

PURSUANT TO THE STATE OF EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.1 ARTICLE 7, SUSPENSION OF LAW ALLOWING THE ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS TELEPHONICALLY OR OTHER SIMILAR SERVICE

Members Attending: Ms. Curran, Mr. Acres, Mr. Fay, Ms. Haggard Mr. Lightfoot, ~~Mr. Reagen~~, and Mr. Smithers

Members Attending via Videoconference: Mr. Arquiatt, Mr. Burke, Mr. Denesha, Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Sheridan and Ms. Terminelli

Others Attending via Videoconference: Ruth Doyle, Dylan Soper, Kelly Pearson, Stephen Button, Tim LePage, James McGahan, and Jason Pfothenauer

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ms. Curran called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Haggard moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ms. Haggard moved to approve the February 8th meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Reagen).

3. COVID-19 UPDATE – Dr. McGuire and Dr. Williams

4. PROBATION – TIM LEPAGE

A. Declaring April Sexual Assault Awareness Month (Res) – Mr. Fay moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

B. Approval of Bad Debt Write Off for the Probation Department (Res) (Info) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Acres), and one (1) absent (Reagen).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign the Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Service Plan Contract (Res) – Ms. Haggard moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services to Accept a FY21 Alternative to Incarceration, Pre-Trial, and Electronic Home Monitoring Grant (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

5. PUBLIC DEFENDER – JAMES MCGAHAN

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services to Accept the Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant for 2020 through 2023 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

6. PLANNING – JASON PFOTENHAUER

A. Designating April 2021 as Fair Housing Month (Res) (Info) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

B. Proclaiming Earth Day in St. Lawrence County (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Haggard and Ms. Terminelli.

Ms. Terminelli asked to be added as a co-sponsor to the resolution.

Motion carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

Mr. Pfothenauer said the St. Lawrence County Fair Housing Task Force sent a memo to the Board of Legislators regarding the potential for a large number of evictions that will happen when the eviction moratorium ends. The Fair Housing Task Force requests that the County take up the issue of evictions as a Legislative Agenda.

C. Authorizing the Planning Office to Apply for Community Development Block Grant Funding and for the Chair to Sign Necessary Application Documentation and a Contract with the New York State Office of Community Renewal (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Acres and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

D. Lead Grant Update (Discussion) – Mr. Pfothenauer

E. Broadband Survey Efforts (Discussion) – Mr. Pfothenauer

7. LEGISLATOR RITA CURRAN

A. Recognizing the Month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

8. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE

A. Summary – Ms. Doyle

B. Emergency Services – Matt Denner requested to fill a Senior Dispatcher (612400003) and Dispatcher (612100022) positions in Emergency Services.

C. Information Technology – Ms. Doyle requested to fill Director of Information Technology (202400001) position in the IT Department.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Ms. Doyle said today is International Women’s Day, and she wanted to let everyone know that fifty-nine (59%) percent of the County workforce is female.

The County will extend the State of Emergency for thirty (30) additional days, with the intention of bringing County staff back into the office at 100% capacity by mid-April. The County buildings will be open to the public in May, as long as the number of COVID-19 cases stay down.

A vaccination clinic was held at the Massena Community Center today. Clinics are scheduled in Gouverneur on Thursday and Ogdensburg at the Dome on Friday. These clinics are posted on the County website with links for the public to sign up for the vaccine.

Each year the Board Office requests contributions towards a flower fund to be used for funeral services from Legislators and Department Heads.

NYSAC is hosting Lobby Days this Wednesday and Thursday.

The Youth Bureau is partnering with Office for the Aging for a pen pal program between youth and senior citizens.

Ms. Doyle said she met with Legislator Lightfoot, Chair of the Search Committee, regarding setting a meeting with the entire Public Health Director Search Committee.

NYSAC will host a discussion on stimulus relief package.

An update will be forthcoming on the SMART Path project once the weather breaks.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board – no report
- B. Alternatives to Incarceration Board – no report
- C. Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library – no report
- D. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board – no report
- E. Environmental Management Council – Ms. Terminelli
- F. Fire Advisory Board – Mr. Denesha
- G. Intercounty Legislative Committee – Ms. Curran
- H. Jury Board – no report
- I. Planning Board – Mr. Fay

11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Arquiett said at the last meeting a resolution was adopted setting a date for a Public Hearing on Re-establishing the Trail System. He said the right message did not get out to the general public, and wanted to assure folks that this is just the beginning of a process to re-establish the trails. It will create a much larger user-ship on the trails, and there will be a press release to

provide additional information.

Mr. Forsythe said a couple months ago a resolution was passed regarding sales tax and the City of Ogdensburg. At that time, the census figures were anticipated to be out in March, but now it appears they will not be known until fall. He requested having a conversation on the upcoming Finance Committee discussing options.

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss litigation, and appointments, seconded by Ms. Haggard, carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Open Session at 8:04 p.m., seconded by Ms. Haggard, carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Reagen).

13. ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Curran adjourned the Operations Committee Meeting at 8:05 p.m., as there was no further business.