

## GOVERNMENT OPERATION COMMITTEE

July 6, 2022

Committee members: Ed Bronson, Bonnie Percy, Rick Willson, Dick Harper, Carlie Chilson, Mark Morris

Others present: Leslie Church, Terry Button, Dan Banach, Doug Paddock, Tim Cutler, Jesse Jayne (1:25 p.m.), Nonie Flynn, Emilee Miller, Robert Brechko, Robert Schwarting, Kerry Brennan, Lois Hall, Tim Groth, Len Kastaskas, Lisa Harper

Ed & Bonnie will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as submitted.

### **Elections: Robert Brechko and Robert Schwarting**

Rob Schwarting reported that the new legislation establishes protection of voter's rights. Non-binary gender language has been introduced in the county political party bylaws.

Rob Schwarting reported that they are seeing new regulations and procedures for processing registration and requests for absentee ballots. The unplanned and unbudgeted elections will have fiscal impact and impact on their work time constraints for the Deputies. Finding Election Inspectors to participate in the second primary and the Special Election on August 23<sup>rd</sup> is proving to be difficult. The Board of Elections has to inform every voter of the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Elections and a postal card will be sent in late July.

Rob Schwarting reviewed Election updates, June Objectives Achieved, and their proposed July Objectives.

### **Soil & Water: Colby Petersen**

Colby reported that district staff has conducted 190 Watershed Inspection inspections to date. They anticipate 400 inspections in 2022. There have been 30 soil evaluations conducted and 45 designs reviewed for new and replacement septic systems.

Colby reported that they have applied 40 loads of hydroseed to 19 sites, including 12 loads at Keuka Shores Development. The areas that are being watered by the home owners are taking off and doing well. Straw mulch is being utilized in areas where new seeding can't be watered.

Colby reported that they have created a special projects fund in order to complete their grant projects in a timely manner. Ontario County has a reserve fund specifically for grant projects, especially those that are guaranteed money from the State.

Colby reported that they are working with the Town of Starkey to secure a grant to fund the construction of a salt storage facility through the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program. Applications for Round 18 are due by 4:00 p.m. on July 29, 2022.

Colby reported that their Summer Workshop will be held July 20<sup>th</sup>. The workshop was moved up from August to July to help accommodate Ontario counties staffing. It's a good opportunity to share with the farming community, some of the efforts that are being done with the harmful algae blooms and how they can help combat it. One of the things that came out of the meeting with the Mennonite Community he had a meeting with a lot of the elders and their feedback was keep feeding them information, tell them what's going on, keep them in the loop and they will do everything they can to help out.

The DEC has a number to call to report the finding of hogweed. It should be reported directly to them and they will come out and take care of it.

**Cornell Cooperative Extension: Arlene Wilson**

Arlene was not present; the Committee reviewed her report.

Ed Bronson reported that the Yates County Fair is coming up July 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>.

**IT: Tim Groth**

Tim reported there were 257 help desk calls in the month of May.

Tim reported that they are still working on MDM and risk management, they are making some good headway on the risk remediation. The Privilege Remote Access (PRA) for the vendors is working out well. That was one of the products that they purchased with the grant funding last year. It has alleviated a lot of the problems for the vendors getting in in doing what they need to do to support such programs.

Tim reported that from the October 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to the end of June 2022, they have received approximately 125 toner cartridges from Toshiba. Tim looked up State Contract Bid pricing and they would have been billed over \$10,000 for those toner cartridges. With the program, they don't get billed for cartridges. They have been billed for usage about \$7,500, so it is a \$2,500 saving in 9 months. He is seeing a considerable amount of savings with this program.

**Historian: Len Kataskas & Lisa Harper**

Len provided an update about the Bicentennial activities. The Committee discussed the upgrading of historical signs.

Lisa provided a report regarding the records management position. The physical inventory includes 5,100 boxes and since May 9<sup>th</sup>, they have sorted and destroyed 150 boxes of records.

**County Clerk: Lois Hall**

Lois reported that there were 2125 DMV transactions with fees for retention collected for May 2022 was \$17,285.79 with \$99,112.65 of sales tax collected. The COPRS internet fees collected year to date is \$1,845.38. There were 827 transactions processed on the internet with \$43,153.25 collected with a year to date total of \$227,491.25. They are now \$49,630.25 over the threshold for shared revenue. There were 2673 transactions with \$319,731.42 in fees collected. The total fees collected by the County Clerk for May 2021 was \$267,532.43 and the DMV had a total of \$13,012.48 in fees collected May 2021.

