph J. Weaver

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath, Chair

OTHERS: Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Mr. Farrand to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Nichols opened the floor for public comment.

Karen Hubbard introduced herself as the representative for the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2010, MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Water Pumps** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee they were able to purchase two new pumps from a different company, Pioneer Pumps out of Syracuse, New York. Instead of paying \$4,258.00 if they had purchased from the initial company, they were able to purchase the pumps for \$3,365.00. The pumps were installed December 16, 2010, and everything is working well. These pumps come with both a moisture reader and a temperature reader. However, our panel box is not set up to include warning devices, so we are getting a quote to update the box. If water is detected or if the pumps are overheating there is an auto shutoff and the pumps will reset themselves. Mr. Partridge stated the company did take the original pumps with them to determine if they can be repaired, and they will give us a quote for that.

2. **Closing 2010 Capital Projects** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to close various 2010 Capital Projects and return the remaining balances to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE FOLLOWING 2010 CAPITAL PROJECTS TO BE CLOSED AND THEIR BALANCES TO BE RETURNED TO THE REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE: HB0203 EXTERIOR PAINTING – CLERK’S BUILDING (\$15,017.01 PLUS INTEREST); HB0204 EXTERIOR PAINTING – SURROGATE’S BUILDING (\$682.74 PLUS INTEREST); AND HB6404 SEAL ROOF – CORNING COURTHOUSE (\$1,026.00 PLUS INTEREST) MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

3. **2011 Capital Projects** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to proceed with the replacement of the air handler speed drives for the HVAC in the County Office Building. We have budgeted \$27,000.00 for this project.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO PROCEED WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR HANDLER SPEED DRIVES IN THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

4. **2011 Maintenance Contracts** – Mr. Partridge presented his 2011 annual maintenance contracts for renewal. He noted that Davis-Ulmer Sprinkler has added the Public Safety Building to our contract. Fire Alarm Service has increased their contract for the maintenance and monitoring of the Pulteney Square complex and the Human Services Building to \$3,762.00 annually. This is the first increase since 2005. There are also increases in their contracts with Imperial Door, increase of \$5.00 per door; and Trane who increased their cost \$1,000 for the Pulteney Square Complex and \$600.00 for the Public Safety Building. Mr. Partridge stated they also lost their contractor for the plowing of the Corning Courthouse parking lot.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2011 MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS FOR THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT: ADVANCE SAFETY SYSTEM – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR COMPUTER ROOM (\$1,040.00); DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER – QUARTERLY INSPECTION AND TESTING OF SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$3,320.00); DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER – INSPECTION AND TESTING OF SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT 7604 SENECA ROAD NORTH (\$400.00 PLUS \$288.00 MONITORING FEES); DAVIS-ULMER SPRINKLER – QUARTERLY INSPECTION AND TESTING OF SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING (\$1,760.00); EASTERN SECURITY – INSPECTION, TESTING, MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING OF FIRE AND SECURITY SYSTEMS AT HORNELL COURTHOUSE, CORNING COURTHOUSE AND BALCOM HOUSE (\$2,951.40); EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEM – MAINTENANCE OF GENERATOR AT THE 911 CENTER AND CIVIL DEFENSE BUILDING (\$825.00 FOR 911 AND \$575.00 FOR CIVIL DEFENSE); FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY – MONITORING, INSPECTION, TESTING, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS AND MONITORING EQUIPMENT OF THE MAIN OFFICE BUILDING, BATH COURTHOUSE, COUNTY CLERK, SURROGATE’S AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (\$3,762.00); HOLEVINSKI MECHANICAL & SALVAGE, LLC – SNOW PLOWING HORNELL COURTHOUSE AND BUILDING LOCATED AT 7604 SENECA ROAD NORTH (\$100.00/PLOW HORNELL COURTHOUSE AND \$60.00/PLOW 7604 SENECA ROAD NORTH); IMPERIAL DOOR CONTROLS – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE ON POWER DOOR OPERATORS (\$450.00); SDS OF NY – REFUSE REMOVAL (\$780.00 HORNELL COURTHOUSE, \$686.64 CORNING COURTHOUSE); SKJ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, INC. – COMMERCIAL CLEANING OF COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING (\$248.00/WEEK); SOUTHERN TIER FIRE EXTINGUISHER – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS (\$350.00); TRANE (\$29,700.00 PULTENEY SQUARE COMPLEX, \$16,900.00 PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING) AND WEST FIRE SYSTEMS, INC. – TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE 911 FIRE ALARM (\$900.00) MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

B. Administrator

1. **Appointments to Steuben County Conference & Visitors’ Bureau** – Mr. Alger presented the appointments to the Steuben County Conference & Visitors’ Bureau Board of Directors for approval.

MOTION: APPROVING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND FORWARDING TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR THEIR REVIEW AND APPROVAL MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Resolution Required.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. *Chesapeake Bay* – Mr. Nichols asked if there were any updates? Mr. Farrand replied that letters of objection have been sent out to the Environmental Protection Agency, Senators and Congressman. Mr. Hauryski commented the day the EPA made their announcement they did reduce the requirements for New York State and made some concessions both ways.

B. *Proposed Legislation to Strengthen Soil & Water Conservation Districts* – Mr. Farrand informed the committee that last year there were bills introduced to the Senate and Assembly regarding the Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Those bills were S.7601/A.10843 Modifications to the State Soil & Water Conservation Law to Legitimize District Programs, specifically to recognize conservation education as a role of Soil & Water Districts, as well as recognizing the role of Soil & Water Districts in controlling and mitigating the spread of invasive species. Bill S.7532/A.10743 Proposed Changes to the Environmental Conservation Law: Ocean & Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act and bill S.7533/A.10751 Proposed Changes to NYS Executive Law, Article 42: Waterfront Revitalization of Coastal Areas and Inland Waterways. These bills were introduced by Senator Winner and Assemblyman Bacalles. This is a new legislative year and the bill numbers will change, but he has received confirmation these will be reintroduced. Mr. Farrand asked to send a supporting resolution to NYSAC, InterCounty, Steuben County Farm Bureau and the Grange regarding these proposals.

MOTION: SUPPORTING PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, SPECIFICALLY MODIFICATIONS TO THE STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION LAW TO LEGITIMIZE DISTRICT PROGRAMS; PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW: OCEAN & GREAT LAKES ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION ACT; AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 42: WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION OF COASTAL AREAS & INLAND WATERWAYS MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

C. *NYSAC Conference* – Mr. Alger informed the committee that the annual Winter NYSAC Conference falls at the same time at the February AIP Committee meeting. He suggested moving the meeting to the following week. Mr. Farrand stated that he was unavailable that week. The committee set the date for the February meeting for Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE** Tuesday, February 1, 2011 **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****
9:30 a.m.

**Please send agenda items to the
Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, January 24, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 1, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Michael Hanna
Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler Amy Dlugos
Twila O'Dell Jim Gleason Anne Collson

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Thomas J. Ryan John S. Walsh

ABSENT: Dan C. Farrand

OTHERS: Dan Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Jeff Parker, Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District
Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Steuben County Farm Bureau

1. **Pro-Dairy and Integrated Pest Management Programs** - Mr. Hubbard stated that they received an email from the State Farm Bureau regarding the possible elimination of the Pro-Dairy Program and Integrated Pest Management Program due to State budgetary cuts. They are not sure what their position is with regard to opposing the cuts as maybe everyone will suffer cuts. Mr. Hubbard stated they would like to support keeping the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office in the County Building open as they provide a lot of programs to farms. He doesn't know how the State budget cuts will affect these programs, but would like to hold these items until a later date.

2. **Dairy Pricing** -Mr. Hubbard stated the dairy pricing situation is very volatile and some of the farmers are telling us there are two things that influence dairy pricing the most. The first is the volatility in corn and feed prices and the second is the volatility in the market price on milk. The Farm Bureau is actively looking at this issue. The dairy pricing forecast is that the price will increase due to the global economic situation. Both the price of beef and dairy are expected to increase. Mr. Nichols commented that six years ago the feed price for farms for six tons ran about \$1,200.00. Now, that price has increased to \$2,500.00 for six tons.

Mr. Nichols commented another issue the Farm Bureau could look at is the Mexico trucking deal. The United States currently does not allow Mexican truck drivers to drive more than 45 miles into the United States. The World Trade Court ruled that the United States was being discriminatory and as such, Mexico could impose tariffs on exports, which they did on cheese, which is now down 66 percent. That will hurt dairy exports. Discussion followed.

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Progress Report** – Mr. Parker distributed copies of the 2011 Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Plan of Operations. This plan has been approved and it outlines everything that we do. We use this report as an indicator for what our future projects are going to be.

Mr. Parker stated during 2010 under the District Streambank Stabilization Program, we completed 18 projects totaling \$187,055.31. The County appropriates \$75,000.00 for the program and for every dollar the County gave towards the program, the District returned \$1.50. For 2011 we have 12 landowner projects totaling \$114,490.00 and 8 municipal projects totaling \$97,629.00. Mr. Parker stated they received grant approvals for the streambank stabilization for Cold Brook, and for road ditch stabilization in the Townships of Howard, Avoca and Wayne. Mr. Parker stated with regard to our agricultural projects, we received State funding for three manure storage projects totaling \$549,500.00. In addition, we also received funding from the Upper Susquehanna Coalition and completed four fencing system projects.

Mr. Parker reviewed the funding breakdown from 2010. Mr. Hauryski stated that they always ask for an increase in their budget and there is a reason for that. This plan that was distributed has to be completed by the District in order to receive State funding.

