

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

February 6, 2017

Committee members present: Mark Morris, Jim Multer, Earle Gleason, Bonnie Percy, Jim Smith.

Others present: Dave Hartman, Bob Brechko, Arlene Wilson, Tim Dennis, Lois Hall, William Laffin, Kerry Brennan, Jim Balyszak, Ed Bronson, Carlie Chilson, Terry Button, Leslie Church, Dan Banach, Connie Hayes, Taylor Fitch, Amy Miller, Nonie Flynn, Sharon Dawes, Elden Morrison, Tim Groth, Bill Holgate, Robert Lawton, Doug Paddock.

Jim Multer and Jim Smith will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment

William Laffin addressed the Committee regarding an invasive species, Starry Stonewort which has been found in the Keuka Lake Outlet. The risk of this spreading is significant.

Jim stated this is a very challenging and evasive plant and there really isn't any clear cut method to get rid of it. Jim reviewed the RFP from NYS. There is no money available for research or planning. This is a relatively new plant and there are challenges in developing a strategy on a short a time frame to take advantage of a grant opportunity.

Arlene from CCE reported they have been looking into this topic and so far the only mechanism that seems to help at all is manual harvesting.

Legislative Operations

Tim reminded everyone that on February 27th there will be a special meeting of the Legislature with Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Palmesano. Tim asked that the Committee Chairman be present and have a list of questions from each of their committees ready.

Doug, Earle, Tim and Bob reported on the sessions that they attended at the NYSAC conference last week.

Soil & Water – Jim Balyszak

Jim reported 23 parcels were recommended for inclusion into the Yates County Agricultural District #1. Ag & Markets has forwarded the material to the Commissioner for approval. All parcels were approved for inclusion.

Jim reported staff have started completing soil group worksheets for county landowners participating in the Agricultural Value Assessment Program. These worksheets document the acreage of the various soil types on agricultural lands.

Jim reported he will be working on financial and performance measure reports to submit to the state Soil & Water Conservation Committee. These reports are the basis for determining the amount of state funding the district receives.

Jim reported staff will be doing a variety of certifications to allow them to assist county landowners in complying with various state and federal environmental regulations. Also, the weather conditions have allowed the staff to continue with agricultural projects, complete site and soil investigations for septic system designs and meet with contractors to review site plans for erosion and sediment control practices.

Jim reported Mark Morris, Jim Smith and Arlene Wilson along with himself have met a couple of times to discuss Environmental Management Councils (EMC). Basically research is just being done on how EMC's operate and function in other counties in the State and seeing if such a format would be of value to Yates County and the Legislature.

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Arlene Wilson

Arlene reported on the TANF Life Skills Program. Planning is underway for the 2017 programing with workshops currently set through March with plans for completion by the end of October.

Arlene reported plans are underway for promotion of America Saves Week, February 27th thru March 4th. A display is in the works for the PY Library.

Arlene reported Barb staffed the Baby Café on January 5th where on average 4 moms have attended with children. Barb continues to attend community meetings to promote program offerings.

Arlene reported on various actives for 4H.

Arlene reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairman To Sign Memorandum Of Understanding With Cornell Cooperative Extension.

IT – Tim Groth

Tim reported the help desk received 201 calls for the month of December. Email statistics from the new security appliance reports for inbound emails showed 12,529 spam were detected and blocked, 1,898 viruses were detected and blocked for a total of 84,604 emails received during the month of December. For outbound emails 57 spam were detected and blocked, no viruses were found and 17,719 emails for sent.

Tim updated the Committee on various projects. Four new servers have been purchased and installed in January. The new Barracuda Email Archiver installation and migration is complete.

Tim reported a website committee has been established of Deb Minor, Dave Hartman, Kerry Brennan, Jenna Owen, Amy Miller, Jason Brewer and himself. An initial kickoff meeting was held with Civic Plus and a timeline for the project has been established.

Tim reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairman To Sign Contract With KNOWBE4
- Authorize Chairman To Sing Contract with Systems Management Planning, Inc. (SMP)

Elections – Robert Brechko/Amy Daines

Bob reported, Governor Cuomo has asked to modernize the Voting System by offering early voting, automatic Voter Registration and Same-Day voter registration. Previously proposed early voting has been viewed as labor intensive and cost prohibitive to counties and therefore has not been supported by the Election Commissioners Association. The Election Commissioners Association presented their proposals to the State Legislature at their conference which still include a combined Primary Election, amending the voter limits per District, making Election Day a non-student attendance day and allowing Election Commissioners the flexibility to designate how many Inspectors are needed at Poll Sites. There were a total of 13 proposals presented. Bob and Amy will continue to update the Committee as information is obtained.

Bob reviewed the 2017 goals for the office.

Bob reviewed updates from the winter conference.

County Clerk – Lois Hall

Lois reviewed the statistical reports.

Lois reported she has heard that the Governor's office will be asking for a raise in fees for all vehicle titles original and duplicate. The current fees are \$50 for original titles and \$20 for duplicates. The proposal would increase the cost of an original title to \$75 and duplicates to \$40. Lois will report more as information is available.

Lois reported the Clerk's office has been busy with court work and real estate closings along with passport recertification for the agents in the office.

Lois explained the office has been fielding a number of questions regarding the State Police Pistol Permit Recertification. Lois went on to explain that it is relatively easy task to recertify online. For anyone that doesn't want to recertify online forms are available in the clerk's office that can be completed and mailed in.

Personnel – Kerry Brennan

Kerry reviewed notifications of upcoming events.

Kerry questioned if the Committee would like an actuarial report completed of the Workers Compensation account. The consensus was to do this every other year but if a large case comes up to do one at the end of that year.

Kerry reviewed the Personnel Office Vacancy report.

Kerry reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Resolution to Amend Resolution 19-17 (Authorizing contract with ESI)

County Administrator – Robert Lawton

Bob reported the Planner position is being advertised. The first review of applications is scheduled for February 22nd and Bob is preparing a recruitment brochure for wider distribution. The position has been advertised locally, on the County website, NYSAC and NACO websites and will be advertised with the Upstate Planning Associations and mailings to the schools and County Planning Officers.

Bob reported he met with John Potter, Yates County History Center regarding an agreement where the Center would serve as the County Historian. Bob made some suggestions for revisions to the agreement and expects to have a revised draft for committee discussion.

Bob reported at the Southern Tier Network Board meeting he conveyed an interest in the County receiving a more interactive demonstration of the Crowdfiber data collection program. Bob would like to obtain a letter from his colleagues that can be given to Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Palmesano on the 27th to see if there is any state funding that can be obtained. It is possible the cost will go down the more counties that participate.

Bob reported there was a meeting of the staff regarding the Remote Work Policy. Another meeting is being setup to discuss ways to separate the human resources side and IT side.

Bob thanked Tim Groth for the work in getting the new county website off the ground.

Bob reported the Airport RFQ was mailed to 4 firms and is due back March 12th. Bob thanked Taylor Fitch for coordinating with the Airport Council.

Bob reported he has begun using Lasherfiche for scanning and distribution of correspondence received in hard copy.

Bob reported he met with Superintendent of Highways and the Building & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor to discuss development of a long range capital plan for County facility needs. Bob hopes to come back to the Legislature with a long term plan.

Bob reported January 5th was the first meeting of the Tourism subcommittee. The next meeting is scheduled for the beginning of March.

Bonnie moved to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person with Legislators and County Administrator present, seconded by Jim Multer.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 3:38pm