

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
March 2, 2015

Present: Mark Morris, Gary Montgomery, Sarah Purdy, Margaret Dunn, Elden Morrison, Bonnie Percy, Jim Multer, Dan Banach, Leslie Church, Lee Sacket, Bob Clark, Bob Brechko, Amy Daines, Tim Groth, Julie Betts, Fran Dumas, Sharon Dawes, Deb Minor, Dave Hartman, Connie Hayes, Tim Dennis, Pat Brede, Amy Miller, Nonie Flynn, Amy Guererri, Danielle Hautaniemi, Doug Paddock,

Mark and Bonnie will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the January 30th meeting were approved as presented.

Legislative Operations

Discussion took place on the legislature setting priorities and goals for 2015. Chairman Dennis suggested that the Legislature may want to set aside an hour to an hour and half after next week's legislative meeting to start discussions. Chairman Dennis suggested that items be broken down into 3 categories, the first one being task oriented, the second being long term, and lastly talking about operations in general. The Committee agreed to hold a goal setting workshop on March 9, 2015 following the legislative meeting.

Discussion took place on night meetings. Connie will prepare the necessary resolution to change the legislative meetings to 6:00p.m. for the months of May, June, July, Aug and Sept. Sarah stated for clarification, it has been her understanding that department heads are not required to attend the legislature meetings. The Committee agreed.

Chairman Dennis reminded everyone about this Friday's meeting with Assemblyman Palmesano, and Senator O'Mara. Chairman Dennis asked that each Committee Chair be prepared to present questions or issues from their various committees.

Mark reported Inter-County will be held in Yates County on March 20th at the Top of the Lake.

Soil & Water – Jim Balyszak

Jim could not attend the meeting but submitted the following report.

- 1) A previous report noted your District applied for grant funds to expand the manure gas monitoring program through the purchase of additional equipment. We were notified on February 13th that our application was approved for funding.
- 2) We have two more days scheduled this month to complete soil group worksheets for residents who need to provide this document to their assessor. Your District staff estimate we will complete about 75 parcels this year which is about average.
- 3) NYS DEC General Permit: Rick Ayers reported last month that we are applying for a General Permit to help streamline the application process for specific types of work within the county that require a DEC permit. We have been notified that all of the required paperwork has been received and that a public notice will be published in the local papers as well as each town supervisor will be receiving a notice for comment. We anticipate the biggest benefit of your District having this general permit will be to the town and county highway departments.

There are approximately 10 storm related highway projects that still need to be completed and the "emergency permit" coverage will have expired. These will be eligible for coverage under our General Permit.

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Danielle Hautaniemi

Danielle reported the Joint Shared Services Committee of CCE Yates and CCE Schuyler counties will be providing both boards with preliminary findings on their exploration of shared programming, administrative and executive staff, or merger/consolidation later this month.

Danielle reported the CCE Yates Executive Director position closed on February 27th and the Board will begin reviewing candidate applications shortly.

Danielle reported the CCE Yates County started 2015 with four new board members. With this much turnover on a 13 member board, they are scheduling a new board member training for March 18th. This will be a shared training with new CCE Schuyler County Board members.

Danielle reported the annual public presentations for 4H were held on February 11th, 17th, and 21st with 21 youth participating.

Danielle reported 3 adults and 3 4-H youth attended a Shooting Sports training in Ballston Spa from February 20th thru the 22nd.

Danielle reported the annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser that held on February 26th was a great success raising over \$1,800.

Danielle reported the Ag Literacy Week is March 16th – 20th. This year's topic is fiber production, and the featured book is Weaving the Rainbow, by Stephanie Anderson. Ag Literacy Week is an Ag in the Classroom initiative for second grade classrooms.

Danielle reported the PRO-DAIRY program has several very timely documents regarding snow loads and snow removal from barn roofs. The "Snowvember" event in November 2014 led to significant damage in western NY with barn collapses. With the continued cold weather and snow accumulation, Cornell wants to make sure all farm operators are aware of these fact sheets which can be found at <http://prodairy,cals.cornell.edu/>.