Mr. Parker stated last year we had requested a \$1,000.00 increase over the 2010 figures in our general fund. The District Streambank funds are used for the cost share projects with landowners and municipalities. The General Budget goes toward some of the employee costs and operations. Over the past four years, the State keeps ratcheting down what we have to do administratively in order to acquire State funds. We also are asked by the State to allocate funds to train our Board of Directors. In our annual report, we are also asked if we asked for an increase in funding from the County. If we maintain or increase our budget, we get a point in that category and then the State will send us our funding. Discussion followed.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Contract Renewal – Coffee Cart** – Mrs. Dlugos requested authorization to renew the contract with Carol Mozes for the coffee cart. She pays rent of \$300.00 per month.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH CAROL MOZES FOR THE COFFEE CART FOR A MONTHLY RENTAL OF \$300.00 PER MONTH MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **Community Development Block Grant** – Mrs. Dlugos requested authorization to submit a grant to the New York State Office of Community Renewal for a Community Development Block Grant. This will allow us to continue working with the well and septic system replacement program for low to moderate income home owners. We anticipate the amount of the grant to be \$200,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE WELL AND SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROGRAM FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOME OWNERS MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Historian

1. **Hall of Fame**

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. HANNA. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: FORWARDING TO THE FULL LEGISLATURE THE NAMES OF THE RECOMMENDED INDUCTEES TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY HALL OF FAME MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. *Resolution Required.*

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

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, March 7, 2011
9:30 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the
Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, February 28, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, March 7, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Donald B. Creath, Chair	Michael Hanna	Joseph J. Hauryski
STAFF:	Mark R. Alger William Partridge	Jack Wheeler Vicki Olin	Amy Dlugos Shawn Corey
LEGISLATORS:	Carol A. Ferratella John S. Walsh	Thomas J. Ryan	Randolph J. Weaver
ABSENT:	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair	Dan C. Farrand	Robin K. Lattimer
OTHERS:	Jeff Parker, Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District Richard Winnett, Rural Conservation & Development Council (RC&D) Daniel Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 1, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Update on RC&D Council** – Mr. Parker introduced Dick Winnett who is currently the coordinator for RC&D. The Federal Government has decided to eliminate the program funding. He stated they are here today to get support from this committee for the Legislature to do a resolution or letters of support to see if we can get the funding for RC&D reinstated for at least another year. Mr. Winnett plans on retiring at the end of the year. He has helped us a lot with the administration of grants and has helped bring money into the County.

Mr. Winnett commented that the Council is managing approximately \$3.5 million. Of that, \$500,000 is coming directly to Steuben County. We cover six counties and the program nationwide is \$5 million for 375 councils across the country. The President has recommended the elimination of this program. They have already talked of eliminating the program before the end of this fiscal year. The House of Representatives have already made their decision. If our program is not funded, my position will be eliminated. The funding for the 375 councils nationwide will be eliminated. Mr. Winnett recommended that if the Legislature sends letters that they be sent by fax. Our program could be cut by the end of the year.

Mr. Alger commented we could do a memorializing resolution as well as send letters to Congressman Reed, Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO REINSTATE FY2011 AND FY2012 FUNDING FOR THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (RC&D) PROGRAM IN THE AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Stormwater Management Specialist Position** – Mr. Parker informed the committee there is a funding issue for the Stormwater Specialist Position, which is housed at the Chemung County Soil & Water Conservation District. This individual covers three counties and we use her to help us with permitting issues. The funding for her position is slated to end in May as the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) does not have any money to keep this position on. Mr. Parker stated that he has sent letters of support to Assemblyman Palmesano and Senator O'Mara.

Mr. Hanna asked what is the bottom line if the funding goes away? Mr. Parker replied we will not have that part-time individual that is assisting me. If we can't do the work, then there will be nobody to do it. It will fall on the landowners. There will be an increased environmental impact if we don't have someone to assist me in working with the landowners. This position has had a positive impact on water quality, stream stability, urban drainage and flooding in this region.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE GOVERNOR AND NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, REGION 8, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST POSITION MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

3. **Biofuels** – Mr. Parker informed the committee that they have been trying to reach out to individuals who are interested in biofuels. We are trying to find a market for the material before we go through the effort of convincing landowners to plant switchgrass. We are looking to see if there is a market for this in the county or in a small regional area. In Benton, PA, a school is burning pelletized grass. Mr. Winnett commented that since December, this school has seen a fuel cost savings of \$34,000.

Mr. Creath asked how does your effort overlap or conflict with the efforts of Cornell Cooperative Extension? Mr. Parker replied he doesn't know. He has talked with Carl Albers who is interested in the production of switchgrass. We didn't see this process going anywhere. Cornell Cooperative Extension seemed more interested in pellet sales rather than in a larger market. Mr. Winnett commented the VA will be mandated to convert to some type of biofuel within the next five years. There is still a lot of work to be done. Mr. Parker stated that they are looking at having a manufacturing plant in Steuben County.

Mr. Hauryski stated this issue has come up before in committee and has been stuck. He was somewhat taken back by Cornell Cooperative Extension's presentation on this topic. Everyone is talking about it and yet we have not seen anyone make a concerted effort to go out and find the individuals, investors or others that want to get into this business. It is time to start doing something with this. The County has the ideal situation for this kind of business.

Mr. Winnett stated they want to partner with Cornell Cooperative Extension. We might need your help. The Appalachian Regional Commission is run through Southern Tier Central. They have the opportunity for funding for infrastructure. We know that Southern Tier East and Southern Tier West have in the past, funded agriculturally-oriented projects. Southern Tier Central never has and we may need your influence.

Mr. Creath cautioned that they should not stray too far from the primary mission. Mr. Winnett stated Steuben County is one of six counties in the Finger Lakes RC&D Council. We are looking at economic development through the use of natural resources and this is what biofuel does. Discussion followed.

4. **Marsh Ditch Board Appointments** – Mr. Parker stated the Soil and Water Conservation District Board has forwarded the names of Dennis Acomb, Robert Mahany, Andy Merry and Jeramie Hurlburt to be appointed to the Marsh Ditch Board of Directors.

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MARSH DITCH WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Contract** – Mr. Partridge requested authorization to amend their contract with Machuga Contracting to include snowplowing at the Corning Courthouse at a rate of \$125.00 per plow.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH MACHUGA CONTRACTING TO INCLUDE SNOWPLOWING AT THE CORNING COURTHOUSE AT A RATE OF \$125.00 PER PLOW MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

2. **Electrical Work at Old Health Care Facility** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they received RFP's for the electrical receptacle project at the old Health Care Facility. They received four quotes and he is recommending awarding to the low bidder, Pelham Electric for \$7,030.00. Mr. Partridge explained this project consists of putting in power poles in the big room where the 70 elections machines are stored.

Ms. Olin stated every three months we have to go out to the old Health Care Facility to power the machines up and do testing and maintenance. Currently when we do that, we have six to ten people and 70 machines with extension cords running from the outside walls to the inside walls. It is a hazard and is a very time consuming process for us.

MOTION: AWARDING THE RFP FOR THE ELECTRICAL RECEPTACLE PROJECT AT THE OLD HEALTH CARE FACILITY TO THE LOW BIDDER, PELHAM ELECTRIC FOR \$7,030.00 MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

3. **Roof Leak at County Office Building** – Mr. Hauryski asked is the new roof leaking at the County Office Building? Mr. Partridge replied yes. We had the contractor come in and they found two issues which have been repaired. The roof was under warranty. The drain was iced up and water was ponding and then found a spot in the material to come through. The company will have an inspector come back out and take a look at everything for us. Mr. Alger stated there was leaking around one of the roof penetrations.

B. Planning

1. **Public Hearing on Land Submitted for Inclusion in Certified Agricultural Districts** – Mrs. Dlugos stated it is that time of year again for the annual inclusion of land into certified agricultural districts.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING ON LAND SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS DURING THE 2011 ANNUAL THIRTY-DAY PERIOD MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Application for 5311 Operating Assistance for Public Transportation** – Mrs. Dlugos requested authorization to submit an application for 5311 Operating Assistance for Public Transportation. This is federal money that we apply for every two years. The application includes operating and capital funding.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR 5311 OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. HAURYSKI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

3. **Budget Transfer** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that we had purchased three buses and one shelter and still have \$19,040.00 remaining in the 2009 grant. She requested authorization to create a line item for the 2009 capital grant funding through the 5311 Operating Assistance for Public Transportation in the

amount of \$19,040.00. She stated this funding will be used to purchase two more bus shelters; one to replace the one at the County Office Building, and some signage.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A LINE ITEM FOR 2009 CAPITAL GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE 5311 OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,040.00 MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Steuben County Federation of Conservation Clubs – Mr. Ryan stated that he wanted to provide the committee with a brief update. This committee supports this federation and he wanted to show you where your dollars go. We have done a lot of work on our Federation Building at the Fairgrounds. Our Federation represents twelve different conservation clubs within the County. We have raised over \$500.00 for the Venison Donation Coalition and have also donated money to the Painted Post Field Days and Jake’s Field Days. Last year we paid for three students to attend the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Camp. We are creating a new project to sponsor a Field Day this summer at the Bath Rod & Gun Club and we hope to get some new clubs started. Your money is not going to waste.

Mr. Ryan asked that the committee and Legislature consider a memorializing resolution opposing New York State Senate Bill S2994-2011 providing for the registration of firearms by the owner at the County Clerk’s Office of the county where the owner resides, except in New York City. This is an effort we should fight. The Steuben County Federation of Conservation Clubs will strongly fight against this.

MOTION: OPPOSING NEW YORK STATE SENATE BILL S2994-2011 PROVIDING FOR THE REGISTRATION OF FIREARMS BY THE OWNER AT THE COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE OWNER RESIDES, EXCEPT IN NEW YORK CITY MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

B. Communications – Mr. Creath stated that they received a communication from the State regarding the Brownfield site at Fall Brook. They have recommended moving ahead with the remedial decision.

C. IDA Director – Mrs. Ferratella asked when is the appointment of the new IDA Director effective? Mr. Alger replied June.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Creath opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Hubbard stated that over the past five years, State funding for agriculture has gone from \$15 million to \$1.2 million. All of the programs that we have talked about here, including the Pro-Dairy Program, are now fighting for \$1.2 million in funding. For such a large industry, the State has disproportionately cut funding approximately 90 percent. He stated the Wine and Grape Industry is pushing to be able to sell wine in grocery stores. When they first do that, there will be a tremendous influx of money in the State budget. He stated that he would like to have the Legislature’s support for selling wine in the grocery stores and he will bring more information to the committee regarding this. Mr. Alger commented it would make sense if another bill were proposed. Right now, there are no bills to move that forward.

Mr. Hubbard stated right now with regard to dairy pricing futures, the futures are moderate, but that doesn’t change the basis for pricing. The New York Farm Bureau hasn’t really taken a good stand on this, but does push toward requiring a pricing system that takes into account the cost of production by region. Mr. Hauryski stated Senator Gillibrand introduced new legislation regarding this. You might want to take a look at that. Discussion followed.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1. 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. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

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

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH LIVINGSTON COUNTY TO PROVIDE THEM WITH WEIGHTS & MEASURES SERVICES AT A COST OF \$40,000.00 PER YEAR PLUS NECESSARY EXPENSES RELATED TO THE POSITION MADE BY MR. HAURYSKI. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. *Resolution Required.*

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, April 4, 2011
9:30 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the
Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, March 28, 2011.**

STEUBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE
STEUBEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

Monday, March 28, 2011

9:45 a.m.

