

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
Monday, January 29, 2024 - 10:00 AM

James Monty, Chairman
Charlie Harrington, Vice-Chairman

Chairman Monty called this Ways & Means committee to order at 10:00 am with the following Supervisors in attendance: Clayton Barber, Matthew Brassard, Chris Clark, Robin DeLoria, Derek Doty, Shaun Gilliland, Charlie Harrington, Ken Hughes, Steve McNally, James Monty, Cathleen Reusser, Favor Smith, Matt Stanley, Ike Tyler, Joe Pete Wilson, Davina Winemiller, Margaret Wood and Mark Wright.

Department Heads present: James Dougan, Judy Garrison, Dan Manning, Michael Mascarenas and David Reynolds.

Also present: William Tansey, Josh Favro, Rob Wick, Elizabeth Terry, Nicole Justice-Green and Alison Webbinaro – Governor’s Office Regional Representative, North Country.

News media: Sun News – Alana Penny.

MONTY: Good morning everyone. We'll call the ways and means to order if you would stand with me with the salute to the flag. Thank you. Roll call Judy, please. Thank you. This morning we are honored to have Alison Webbinaro from the Governor’s office here this morning. Alison if you would like to come up and address the board we would appreciate it.

WEBINARO: I'll do what I can. Good morning. I'm Alison Webbinaro. I'm the new North Country Regional Representative for Governor Hochul’s office. I had the pleasure of meeting some of you already. I just officially started in December previously I was the North Country Regional Rep for the Department of Labor so I got to meet some of you in that capacity as well. I live in Peru so I'm pretty close to Essex County and spend quite a bit of time down here but I do cover the whole North Country region so I feel really grateful that you have given me some time this morning. I really just wanted to come and kind of learn and get a sense of what's going on down here. I've got to sit in on the EMS committee meeting previously and so happy to take any questions for you. Also, happy to plan some time directly with you in your community if that's helpful and you guys have my contact information so I'll make sure if you all get a copy of my email and my cell phone number.

MONTY: Thank you. Are there any questions for Alison?

WILSON: Hi it's a pleasure to meet you Alison. I am JoePete Wilson from the Town of Keene and I would just hope that you pass along to the Governor my thanks and I think from a lot of our small towns for the money she added at the last minute for drinking water and clean water another round. The effort that Essex County some of our Supervisors made to get that message. We really appreciate it was heard but it's a really critical thing to think about sizing for our communities, 1100 people while you're a giant town I Ti of 6,000, less than a 1,000, 1100 and a lot of the DRI stuff even the New York Forward programs that was supposed to be for small communities still couldn't work in a town of size of me and my neighborhoods so that message is what I would like you to pass along. Thank you for hearing it and responding and please infuse that into thinking about the grant programs that are not just for water but the last issues we face. Thank you.

WEBBINARO: Absolutely. Thank you for that. You know that is an issue that's not unique to the north country but it is really prevalent for us so that's absolutely something that not just with the grant programs but also with housing there's a number of issues that we are trying to tackle for our small communities and for our larger communities but for our larger communities especially. Absolutely.

WILSON: Thank you.

MONTY: Thank you.

GILLILLAND: We've noticed a less than favorable trend in towns and local government's relationships with regulatory agencies, the State's regulatory agencies. In the past it has been a collegial relationship in that we could look at various state departments as partners in solving problems. Our regulatory agencies we understand that and if there was a problem we had a discussion on how to fix it and the best way to move forward with it and kind of partner with looking for grants or the financing for issues and things. What we are developing now is more of a bureaucrat to edict relationship and I think each of the towns have felt this and I have felt this at the town level. At the county level, for instance we're not allowed to have a landfill in Essex County and that in fact handed down during the Pataki administration and the agreement was that we had to truck all of our solid waste out and we get a \$300,000 a year stipend from the Governor's office that was supposed to go in the budget, that was supposed to go for 20 years and that 20 year initial agreement came up and more and more came in. We were very happy to see the \$300,000 was in this year's Governor's budget and hadn't been cutoff but all of sudden out of the blue we get a bureaucrat DEC somewhere in the tower of Albany saying, we're not going to pay you the last three years \$300,000 because you don't have a solid waste plan so my answer initially was we don't have a solid waste plan because we don't have a solid waste facility, we truck it out therefore the regulatory agency should be the Department of Transportation not the DEC. That kind of capricious, we are not going to pay you for money that we depend on to keep our solid waste going because what happens if we raise our resident's rates significantly to pay for solid waste where does that all end up? It ends up in the woods. That is what happens and we're trying to prevent that.

