

## GOVERNMENT OPERATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

October 3, 2022

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

Others present: Terry Button, Dan Banach, Leslie Church, Tim Cutler, Pat Killen, Nonie Flynn, Doug Paddock (Zoom), Emilee Miller, Bob Brechko, Colby Petersen, Arlene Wilson, Tim Groth, Lois Hall, Len Kataskas, Jesse Jayne (1:40 p.m.)

Mark & Bonnie will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as submitted.

### **Elections: Robert Brechko**

Bob reported that they are working on the special absentee process that started last election.

Bob reported that they have a new technician, Sandy Burt, on the Republican side who has replaced Sheila.

Bob reported that they changed the hours of early voting to coincide with the hours the building is open. They did decide to go on Tuesday and Thursdays to start at 12:00 p.m. instead of starting at 8:30 a.m. or 9:00 a.m., when they used to, and that drops off six hours that are not mandated. They are open the mandated hours.

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

- Authorize Board of Election Commissioners to Create and Fill Two (2) Full Time Temporary Deputy Election Commissioner Positions

Bob reviewed the September Objectives Achieved.

Bob reported that they met and negotiated with Hart Election Systems for a replacement to the old Dominion Election Management System.

Bob reviewed the proposed October Objectives.

Bob reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary.

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

Colby reported that district staff have conducted 355 Watershed Inspection/KWIC to date. They anticipate completing 400 inspections in 2022. Staff has conducted 49 soil evaluations and reviewed 81 designs for new and replacement septic systems. They will be working with Scott Demmin to update the KWIC online database to add more tools to track reminder letters to make the process more efficient and timelier.

Colby reported that staff has applied 60 loads of hydroseed to 34 sites. They were able to use FLOWPA funds to hydroseed the Habitat for Humanity house on East Elm Street at no cost to the organization. Hydroseeding will continue and be dependent on soil temperatures and wheat or rye may be added to some applications to help get established quickly.

Colby reported that two under row vineyard mowers that were purchased under the Round 5 Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) grant arrived from the Netherlands.

Colby reported that November is the open enrollment period for additions to the agricultural district.

Colby reported that Governor Hochul announced funding for Climate Resilient Farming Grant Program Round 6. Yates County has had two projects funded through this for a total of \$385,550.

Colby reported that \$98,530 was awarded to Yates County Soil & Water Conservation District to work with a farm to protect 50 acres of farmland for row and high-value vegetable crop production and \$287,020 was awarded to Yates County to stabilize 1,500 feet of heavily eroding stream by implementing erosion control.

The Committee discussed the issues with solar projects and farms.

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension: Arlene Wilson**

Arlene reported that the Farmland Protection Board had it's first meeting with LaBella and they developed a work plan. They will be seeing more information about surveys getting feedback from farmers and growers, about what the needs are and what they see as things that are needed in the Farmland Protection plan.

Arlene reported that the legislative luncheon, October 11<sup>th</sup>, will be moved into the auditorium.

Arlene reported that their annual meeting is going to be in the Yates County Auditorium on December 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be doing pie and desserts, as well as presenting their new proposed board members.

Arlene reviewed program updates.

### **IT: Tim Groth**

Tim reported that there were 254 Help Desk Calls in August.

Tim reviewed project updates; MDM on BYOD and other County owned devices, Risk Remediation, MUNIS Upgrade, Core Switch Upgrade, and the NYS Cyber Security Initiative.

Tim reported that in regards to the cyber-attack in Suffolk County, each county needs to focus and get a well-developed plan, and everyone needs to be on board. Suffolk County actually had a ton of help from their neighboring county, Nassau County, maybe processing DMV type of stuff and the State Police were actually doing fingerprints for them because their entire police department was down and is still down.

The Committee discussed the cyber-attack in Suffolk County & Continuity Operations in the aftermath.

Tim reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary.

### **County Clerk: Lois Hall**

Lois gave the following update on the recently enacted gun laws:

The three entity's that Sheriff Spike has approved that meet the training certification/curriculum are as follows:

1. Rochester Personal Defense, LLC –David Jenkins, Rochester, NY (Doing course at Yates Sportsman Club)
2. Mallory Unlimited, LLC-Matt Mallory, Syracuse, NY
3. Firearms Training of Western NY- James Emmick, Hamburg, NY

In our discussion with Sheriff Spike and Judge Cook in regards to Semi-Automatic Rifle

To obtain a NEW Semi-Automatic Rifle Permit you will need to submit an application (new application for pistol/semi-automatic license). No training required (only for new pistol permit applicants). The application has social media information that must be completed as well.