Legislative Committee Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair Dan C. Farrand Michael Hanna
Robin Lattimer

Patrick F. McAllister, Chair Carol A. Ferratella Gary B. Roush
Scott J. Van Etten

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler Nancy Smith

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Christopher G. Quinlan Thomas J. Ryan
Brian C. Schu Gary D. Swackhamer John S. Walsh
Randolph J. Weaver

ABSENT: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair (AIP) Lawrence P. Crossett, Vice Chair (Admin)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. GENERAL BUSINESS

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. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0 (4-0 AIP, 4-0 ADMINISTRATION).

MOTION: APPOINTING STEVEN BATES OF BATH, NY, AS DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES MADE BY MR. VAN ETTEN. SECONDED BY MRS. FERRATELLA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0 (4-0 AIP, 4-0 ADMINISTRATION).

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A DEPUTY POSITION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES MADE BY MR. VAN ETTEN. SECONDED BY MR. McALLISTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0 (4-0 AIP, 4-0 ADMINISTRATION).

MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. ROUSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0 (4-0 AIP, 4-0 ADMINISTRATION).

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. VAN ETTEN. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 8-0 (4-0 AIP, 4-0 ADMINISTRATION).

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, April 4, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Donald B. Creath, Chair Michael Hanna	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Robin Lattimer	Dan C. Farrand
STAFF:	Mark R. Alger	Jack Wheeler	Shawn Corey
LEGISLATORS:	Joseph J. Hauryski	Carol A. Ferratella	John S. Walsh
OTHERS:	Mary Perham, <i>The Leader</i>	Karen Hubbard	Robert Popejoy

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 7, 2011, AND MARCH 28, 2011, MEETINGS MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Community Development Block Grant** – Mr. Alger requested authorization for the Planning Department to submit a grant application to the Department of Housing and Community Renewal for a Community Development Block Grant. This is a continuation of what we have been doing for the past few years.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Addition of Agricultural Lands to Certified Agricultural Districts** – Mr. Alger requested approval for the addition of Agricultural Lands to Certified Agricultural Districts. Mr. Hanna asked what is the advantage to doing this? Mr. Alger explained this is a tax advantage for the farmer. The agricultural property is assessed at a reduced value. This also protects the farmers from “governmental action”. For example, if someone wanted to take the property for a utility service or other non-agricultural purpose, it would require a more extensive review prior to that happening.

Mr. Hanna asked what is the impact on the tax roll? Mr. Alger stated it is not significantly that big. The farmer has to meet certain criteria prior to their land being added to an agricultural district. Mr. Nichols commented the tax advantage only applies to the land, not the buildings.

Mr. Popejoy asked is this the same program that they use on Long Island? Mr. Alger replied no. That is a State program for farmland protection. For those properties that are under urban pressure to develop, the municipality can “buy” the development rights for that farm. Essentially, they are paying the farmer to continue to farm.

Mr. Hauryski commented that looking at the annual report from the Real Property Tax Service Agency, the tax impact on agricultural property is \$1.1 million and the agricultural buildings exemption amounts to \$240,000. Discussion followed.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Finger Lakes SPCA – Mr. Farrand commented that Mr. Ryan had sent out a copy of a letter that he had received from the Thurston Town Attorney complaining about the lack of action from the Steuben County Animal Cruelty Officer, Scott Mazzo. Is this something we need to address?

Mr. Alger replied he forwarded this letter to the Finger Lakes SPCA. In addition, Scott Mazzo came in the other day and provided a status update on the issues addressed in the letter. Mr. Alger stated there seems to be a communication issue between the dog control officer and Mr. Mazzo. Ms. Lattimer commented that her impression was that Mr. Mazzo participated in the dog control officer meetings. Mr. Alger stated that Mr. Mazzo does attend some of them. Discussion followed.

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, May 2, 2011
9:30 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the
Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, April 25, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, May 2, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, NY 14810

MINUTES

<u>Committee:</u>	Donald B. Creath, Chair Michael Hanna	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair	Robin K. Lattimer
<u>Legislators:</u>	Joseph J. Hauryski Gary B. Roush	Thomas J. Ryan John Walsh	Randy Weaver Christopher Quinlan Thomas J. Ryan
<u>Staff:</u>	Mark R. Alger William Partridge	Jack Wheeler	Jessica Drake Amy Dlugos
<u>Other:</u>	Jamie Johnson, SCIDA Karen Hubbard, Farm Bureau	Jeff Parker, S&WCD Janet Thigpen, STC RP&D	Mary Perham, <i>Leader</i> Jonathan Barter

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Creath at 9:30 a.m.

II. COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF PUBLIC

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Activity Update** – Mr. Johnson introduced himself as the new Executive Director of the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency, effective 5 weeks ago. Mr. Johnson provided the Committee with information on his background, noting that for the past 13 years, he was Vice President of Chemung County's economic development agency. He stated they had a good support system with Chemung County and he hopes to further that with Steuben.

Mr. Johnson stated over the past two years SCIDA started looking at which direction they wanted to go and they were able to put together an economic development plan. This provided a road map for the future on how we should be focused on different aspects of the county. He started out meeting with the key elected officials and now he's setting up appointments with the major businesses and working his way down the list. The businesses all see room to grow and my job is to not only provide incentives, but to serve as a support network.

Mr. Johnson stated that he's also taking a look at sites for development. He's been working with municipal officials in the western portion of the county and with property owners in the eastern end of the county. One of the other concerns that have been brought to me is the industrial park that the county has allowed the IDA to market over the past 12 years. He would like to discuss the opportunities to extend that. There have been many people looking at it for large scale projects, but I think it is more of a smaller industrial park setting. The fact that the rail line goes through the property is very good. We're working with the rail company to see what it would take to get that rail usable again. Discussion followed.

Mr. Johnson stated he would like to formalize an extension of the County's agreement with SCIDA because, with what's going on in the region, that industrial park is a very important piece to have in our portfolio. He noted that he would like to make this a regular agenda item a few times a year so he can keep the Committee updated.

Mr. Creath recommended he attend this meeting on a quarterly basis, but would give him six months under his belt before he reports to them next. Mr. Johnson stated thank you, and if you have any questions to please call or email him.

Mr. Creath asked that they continue sending the legislators their meeting minutes and notices and also, if you have breaking news that involves any one of our districts, we would like to know about it so we can answer our constituents' questions. Discussion followed.

B. Soil and Water Conservation District

1. **Activity Update** – Mr. Parker introduced Jonathan Barter, who has been working with us in the agriculture and bio-fuel area.

a. **Landfill Grazing Grant** – Mr. Barter stated Steve Orcutt had previously discussed with Jeff Parker the possibility of securing a grant for landfill grazing. It has been in the making for about a year, and the landfill site has been approved by NYSDEC. This is to place small animals (goats/sheep) on the site for grazing. We've received verbal commitment from the Upper Susquehanna Coalition for partial funding, and we submitted a grant application last week. We hope to have it in place by late summer or early fall. He noted approximately 30 acres would be grazed initially, and the landfill is very receptive to expanding this.

Mr. Parker stated it was an interesting concept that we thought we should jump on. Mr. Barter stated that Mr. Orcutt mentioned that there may be a requirement to solicit RFPs from farmers to provide animals for grazing on the landfill. Discussion followed.

b. **Bio-Fuel/Consumer Update** – Mr. Parker stated a letter was put out to area industries, hospitals and schools to determine if there was an interest in a mass bio-fuel type project. We're trying to see if there is a market for this. Mr. Barter stated he is very interested in this industry, so they decided to move forward with it. He provided the Committee with a brief update. Mr. Barter stated Steuben County has the potential for using the underused land and not infringing on good food production land. We hear about bio-mass all of the time. There are many ways to use bio-mass, and with the costs of the energy market, the only way to make it viable is to use it for a heat source. The Benson School District in Pennsylvania is currently using it to heat their schools and I think that precedent is set to begin in this area.

Mr. Barter stated they've received some responses from a couple of area schools, as well as one hospital, some colleges, and the VA in both Canandaigua and Bath. We sent out 40 or 50 mailings and received back 7 very interested groups. If this comes to fruition, those groups would be enough to get the project off of the ground. We've looked at a couple of different sites we just need to put everything in place. He feels they are getting closer and if they get commitments, the project would need to be off the ground by the summer of 2012. Discussion followed.

Mr. Nichols asked how many tons per acre they are looking at. Mr. Barter stated 4 to 6 tons per acre and it doesn't matter what type of grass. Ms. Lattimer asked would this be put into pellets or baled. Mr. Barter stated they would take large bales, cut them down and compress them into 1 ½" cubes. Mr. Creath asked if they have a use for the ash. Mr. Barter stated the boilers are very efficient so there isn't much ash, but it could be used as a soil inhibitor. Discussion followed.

c. **Other Projects** – Mr. Parker provided an update on some of the other projects he's been working on. He noted that the RC & D program has been defunded. We're not sure what is going to happen, but the program can still function as it is a 105.C.3. They just won't have a coordinator.

Mr. Nichols asked about the status of the Chesapeake Bay nutrient management funding. Mr. Parker stated they left our funding alone once they realized what we do with that money. However, we still can't do enough to meet

the milestone, but the EPA has backed off on the agricultural end of it. Ms. Lattimer noted a lawsuit has been filed against the EPA to take them to task.

Mr. Parker stated we have an Agricultural Coordinator with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition who has a really good presentation that would be good for the Legislature if you wish. Discussion followed.

V. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Planning Department

1. **Funding for FEMA Flood Hazard Mapping Project/ Levee Certification** – Mrs. Dlugos stated FEMA is in the process of updated the Flood Insurance Rate maps for the Chemung Watershed and, as a result of the mapping process, the Corps of Engineers and NYS DEC are unwilling to certify any of the levees. Mr. Alger stated the issue began in Chemung County, as they were going to put the entire City of Elmira in the flood zone. As a result, several cities, towns and villages in Steuben County would also be included in the flood zone. What they are doing is remapping the flood plain without the dikes. This would significantly impact what people will have to pay for insurance as it would put everyone into the flood insurance classification.