There's the issue with our Fish Hatchery we are having that we are fighting our way through right now but also had been pretty much capricious relationship and arbitrary announcements of what limits are and things and not just, acting as an overarching regulatory and not as a partner. We would as local government out here - we want to let you know that's the way we are feeling and I'm not trying to hammer you on the head but I think it needs to be addressed.

WEBBINARO: No, that's okay I hear your frustration there. Those are really significant issues that I would love to make some time to talk through with you so that I can get a good understanding of the history of it and where it is now and what we are hoping to move forward with and same goes for any of you if you have an issue in your community longstanding or new that you think should come to my attention I would be happy to meet with you, dig into it and then I can try to advocate and learn at the state level about what's going on and see if there's a way that I can help facilitate an outcome.

SMITH: You said you are stationed in Peru, do you have regular office hours, contact information?

WEBBINARO: I have an office on the Oval in Plattsburgh but I do quite a bit of regional travel so I actually haven't had anybody come to my office because I've kind of just gone to everybody else. Happy to host you in Plattsburgh at the Oval. I'm in the One Work Source Building but also

happy to come to you if you would like that.

SMITH: Thank you.

MONTY: Any other questions?

WINEMILLER: I was at the Mt Van Hoevenberg when the Governor spoke and she mentioned opening up state land for use and I just wanted some clarification on that?

WEBBINARO: I think the hope is to take a look at some state facilities that are going unused and potentially use them for housing.

WINEMILLER: Okay and I know that I saw you there and Shaun and I spoke with the Governor and we specifically asked about using Moriah Shock facility for a mental health facility and we really hope that something like that could happen mental health or something that is seriously lacking in Essex County and that facility is vacant so that would be a perfect use for that.

WEBBINARO: Absolutely. I will follow up.

WINEMILLER: Thank you.

MONTY: Any other questions for Alison?

HARRINGTON: Is that a statement or is that under consideration on Moriah Shock?

WEBBINARO: That was brought up to the Governor the other day so it's not, as far as I know it's not something that has been officially talked about because it was just brought up to her.

WINEMILLER: I just mentioned to her.

WEBBINARO: But it is on a list that I shared with the Governor a follow up.

HARRINGTON: What other alternatives are there in regards to Moriah Shock?

WEBBINARO: I'm not aware of any at this moment but it is something that is on my list to dig into.

HARRINGTON: Just a general statement, I would have thought that the Government would have had a plan going forward before Moriah Shock was closed and I would have thought that a very specific assessment would have been made in regards to the qualities of Moriah Shock and the payback to society before it was closed.

WEBBINARO: I hear you and not having been here when that was closed I don't have insight of what the process was but it is absolutely something I will look into to see if there was an assessment and I can follow up with you on that.

HARRINGTON: It appears to me that it is murky at best.

WEBBINARO: I don't know the answer to that but I am happy to look into that for you.

DELORIA: Alison I do want to thank you for coming to our EMS subcommittee meeting. You'll

note that the people that sat at that table are professionals and we're very well versed in what we are doing in that EMS committee. Thank you Shaun for bringing her in. That's the place to step foot into Essex County is that room and I appreciate you coming.

WEBBINARO: It was really my pleasure. I was really impressed with you guys have going on in that committee and I'm very happy to be here too to listen to your next meeting.

BRASSARD: Thank you for coming. Thank you Charlie, I echo what he said the Governor should have had a plan for Moriah Shock now the housing I want the Governor to realize and I'm pretty sure she does, that our infrastructure especially in Moriah and this county we can't really take on a housing project very large there so unless there's a lot of money following that I just don't see how that's a feasible thing but the mental health facility that's a group that maybe could work there. I appreciate you bringing that up and I hope we can do something because it's a great facility, lights are on, heat are still on which I thank the state for doing that. I think we all know once it goes dark and cold it's hard to reopen something. I appreciate it.

