

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**  
Monday, March 29, 2021 - 10:00 AM

***Clerk's note – This meeting was held virtually.***

James Monty, Chairperson  
Thomas Scozzafava, Vice-Chairperson

Chairman Monty called this Ways and Means Meeting to order at 10:00 am with the following Supervisors virtually in attendance: Clayton Barber Robin DeLoria, Archie Depo, Stephanie DeZalia, Shaun Gilliland (in person), Joseph Giordano, Charlie Harrington (arrived after roll call), Roy Holzer, Kenneth Hughes, Steve McNally, Jim Monty, Noel Merrihew, Jay Rand, Tom Scozzafava, Jeffrey Subra, Ike Tyler, Joe Pete Wilson and Davina Winemiller.

Department Heads present: Dan Palmer (in person) Patty Bashaw, Michael Diskin, Laura Carson, Jim Dougan, Judy Garrison, Dan Manning, David Reynolds and Michael Mascarenas.

Also virtually present: Sun News - Tim Rowland, Dan Tedford, Max Thwaites, Matt Watts and Darren Dickerson.

*Clerk's note – Mr. Harrington arrived after the roll call.*

MONTY: I will call this meeting to order and I'll ask you to stand for the pledge. Alright, I was going to ask for an update. Shaun, would you like to give us an update on anything Covid this morning?

GILLILLAND: YES, one, we seem to be holding pretty steady in the county here but if you take a look at the capital district is rising and Clinton County is also rising they've got a lot of schools closed up there and stuff. You know, it's all based on behavior. People think it's all going away because vaccinations and stuff and warm weather, we could be right back, we could set ourselves right back very quickly so the help with the messaging with that, that would be fantastic. When it comes to vaccinations, we are basically scraping the bottom of the barrel of getting people to who are eligible to get to the vaccination clinics. Tomorrow we have a clinic in Willsboro and we've got 90 vacancies that haven't been filled yet. Public Health is getting approximately 200 shots per week, we've got a backlog of that and also, the pharmacies are getting them, some of the pharmacies are getting the vaccinations and not even ordering them. So, in the control room throughout the state, I think every county in the state has been telling the State it's time to change the policy and let's just start putting people in line you know, from 16 and up and then let the public health department and the various counties determine where to go find the disadvantaged populations or the isolated populations because we're at that point. So please get the word out that the vaccination pods are open and they get online with the Public Health Department and sign up and I think you saw that Linda is putting out her pod schedule for the month I know that we're going to have them in Keene and Moriah and Ticonderoga and a couple other towns scheduled over the next month. It's very important. I would highly discourage anybody from getting you know, please discourage vaccine shopping. The J&J comes but it comes in spurts and is not a reliable source. I guess we did get some you know in the county recently but it's just important to get everybody vaccinated as quickly as possible so that we don't get this resurgence like it's happening in Clinton County and down in the Capital district. The Willsboro one tomorrow, if you've got employees or you've got people get them the vaccination. Also Linda has set up and they go online with the public health department and sign up is a stand-by list so at the end of each of these pods if they can't get them, the stand-by list is they'll call people in whether they're

eligible or not to get the shots because it's important you know, once the vaccine is opened or once it's warmed up you got to get it in arms as quickly as possible. That's kind of my report this week. Any questions?

MONTY: Any questions for Shaun?

GILLILLAND: Alright, thank you.

MONTY: Thank you Shaun. Sounds good. Judy, roll call please. Thank you Judy. We have no guests so moving onto resolutions Judy, Human Services.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

**Monday, March 8, 2021**

**Chairman – J. Giordano Vice-Chairman - C. Harrington**

- 1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF ESSEX COUNTY WITH THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR THE 2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FUNDING AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE 2020 ESSEX COUNTY BUDGET. Tyler, Holzer**
- 2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$305,673.04, CARRYOVER 2020 SAMHSA GRANT. Scozzafava, Hughes**
- 3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENTS TO THE ESSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD (CSB), THE MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE AND THE ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUBCOMMITTEE. Giordano, Barber**
- 4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,387.26, CARRY OVER OF RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION FUNDS. Tyler, Scozzafava**
- 5. RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE REVISED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND QUARTERLY REPORTS FOR THE HOME HEALTH SERVICES AND APPROVED BY THE PAC ON 3/2/2021. DeZalia, Tyler**
- 6. RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS TO REKEATH EGELAND UPON HER 104<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. Barber, unanimous**
- 7. RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS TO LUCIA EMILY DOUD WALLACE UPON HER 106<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. Rand, unanimous**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Monday, March 8, 2021**