Mrs. Dlugos stated Janet Thigpen of STC has been working on a flood protection study project. Mr. Alger stated Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties would like to contribute in a joint effort to fund Ms. Thigpen's work on this project. He noted the crux of the problem is the levee issue, as nobody will certify the levees. Ms. Dlugos requested authorization to transfer \$10,000 from her personal services line item to STC to pay Steuben County's share of the study. Discussion followed.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$10,000 FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S PERSONAL SERVICES LINE ITEM TO STC REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR STEUBEN COUNTY'S SHARE OF THE FLOOD PROTECTION STUDY'S COST MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND UNITED STATES CONGRESS RELATIVE TO THE CERTIFICATION OF FLOOD CONTROL LEVEES FOR FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Farm City Day 2011** – Mrs. Dlugos announced the 2011 Farm City Day will be at the Cliff Moss VanWie Dairy Farm, on Thursday, September 22nd.

B. County Administrator

1. **Empire Zone Contract** – Mr. Alger requested authorization to renew the contract with the Hornell Empire Zone.

MOTION: RENEWING THE CONTRACT WITH THE HORNELL EMPIRE ZONE MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Mr. Creath noted the Hall of Fame induction was held Saturday. It went well and they had one living inductee present at the ceremony.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda K. Mori, Clerk of the Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, June 6, 2011 @ 9:30 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, June 6, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair Dan C. Farrand K. Michael Hanna
Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler William J. Partridge
Amy Dlugos

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Thomas J. Ryan John S. Walsh
Randolph J. Weaver

ABSENT: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair

OTHERS: Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Devin Snyder of Cohocton, who was killed in action in Afghanistan.

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **HVAC Speed Drive Quotes** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they had requested quotes for the replacement of the HVAC speed drive. They received four quotes, however, after receiving the quotes, three included a bypass and one did not. The specifications did not include a bypass, and should have as we do want one. He requested authorization to reject the quotes and request new proposals which will include the specification for a bypass.

MOTION: REJECTING THE QUOTES FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE HVAC SPEED DRIVE AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO REQUEST NEW PROPOSALS, INCLUDING THE SPECIFICATION FOR A BYPASS, MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Planning

1. **Designating Tourism Promotion Agency** – Mrs. Dlugos requested authorization to designate the Steuben County Conference and Visitors' Bureau as the official tourism promotion agency for the county.

This designation allows the Conference and Visitors' Bureau to apply for and receive matching grant funds from the State. Mr. Creath commented he feels we need to work to preserve the Conference and Visitors' Bureau as they are a great agency and do great things for the County.

MOTION: DESIGNATING THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE AND VISITORS' BUREAU AS THE OFFICIAL TOURISM PROMOTION AGENCY FOR STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

Mr. Farrand asked did you ever find out what happened to the "Welcome to Steuben County" signs on the Interstate? Mrs. Dlugos replied the signs were taken down as the standards for Interstate signs were changed, and the signs no longer met the standards. Mr. Farrand commented if we could get those signs back, we could use them on the County roads.

C. Administrator

1. **Cell Phone Request – Weights & Measures** – Mr. Alger requested approval of a cell phone for the new Assistant Sealer, Langdon Holmes.

MOTION: APPROVING THE CELL PHONE REQUEST FOR LANGDON HOLMES, ASSISTANT SEALER, DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE** Thursday, July 7, 2011 @ 9:30 a.m. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, June 27, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 7, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand K. Michael Hanna
Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler William J. Partridge
Amy Dlugos Nancy Smith Jim Gleason
Shawn Corey

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Carol A. Ferratella John S. Walsh

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath, Chair

OTHERS: Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Jane Davis, Steuben County Mobility Manager
Janet Marie Skinner

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Ms. Lattimer to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Nichols opened the floor for comments by members of the public.

Janet Marie Skinner stated that she recently spent two weeks in Texas, in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and while there, learned about fracking. In Texas, they have been doing fracking for a long time. They are concerned that because fracking has been going on for so long, they are getting quite a few small earthquakes. We are located in the northern portion of the Finger Lakes and we are located on a fault. If we start messing around with the ground, what will happen here? What if we start having earthquakes?

Mr. Nichols thanked Ms. Skinner for her comments and declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. DEPARTMENT REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **HVAC Speed Drive Quotes** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee they received three quotes. He recommended awarding to the lowest bidder, Day Automation for \$23,540.00.

MOTION: AWARDING THE QUOTE FOR THE HVAC SPEED DRIVE TO THE LOW BIDDER, DAY AUTOMATION OUT OF ROCHESTER, NY FOR \$23,540.00 MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Planning

1. **Potential Transportation Funding – JARC** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that they recently received a request from a temporary employment agency to provide transportation to low-income workers to a job site. The State gave short notice of a grant to fund that type of activity via their JARC (Job Access & Reverse Commute) grant. If we were to do this, we would be extending our current bus routes to run earlier in the morning and later in the afternoon in order to take people from Bath to Demet, Sitel, and other employment opportunities.

Mr. Farrand asked how will this affect our current routes? Mrs. Dlugos replied they are working with First Transit to see if we can do this with a minimal amount of disruption to the route. First Transit can apply directly for these grant funds. She stated that she is working with Ms. Davis, Steuben County Mobility Manager, and they are trying to get the application in by July 19th. We have had some concern about how long-term this would be as the funding may not continue. Also, there is a 50 percent match required. We are looking to see if this is doable. Mrs. Dlugos stated that she is looking for the committee's support for this application whether it is submitted by First Transit or the Institute for Human Services.

Ms. Lattimer asked how do they determine ridership? Mrs. Dlugos replied they are looking at the employers in the area and also in Chemung County. The public routes are open to anybody. This funding is most beneficial to those that are trying to get to work.

Mr. Alger explained the request was to see if Steuben County could duplicate what Chemung County is doing. They had indicated they had several people that would be able to be employed, but for the transportation issue. Some of those people are clients of ours. The company knows how many individuals there are from this area. The real issue is these are temporary jobs and can that support the transportation system.

MOTION: SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION BY EITHER FIRST TRANSIT OR THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES FOR JARC (JOB ACCESS & REVERSE COMMUTE) FUNDING IF IT WILL BE ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE MADE BY MR. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

C. Administrator

1. **Personnel** – Mr. Alger stated they are in the process of looking at the vacant Carpenter position in Buildings & Grounds. They would like to reclassify that to a Building Maintenance Mechanic which would be a grade lower. Ms. Smith commented reclassifying the position would give them more flexibility to do more jobs. Mr. Alger stated this is currently vacant and we haven't talked about when or if we will fill the position.

MOTION: RECLASSIFYING A VACANT GRADE X CARPENTER POSITION TO A GRADE IX BUILDING MAINTENANCE MECHANIC POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **Lease on County Farm** – Mr. Alger informed the committee that the lease on the County Farm expired a year or two ago. When Jamie Johnson came on as IDA Director, he suggested that we look at the lease. The IDA has a new proposal which would give them more flexibility on how the property could be used. Mr. Alger stated that he would like to look at this proposal and bring it back next month for the committee's review.

Mr. Hanna asked what would we use the property for? Mr. Alger replied anything at this point. The IDA has the ability to market the property for business. It is a tough location. Mr. Corey asked was the property deeded to the IDA? Mr. Alger replied technically the IDA owns the property. The timeframe allows us to petition the Supreme Court to get the land back if we choose. If we continue, they would like to change the wording to give the IDA more flexibility with regard to the type of development that could occur on that property. They would like to look at renewable energy and support industries.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. **Natural Gas Storage Facility, Woodhull, NY** – Mr. Farrand informed the committee that he and a number of constituents in Woodhull, Rathbone, Troupsburg and Tuscarora, recently received a letter from Dominion Resources Services, Inc. This letter stated that they will be expanding their gas storage facility in Woodhull. Currently, landowners receive \$3.00 per acre and the farmers who receive that money count on that to keep them afloat. If they expand the storage facility, some of the farmers will have to sell. Mr. Farrand stated that maybe this committee could get involved. He doesn't believe that any County property would be involved.

Mr. Corey stated that he thinks there are a couple of parcels of County land as they received the same letter. Mr. Nichols stated we don't know if Dominion will still pay \$3.00 per acre or if they will do eminent domain to get the additional land. Mr. Corey stated that the tone of the letter was that they would like to avoid eminent domain. We don't know what the fair market value is determined at.

Ms. Lattimer asked how many leaseholders does this affect? Mr. Farrand replied hundreds. He stated that he felt this was something that he should bring to the committee's attention. Mr. Hauryski stated if the County has an interest, can we research this? Then we can entertain discussion with representatives from the company as to what they are looking for. We have questions that need to get answered first. Ms. Lattimer agreed with Mr. Hauryski that we have time to research this. Discussion followed.

B. **STC Report on the Impacts of Natural Gas Drilling on Tourism** – Mr. Hauryski stated that the members of the AIP Committee have been provided copies of STC's report entitled "Natural Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale: Potential Impacts on the Tourism Economy of the Southern Tier". He commented the committee should find it of interest for future reference.

C. **Meeting Changes for August and September** – Mr. Nichols stated that Mr. Hauryski had asked that the AIP Committee consider changing the times of their meetings due to the fact that budget presentations will be made at the August and September meetings.

The committee agreed to reschedule the August meeting for Monday, August 1, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. and the September meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 2011, at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE** Monday, August 1, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, July 25, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, August 1, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Donald B. Creath, Chair K. Michael Hanna	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Robin K. Lattimer	Dan C. Farrand
STAFF:	Mark R. Alger William J. Partridge	Jack Wheeler James Gleason	Amy Dlugos Shawn Corey
LEGISLATORS:	Joseph J. Hauryski Gary B. Roush	Carol A. Ferratella Thomas J. Ryan	Christopher G. Quinlan John S. Walsh
OTHERS:	Tom Tomsa, Cornell Cooperative Extension Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation District James Johnson, Executive Director, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Creath opened the floor for comments by members of the public.

Mr. Ryan stated that he received an email that he believes concerns this committee regarding an amendment to the Agriculture Law that refers to a requirement for fire suppression systems in buildings containing animals. If this goes through, what do you with the County Fair? You would have to have a fire suppression system and it would need to be hardwired to the fire department. Mr. Farrand looked at the email and stated that it is Bill S7964 and currently does not have a companion bill. Mr. Creath referred this email to staff to review.