DOTY: Hello Ally. Procedurally do you know if the appointments committee is in session already this year or are they awaiting final acceptance of the budget before? There is so many appointments around the state that are delayed a year or more and one of them is important for me in North Elba.

WEBBINARO: Yes, I honestly don't know if the appointments committee is in session but I do know that appointments are being actively worked on every day and we're working to do some catch up and we're also working to make sure that the new appointments are also not you know, put back to where the ones that need to be caught up on.

DOTY: I guess it's my polite way of saying should I be a squeaky wheel again?

WEBBINARO: I would. I think you know, it doesn't hurt to the squeaky wheel. Not you, maybe it hurts me but it doesn't hurt you but yeah, absolutely if there's an appointment that you are looking for please reach out to me and I can move it up the line and at least see where it is in the process.

DOTY: Very good. Thank you.

MONTY: Any other questions for Alison? I would like to say Alison I would be more than happy to sit down and talk to you about Moriah Shock having been someone who worked there for 21 years and someone who was involved each time that they were tentatively planning to close the facility, going to Albany addressing the legislators on this closure and also I worked for 8 years in the Governor's office in the Employee's Assistance Program, I facilitated five prison closures helping the employees go places and this isn't on you but the state has never had a plan for any of those facilities when they closed.

WEBBINARO: Good to know.

MONTY: But I would be glad to talk to you at any time on that.

WEBBINARO: Yes, I would be happy to sit down and have a conversation about that.

MONTY: Thank you. And Alison is going to attend our housing meeting at 11:00. No other questions? Thank you very much.

WEBBINARO: Thank you.

MONTY: Judy, resolutions.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Chairman – M. Wright Vice-Chairman – I. Tyler

- 1. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND PLACING ON FILE THE 2023 WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ANNUAL REPORT. Tyler, Wright**
- 2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES TO ACCEPT THE 2024 LIST OF DEPUTY FIRE COORDINATORS AND INVESTIGATORS. DeLoria, Barber**
- 3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD PAYMENT TO THE CITY OF GLENS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,884.82, FOR BACKFILL COST OF HAZMAT TRAINING WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM HAZMAT CONSORTIUM GRANT FY20. Doty, Tyler**
- 4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD THE BID AND ISSUE CONTRACTS/PURCHASING ORDERS TO BEARCOM FOR RADIO TECHNICIAN. Wright, Wood**
- 5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR THE INSPECTION OF THE TERRY MOUNTAIN RADIO TOWER. Tyler, Wood**

MONTY: Mike would you like to update us on that?

MASCARENAS: At the committee meeting it was asked where the money was coming from and what the cost was. The cost was \$4500 and the fund will be coming from the SICG which is State Interoperable Communications grant.

MONTY: Further questions? No further questions all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Chairman – I. Tyler Vice-Chairman – C. Barber

- 6. RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEPHANIE DEZALIA TO THE ESSEX COUNTY LAND BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Winemiller, Doty Opposed – McNally, Gilliland**

HUMAN SERVICES

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Chairman – JP. Wilson Vice-Chairman - C. Harrington

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH ADIRONDACK FOUNDATION AND THE MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR A PROJECT TO TRACK AND REPORT THE EXPERIENCES OF PARENTS, INFANTS AND TODDLERS IN RURAL ESSEX COUNTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00, WHICH WILL BE PAID ON AN HOURLY BASIS OF \$75.00 WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Harrington, Brassard
8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOARD TERM RENEWALS FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD, MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEES. Winemiller, DeLoria
9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO ALLOCATE \$149,594.00 OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDING THROUGH OASIS TO PROVIDERS AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN ALIGNMENT WITH NYS OSF GUIDELINES. Wright, Doty
10. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO KRISSEY LEERKES, DIRECTOR OF OFFICE FOR THE AGING. Gilliland, unanimous
11. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,100.00 - NYS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH RESEARCH. Brassard, Tyler
12. RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE REVISED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND QUARTERLY REPORTS FOR THE HOME HEALTH SERVICES AND APPROVED BY THE PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (PHAC) ON DECEMBER 5, 2023. Winemiller, Doty
13. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM THE GENEROUS ACTS PROGRAM THROUGH ADIRONDACK FOUNDATION. Wood, Barber