Elections – Robert Brechko/Amy Daines

Amy reviewed the Election Commissioners' Association of NYS 2015 Legislative proposals. Amy and Bob were asked of the list, which would be the most important, the following was suggested.

- The Election Commissioners' Association supports a unified federal and state primary election that is MOVE Act compliant and urges the Legislature to reach agreement on such a date as soon as possible to create certainty for the Boards of Election and the electorate throughout the State of New York.
- Amend Section 4-100-3(a) to amend the voter limits in each election district. Move from the current 1,150 voters per ED to not to exceed 3,000 (amend this to add increased size of committee representation)
- Change Section 3-400-1 & 2 to allow Election Commissioners flexibility to designate how many inspectors are needed at poll sites by adding language that a poll site must be staffed with a "sufficient number of inspectors". New language would also state that a poll site must have a minimum of four inspectors, or at least two inspectors in districts with less than 150 registered voters, to allow proper coverage.

Amy reviewed the departmental 2015 goals.

The Yates County Board of Elections 2015 Calendar of office requirements was reviewed.

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

- Resolution to authorize chairman to sign contract T002583 appendix X extending the expiration date of the contract poll worker training/voter education grant to 3/31/16

IT – Tim Groth

Tim reviewed the monthly statistics which showed 116 help desk calls of those 3 calls were classified as user error. The spam filter identified 15597 spam and 4029 viruses were identified.

Tim reported the new storage solution that was installed on February 16th, went well and is in the testing process right now. Tim will start to move to the new solution once the training has been completed.

Tim reported work continues on the ISP change over from Windstream to Time Warner. Tim hopes to have everything moved over to the new provider by April 1st.

County Clerk – Julie Betts

Julie reported the New York State Association of County Clerks held its annual Legislative conference in Albany in February. The 2015 Legislative Program presented to our New York State representatives requested seven items to be considered, the first three pertaining to county revenue, considered a top priority.

1) Support Increasing of County Share of DMV Revenues

Currently 12.7 percent of DMV revenue is kept locally to help offset county property taxes and run local DMV Offices. This shared service with NYS receiving 83.7 percent of the revenue was negotiated over 15 years ago.

The local DMV Offices perform many functions and provide services that do not receive a fee, and very often these types of transactions are both difficult and time-consuming. There are at least 25 types of transactions processed that do not require a fee. For this reason, the Association of County Clerks is asking our representatives for strong support of a substantial increase in the Counties portion of DMV revenues.

2) Support the Renewal of a Driver's License Photo every eight (8) years.

New York State is currently one of two states (Nevada) that does not require a new driver's license photo to be taken upon the renewal of a license. It is the position of the Association of County Clerks that legislation should be introduced and passed that would require a new photo be taken with the renewal of a driver's license every eight (8) years. This would help prevent fraud and identify theft, while increasing overall public safety.

A recent quote from Yates County Sheriff Ron Spike, Chair of the NYSAC Standing committee on Public Safety:

“Whether airport security, credit card use, filling a prescription, cashing a check, purchasing alcohol, or getting a hunting/fishing license, the driver's license is the most widely used form of ID, thus it is paramount the picture on it must be an up-to-date reflection of the holder.”

Several television news reporters and newspapers articles responding to a NYSACC press release made it sound as though having a new photo taken every eight years would increase the cost of the license. In fact the \$12.50 photo fee is already included in the license renewal fee whether or not a new photo is taken.