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 7, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Mr. Tomsa distributed copies of his presentation materials. He stated they are requesting \$365,000 for 2012, which is the same level as the previous two years. Every County dollar we receive is matched by approximately \$2.00 from outside services to provide programming in Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Nutrition and Food Safety, Family Financial Management and Home Energy Efficiency. Mr. Tomsa reviewed their strategic plan priorities, renewable energy development and their 2012 proposed budget.

Mr. Farrand asked on your budget it shows rental income. What is that from? Mr. Tomsa replied they have five rental units (apartments) in two buildings. That is part of our strategy to try to increase our revenue in other ways.

Mr. Farrand stated that he would like to commend Mr. Tomsa for keeping his request at the same level, but he thinks that Cornell Cooperative Extension will need to look at a 10 percent cut. Mr. Creath asked what would be the impact of a 10 percent cut on your ability to leverage dollars from other sources? Mr. Tomsa replied there are certain programs where the salary dollars are coming from outside programs. Our salaries are dependent on the County's funding for the agricultural programs and 4-H programs. He can say in general it would impact our agricultural staff and 4-H staff.

Mr. Farrand commented that he doesn't see us being able to maintain the same levels as last year. He stated that he cannot vote for a budget this size without some cuts. He thinks that all of the departments will have to take cuts. Mr. Nichols stated we don't know all of the numbers yet. Mr. Farrand stated that he is going to request that everyone cut their budgets. Mr. Nichols stated Cooperative Extension is the outlet for information for the largest industry in the County.

Mr. Hauryski stated that he sees where Mr. Farrand is coming from, however, he agrees with what Mr. Nichols is saying. We are early in this game of trying to figure out where we will end up with the budget. These are budget presentations. We need to move through the presentations and we also need to learn more about the 2 percent tax cap. He stated that he foresees a whole new ballgame when it comes to the budget. The budget will be a major task of this Legislature and we are faced with some of the most difficult decisions. There is no use arguing where the dollars are going to be cut from at this time.

Mrs. Ferratella asked with regard to your postage, what does that entail? Can you substitute email or a website for mailings? Mr. Tomsa replied we try to force people to use email or the website when we can. There are a lot of people who still choose to receive hard copies.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Mr. Parker presented his 2012 budget request to the committee. Their total budget for 2012 is \$586,274.89. Currently the County's appropriation is 26 percent of our total budget. There is a \$173,000 increase in our 2012 budget, mainly due to added programs. He requested an increase in the County's share, which for 2012 will be \$152,426.00.

Mr. Creath asked what is the \$3,000 increase attributed to? Mr. Parker replied there is a 2 percent increase over the appropriations from last year. This additional \$3,000 will also be used to cover the 1 percent raises that our employees are generally given. In addition, we have a truck that will need to be replaced. We also have been asked by the Federal government to hire two additional people as Steuben County has the highest workload in the State. Mr. Parker explained for every dollar you give us, we give you \$13.00 back. Last year we brought approximately \$3.8 million into the County last year. We are not looking at reducing staff. If we reduced our staff we would lose our ability to bring in funding and our workload is increasing.

Mr. Creath asked have you absorbed what RC&D used to do? Mr. Parker replied that in addition to assisting DOT and the DEC, he, along with his secretary and Mrs. Dlugos, will have to pick up some of the slack and administer their grants. It is unfortunate that we lost Dick Winnett. Mrs. Dlugos stated that the RC&D council has formed a committee to look at options to be able to continue to get grants. Discussion followed.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY THE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Activities Update** – Mr. Johnson informed the committee that they are in the process of updating their website. It has been a pleasure these last three months and he has traveled to businesses in Canisteo,

Arkport, Wayland and every place in between. He has met with the majority of large manufacturing businesses in the County. He still has not been able to connect with Poly-O or World Kitchen. Surprisingly, companies have been quietly hiring people. Gunlocke has added 100 new positions since the beginning of the year. They are expanding and they could be talking about adding physical space. Many companies are doing business.

Mr. Johnson stated that he is also meeting with the second tier businesses with large numbers of employees that are not manufacturing such as hospitals. In addition, we are also looking at sites and talking to business owners and with property owners from Erwin to Wayland. In a couple of weeks the IDA is announcing that they will be the lead agent on the SEQR process in Wayland. There is a proposal to develop a multi-tenant business development center right off from I390. This is an opportunity for us to submit proposals for a couple of projects. This is a good process to go through as we will have gotten the necessary information to be ready for the next project if this one does not go through.

Mr. Johnson stated there has been interest in the County's farm. There has been real interest generated from the railroad. Rail is an increasingly important commodity. We have just completed a rail study and that will be presented to the County. We have looked at the rail from Bath to Pleasant Valley; which is the same rail that was used to bring in the cells for the Jail project. It will cost \$2.5 million to get the rail project activated. That is based on working with Mercury Aircraft and Pleasant Valley. There may be enough project revenue to support the railroad. To get the rail operational from Bath to the County farm will cost approximately \$500,000 and that work could be completed in about a week. Mr. Johnson stated a lot of the interest in this property has been for rail type projects. We have talked with a metal fabricating company as well as a power company. They would not generate a lot of jobs, but we could situate them in the back corner of the property, which would still allow us to have space for another developer.

Mr. Johnson stated one proposal he would like to bring to the committee for consideration is an extension on the County farm agreement. This agreement expired two years ago. He would propose that we look at another 10-year extension and also look at changing the allowable uses. The allowable uses would be the same as identified in the strategic plan. We have also included a clause which states any other non-allowable use can be brought forward for consideration. We have to be smart about how we move forward and with how we site the property.

Mr. Johnson stated the second proposal he would like the committee to consider involves changes to the LDC (local development corporation). Currently, the IDA is a separate organization under the Steuben Area Economic Development Corporation. This was formed 30 years ago and nothing has been done with that organization. At the time, it was formed to protect the interests of the IDA. Several years ago the IDA was allowed to help with bond financing for not-for-profit projects. The legislation that allowed that expired several years ago. LDC's can do tax exempt bond financing if they are working on behalf of a municipal agent. Mr. Johnson stated that a couple of weeks ago, our Board approved a resolution requesting the County to take over as the sole member of the LDC. By doing that, we then act as an agent of the County and could do tax exempt bonds. We have three projects that represent approximately a \$200 million investment in our community. Mr. Johnson explained, right now the IDA is an agent of the County. We are not making any changes other than the County being the sole member and appointing members to the LDC. This is more of a legal and administrative change.

Mr. Quinlan asked this is a not-for-profit corporation. Is there any advantage or disadvantage to creating a LLC? Mr. Johnson replied there is really no downside to the County doing this. He stated that the downside of creating a new entity is that you are adding another layer of reporting to our agency. We don't have to go through the process of incorporating another not-for-profit. There may be other opportunities to use that organization. We have talked about the formation of a land bank. This would allow a municipality to take property off the tax roll without paying the back taxes and incorporate that into a land bank group. We had talked about the LDC serving as the land bank. Our Board acted on our resolution and he requested this committee consider this resolution as well. Mr. Johnson commented it has been a very busy three months. There are projects out there and we are educating businesses that there is assistance available.

Mr. Creath asked would the LDC fund a not-for-profit hospital? Mr. Johnson replied possibly. There are legal mechanisms. The bonds come from financial institutions and are funneled through the LDC and are tax exempt.

Mr. Nichols asked what happens if the financial institution fails? Are you responsible for the bonds? Mr. Johnson replied no.

Mr. Creath asked will there be an advantage for the business development center in Wayland? Mr. Johnson replied the great advantage will be project readiness. We are a little behind and prospective developers are looking for something that is shovel ready. We haven't yet gone through SEQR. We have taken a large step in that development. We have found a developer who is willing to pay cash and partner with us to develop this. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Ferratella asked are you working with Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Three Rivers Development? Mr. Johnson replied yes, there are a number of things we are working on. One project is the Southern Tier Fiber Initiative. That will be a huge plus for us. This fiber ring will align nicely with the project in Wayland. We have a good partnership with both STC and Three Rivers.

Mr. Alger stated that he would recommend this committee approve the proposed changes to the LDC and forward to the Legislature for their approval.

MOTION: APPROVING THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION WHEREBY STEUBEN COUNTY WOULD BE NAMED THE SOLE MEMBER OF SAID CORPORATION MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

Mr. Alger recommended the committee approve the extension of the contract between the County and the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency for an additional ten years and amending the contract to expand the allowable uses.

MOTION: APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF STEUBEN AND STEUBEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE COUNTY FARM FOR AN ADDITIONAL TEN YEARS AND AMENDING THE CONTRACT TO EXPAND THE ALLOWABLE USES MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

Mr. Johnson thanked the committee and the Planning Department for providing them with a lot of support.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Commencing the Review Period for Agricultural Districts No. 6, 13, 18 and 22** – Mrs. Dlugos stated they are condensing these four districts into one district. These districts are located in Campbell, Rathbone, Tuscarora and Erwin. She requested authorization to commence the review on Agricultural Districts No. 6, 13, 18 and 22.

MOTION: COMMENCING THE REVIEW PERIOD FOR AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS NO. 6, 13, 18 AND 22 MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (MR. FARRAND ABSENT FOR VOTE). Resolution Required.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Room Tax Exclusion** – Mr. Alger stated it appears that in order to enact this, we would need specific State authorization to do it. The timeframe is in the State statute. We would need to ask the State's permission to do this with a Home Rule Request. At this point, there is no indication that this has been a problem. The definition in room tax law indicates that ours is 30 days and we would be amending that section of law. Mr. Alger stated at some point we will need to look at what exclusions we want to stay with. We will need to include language that makes it more flexible for us.

Mr. Alger stated our stays were up 19 percent and room tax was up 15 percent. At this point this is not hurting us at all. The tendency for the employees of the drill companies is to stay for a week and then leave, so they are paying room tax.