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Monday, January 22, 2024

Chairman – R. DeLoria Vice-Chairman – C. Barber

14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO THE WILMINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR THE USE OF THE COUNTY ROADWAYS FOR THE 2024 WILMINGTON WHITEFACE WHISKEY RUN 5K AND 10K TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024. Smith, Barber
15. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO THE TOWN OF TICONDEROGA FOR THE USE OF THE COUNTY ROADWAYS FOR THE 2024 TICONDEROGA TRIATHLON FESTIVAL TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024. Wright, Harrington
16. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE FOR SHARED

HIGHWAY SERVICES TO BE REIMBURSED ON A TIME AND MATERIAL BASIS FOR ANY SHARED HIGHWAY WORK WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Doty, Stanley

- 17. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD A PURCHASE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$234,668.00, TO THE FORT MILLER COMPANY, INC. FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE BOX CULVERT PIECES WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID PURCHASE ORDER. DeLoria, Tyler**

MONTY: Discussion?

WINEMILLER: Where are the parts going?

MONTY: Do you have a specific location for these culverts Jim or are they just for your inventory?

DOUGAN: Some are specific for example, Ensign Pond Road that was damaged on December 18th that culvert, right there near the handshake is going to receive some of the 4x8 pieces then we've got a section on county Route 10 that is going to get some of the 10x6 pieces right off the bat. The others are going into our inventory.

WINEMILLER: Thank you.

MONTY: Thank you. Further questions? No further questions, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

- 18. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH H&T ENGINEERING SERVICES, PLLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,500.00, FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO INCLUDE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DESIGN, PERMITTING AND CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR THE HURRICANE ROAD OVER SPRUCE MILL BROOK CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF KEENE WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Wilson, Stanley**

- 19. RESOLUTION SETTING THE DATES AND LOCATIONS OF THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY EVENTS FOR 2024. (JULY 6TH – TOWN OF NORTH ELBA, JULY 20TH – ESSEX COUNTY DPW, AUGUST 3RD – TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON, AUGUST 24TH – TOWN OF TICONDEROGA) Tyler, Doty**

- 20. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR THE ALEXANDRIA AVENUE OVER LAKE GEORGE OUTLET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF TICONDEROGA. Wright, Brassard**

- 21. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR THE ENSIGN POND ROAD OVER MILL BROOK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF MORIAH. Brassard, Wright**

22. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR THE COUNTY ROUTE 83, SPRINGFIELD ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF JAY. Stanley, Barber

23. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE ADIRONDACK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TO COORDINATE STUDENTS WITH ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FOR JOB SHADOWING AND UNPAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. Smith, Winemiller

24. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ESSEX COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT'S DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. DeLoria, Doty

MONTY: Discussion?

HUGHES: What's the amendment?

MASCARENAS: It is changes to the Federal policy which is where we get all of our funding from for the bus drivers in particular so the changes won't be to the normal rank and file or normal policies it's really around the passenger endorsed bus drivers. Did I miss anything Jim?

DOUGAN: There's some new technology out for drug testing, drug and alcohol including cheek swabs that policy specific only allow urine and blood testing and breathalyzers so the new Federal Transit's policy adds that addition of option if a particular health center offers that for testing most of them cannot but we still have to state comply with Federal Transit Authority.

HUGHES: Thank you.

MONTY: Further questions?

WINEMILLER: I just have a question with regards to employees that drive vehicles that are not DOT, so folks that might drive a vehicle that's not a plow truck is it in the personnel policy?

MASCARENAS: Yes. It won't be this stringent but yes, we do have drug and alcohol testing for anybody that's going to operate, for all county employees whether or not they operate a county vehicle and if there's an accident there's policy and procedure that goes along with that to make sure the person wasn't impaired at the time of the accident.

