

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

*Wednesday, February 6, 2019
9:50 a.m.
Legislative Committee Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	K. Michael Hanna, Vice Chair Thomas J. Ryan	Hilda T. Lando	Aaron I. Mullen
STAFF:	Jack K. Wheeler Andy Morse	Amy Dlugos Rob Wolverton	Eric Rose
LEGISLATORS:	Joseph J. Hauryski John V. Malter	Carol A. Ferratella Frederick G. Potter	Kelly H. Fitzpatrick Scott J. Van Etten
ABSENT:	Robin K. Lattimer, Chair		
OTHERS:	Mary Perham		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hanna called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Mullen to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2, 2019, MEETING MADE BY MR. MULLEN. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

A. Buildings & Grounds

1. **Chiller Replacement** – Mr. Rose requested authorization to replace two roof top chillers and one Liebert Air Conditioning Unit for the Information Technology Computer Room. The total cost is \$600,760.61, however, he requested authorization to spend up to \$610,000.

Mr. Hanna asked what is the life of the chillers? Mr. Rose replied 15 – 20 years. Our chillers are 22 years old and they will be costly to repair. Additionally, with the compressors, we are unable to control the speeds. Mr. Van Etten asked do we have new controls? Mr. Rose replied yes, we had new controls installed and new VAV boxes. Mr. Wheeler stated they have approximately \$630,000 available in the capital project.

Mr. Mullen asked where there multiple bids? Mr. Rose replied no. Mr. Morse explained we are piggybacking off a bid that the Town of Greece did, using our Best Value provisions.

Mr. Malter asked with the renovations for the court system, are those systems going to be updated? Are we installing new piping in those areas? Mr. Wheeler replied that project is more of an office renovation. Mr. Rose stated we may add something for better control, but we would need these chillers anyway. He commented the courts would not necessarily pay for it. Mr. Wheeler commented most of the units in the building have been replaced, along with the VAV boxes.

Mr. Rose commented Danforth has been great to work with. Mr. Mullen asked what is the cost for the control part? Mr. Rose replied the cost is \$33,000 for the build and \$1,000 for the Liebert unit. He explained if we would have done a traditional bid, we would have the extra engineering costs.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF TWO ROOF TOP CHILLERS AND ONE LIEBERT AIR CONDITIONING UNIT FOR THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPUTER ROOM FOR A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$610,000 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN FOR DISCUSSION.

Mrs. Lando asked when would this project start? Mr. Rose replied in the spring.

Mr. Mullen stated he would prefer to see the other numbers before approving this. Mrs. Lando stated she doesn't think we have a choice and she is not an expert and would rely on Mr. Rose for his expertise. Mr. Rose stated we did reach out to Trane and they were unresponsive.

Mrs. Lando asked are we piggybacking on another bid? Mr. Morse replied yes, this is a job ordering contract bid that was done by the Town of Greece. Ms. Prossick explained the Town of Greece put out a bid for a project for the town and Danforth put in a bid. Across the entire State, Danforth won every element of that bid.

Mr. Mullen stated he is opposed to this as he does not believe the committee has enough information.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: MOTION CARRIES 3-1. (MR. MULLEN OPPOSED)

B. Planning

1. **Coffee Cart Update** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that our vendor for the coffee cart has a new opportunity and is actively trying to sell the business. There have been a couple of interested candidates. We do have the ability to transfer the lease if we approve of the new buyer. The current vendor has committed to staying at least until May.

C. County Manager

1. **Approval of Five Year Lease with Historical Society** – Mr. Wheeler requested authorization to approve an extension of the lease with the Steuben County Historical Society for the Magee House for five years. The cost is \$7,655 per year and there has not been an increase in a number of years. He would recommend extending the lease as this is a great space for the County Historian.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE LEASE FOR THE MAGEE HOUSE FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS AT A RATE OF \$7,655 PER YEAR MADE BY MR. RYAN. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **Workforce Development – Three Rivers Contract** – Mr. Wheeler requested authorization to extend the contract with Three Rivers for the workforce initiative. We have been in a contract with them for the past one and a half years for the workforce study. We have been meeting a few times per month to develop an implementation strategy. He stated they will be hiring a director of workforce development integration under Three Rivers. We had twenty applicants and interviewed five.