Whether we end up needing to do this is still questionable. This is nothing we need to act on today. We should start thinking about what we want to change it to.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE** Monday, September 12, 2011 @ 1:00 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, August 29, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

*Monday, September 12, 2011
1:00 p.m.
Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair K. Michael Hanna Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler Amy Dlugos
Alan Reed

LEGISLATORS: Carol A. Ferratella Christopher G. Quinlan Gary B. Roush

ABSENT: Donald B. Creath, Chair Dan C. Farrand

OTHERS: Gini Lupi, The ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes
Morgen McLaughlin, Finger Lakes Wine Country
Cindy Kimble, Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance
Peggy Coleman, Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau
Jan Eberling, Member SCCVB Board of Directors

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

III. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. The ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Ms. Lupi distributed presentation materials for review. She stated The ARTS is a multi-county arts council primarily serving Steuben, Schuyler and Chemung counties. We are partially supported by the New York State Council on The Arts. We assist arts, cultural and community organizations, individual artists, and schools to enrich our communities, educate our children, enhance the economy, and increase tourism. Support from Steuben County and other sources support our service provision throughout the region. As in the past, The ARTS' 2012 proposal focuses on services and activities that directly and positively impact tourism and quality of life in Steuben County. Ms. Lupi requested continued annual funding in the amount of \$30,200. Discussion followed.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY THE ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICE FOR REVIEW MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

B. Finger Lakes Wine Country

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Ms. McLaughlin distributed presentation materials for review. She stated that Finger Lakes Wine Country is a four-county tourism marketing organization. We receive room tax funding from Steuben, Schuyler, Chemung and Yates counties which is matched by Corning Enterprises. The remaining third of our funding comes from the private sector. In 2010 we saw a strong return on investment and for every \$1.00 invested, the return on investment has been \$40.00. She explained the vast majority of their

funding dollars is used toward media relations and media buying. Our mission is promoting economic development and to do that, we target out of the area. We work closely with the Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau and the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance. Our region has done very well during the economic recession.

Mr. Nichols asked about the funding from the four counties. Ms. McLaughlin stated that currently they receive \$70,000 from Chemung, \$60,000 from Schuyler, \$40,000 from Yates and \$100,000 from Steuben. This year we are requesting \$80,000 from Chemung County as they are seeing strong accommodations there. Mr. Nichols commented Chemung has a lot of room and he would like to see them closer to our appropriation. Ms. McLaughlin explained each county has different dynamics. Between the four counties we have amazing resources; an airport, hotels, cultural attractions, wine and State parks. Mr. Nichols asked is Corning Enterprises at their limit with the \$284,000? Ms. McLaughlin replied they have budgeted \$284,000. Historically, that amount has grown over time as we originally started at \$250,000. They are in a good financial position now and there is some flexibility. Discussion followed.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

C. Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Ms. Kimble distributed presentation materials for review. Ms. Kimble informed the committee that their organization has been in existence for 92 plus years and is one of the oldest destination organizations in the nation. We cover 14 counties and over 9,000 square miles. We work really hard with our partners to make sure we are not duplicating efforts. Our goal and objective is to continue to grow tourism. She requested 2012 funding in the amount of \$11,500. The objectives of our marketing initiatives are to attract and drive market share to the Finger Lakes region, which includes Steuben County. We concentrate our marketing on the drive markets within a 300 – 500 mile radius. Programs are assessed for effectiveness based on their return on investment as well as the overall growth in tourism for the region. Our priorities continue to be increasing visitation and increasing expenditures per party. These marketing initiatives are financed by private sector partners and county funding investments.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY THE FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

D. Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Ms. Coleman stated that they developed a mobile app and she passed around a phone to demonstrate. In addition they also had an insert in the AAA travel book and had an ad on the inside back cover. This year the Wineglass Marathon is celebrating its 30th year and they have 3,200 runners registered. The event will be held on October 2, 2011. We helped the organization update the website and we also sponsored the race bags that all runners will receive. There are 2,000 runners signed up for the full marathon and 1,200 for the half marathon. The medals are glass sun catchers.

Ms. Coleman stated that Hammondsport was named by Finger Lakes Wine Country as one of the coolest small towns. Corning has also ranked in the top ten small urban cities in the United States for the last 20 years. That doesn't happen without the activities and support of The ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes.

Ms. Coleman distributed presentation materials for review. Despite the media hype about high gas prices we saw increased travel. The return on investment is that the real property tax savings per household in Steuben County equaled \$383.42. In 2009 tourism generated sales tax to Steuben County in the amount of \$14,980,728. Compared to other CVB's of similar budgets, 73 percent of our budget goes into marketing and 27 percent goes into personnel and overhead. Ms. Coleman stated that with regard to occupancy tax collections, we saw the biggest growth in the first two quarters. She stated that she is forecasting a 10 percent increase over last year, which is conservative. She stated that for 2011 they are estimating collecting \$955,000.

Ms. Coleman stated they are forecasting a surplus this year. Last year we did not expect to receive matching grant funds from the State, but they came through mid-year. For 2012, she is requesting \$698,398. By having a surplus and maintaining the same level of funding from the County as last year, we can continue to grow.

Mrs. Ferratella asked will the State's contribution stay stable? Ms. Coleman replied she does not see it growing, it could potentially decrease. She stated she budgeted that amount as remaining flat.

Mr. Nichols stated there was a 12 percent increase in occupancy. How much of that is related to gas drilling? Ms. Coleman replied with the gas drilling we are talking about long-term stays. Most of the gas drilling is predominantly on the pipelines. They will be leaving by mid-November if the weather holds out. The maximum was 10 percent and that had a small impact on us. With regard to the impact of natural gas drilling, we have been working with the lodging partners and trying to be proactive. We have regular corporate business and big events and we need to have rooms available to support the economy. We are looking at strategic growth and asking our partners to be smart so there can be a secondary use.

Mr. Nichols asked is there enough business in the area to draw enough tourists to maintain a convention center? Ms. Coleman replied we do not right now have the capacity for having a convention center. We could support a convention center three or four times a year, but there would not be the demand to facilitate keeping it. Mr. Nichols asked how are we with regards to our room tax? He stated that he knows it varies from county to county and that we are at 4 percent. Ms. Coleman replied we are middle of the road for New York.

Ms. Coleman stated that she would like to express her appreciation and that one of the things she finds is that this group understands the impact of tourism and on behalf of all of us, we truly appreciate that. Mr. Nichols stated we appreciate all that you do. You have good partnership. Mr. Quinlan commented there is a more distant benefit that you don't always see. The impact is there.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE 2012 BUDGET REQUEST AS PRESENTED BY THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Grant Approval – Community Development Block Grant** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that this grant is through Arbor Development for the well and septic system replacement. It will be November before we will know about the grant. We have an excellent track record with this grant and we have a waiting list. Hopefully we will get approval.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Room Tax** – Mr. Alger stated that we been looking at legislation, however, we are not seeing any that have an unlimited timeframe. Long-term stays, after a certain time frame, usually about 90 days, they are considered residents. Our time frame is currently at 30 days. You could extend that to 90 days. We will do a little more research on this. Mr. Nichols stated extending it to 90 days would help. Mr. Alger stated there is no rush because we wouldn't be able to introduce this to the State Legislature until January. Then it probably would not get approved until June. Mr. Quinlan asked has the Housing Subcommittee determined who we are looking at? Mr. Alger replied that is part of the debate. Chemung County is not seeing long-term stays as an issue. It may not be an issue. Mr. Nichols asked are they at 30 days? Mr. Alger replied he believes so. Discussion followed.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, October 3, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, September 26, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, October 3, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Dan C. Farrand
K. Michael Hanna Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler William J. Partridge
Amy Dlugos James Gleason Shawn Corey

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Carol A. Ferratella Christopher G. Quinlan
Gary B. Roush Thomas J. Ryan Randolph J. Weaver

OTHERS: Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Andrea Prete, Hornell Area Arts Council

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 FROM THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (MR. NICHOLS ABSENT FOR VOTE)

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Sprinkler System Repair Bid** – Mr. Partridge informed the committee that they had put out one bid for the sprinkler system repair for the four front buildings as well as the Human Services Building. We received one bid from Davis-Ulmer for \$180,030 and they are subcontracting with Frey & Campbell. He recommended not awarding the bid at this time as he would like to contact Hunt Engineers to look at other options. In the meantime, Mr. Gleason will contact the other people that did not respond to see if there is something in the bid specifications that needs to be changed.

Mr. Partridge explained one option for the Human Services Building is we did a code search and that building does not require a sprinkler system per code. That is a decision that would need to be made by this committee. If we opt to not repair the sprinkler system, it would need to be removed. The bid came back at \$67,000 for the sprinkler repairs for the four front buildings and the remaining \$113,000 for the Human Services Building. Mr. Farrand asked is the \$67,000 for the four front buildings worth it? Mr. Partridge replied that he thinks there are other options that would be less expensive.

Mr. Alger stated we are in the process of looking for less expensive options. The Human Services Building is county-owned and we rent the building to ProAction for a nominal fee. We maintain responsibility for the roof,

heating system, sprinklers, electrical, elevator and boilers. Because of the nature of the building, the center core is concrete with steel I-beams. The two wings are wood frame. The sprinkler systems ¾” lines are clogged and we are looking at whether to replace those lines with 1” lines. We did not anticipate this being both a sprinkler and plumbing bid. At the very least, we should split them as we would get a better price for the plumbing bid.

MOTION: REJECTING THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM REPAIR BID MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (MR. NICHOLS ABSENT FOR VOTE)

V. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Hornell Area Arts Council

1. **2012 Budget Presentation** – Ms. Prete introduced herself as the President of the Hornell Area Arts Council. The mission of the Hornell Area Arts Council is to promote the arts in the greater Hornell region, to present a variety of arts events and art opportunities and to create a greater awareness of the value of the arts. Last year they requested \$10,000 and this year they are requesting \$8,500. Of that funding, \$2,200 will be used for marketing and the remaining will be used to sponsor various events.

Mr. Creath asked do you get any other outside revenue? Ms. Prete replied the only other revenue is what they can get in donations. Mr. Hanna asked what is the tie-in with the Arts of the Southern Finger Lakes? Mr. Alger replied both programs coordinate, but they are two separate areas. The Arts of the Southern Finger Lakes doesn't necessarily do the same things that the Hornell Area Arts Council does. There is no overlap. Mr. Creath commented we support this through room tax revenue. Arts is a big industry and we need to keep supporting them. Discussion followed.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE HORNELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL 2012 BUDGET AS PRESENTED AND FORWARDING TO THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR REVIEW MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. *Finger Lakes Watersheds* – Mr. Hanna distributed information regarding the Keuka Lake Watershed. In Yates County, the watershed takes up 65 percent of their land, while in Steuben County it is 5 – 6 percent. Currently Keuka Lake is an AA classified water body. They would like to go to a Class A. Mr. Farrand commented Class C requires permits to do work, however, Class D do not. Mr. Creath commented the DEC report has stated that there will be no drilling closer than 2,000 feet. Mr. Hanna stated that he doesn't think there should be any drilling in the watershed at all. Mr. Creath commented that he wonders if the 2,000 foot restriction would apply to the feeder streams.