WINEMILLER: Okay, thank you.

MONTY: Further questions? No further questions, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

25. RESOLUTION INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO CREATE THE OFFICE OF ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. DeLoria, Doty

26. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CORNELL UNIVERSITY TO INCLUDE THE ESSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN A STUDY PERFORMED BY THEIR SPRING 2024 SOPHOMORE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDIO CLASS. Harrington, Stanley

27. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANNA REYNOLDS AS THE MEMBER AT LARGE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A THREE YEAR TERM BEGINNING 1/2/2024 – 12/31/2026. Tyler, Gilliland

PERSONNEL

Monday, January 22, 2024

Chairman – K. Hughes Vice-Chairman – JP. Wilson

28. RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR HOUCUL AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO INCLUDE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS IN THE HELP PROGRAM EXPANSION. Gilliland, unanimous
29. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH JUSTIN MEYER, ESQ. EXPANDING THE DUTIES OF ASSIGNED COUNSEL ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS. Smith, Winemiller
30. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ESSEX COUNTY POLICY MANUAL AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED. Monty, Gilliland
31. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO UPS DRIVER, COREY HOWE FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2023, WHEN HE CAME UPON A ROLLOVER CRASH ON STATE ROUTE 73, IN THE TOWN OF KEENE. Wilson, unanimous

FINANCE/TAX REDUCTION/MANDATE RELIEF

Monday, January 22, 2024

Chairman – S. McNally Vice-Chairman – R. DeLoria

32. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN UPGRADE TO THE FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE FROM THE ESSEX COUNTY SERVER ROOM TO REAL PROPERTY, TREASURERS, PROBATION TO COURT, COURT TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,359.40, WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE IT CAPITAL PROJECT 13-2. Wright, Tyler
33. RESOLUTION URGING GOVER HOCHUL AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE EMPIRE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE GUARANTEE AND THE ADDITIONAL \$97 MILLION IN OPERATING FUNDS FOR SUNY COMMUNITY COLLEGES. Wilson, unanimous
34. RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF ROBERT DOBIE. Clark, unanimous

MISCELLANEOUS

35. RESOLUTION SETTING THE DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M. ON THE ADDITION OF ONE PARCEL TO THE ESSEX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT #1. Winemiller, DeLoria

MONTY: Discussion? Do we know what parcel that is?

MASCARENAS: I don't.

GARRISON: We do. I don't have it in my file here but I will get a copy out to everyone.

MONTY: All in favor, opposed – carried. Miscellaneous – Dan?

MANNING: I have nothing.

MONTY: I would like to offer courtesy of the floor to Rob Wick to come up and walk us through these resolutions.

MASCARENAS: We had a number of resolution that were approved at the EMS committee this morning. I asked Rob to stick around for any questions that may come up as a result of them.

WICK: Good morning everyone. So the first resolution we brought forth today was, it kind of came after we did the budget approval for 2024 so we had a couple of staffing increases here. The first one is to support the Town of Moriah, Moriah EMS they are asking for one additional EMT to be added to the contract of services.

MASCARENAS: They all got the resolutions in this order.

GARRISON: Dina handed copies out to everyone earlier.

WICK: Okay so the first one you should have in front of you is for approval to require (2) refurbished AED monitors for Elizabethtown-Lewis EMS.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR (2) REFURBISHED AED MONITORS FOR THE ELIZABETHTOWN-LEWIS EMS AND THE TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN AND LEWIS TO BE PAID FROM DoS GRANT. Wood Monty

MONTY: Discussion?

WINEMILLER: I was under the impression that everyone had gotten new AED monitors a couple of years ago? Is that not true?

WICK: There were a number of them that did go out yes, so this is to replace some of the older ones that didn't get replaced previously yes.

WINEMILLER: Alright, thank you.