**Chairman – S. McNally Vice-Chairman – I. Tyler**

8. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND PLACING ON FILE THE 2020 BOARD OF ELECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT. Holzer, Depo
9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 24' TANDEM AXLE TRAILER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,249.00, IN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE HAZMAT CONSORTIUM GRANT. DeLoria, Subra
10. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO DON JAQUISH UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM ESSEX COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT. Scozzafava, unanimous

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Monday, March 8, 2021

Chairman – I. Tyler Vice-Chairman – R. Holzer

11. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 2021 AS AGRICULTURE MONTH. Tyler, Gilliland

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Monday, March 15, 2021

Chairman – R. DeLoria Vice-Chairman – A. Depo

12. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH REALE CONSTRUCTION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,525.00, FOR LABOR AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF THE TRACY ROAD, LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF MORIAH WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Scozzafava, Barber
13. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH REALE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,310.00 FOR LABOR AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF PEARL STREET, LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF CROWN POINT WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Harrington, Scozzafava
14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH REALE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$27,425.00 FOR LABOR AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF HURRICANE ROAD LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF KEENE, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Wilson, Winemiller
15. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO LAKE PLACID MARATHON/INSPIRATION SPORTS, LLC FOR THE USE OF THE COUNTY

**ROADWAYS FOR THE 2021 LAKE PLACID MARATHON TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2021. Rand, Holzer**

**16. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO PRIME HIGHWAY CONTRACTORS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$639,659.80 FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRACY ROAD OVER ASH CRAFT BROOK CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID CONTRACT. DeZalia, DeLoria**

**17. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH ATLANTIC TESTING LABORATORIES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,716.56, FOR THIRD PARTY ASBESTOS AIR AND PROJECT MONITORING FOR THE TOWN OF JAY EMERGENCY SHELTER UPGRADES WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM GOVERNORS OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY. Depo, Holzer**

**18. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO FORT MILLER COMPANY, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$160,670.00 FOR PRECAST CONCRETE BRIDGE MATERIALS FOR THE TRACY ROAD OVER NEW POND BROOK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID CONTRACT. DeZalia, Scozzafava**

**19. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD A PURCHASE ORDER TO PCS CRANE SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,903.75, FOR A 1-TON JIB CRANE WITH MANUAL TROLLEY AND ELECTRIC HOIST, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID PURCHASE ORDER. DeLoria, Giordano**

**20. RESOLUTION SETTING THE DATES AND LOCATIONS OF THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY EVENTS FOR 2021. Tyler, Giordano**

**21. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RESTART OF THE ESSEX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SERVICE EFFECTIVE APRIL 5, 2021 AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ULTRA-VIOLET CLEANING. Rand, Tyler**

**PERSONNEL**

**Monday, March 15, 2021**

**Chairman – S. DeZalia Vice-Chairman – J. Giordano**

- 22. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A REVOKABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH BOQUET VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSES OF INVESTIGATING A LOCATION FOR A NEW CENTRAL SCHOOL ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE COUNTY COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE "THRALL DAM" PROPERTY WHICH CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 450 ACRES IN THE TOWN OF LEWIS. Scozzafava, Giordano**

**FINANCE/TAX REDUCTION/MANDATE RELIEF**

**Monday, March 15, 2021**

**Chairman – T. Scozzafava Vice-Chairman – N. Merrihew**

- 23. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS DONATING LIFE MONTH. Scozzafava, Tyler**

MONTY: I think that should read, Donating for Life.

GARRISON: Okay, thank you.

- 24. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO BONNIE MARKWICA UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM ESSEX COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE. Tyler, unanimous**

- 25. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND PLACING ON FILE THE 2021 REAL PROPERTY ANNUAL REPORT. Giordano, Scozzafava**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- 26. RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC EMPLOYER HEALTH EMERGENCY PLAN. Wilson, Hughes**

- 27. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WENGLAND COMMUNICATIONS LLC FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE MONKTON PROJECT, UPON APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. DeLoria, Gilliland**

MONTY: Discussion?

WINEMILLER: Where is that Jim?

MONTY: The Monkton project? I'm not exactly sure where the location is. Max, you're on, can you enlighten Davina where Monkton is located?

SCOZZAFAVA: Vermont.

THWAITS: It's in Vermont.