Mr. Hanna stated that another area of concern is for the agricultural districts. As you can see by the map, Yates County has numerous agricultural districts in the watershed. There has been increased demand for organic produce and business has really expanded for these farmers. Yates County had worked on a resolution previously and now has expanded that to include what the DEC has done for the watersheds in Syracuse and New York City. He stated that Yates County is looking for our support. At this point in time, he stated that he doesn't think the DEC will make the Keuka Lake Watershed an exemption.

Mr. Farrand commented that the Natural Gas Task Force was set up to have the County look at everything. He doesn't think the County should impose no drilling in the towns around the lake; that should be a decision that the towns themselves make and he cannot support this resolution.

Mr. Quinlan commented the Town of Dryden is being sued for banning drilling as it is not a regulation. The question goes to whether the towns can regulate something that is assumed by the State. He stated that he would be wary of any towns passing ordinances. With regard to this proposed resolution, he believes there are a lot of misstatements and he also would not be able to support it. There is also the question about potential litigation. We are hearing a lot from the wineries, but we have not heard anything from the landowners. The resolution is well-intended to protect the natural resources, but he is not sure about the legality.

Mr. Creath stated the Natural Gas Task Force was set up to help facilitate a response to drilling should it happen here. Mr. Alger explained the task force was charged with preparing in the event of drilling coming here and looking at the potential impacts to the area as well as the types of issues that may arise.

Mr. Quinlan asked Mr. Hanna with regard to the waterfront properties, the price of those properties may increase if they ban drilling in the watershed, but what will happen to those properties that are not on the lake? Mr. Hanna replied if there is drilling within the watershed, property values will decrease. Mr. Quinlan commented there would be no value for the mineral rights. That would be the difference between having property on the waterfront or not. Ms. Lattimer commented it will be a balancing act. Nobody wants to preclude a property owner's rights.

Mr. Hanna stated that environmentally, he feels that the drilling needs to stay out of the watershed. Most of the towns in Yates County have put in place moratoriums. The Towns of Pulteney, Urbana and Wayne are in the process of discussing that. Mr. Weaver stated that he agrees with Mr. Hanna and that for the sake of the people around the lake, the risk of contamination far outweighs the financial benefits. He doesn't think that it is safe if they won't tell you what they are putting in the water.

Mr. Nichols stated the problem with legislation like this is you are basically taking the people's mineral rights away from them. He has a problem with that. If you want to take them away and not allow drilling in the watershed, then you need to compensate the property owners for the loss of their mineral rights. No one wants the water destroyed and we need to wait and see what the DEC says. Mr. Nichols stated that before he would support this resolution, he would want to see how you would compensate the landowners.

Ms. Lattimer stated that she talks with farm families regularly and they feel they might lose their family farms because they cannot make it any more and have parked all of their hopes on gas drilling. Mr. Nichols stated nobody wants the lake ruined, but if you take the mineral rights away, then somebody needs to come up with the cash to pay those landowners.

Mr. Roush stated that with regard to contamination, surface spills are a possibility right now. The primary risk is not the drilling itself, as that is occurring one mile below the ground. The problem is the potential surface contamination. Mr. Hanna stated you cannot guarantee that it is safe to drill around the lake.

Mr. Quinlan asked does the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) deal with hydrofracking? What are we looking at with regard to this resolution going forward with the Trent Black River Shale and the Utica Shale? Is this banning just hydrofracking or all gas exploration? This resolution calls for treating the Finger Lakes watersheds the same as Syracuse and New York City. Mr. Hanna replied initially it is banning everything. The purpose is to push the gas companies and the DEC to look at new technology to make gas exploration safer.

Mr. Creath stated there is a bigger societal problem; do you drill for natural resources and utilize them to continue and/or sustain your standard of living. If you cut back on exploring for natural resources, you have to cut back on your standard of living. He stated that he was a chemical engineer for DuPont and in his time doing that, he realized that anything you take out of the ground or the air cannot be replaced and it interrupts the balance of nature. How do you restore a gravel pit? You can't and that changes the balance of nature. Society is not willing to give up the economical impact. It is a dilemma. Mr. Creath stated that he really is neutral on this. Discussion followed.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Amanda L. Chapman, Deputy Clerk, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, November 7, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, October 31, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, November 7, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Donald B. Creath, Chair Dan C. Farrand K. Michael Hanna
Robin K. Lattimer

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Amy Dlugos Twila O'Dell
Alan Reed

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Lawrence P. Crossett Carol A. Ferratella
Christopher G. Quinlan Thomas J. Ryan

ABSENT: Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair

OTHERS: Karen Hubbard, Steuben County Farm Bureau

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 OCTOBER 3, 2011, MEETING MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

A. Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Chesapeake Bay TMDL** – Mr. Parker informed the committee that we have been dealing with this issue for a number of years. They have decided what our goals are to be in this part of the watershed. We are working on trying to appease DEC, which is the lead agency which reports to the EPA. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in this part of the watershed believe that some of the “reduction amounts” that the EPA is asking us to do are unachievable. Mr. Parker stated that he is proposing the Legislature pass a resolution that will express our feelings on this.

Mr. Farrand commented one of the problems is that the TMDL requirements will cost the municipalities a fortune to upgrade their sewer systems. This will affect almost every community in the County who is in the watershed. Discussion followed.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THAT NEW YORK STATE SHALL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO THE REGULATIONS UNDER THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL AS THE WATERS LEAVING NEW YORK STATE MEET FEDERAL WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Activities Update** – Mr. Parker provided the committee with an update on the Streambank Stabilization Program. We receive \$75,000 per year to work on private and municipal projects. This year we have completed 18 projects which cost approximately \$100,000. The district also qualified for three projects through FEMA for approximately \$60,000.

3. **Biomass Project Update** – Mr. Parker informed the committee that the feasibility study for the biomass project is underway. We have put together a draft business plan. He stated that they received funding through a USDA grant to do the feasibility study. Once we finish our business plan then we can apply for a USDA Rural Development Grant. We are making good progress.

4. **Flood Plain Designations** – Mr. Hauryski stated that at a recent Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board (STCRPD) meeting they had a presentation on changing the flood plain designations. Is this something your agency is involved in? Mr. Parker replied not yet. Mr. Alger commented the issue is that FEMA is no longer using dikes as flood protection as nobody will certify them. Ms. Lattimer stated if you let them have their way, everything will be in a flood plain and that will impact economic development as well as flood insurance requirements, mortgages, etc.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Historian

1. **Hall of Fame Banquet** – Ms. O'Dell requested authorization to transfer \$1,200 from the Bicentennial Account to pay for the annual Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$1,200 FROM THE BICENTENNIAL ACCOUNT TO THE COUNTY HISTORIAN FOR THE HALL OF FAME INDUCTION LUNCHEON MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. County Administrator

1. **Room Tax** – Mr. Alger stated last year room tax was at \$866,167. For 2011 we are estimating that it will be \$908,000. Currently in the budget we have \$865,000 for distribution and \$45,000 goes to the County Treasurer for administration. This year we did not get any requests for additional funding and the increase in room tax revenues would allow us to increase SCCVB's (Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau) allocation by \$14,000, bringing them from \$698,000 to \$712,000.

Mr. Farrand asked in the past did we have to pull money from the Contingency Fund? Mr. Alger replied no. In 2009 we appropriated an additional \$65,000 for the fund balance from the room tax to increase SCCVB's budget. Last year we appropriated \$35,000 and for next year we are not proposing any appropriation from the fund balance. The SCCVB did not ask for an increase. We are proposing to increase their budget \$14,000.

Mr. Roush commented the libraries have had to add more computers due to tourism. Would it be appropriate to allocate some room tax money to the libraries? Mr. Creath replied the libraries are covered by the General Fund. Mr. Roush commented the amount they receive is not very much. He stated that he has pushed the Corning Library for several years to justify computer usage by tourists. It would be appropriate to use some room tax money as the tourists take away services that are available to local residents. Mrs. Ferratella asked have the libraries given you numbers to justify that? Mr. Roush stated they have those numbers. There is a significant tourism use, especially in Corning. Mr. Creath stated the purpose of the room tax money is to develop tourist attractions, events and to help promote tourism. Uses for that money have to fall into that definition.

Mr. Ryan asked what organization sponsors the Dairy Festival? Mr. Alger replied the Pomona Grange. Mr. Ryan asked why we don't promote that more as dairy is a major agricultural business.

Mr. Farrand commented that he would rather see the money that goes to the SCCVB be distributed to local events. There are several organizations that have gone to the SCCVB for funding and have been turned down. We need to specify guidelines for the smaller community events. Mr. Creath stated that is a local thing and he cannot support that.

MOTION: INCREASING THE 2012 APPROPRIATION OF ROOM TAX REVENUES TO THE DAIRY FESTIVAL FROM \$750.00 TO \$1,000.00 MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Mr. Creath stated we have lost Steuben Glass in Corning. Part of our mission is to develop the arts industry and help artists. There are twenty (20) glass engravers who have lost their jobs due to layoffs. Some of those will go out on their own and will need promotion money and economic backup. He suggested giving the Finger Lakes Art Council an additional \$5,000 to help in the development of artisans. Mr. Farrand asked what are we doing with SCCVB and having them split the funding? Mr. Creath replied that he believes we can do both. Mrs. Ferratella commented at a minimum you need a business plan to justify that.

Mr. Alger commented that he would hesitate to provide funding directly to individuals. If you give additional funds to promote the arts and one of the recipients is a glass engraver, that is fine. We cannot give funds as a direct grant to start up a business. These funds are promotional funds. We promote festivals and activities; they don't subsidize them. Discussion followed.

MOTION: INCREASING THE 2012 APPROPRIATION OF ROOM TAX REVENUES TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS' BUREAU FROM \$698,398.00 TO \$712,398.00 MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF ROOM TAX REVENUES TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES FOR 2012: FINGER LAKES ASSOCIATION - \$11,500.00; FINGER LAKES ART COUNCIL - \$40,200.00; AND FINGER LAKES WINE TRAVEL - \$100,000.00 MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. *Dominion Woodhull Storage Project* – Mr. Farrand stated he received an email from Donald Houser offering an opportunity to tour their Woodhull Storage facility. Mr. Creath stated that it is a good idea to tour the facility and he recommended placing that on the agenda for next year.