MONTY: Further questions? No further questions, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

WICK: The next resolution is for entering into an agreement with Bearcomm Communications for GPS tracking services. This is for the medic cars and the ambulances that we have and those that are going to be coming so we've already acquired the hardware and we already got budgeted for the installation, this is for the annual service agreement for all of that.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO

EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BEARCOMM COMMUNICATIONS FOR GPS TRACKING SERVICES FOR THE ESSEX COUNTY EMS MEDIC CARS AND AMBULANCES WITH FUNDS TO COME FROM THE DoS GRANT. DeLoria, Doty

MONTY: Discussion?

MANNING: I just had a quick question Rob is that the \$1,368, the entire contract amount or per month?

WICK: No, that's per year.

MANNING: Okay thanks just so I know what to put in there.

MONTY: Further questions? No further questions, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

WICK: Dan, just real quick to answer your question on the back side of that resolution is the proposal.

MANNING: I see it thank you.

WICK: Okay the next resolution is to approve going out to bid for an all-wheel drive type II ambulance this is the sprinter type ambulances that you've seen around. We had that in our budget we just want to go ahead and get the procurement cycle rolling on that because it takes a very long time to get those in, to get those up fitted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO GO OUT TO BID FOR AN AWD TYPE-II AMBULANCE FOR THE ESSEX COUNTY EMS WITH BUDGETED FUNDS REIMBURSED BY DoS GRANT. DeLoria, Stanley

MONTY: Discussion?

GILLILLAND: Is this going to be kept at the Public Safety building or what is this ambulance's role?

WICK: I believe it is going to be housed at the public safety building, yes. It will be for the county.

McNALLY: The Mercedes, are they Type II?

WICK: Yes.

McNALLY: Because we just purchased one for a couple years ago for \$140,000.

MASCARENAS: The budget number is the budget number it's not what we are going to spend so we have to come back to the board for any approval of that.

McNALLY: I would think it would be closer to \$200,000

MASCARENAS: I know they've gone up lately like everything else but I would be surprised if it doubled.

McNALLY: The maximum ones were around \$280,000 when we purchased ours so it will be less money than the \$300,000 probably.

MASCARENAS: Yeah so we'll see where that final number comes but in order to award the bid it will have to come back to the board so this is just supply & budgeted amount of funds to do that.

MONTY: Further questions? No further questions, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

WICK: The next resolution is to establish positions. Now these are going to be creating basically locations for us to move personnel into as an administrative matter so we can have the appropriate positions at personnel defined for part-time per diem individuals so as this reads, I just want to make sure everyone understands that we are not trying to go out and hire right now an additional x amount of people for each one of these skill sets this is just for us to work with the personnel to have these positions established within our roles so that as we have EMS practioners that are rooting from full time and part time status's that we can have that there as a means to move them so to speak so that we're not having to start this all over again and we don't have to come before the board to add positions every time a circumstance like this comes up.

MASCARENAS: Yeah so what you see at the bottom of that resolution is \$54,000 that's budgeted for these per diem and part time positions so it won't be your traditional budget where you have funds allocated to all those positions it will be not to exceed this amount of \$54,000 as we approach that they will have to return to the board so it's really about having that continuous recruitment set up with civil service so that every time a position becomes available you are not waiting an additional ten days on it and people that are switching from full time to part time and vice-versa it's really just to kind of streamline that process a little bit.

WICK: Correct, this will allow us to much more expediently cover all staff changes and holes in the schedules that sort of thing and support the agencies.

WINEMILLER: Are these folks part of the union, this group of employees is there a union that represents them?

MASCARENAS: Yes any employee that's under management would fall under the CSEA.

WINEMILLER: Okay and this is okay with them?

MASCARENAS: They don't get to directly deploy workforce or determine staffing levels for departments that resides with us, that's our job.

WINEMILLER: Okay, thank you.

MONTY: Can I have a motion on that?

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO ESTABLISH PER DIEM STAFFING FOR 20 EMT's, 10 AEMT – CRITICAL CARE, 10 AEMT's AND 10 PARAMEDICS TO PROVIDE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING COVERAGE. DeLoria, Stanley

MONTY: I guess we had our discussion. All in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried.