Mr. Wheeler stated Three Rivers will be hiring Fred Arcuri who has an extensive background in economic development with a focus on job and workforce development. The contract amount is \$50,000 which is in your budget and would go toward a portion of the salary. Chemung and Schuyler counties, along with the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency and Three Rivers are also contributing.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH THREE RIVERS FOR ONE YEAR FOR THE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE FOR AN ANNUAL COST OF \$50,000 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Mullen asked do you think this will be helpful? Mr. Wheeler replied yes. The school districts and BOCES are already involved. A lot of the success of this will come down to how well Mr. Arcuri performs. Mr. Mullen asked are there goals and what are the indicators? Mr. Wheeler replied the first year indicators were more task oriented and dealt with integrating partner outcomes, engagement development of the program and integration with the schools. We have a work plan for the first year. Mr. Arcuri will probably attend next month's AIP Committee to meet the members of this committee.

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

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCIES

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension

1. **Update on Regional and Local Agricultural Initiatives** – Ms. Podsiedlik introduced Ainsley Robbins who is heading up our Farm to School Program. Ms. Robbins stated we are working with farms in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben counties to determine if there is interest in supplying produce to the schools. We will be conducting GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) training on April 10th and April 11th with Robert Hadad from the vegetable program. Agricultural producers have to have a farm safety plan or GAP certification in order to supply produce to the schools.

Ms. Podsiedlik stated we have officially joined the Cornell Vegetable Program and are already seeing a huge increase in programming. We will be holding interviews for a regional potato specialist in early March. It is likely that individual will be located in Steuben County. She distributed the 2018 Cornell Vegetable Program Review. Farmers pay to join the program and this year we will be doing that by a sliding scale fee which will range from \$20 - \$75. Ms. Podsiedlik also distributed the Harvest New York 2018 Year in Review. This is a partially state funded program and was not included in the Governor's budget this year. This funding covers the North and Western NY dairy process specialist.

Ms. Podsiedlik informed the committee that Chautauqua County has agreed to join the Dairy/Livestock Program, so we are moving forward with that. Allegany and Erie are not ready to join, but Cattaraugus is close. For now, we are working on a memorandum of understanding. We will house the dairy specialist in Steuben County and Chautauqua County will house the livestock specialist. If Cattaraugus joins, they will have the crop specialist and if Allegany and Erie join, they will have the farm business specialist.

Mrs. Lando asked where will you house this individual? Ms. Podsiedlik replied we have one floating space for volunteers and interns that we can use. Temporarily we will be sharing space until we can move some things around.

Ms. Podsiedlik announced the Taste FLXPO will be held on February 22, 2019. This event is to showcase products produced in the Finger Lakes region. The Steuben County Conference & Visitors' Bureau is heading up the logistics this year and the event will be held at Corning Community College. Last year we had over 600 people attend. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door.

Mr. Malter asked for an explanation of the logistics of the farm to school program. Ms. Podsiedlik explained traditionally they had to work through a bid process. They would submit a bid to the school with a certain price point and we are finding that is very challenging here. We have had success working with existing companies that GST BOCES purchases from. The other option is each school has a micro purchase allowance which allows them to purchase \$1,000 of produce or less. We are finding the most success with that right now. She explained the schools get reimbursed for the foods that they serve. New York State says if you hit 30 percent local food, they will give them an additional \$.25 per meal. Big producers are coming to New York to grow what can be used for school meals.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **Appointing Members to the Marsh Ditch Watershed Protection District Board** – Mr. Hanna stated the committee has received a recommendation from the Soil & Water Board recommending the appointments of Robert Mahany and Andy Merry to the Marsh Ditch Watershed Protection District Board.

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENTS OF ROBERT MAHANY AND ANDY MERRY TO THE MARSH DITCH WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD MADE BY MR. MULLEN. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

B. **Appointing Members to the Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors** – Mr. Hanna stated the committee has received a recommendation from the Soil & Water board recommending the appointment of David Stull to their Board of Directors.

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVID STULL TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MADE BY MR. RYAN. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

C. **Corning Community College** – Mrs. Lando informed the committee that she attended the interviews for the new President of the college. All three candidates are very good. They should be making an announcement in March or April after SUNY approves.

D. **Chiller Replacement** – Mr. Van Etten stated with regard to the \$600,000 chiller purchase, he tends to agree with Mr. Mullen. The vehicle that was used for the bid seems new and this is not what was done in the past. This is a very significant amount of money. He would have thought the Legislature would have approved this process to do something that large. The explanation does not detail out the spending. If you were to come to Finance with that, he would reject it; you need to be more prepared when you come to the meeting.

Mr. Morse replied that he would be happy to cover that process and the numbers with the Legislators. Mr. Wheeler stated we can provide you with that detail at the Finance Committee meeting next week.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. MULLEN. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

****NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Legislative Committee Room
9:30 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, February 27, 2019**