3) Support Legislation to Allow the Registration of ATVs weighing up to 1,500 pounds

Current laws do not permit registration of ATVs exceeding 1,500 pounds which is a disadvantage to consumers wishing to purchase such vehicles to use on trails in New York State

- 4) Support Amending Real Property Law to Allow For Filing of Digital Maps
County Clerks accept and retain documents such as mortgages and deeds in electronic format; however, maps currently must be submitted in hard copy format. The NYSACC supports an amendment to Real Property Law, Section 334 to allow the filing of maps using a digital format.
- 5) Encourage legislation Regarding Signing and Recording of a Modification, Extension or Renewal of an Energy, Oil, Gas or Mineral Lease
Currently these leases can be submitted for recording without the signatures of both parties. County Clerks are seeking to require the signature of the landowner as well as the lessee company along with several other changes to the law pertaining to lease recording.
- 6) Oppose Legislation to Issue Driver's Licenses to Undocumented Residents
The NYSACC opposes all legislation that directs County Clerks through their DMV Offices—in violation of Section 502 of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law, to issue driver's licenses to undocumented residents.
- 7) Support Legislation to Restrict All Pistol Permit Information From Public Disclosure
Pistol permit records although sealed at the State level, or not automatically sealed at the local level. The NYSACC strongly supports legislation aimed at restricting all pistol permit information as confidential with the exception for requests from law enforcement agencies. Having this information available to the public could create safety issues for the permit holders and also individuals who do not have guns in their home.

Julie reported an on-site audit was conducted at the Yates County Clerk's Office on 12/02/14 by the Office of Acceptance Facility Oversight (AFO) a division of the U.S. Department of State. A facility report was received on 2/24/15 outlining the performance of the three agents involved in accepting passport applications and the general adherence to the requirements outlined in the Passport Agent's Reference Guide (PARG). The report was positive in its remarks and no items required further attention at this time.

Discussion took place on the financial reports that Julie submitted and what the Committee is actually looking for. Mark will work with Julie on a format for the reports.

Legislature – Connie Hayes

Connie reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Set Date For Public Hearing on proposed Local Law 1-15 entitled A Local Law Of the County Of Yates, New York, Allowing For Common, Safe Items To Be Excluded From The Fireworks And Dangerous Fireworks Definitions As Permitted by New York State Penal Law Section 405(b)
- Resolution to file County Officers annual reports with the Clerk of the Legislature

Connie reviewed a letter that other counties are sending to state representatives pertaining to the new requirements and restrictions affecting IDA's and local economic development and asked if the Committee want to also do a letter. The consensus of the Committee was to put the letter in the form of a resolution for Monday's meeting. Connie will prepare the necessary resolution.

Connie reviewed a resolution that is being passed by counties with regards to the SAFE ACT and asked if the Committee wanted to do another resolution. The consensus of the Committee was to move forward with a resolution.

Discussion took place on legislators using tablets and whether to continue the hard copies of the agendas along with the electronic versions. Connie was asked to do a cost analysis of preparing the agendas and report back. Connie asked that any legislator that is currently having problems

and/or issues with their tablet to please let her or Tim Groth know. Connie will continue to do agendas both hard copies and electronically for a couple more months. Tim Groth suggested that another training session be held at some point on the tablets to bring everyone up to speed on upgrades that have been done.

Personnel – Amy Guererri

Amy reviewed the self-insured workers' compensation proposals. Three were received, a comparison was done on 2 of the proposals as the third was basically a consultant proposal. The consensus of the Committee was to have Amy work with Nonie and the County Attorney regarding the Benetech proposal, and sign the renewal with CorVel for now. Amy was also asked to look into issues pertaining to charges that maybe incurred during a transition period, notice of cancellation period, and implied contracts and report back.

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

- Resolution to authorize Chairman to sign contract renewal CorVel Corporation

County Administrator – Sarah Purdy

Sarah reported she is still waiting for possible dates from CGR for the public meetings on the Shared Services. The consensus of the Committee was to have the public meeting an evening meeting in Yates County, with Legislators, and the Steering Committee present, Department Heads are more than welcome to attend.

Because of time constraints, Sarah's goals will be discuss after one of the meetings tomorrow and Tim's presentation will be done next month.

Meeting postponed at 3:55p.m.

MARCH 3, 2015

The Government Operations meeting was reconvened on March 3, 2015 at 4:27 p.m. where the County Administrator's goals were discussed.

Elden moved to enter executive session to discuss an employee performance, seconded by Bob.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30p.m.