WICK: The next resolution is the one I was going to start off with earlier. This is to hire additional EMT for Moriah EMS, this came in after we had already approved our staffing and our budget for 2024, so this is in addition to what they already have.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO HIRE ONE ADDITIONAL EMT TO THE TOWN OF MORIAH EMS, WITH WAGES TO BE PAID BY MORIAH EMS FROM DoS GRANT. Brassard, Wright

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

WICK: And the next one is similarly is for the Tow of Ticonderoga and Ticonderoga EMS this is adding two additional EMT's this is additional to the one they are already going to be receiving for 2024 so this a net total of three to be added for Ticonderoga EMS for 2024.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO HIRE TWO ADDITIONAL EMTs TO THE TOWN OF TICONDEROGA EMS, WITH WAGES TO BE PAID BY TICONDEROGA EMS FROM DoS GRANT. DeLoria, Wright

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

WICK: Okay and the last one here is in response to those three staffing increases we are requesting an increase to the 2024 budget for those people for both wages and fringes and as typical, the wages are going to be paid by the EMS agencies and the county is covering the fringes and the EMS grant that we have from DoS is going to be covering essentially what is the county is going to be putting forth for in fringes.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE EMS CONSOLIDATION INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$271,765.48, NYS DOS GRANT. DeLoria, Gilliland

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

MASCARENAS: We do have one more resolution urging New York State Department of Health Bureau EMS, New York State EMS Council and New York State Emergency Medical Advisory to reconsider the decision to eliminate the EMT critical care level effective July 1st of this year. We have 19 responding critical care EMT's in Essex County and 98 responding critical care level EMT's within the Mountain Lakes region this decision will have a huge impact on our patients' access to higher level of advance life support throughout Essex County and New York State as a whole.

RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, THE NEW YORK STATE EMS COUNCIL, AND THE NEW YORK STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL ADVISORY TO RECONSIDER THE ELIMINATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE EMT CRITICAL CARE LEVEL, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027. Tyler, unanimous

MONTY: Is there any resolutions from the floor? If there are no resolutions from the floor –

TYLER: I don't have a resolution but I think the supervisors should understand how important that July 1st date is. I mean we did this resolution but it's critical that we don't lose our 19 people that we have in this county that are doing this and I don't know how it's going to play out but it's not

good for any of us.

MONTY: Thank you. Anything other from the floor? If not we are going to adjourn temporarily before we come back into session because we have to turn it over to Chairman Gilliland for a public hearing at 10:45 a.m. So our regular session will be adjourned temporarily and I will turn it over to Mr. Gilliland.

THE COMMITTEE ADJOURNED AT 10:45 A.M. TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING AND
CAME BACK INTO SESSION AT 10:47 A.M.

MONTY: Alright, I will entertain a motion to continue our ways and means meeting. Ms. Winemiller, second by Mr. Clark. You have a resolution Mr. Manning?

MANNING: Yes, as we just had the public hearing making the changes to the text and appendices of the civil service rules with respect to the case worker, social services worker and call taker-dispatcher I would ask for a resolution approving those changes and authorizing the Personnel Director and myself to send the necessary paperwork to the State of New York.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REQUEST TO THE NEW YORK STATE CIVIL SERVICE TO AMEND THE ESSEX COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE RULES BY MAKING CERTAIN CHANGES TO THE TEXT AND APPENDICES AND RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE POSTIONS. Hughes, Doty

MONTY: Discussion? No discussion, all in favor signify by saying aye, opposed – carried. We've been asked to go into an executive session so I will entertain a motion that we adjourn and go into executive session – Mr. DeLoria, second Mr. Gilliland. It is for a Personnel contract.

THE COMMITTEE MOVED INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:48 A.M. TO DISCUSS A
PERSONNEL CONTRACT AND RETURNED AT 11:20 A.M.

MONTY: Okay, can I have a motion to come out of executive session – Mr. DeLoria, second by Ms. Winemiller. Nothing was decided or voted on in executive session. Anything further to come before ways and means? We stand adjourned and we'll go into housing in less than five, thank you.

As there was no further discussion to come before this ways and means committee it was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Garrison, Clerk
Board of Supervisors