SCOZZAFAVA: Vermont.

MONTY: I think it's on the shores, somewhere near Vermont I'm assuming.

SCOZZAFAVA: It's East of Vergennes, near Hinesburg, Vermont.

MONTY: There's been a tower there for years.

WINEMILLER: Alright, thank you.

MONTY: Your welcome. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

**28. RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVIE CAPOZIO UPON CELEBRATING HER 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. Holzer, unanimous**

**29. RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF COVID-19 IN ESSEX COUNTY. Gilliland, unanimous**

**30. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 18-24, 2021. Scozzafava, Winemiller**

MONTY: Resolutions from the floor, Judy.

GARRISON: Everyone should have a copy, it's from the Department of Public Works, a resolution authorizing the purchasing agent to award a contract to Alpine Construction, LLC in the amount of \$360,494.00, for general construction of the Tracy Road over New Pond Brook Bridge replacement project located in the Town of North Hudson with funds to come from budgeted funds and further authorizing the County Chairman or County Manager to execute said contract.

**31. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO ALPINE CONSTRUCTION, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$360,494.00, FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRACY ROAD OVER NEW POND BROOK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID CONTRACT. DeZalia, Scozzafava**

MONTY: Discussion? No discussion, signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

GARRISON: Others I have, Dan, did you want me to read the one from Purchasing?

PALMER: Yes, that would be good Jude.

GARRISON: Resolution authorizing the transfer of \$50,000 from contingency account for contract Misc-22-007, with Trudeau Institute, Inc. for rapid response testing.

**32. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$50,000 FROM CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FOR CONTRACT MISC-22-007, WITH TRUDEAU INSTITUTE, INC. FOR RAPID RESPONSE TESTING. Scozzafava, DeLoria**

MONTY: Discussion?

PALMER: Just as clarification, this was the resolution that you actually authorized last year in October and authorized us to negotiate with Trudeau for that funding stream that we contributed towards laboratory rapid response laboratory that they were building up there. What we ended up negotiating with them was that for all of our county employees covered under our current health insurance that's nearly 900 lives would be able to go to AMC for testing without any back charge to what health insurance doesn't pay. One of the issues we've been running into is that for what's called pandemic control testing if you go anywhere else for that the insurance companies don't provide coverage for that in your back billed from anywhere from \$120 to \$180 dollars for some families that means you know, if their kid is in school and has to be tested they end up having to pay multiple times for this. So, we got an agreement that as long as our members that are covered under health insurance got to AMC, they submit their insurance card first there will be no balance billing for any of those employees and their families.

GILLILLAND: This machine doesn't just cover Corona virus it also does flu viruses and others so it's part of the future pandemic controls and of course Covid is not going to go away completely anytime soon.

MONTY: Thank you. Any questions? No questions signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

GARRISON: That is all I have. I believe the attorney has some.

MONTY: Dan?

PALMER: We can do the EMS ones first. We had a few from the EMS committee, one was an EMS resolution for the Certificate of Need authorizing \$7500 in fee associated with that process of obtaining the countywide certificate of need.

DELORIA: I'll move that.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7500.00 FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE COUNTY-WIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) PROGRAM. DeLoria, Holzer**

MONTY: Discussion? No discussion, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried. Thank you.

PALMER: The second one that came out of EMS was a resolution to extend the contract with EMR billing consultants until December of 2021. That's the current providers of that service and we're just extending the agreement from December of 2020 to December 2021.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESOURCES (EMR) LLC FOR BILLING SERVICES FOR EMS, EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021. DeLoria, Merrihew**

MONTY: Discussion? No discussion, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

PALMER: And the third one was a resolution authorizing the hiring of three, additional per diems under the EMS program which would be covered by budgeted grant funding. I'm not sure that you necessarily need this because I think it was within the 2021 budget however, I think we should just go ahead with a resolution authorizing the hiring of the three per diem positions within the EMS program.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO HIRE THREE (3) ADDITIONAL PER DIEM EMPLOYEES FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) PROGRAM. DeLoria, Tyler**

MONTY: Discussion? No discussion, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried. Is that it Dan?

PALMER: That's all I had under the EMS, yes.

MONTY: Any resolutions from the floor?

SCOZZAFAVA: Yes, I was saddened over the weekend to learn of the passing of Patsy McCaughin. As some of you may be aware, Patsy was the Director of the RSVP Program for Essex County for a number of years, and she was very active not only with the county volunteering but also with our senior citizens and she was a tremendous asset to our community and Essex County and she will be missed. I would like to move a resolution of condolence to her family.

