

# GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

June 6, 2016

Present: Mark Morris, Tim Dennis, Gary Montgomery, Elden Morrison, Bonnie Percy, Jim Multer, Dan Banach, Earle Gleason, Jim Smith, Jim Balyszak, Bob Brechko, Tim Groth, Terry Button, Arlene Wilson, Lois Hall, Doug Paddock, Ed Bronson, Bill Holgate,

Mark reported Bill Laffin, President of the Keuka Lake Association has requested a resolution declaring the week of July 10<sup>th</sup> as Invasive Species week. The Committee approved.

Mark and Jim Multer will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as presented.

The Committee agreed to hold the July meeting on July 5, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

## **Legislative Operations**

Mark reported the CA Task Force met on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and reviewed applications. There were 26 applicants that were approved and the Task Force is in the process of ranking the applicants to determine interviews. The next meeting will be June 13<sup>th</sup> time and location to be decided.

Mark reviewed information from OpenbookNY and SeeThroughNY which showed Yates County's ranking in various categories compared to other small counties.

Mark reported the DA salary was discussed at the Western Intercounty meeting. Inter-County has sent a resolution asking the State to reimburse for the state mandated increase. Mark reported Ontario County was sued years ago when the state first mandated this. Mark explained we passed a resolution last month saying that Yates would pay the increase when we receive notification that the state will reimburse the county.

Tim reported he spoke with NYSAC's attorney and the legislation that was being considered will probably not be passed. Tim suggested waiting until the end of the Legislative session and then take action.

The consensus of the Committee was to take no action on this at this time and to be reconsidered after the legislative session.

## **Soil & Water – Jim Balyszak**

Jim reported the staff have been working on the storm water inventory for the Keuka Park area. They are locating, mapping and documenting the existing municipal and private storm water infrastructure. District staff also attended a recent meeting with the County and Jerusalem Highway Superintendent and college representatives to discuss this project and other storm water related issues.

Jim reported on the experimental bioreactor project of installing a title treatment system to study the removal of nitrogen from water collected in field drainage tile. A suitable site has been found and the installation of the treatment and monitoring system will be completed during early June.

Jim reported a manure gas safety workshop has been planned with our partners at Ontario County Soil & Water to be held on Eugene Zimmerman's farm. The workshop is open to area farm owners with fire personnel from Rushville, Middlesex, Bellona and Benton as well as Ontario County departments.

Jim reported the office is currently working with the Village of Penn Yan on some storm recovery work and the Town of Benton Highway Department on some culvert replacement work.

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension – Arlene Wilson**

Arlene reported 6 workshops have been completed so far for 2016 under the TANF Life Skills Program, and six families graduating so far and 2 new families enrolled in May.

Arlene reported she is waiting to hear if funding will be awarded to provide additional money for management workshops via a Yates County Endowment Grant.

Arlene reviewed various activities that 4H and Youth Development have participated in and will be participating in.

Arlene reported Cornell Cooperative Extension Northwest New York Dairy Livestock and Field Crops Team is currently seeking beef producers who are interested in participating in the Beef Farm Business Summary program for 2016. The more participation the more reliable the benchmarks will be. To participate in the Beef Farm Business Summary Program contact Chelsey Downs or Joan Petzen at the Wyoming county Office at 585-786-2251 or by emailing [cmd337@cornell.edu](mailto:cmd337@cornell.edu) or [jsp10@cornell.edu](mailto:jsp10@cornell.edu).

Arlene reported Cornell's Soil Health Test of 26 fields on 13 farms identified factors in poor soil quality and compared fields with aggressive cover crops, tillage history and soil microbes. Suggested strategies included crop rotation, less tillage and aggressive use of cover crops.

Arlene reported she is in the process of setting up a Legislative luncheon and questions if September 12<sup>th</sup> or October 11<sup>th</sup> would work. The consensus was to hold the luncheon on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

### **IT – Tim Groth**

Tim reviewed his statistical reported which showed for the month of April there were 264 calls and 5 calls were classified at user error.

Tim reported the Network Refresh is 99% complete.

Tim reported the VOIP installation and training is complete and the cutover from the old PBX system took place on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tim and staff continue to work on any issues.

Tim reported he met with Biznetix this morning on outstanding issues with the County Website. Some were resolved and others Bixnetix continues to work on.

Tim reported on the internal fiber. He is still waiting for Todd Cable to install the Light Interface Units (LIU) and terminate all the internal fiber cable.

### **Elections – Robert Brechko/Amy Daines**

Bob reported the State has passed no legislation concerning elections so far and they will be ending their session soon.

Bob reported he and Amy will be attending the Election Commissioners conference in August.

### **County Clerk – Lois Hall**

Lois reviewed her statistical reports. Gary would like to see a different format for Lois's statistical reports and offered to sit down with Lois and review. The Committee approved.

Lois reported with regards to DMV, the state computer system continues to go down many times with no notification of ETA. These are statewide computer issues and there continues to be a number of complaints from customers.

Lois stated the proposed legislative increase in county revenue retention fees to 25 percent from the current 12.7 percent is gathering momentum.

Lois reviewed her 2016 goals.

Lois reported progress is being made regarding the training of the new employees.

### **Personnel – Kerry Brennan**

Kerry was unable to attend the meeting.

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

- Authorize Treasurer to sign agreement with Authorize.net for online payment transactions.

Discussion took place on the revised Vacancy Review Policy. The consensus of the Committee was to remove the wording sole discretion of the Committee in the second paragraph under section 3 and to eliminate benchmarking.

Earle moved to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of an individual, with legislators present, seconded by Jim Smith.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.