Lois reported the DMV issues that were discussed at the conference. She worked in the DMV all day every day for 3 full weeks while the supervisor was on vacation, people were angry about everything. In speaking with DMVs in surrounding areas, it was agreed that the mood and demeanor of the general public has changed.

Lois reported on the County Clerk side, there is an increased number of scams popping up in relation to deeds. She reviewed all the new gun regulations that are coming down from New York State and will continue to provide updates to the legislature as she gets them.

Lois reviewed the financial reports and a letter that was sent to Governor Hochul regarding the recent changes to gun laws, specifically the semiautomatic rifle licensure bill.

### **Personnel: Kerry Brennan**

Kerry reported that the collection for July will be shampoo and conditioner. She spoke with a representative from Living Well and it seems like they are collecting shampoo and conditioner frequently, but that is what the community needs.

Kerry reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion and amendments the Committee approved.

- Amend Yates County Administrative Guide (Yates County Administrative Guide)
- Amend Yates County Employees Handbook (Yates County Employee Handbook)

Kerry reported that she had conducted some research on the 360 Evaluations and after consulting with Nonie, she plans to incorporate the cost/recommendation into her 2023 Budget Request. She plans to incorporate the Mission/Vision/Values into her 2023 Goals.

Kerry reported that she and Karen have been treated poorly by some of the town and village representatives. They follow civil service law and they adhere to their policies and sometimes the towns and villages disagree with that. If they are out in the community and they get a town supervisor that complains about the Personnel Department, she asks that they come to her to get the full story. Her solution to this is to educate the town and village representatives.

Kerry reviewed the Personnel Office Vacancy Report.

### **County Administrator: Nonie Flynn**

Nonie reported that the DEC denied renewing the Greenidge air and water permits. Nonie will ask Dale Irwin from Greenidge to speak to the legislature at the August legislative meeting.

Nonie reported that she attended the NYSAC Administrators meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>. They gave an update on sales tax. They are expecting a moderation in the robust numbers that they have seen in the last couple of years and they have already seen that in the last two collections. They also spoke about the healthcare worker bonuses and they are also waiting for the New York State Department of Labor and Department of Health to come out with guidelines. They gave an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) update on the federal funding. They did a poll of all the municipalities in New York State and how they're using their ARPA funding and 76% of those that responded are using the funding for infrastructure and 62% of those are targeting one time projects. Their conclusion was that the funds from ARPA are considered a once in a lifetime opportunity for community investment. Nonie reported that she has received a bunch of recent articles about the likelihood of a recession in the next year. Most of the articles say that consumer confidence is under a lot of pressure with increased inflation and rising interest rates. She received a memo and the legislation that's out for the All Electric Building Act. This act is to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution by banning gas hookups in new construction statewide. They spoke about the executive order and that's the order, where every county must develop and maintain a plan to identify and confront threats of domestic terrorism. That includes racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists and they still don't have guidance on that.

The meeting was suspended at 2:58 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 5:45 p.m.

### **Legislative Clerk: Emilee Miller**

Emilee reviewed the proposed policy for the use of the Yates County Facility. Several edits were made and she will bring the policy forward at the legislative meeting.

Emilee reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Adopt Local Law 5-22 Entitled Renewal of Local Law 2-19 “A Local Law Establishing an Occupancy Tax in Yates County”

**Legislative Operations: Leslie Church & Ed Bronson**

Leslie reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the GU-YA-NO-GA Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR)

Ed reported that perhaps there should be an ad hoc committee to look at the pros and cons of what it means to be a constitution county. What the advantages and the disadvantages are and come back to them and share that information. Leslie would like to appoint an ad hoc committee at Monday’s meetings.

Leslie reported that Mark Morris and Carlie Chilson will be the co-chairs. She would like to have members with different views, those opposed to it and those in favor of it.

Nonie reported that Leslie also needs to appointment a legislature to the Tourism Advisory Council (TAC).

Mrs. Percy moved to enter executive session to discuss:

1. The employment history of a particular individual, with members of the Committee, other members of the legislature, the County Administrator, and the Personnel Officer.

Seconded by Mr. Harper.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.