MONTY: I have a motion by Tom. Do I have a second? Thank you.

**RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF PATSY MCCAUGHIN. Scozzafava, unanimous**

MONTY: Anything else Tom?

SCOZZAFAVA: Yes, the only other thing it's not a resolution but I do want to commend our County Manager, Dan Palmer and also Linda Wolf as we are aware we just had a recent audit that was conducted by the Comptroller's Office. They came in and did a quick audit in regards to how we appropriated and spent money during the Covid crisis of last year and as the board is aware hopefully, that they had no findings whatsoever. I did speak to the examiner and they did an excellent job and I just want to say hats off to Dan and Linda for all that they do.

PALMER: Thank you Tom.

MONTY: Thank you. Does someone else have something from the floor?

GILLILLAND: Dan Manning does.

MONTY: Okay, go ahead Dan. I'm sorry.

MANNING: I sent out last week a copy of a resolution introducing Local Law #2 of 2021, with regards to the establishment of the Office of Conflict Defender and as you know we've got a ton of funding from the state Indigent Legal Services Department and one of the uses of this funding is relative to the establishment of a conflict defender's office. The Conflict defender will take all



criminal assigned counsel referrals that the public defender has a conflict over so if there's a conflict with the public defender it comes down to the conflict defender that office will hand those things. This saves us a lot of money because before those conflicts were being handled by our assigned counsel panel which we pay for. In this local law, in the event that the conflict defenders a has conflict then it will go to the assigned counsel panel. The conflict defender will handle misdemeanors, felonies and defend and prosecute appeals. The conflict defender under the local law will be in the unclassified, civil service designation which means that he serves at the pleasure of the board and would not be subject to section 75 civil service law and it's a very lengthy process in the event that you might want to let him go. The Conflict Defender will serve a two-year term and the appointment of which will be at every board that serves. The conflict defender will have the ability to hire people in the future but hiring will be at the province of the board, the board will approve funding and the hiring so this is a good thing. I don't want to belabor this too much. This will be a separate department headed by the conflict defender. The office space is available at the Finucan Building and he'll have all the same and similar duties as all other administrative department heads as far as preparing the budget, coming before the board, giving a monthly report; things of that nature. So that's basically it. So what I would need is just a resolution introducing this local law and a second, discussion and passage and we'll set a hearing date.

MONTY: Okay do I have a motion please?

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2021, ENTITLED,  
"ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF CONFLICT DEFENDER FOR THE COUNTY OF ESSEX"  
Giordano, DeLoria**

MONTY: Discussion? Questions?

SUBRA: Jim, is that assistant just a part-time position?

MANNING: No, the assistant is a full-time position as you see here also paid by ILS and that is basically his administrative assistant. None of this comes out of the county's coffers. None of it. Not his salary, not her salary, not any furniture, not any computers, not any rent absolutely nothing comes out of the county's pocket.

MONTY: If the funding eventually goes away Dan does the positions go away or do we have to absorb them?

MANNING: The funding is for five years. We are told that it won't go away but you know how that goes. I think once you have this particular position and of course you always have the ability to do away with it, that's your province because it is created under local law but I think this is a good thing and will save us money anyway now, if we didn't have this ILS funding we might be paying a little bit more but it might be a better system than what we have in respect to assigned counsel and unfortunately we don't have a ton of assigned counsel attorneys on our panel because we're running out of attorneys or they are either aging out or not coming but they do say they're going to continue with this and it's a big, big statewide program. It's all over. If they want the whole thing to implode then they won't fund it but I suspect but can't promise that it will continue. It's a big agency now. I don't see it going away.

MONTY: Thank you.

MANNING: Especially with our new administration in the White House. I also attached a copy of

the budget for you and I don't want to speak too long, I did talk about this briefly at Personnel and you'll see that we've said a lot of money through this program. I mean, the office rental that we pay over at Finucane's, the blade server almost \$70,000 that we would have to pay anyway, fiber optic cable, Internet, eleven grand that we would have to pay anyway, office renovations over \$30,000, waste removal stuff like that, all the computers and furniture that everybody needs, any updates to those, investigator all sorts of things. We would have paid for so it has come through this program.

The third year budget, we have approved years one and two but the third year budget we're working on and we'll get that before you for your approval and comment. That's it on that.