B. *Room Tax* – Mr. Farrand commented we need to start acting on legislation regarding increasing occupancy from 30 – 60 days or 30 – 90 days. Mr. Alger replied we will need to get our Home Rule request in early next year. We will look at this next month. He has checked all of the surrounding counties and they range from 30 – 90 days. He did not find any counties that didn't have a limitation. The SCCVB has not indicated that there have been issues with people staying long and looking for refunds. Discussion followed.

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

Respectfully Submitted by Amanda L. Chapman, Deputy Clerk, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Monday, December 5, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, November 28, 2011.**

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, December 5, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Donald B. Creath, Chair K. Michael Hanna	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Robin K. Lattimer	Dan C. Farrand
STAFF:	Mark R. Alger William J. Partridge	Jack Wheeler Shawn Corey	Amy Dlugos
LEGISLATORS:	Joseph J. Hauryski John S. Walsh	Carol A. Ferratella Randolph J. Weaver	Thomas J. Ryan
OTHERS:	James Griffin, Hornell Industrial Development Agency James Johnson, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency Dennis Fagan, Lamoka-Waneta Lakes' Rehabilitation Protection District		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Creath called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Creath opened the floor for opportunity for public comment.

Janet Stone, Pulteney, stated that she is here to discuss hydrofracking. She asked if anyone knew how WD-40 got its name? The WD stands for water displacement and the number 40 represents the number of times they had to try the formula to get the right one. The point is that there are engineers and scientists trying to find different ways to do hydrofracking. It would be a shame if we, at this point, did hydrofracking and contaminated our beautiful lakes and sources of fresh water, only to find out at a later time that there was a way to do this without the possibility of contamination. In Pennsylvania, there have been 1,500 incidences of infractions involving hydrofracking. There has also been the explosion of a gas well. The latest problem was the deliberate dumping of 800 barrels of an unidentified substance on Pennsylvania State Land. At the present time the buffer for the Finger Lakes Watershed is 2,000 feet. She asked that the committee consider passing a resolution similar to Yates County and a number of municipalities, asking that the Department of Environmental Conservation give us the same consideration they have the New York City and Syracuse Watersheds. We deserve no less.

Mr. Ryan stated that we have heard nothing but fear and scenarios. Factually, I can tell you in my area, there are people without jobs. It is time to hear from the silent majority who can benefit from the economy that will be developed from this process.

Mr. Hanna stated that he understands where Mr. Ryan is coming from, but it is very important that we protect these lakes. We don't think the technology is there yet to do it right and protect the lakes. It is very important that our watershed be exempt like Syracuse and New York City. The Keuka Lake Association is meeting with the DEC in Albany today to discuss this. There is currently a 2,000 foot setback and that is not enough. We will push to get that to 4,000 feet.

Mr. Creath commented that there will be an industrial symposium at the Corning Library tonight at 6pm. He thanked everyone for their comments and declared the opportunity for public comment closed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2011, MADE BY MS. LATTIMER, SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Hornell Industrial Development Agency

1. **Local Development Report** – Mr. Griffin thanked the committee for the opportunity to come before them. He stated that he would like to bring the committee up to date on how we operate. Several years ago the City of Hornell built an industrial park at the airport and were given a grant to build water and sewer from the city to the park. There was a State Law that said that municipalities could not extend beyond their own properties. The best thing to do at the time was to form the Hornell Industrial Development Agency to take over the grant. At that time when the County Industrial Development Agency was formed, it was basically in Corning. We moved County IDA to Bath. We did economic development in that part of the county for a long period of time. As a result of the industrial park at the airport being built, it was filled and we purchased an additional 90 acres. Approximately four or five years ago, legislation was passed stating that a city IDA could not operate outside its own municipality. We have had a seamless process with the county IDA and have an outstanding working relationship.

Mr. Griffin stated the Hornell IDA set up the empire zone in the County and we still have 68 businesses that have qualified and receive benefits. One of the questions that is typically asked is why do IDA's get involved in retail? He stated that his feeling is that economic development means different things to different people. It can be a variety of things. Economic development is any activity that increases the quality of life for the people you serve. He reviewed several projects that they have been involved with over the past few years.

Mr. Griffin stated that they are working with Alstom who have sincerely gone after some major projects. The Hornell IDA owns all of their buildings, which is about 1 million square feet. Regardless of what happens in the future, we have an asset that we can market. He stated that in the 38 years that he has been in economic development, Steuben County has been tremendously supportive of economic development. We have given the city and the County IDA the ability to become self-sufficient. We value your partnership very much.

Mr. Creath asked has Alstom shut down completely? Mr. Griffin replied they have 75 people working in Hornell and another 100 employees from Hornell who are working at the Rochester plant. If the Hornell plant gets back on target, a lot of those people will come back. Our labor force is very mobile and is willing to travel. We have reason to be optimistic.

Mr. Johnson stated that one of the questions that has come up since he has been director of the County IDA is what will I do about the Hornell IDA? Mr. Griffin is a valuable resource that we have. We have worked with him on projects at Gunlocke, Alstom and Crowley. He stated that the County IDA has partnered with Three Rivers to discuss issues relating to the gas industry. They have an energy consultant that he would recommend the Legislature contact to come in and give a presentation.

Mr. Creath stated that he applauds their success. It is very pleasing to see that you are self sufficient.

B. Lamoka-Waneta Lakes' Rehabilitation Protection District

1. **Program Update** – Mr. Fagan stated that he oversees the operation of the Lamoka-Waneta Lakes' Rehabilitation Protection District as it relates to monitoring plants and herbicide/weed control in the lakes. There are two districts; one in Schuyler County which encompasses the majority of Lamoka Lake and a portion of Waneta Lake, and the second is in Steuben County which encompasses Waneta Lake and a small portion of Lamoka Lake near Bradford.

In 2000 we contracted with the Army Corps of Engineers to develop a plant monitoring program. When we first started this project there was quite a large amount of Milfoil and in 2003 we treated Waneta Lake with Sonar and that was very effective. However, that also got rid of the native plants. In 2008 and 2009 we treated the lake with

a different chemical, Renovate, and there was no significant impact on the native plants. Waneta Lake then encountered a zebra mussel problem which cleared the lake. There were no treatments in 2010 or 2011. In 2012 we are looking at four locations to treat for Milfoil and that will equate to approximately 2.5 acres. At the north end of the lake, there is a high population of native plants and we will treat that area with Aquathol which is a contact herbicide. That will likely control those native plants for a year or two at the most. One area of concern is that Hydrilla is coming north and has already been found in the Cayuga Lake Inlet. We are concerned that it could end up in our lakes and we would want to be able to address that. After our treatments for 2012, that will leave approximately \$46,000 in the fund balance for Steuben County for future treatments. If Hydrilla comes to our lakes, we will need further treatment and this will leave us some money to do that. We spent \$10,000 this year on plant studies and \$15,000 on a waste water management program for the towns of Wayne, Tyrone and Orange. We anticipate doing an application of Renovate in May and Aquathol in June. Discussion followed.

Mr. Creath asked, on an unrelated topic, what is Schuyler County's position on fracking? Mr. Fagan replied we have not taken a stand. We don't believe that we will see much of Schuyler County being developed for gas from the Marcellus Shale due to the depth to the shale. With current technology, you have to be at 3,000 feet to adequately hydrofrack horizontally. In Pennsylvania, they are on the fringe of gas development at 3,500 feet. In Schuyler County, a couple of miles north of Watkins Glen, the depth is 1,450 feet. Toward our southern border, we see a depth of 3,000 feet. For the foreseeable future, all development, if it occurs, will occur in the Southern Tier; primarily Chemung, Tioga, Broome and the southern portion of Steuben counties. It mainly will occur in those counties that are adjacent to Pennsylvania. The Utica Shale is much deeper, but so little information is available in New York State. It is encouraging, but in our county, if they looked at the Utica Shale, it would not affect more than the southern 20 percent of Schuyler County. Mr. Fagan stated that personally, he is opposed to development in Schuyler County for one reason; our roadway infrastructure is so limited. We have SR14 and SR13 and if drilling occurred, the truck traffic would have a significant impact on our tourism. In a way he is glad that, given the restrictions on fracking technology, it is likely that drilling will not occur in Schuyler County. We had the highest increase of sales tax revenue last year compared to other counties.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Public Hearing** – Ms. Dlugos requested approval of a resolution authorizing the Public Hearings on the Eight-Year Reviews of Agricultural District No.6, No. 13, No. 18 and No. 22. These will be consolidated into one district.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE EIGHT-YEAR REVIEWS OF AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 6, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 13, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 18 AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 22 MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

2. **2012 Contracts** – Ms. Dlugos presented her 2012 Contracts for approval. She commented these are contracts that are funded by the General Fund, as well as contracts funded by Occupancy Tax.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2012 CONTRACTS FOR THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO BE PAID FOR OUT OF THE GENERAL FUND: FINGER LAKES SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (\$39,000.00); SOUTHERN TIER LIBRARY SYSTEM (\$99,500.00); MARVIN RETHMEL – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (\$17.00/HOUR); STEUBEN COUNTY FEDERATION OF CONSERVATION CLUBS (\$3,000.00); FIRST TRANSIT (\$24,233.00); ARBOR DEVELOPMENT – CDBG HOUSING REHAB GRANT (\$198,000.00) AND NYSOPRHP – SNOWMOBILE TRAIL GRANT (\$45,500.00); AND APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2012 CONTRACTS TO BE FOR OUT OF THE OCCUPANCY TAX: STEUBEN COUNTY CONFERENCE AND VISITORS' BUREAU (\$712,398.00); FINGER LAKES WINE COUNTRY (\$100,000.00); FINGER LAKES TOURISM ALLIANCE, INC. (\$11,500.00); ARTS OF THE SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES (\$30,200.00); HORNELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL (\$8,500.00) AND STEUBEN COUNTY DAIRY FESTIVAL (\$1,000.00) MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. ***Meeting Date Change*** – Mr. Alger stated that due to the New Year’s holiday, we need to look at changing the date of the January meeting. He recommended moving the meeting to Monday, January 9, 2012, at 10:30 a.m.

MOTION: CHANGING THE DATE OF THE JANUARY AIP MEETING TO MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012, AT 10:30 A.M. MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MS. LATTIMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. CREATH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

****PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**Monday, January 9, 2012 @ 10:30 a.m.**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE****

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Monday, December 26, 2011.**