EXISTING pistol permit holders you may amend the current pistol permit to show new purchases and permit will be for both semi-automatic rifle and pistol. If you already own a semi-automatic rifle you do not have to add the rifle to your permit at this time.

Other counties are following their own guidelines. We in Yates County will follow the guidelines of Sheriff Spike and Judge Cook.

The Committee discussed the recently enacted gun laws, highlighting that they are an attack on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.

Lois reported that there were 1836 DMV transactions with \$15,195.09 in fees collected for August 2022, with \$69,430.69 collected in sales tax. COPRS Internet fees collected year to date are \$6,099.39. There were 531 internet transactions processed with \$34,541.00 collected and a year to date total of \$358,261.00 collected. They are now \$187,673.75 over the threshold for shared revenue. There were 3036 County Clerk transactions with \$269,274.53 collected in fees. Total fees collected for the County Clerk August 2021 \$269, 0996.27. Total fees collected for the DMV August 2021 \$13,503.18.

Lois reviewed DMV updates, highlighting that computer outages are still occurring and Teresa Hines has submitted her retirement documents.

Lois reviewed County Clerk updates, highlighting Real Property recordings increasing slightly.

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

- Authorize County Clerk to Create and Fill Motor Vehicle Supervisor Position

Lois reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary and the Financials for August. Lois reported that they are decreasing the publications line, as the Law Library is now housed in the Penn Yan Public Library. It isn't required by law for Lois to have one and for the Public Library to have one as well. It is a \$2,400 savings to the tax payers.

**Personnel: Nonie Flynn**

Kerry was not present, but Nonie summarized her report.

Nonie reported that one legislator asked them to look into any requirements for using general gender neutral pronouns. They checked with their labor attorney, and at this time, there is no requirement for that.

Nonie reported that she is meeting with someone from the Comptroller's office. They are conducting a sexual harassment prevention audit. They want to check on the County's policy for that, and they want to check to make sure that all employees are receiving the sexual harassment training. They have a log showing the certificates of everyone that has received the training.

Nonie reported that the amount the County pays toward workers Comp has been reduced. That is because they do a five year experience rating and their five year experience numbers are down, so that's good.

Nonie reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary, highlighting that they put some funds in for additional training.

Nonie reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion/edits the Committee approved.

- Amend Yates County Administrative Guide (Yates County Administrative Guide)
- Adopt Abuse and Molestation Policy
- Adopt FY 2023 Workers' Compensation Budget
- Reappoint Democratic Election Commissioner (Brechko)

#### **Historian: Len Kataskas**

Len reported that the Bicentennial Committee has been meeting monthly and will continue to do so. Len reviewed the Bicentennial logo.

Len reported that Lisa Harper, the Records manager, has updated the Records policy. He didn't include it in his report, but he will next month. It has been several years since it was updated.

Len reported that there are approximately 20 historical signs that need to be upgraded with an estimated cost of \$350 per sign.

The Committee discussed repairing the signs.

Len reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary.

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

Nonie reported the CSEA voted on the tentative agreement this morning and they agreed to their tentative agreement. It would be a 3.5% wage increase this year, a 3.5% for next year, and 3% for the year after that. She is going to try to get it in the budget before she presents that and they have a resolution for Tuesday authorizing them to sign that.

Nonie reported that they were selected as part of a NYS audit on sexual harassment prevention. Sixteen counties and three school districts were chosen and the entrance conference will be October 4th at 10:00 a.m.

Nonie reported that she attended the Fall NYSAC conference in Buffalo September 12th – 14th. Some of the highlights from the Albany Update are:

- NYS still has not reconciled our ACA eFMAP payments since 2017.

- The foster care rate mandated increase does not have matching NYS funding.
- The adoption subsidy mandated increase does not have matching NYS funding.
- Article 18-b attorney fees may increase from \$75/hour to \$150/hour.
- Yates County had the highest 3-year average percent increase in sales tax revenue of all NYS counties at 14.6%.

Nonie reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary.

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

- Authorizing Employee Retention Bonus Payments
- Approving Memoranda of Understanding with CSEA and Council 82 Unions

**Legislative Clerk: Emilee Miller**

Emilee reviewed the 2023 Budget Summary, discussed limiting the number of legislators attending each conference, and increasing the conference budget line and those budget lines relative.

The Committee requested that Emilee bring a resolution forward to the legislative meeting on Tuesday, opposing the newly enacted gun laws.

Meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.