MONTY: Okay, any further questions, discussion? No further questions all in favor signify by saying aye, anyone opposed – carried.

MANNING: The second resolution I'm asking for is the resolution introducing proposed Local Law #3, which is a local law to establish a sustainable energy loan program, open C-Pace program in Essex County. We've talked about this before. This is the program that basically the impetus for, the passage of the law has come from a large project in the Town of North Elba which is going to be very beneficial not only the Town of North Elba but to the area, two-hundred fifty-five apartments. Did I get that right or are they condos? Apartments I believe then a bunch of condos then some free standing homes, a pavilion up where the old Trudeau Institute used to be. We've been going back and forth with the Energy Improvement Corporation who have been authorized by the State through NYSERDA to participate in these programs. The basic premise of the program is this; we establish the program but Energy Improvement Corporation administers it. What they do is they have a pool of investors that will lend money on these projects. The purpose being for green energy so the project, the builder and the architect propose a plan with a bunch of green energy stuff you know and run the gamut from anaerobic digesters to windmills to solar to geothermal, the whole nine yards anything in that respect. Then these investors will loan the money to the builder. The builder will sign a thing that looks like a mortgage that gets filed in the Essex County Clerk's office away they go. The builder has to repay the private financiers but we have nothing to do with any other mechanisms in there. The Energy Improvement Corporation is our agent handling this, finding the investors, hooking them up, monitoring it. There's certain criteria that NYSERDA authorizes, needs to be done they take care of that. So, there's no really no county involvement. They will report to us what's going on but there's no county involvement. In the past there looked like there to be a few problems in the event of foreclosure those are, I don't believe that those are a major impediment to doing this. Theoretically can something happen, yes but I don't see it happening because none of these financiers are going to risk losing their money without paying the taxes in the event that there is a tax foreclosure. And then what I have done, just to see how we're going to proceed with this program, is I also gotten an amendment, letter amendment that they're going to do after they sign the contract limiting this only to the Lake Placid project so we can see what it's like, get our feet wet and then if anyone approaches us again we'll just issue another letter so that we're comfortable with what's going on. So that's basically it. I need a resolution, second, discussion as into the introduction.

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2021, ENTITLED, "A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY LOAN PROGRAM (OPEN C-PACE) IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX. Rand, DeLoria**

MONTY: Discussion, questions?

RAND: I would just like to thank Dan for his persistent in this. I know it's been very trying, very time consuming and at times frustrating and I assure you Dan has looked into every inch of this for the county and I think it's going to be a very, very important project to the Town of North Elba and the surrounding are. It's a huge, huge project and the contractor obviously is facing challenges that are unprecedented and anything that we can do to help them get this accomplished certainly in my opinion needs to be done and I certainly would appreciate everybody's support and again, thank Dan for all of his persistence on this.

MONTY: Thank you Jay. Anyone else? No one else, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed, carried. Anything else Dan?

MANNING: No.

MONTY: Shaun?

GILLILLAND: If there is no other business I want to have the discussion about going back into in person meetings. I know that we originally had come up and said we're going to do it for ways and means the next ways and means in April. I did talk to Linda Beers about it and you know, based upon the you know, the rates of vaccination and things I think, I do believe that every member of this board is eligible for the vaccine so hopefully you all have taken advantage of it and I think we're probably in a good position to go back to in person and I would propose that we go ahead and do the committee meetings next week in person. I think it's important for us to get together and discuss these things and have some, to do our job legislating that way. So I would just throw it out there for discussion I don't think we need to take a vote on it but we can just by unanimous consent unless somebody has an objection to actually going back to the way of course that would be that we're going to be wearing masks, going back to the sitting in kind of the funky way we sit, pandemic seating but does anybody have an objection to doing that next week? Regular next week.

MONTY: I think it's a good idea Shaun. Zoom meetings and Goto meetings are fine but I think we're going to have better discussion when we are in person.

GILLILLAND: I concur. Does anybody dissent from that? Well, Mr. Chairman I would say by unanimous consent we will do that.

TYLER: I just wanted to add, I'm only 45 years old so I can't get the shot yet. *(laughter)*

SCOZZAFAVA: I'm getting mine Wednesday in Willsboro. The pharmacy has J&J. One stop, one shot, over.

MONTY: I guess we will meet in person, starting regular board in April. If there's nothing else to come before the board, we stand adjourned. Thank you.

As there was no further discussion to come before this ways and means committee it was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Garrison, Clerk  
Board of Supervisors