

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OSWEGO COUNTY
LEGISLATURE HELD AUGUST 14, 2008
AT THE H. DOUGLAS BARCLAY COURTHOUSE, PULASKI, NY**

Chairman Leemann called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with all legislators present. A moment of silence was observed for the passing of John W. "Buck" Richardson, former Veteran of the Year and remembrance of all the servicemen and women who have given their lives in service to our country. The invocation was given by Clerk of the Legislature, Ted Jerrett, followed by the salute to the flag.

MINUTES:

Leg. Brown noted that under Unfinished Business, the correct wording should be "Oswego County Farm Bureau", not "Oswego County Home Bureau". The correction was made and the minutes were approved.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:

Chairman Leemann welcomed everyone to the Pulaski Courthouse and thanked Leg. Doyle and Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Joe Taormina for making the arrangements. Chairman Leemann introduced former Assemblyman Ray Chesbro, State Assemblymen William Barclay and David Townsend, Pulaski Mayor Ernest Wheeler, Richland's Deputy Town Supervisor Ron Crandall, Richland Council Members Kern Yerdon and Janice Monnat, former County Legislator Steve Balcom, Sandy Creek Supervisor Lon Crast, and Sandy Creek Planning Board Chair Shirley Rice. All received a round of applause.

Chairman Leemann invited former State Senator and United States Ambassador H. Douglas Barclay, his wife Dede, State Assemblyman William Barclay, Majority Leader Kim Seager, and Minority Leader Michael Kunzwiler to come forward. A formal commendation was read acknowledging the many years of public service and remarkable accomplishments of Senator/Ambassador Barclay on behalf of the people of Oswego County, the State of New York, and the United States. Chairman Leemann and Legs. Seager and Kunzwiler added their personal commendations. Senator/Ambassador Barclay thanked the Legislature and offered a few comments regarding the bright future of Oswego County and received a standing ovation.

Chairman Leemann invited the Health and Human Services Committee, Commissioner of Social Services Frances Lanigan, and Senior Social Welfare Examiner Betsey Andrews to come forward. Commissioner Lanigan presented a certificate to Ms. Andrews for her long and dedicated service of 25 years to the County.

Chairman Leemann invited Director of Public Health Dr. Dennis Norfleet and Special Education Program Assistant Cynthia Wood to join the Health Committee up front. Ms. Wood was presented with a certificate acknowledging her 31 years of distinguished service to the County. Dr. Norfleet commended Ms. Wood for her years of dedication and service.

Chairman Leemann invited the Infrastructure and Facilities Committee, Director of Solid Waste Programs Frank Visser, and Light Operator John Lincoln to come forward. Director Visser presented Mr. Lincoln with a certificate for 25 years of dedicated service to Oswego County. Leg. Beardsley and Director Visser offered a few comments.

Chairman Leemann invited the Health and Human Services Committee, Director of Public Health Dr. Dennis Norfleet, Associate Public Health Sanitarian Natalie Roy, Pulaski Mayor Ernest Wheeler, and Water Manager Gary Stevens to come forward. Ms. Roy gave a brief overview of the 18th annual drinking water contest which was held July 5, 2008 at the Oswego County Fair Grounds and presented the 1st place award to Pulaski Mayor Wheeler.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS ON RESOLUTIONS OF THE DAY: None.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS:

Leg. Doyle stated that the Economic and Development Committee recognizes that recent, severe storms have significantly damaged crops in the county and respectfully requests the Chairman to write a letter to New York State requesting a disaster declaration and their help in providing assistance for those whose suffered major losses. Leg. Brown made a motion directing the Chairman of the Legislature to write such a letter, seconded by Leg. Beckwith. Leg. Walker stated that he had also been contacted by area farmers who had sustained heavy losses and that he had been in contact with State Senator Aubertine regarding this matter. All in favor.

Finance and Personnel Chairman Leg Seager expressed concern that recently proposed cuts in the state budget would simply shift current state costs to counties and serve only to increase the burden on property tax payers. Leg. Seager then moved to have a letter sent to the Governor and our State Representatives requesting they cut state mandates rather than just shift their costs to counties; seconded by Leg. Kunzwiler. All in favor.

RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS:

Leg. Doyle offered Resolution No. 129, entitled, RESOLUTION URGING THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION TO EITHER DEVELOP A NEW PLAN FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF LAKE ONTARIO WATER LEVELS OR ADOPT PLAN 2007 WITH THE ADDITION OF CRITERIA FROM THE EXISTING ORDER. Leg. Doyle offered this resolution as Chairman of the EDP Committee, but stated that this resolution comes on behalf of all the legislators who represent coastal districts: Legs. Kastler, Proud, Gardner, Oldenburg, Flett, Santore, and Malone. The committee requested that a letter from the Chairman be sent with this resolution, asking that the water level be maintained between 243 and 247 if possible. Leg. Brown noted that she was a member of the Fish and Wildlife Board and stated that this proposed plan could greatly effect the local fishing industry and needed to be given a great deal of consideration.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Doyle offered Resolution No. 130, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGISLATURE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR THE APPLICATION OF GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY (IAGT) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCESSING LiDAR DATA.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beckwith offered Resolution No. 131, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF DEEDS FOR PROPERTY SOLD BY THE OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE, TITLES, TO WHICH WERE ACQUIRED BY THE TAX FORECLOSURES OF 2004 AND 2006.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beckwith offered Resolution No. 132, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY RESERVE BUDGET MODIFICATION (WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WIRELESS REIMBURSEMENT). Central Services Director Rick Hogan explained that the Workforce Development Office in Fulton applied for funding through the WIA Incentive Grant, and had received \$35,760.76 which now needs to be transferred back to the Technology Reserve Fund so that it can be used for future projects. The wireless project has saved approximately \$20,000.00 per year in the Fulton area, and approximately \$40,000.00 per year in the Oswego area.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beckwith offered Resolution No. 133, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT IMPROVEMENT STUDY GRANT. Dave Hastings, Director of Real Property explained that he had received a \$50,000.00 grant and a resolution was needed to put the grant money into specified accounts.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Seager offered Resolution No. 134, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE SHARED TAX COLLECTION DATABASE STUDY GRANT. This resolution accepted a \$50,000.00 grant from the New York State Office of Real Property Tax Administration.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Seager offered Resolution No. 135, entitled, RESOLUTION AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT "CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD PROCESSING" TREASURER'S OFFICE. This resolution awards the professional service contract for credit and debit card processing to Government Payment EXP. This will allow individuals to pay their delinquent taxes by credit card. Leg. Kunzwiler thanked Leg. Malone and other committee members who were instrumental in bringing this to the legislature.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 136, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION YOUTH BUREAU REALITY CHECK. This resolution moves \$1,170 within the Reality Check grant to provide sufficient funds to cover payroll costs through 2008.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 137, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION SOCIAL SERVICES METRIX DISTANCE LEARNING PILOT. This resolution accepts a \$50,000.00 grant to participate in a New York State pilot to provide occupational skill assessments and distance learning option to One Stop Customers.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 138, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION SOCIAL SERVICES TANF ALLOCATION FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. This resolution accepts an additional \$12,892.00 in federal funds for the TANF Summer Employment program.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 139, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION SOCIAL SERVICES COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION FUNDING. This resolution accepts a state grant of \$50,614.00 for transportation support services to TANF eligible participants.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 140, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION SOCIAL SERVICES “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NON-RESIDENTIAL SERVICES GRANT”. This resolution accepts \$25,000.00 to fund services designed by the local district to meet special needs of eligible TANF and TANF 200% families who are victims of domestic violence.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Proud offered Resolution No. 141, entitled, RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF OSWEGO. This resolution reappoints Frances V. Lanigan of Oswego, New York, as Commissioner of Social Services for the County of Oswego, commencing August 14, 2008 for a term as set forth in the New York State Social Services Law to expire August 14, 2013, seconded by Leg. Brown.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
Leg. Gearsbeck in opposition.
YES: 24 NO: 1 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beardsley offered Resolution No. 142, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SALE OF ASPHALT TO TOWNS. This resolution raises both revenue and expenditure accounts by \$314,000 to accommodate the sale of asphalt to towns.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beardsley offered Resolution No. 143, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF SOLID WASTE GAS AND OIL. This resolution transfers \$100,000 from account 8162.5438 to account 8162.5442, \$60,000.00 from account 8163.5416 to account 8163.5442; and \$20,000.00 from account 4163.5416 to account 4163.5418. to meet increased gas and oil costs.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beardsley offered Resolution No. 144, entitled, RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CAPITAL PROJECT #175- FERROUS RECOVERY METAL SYSTEM - ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY. Leg. Beardsley stated that with State grant money and the anticipated revenues (under current market conditions) the project should pay for itself in less than two years. Legs. Seager and Kunzwiler commended the effort.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Beardsley offered Resolution No. 145, entitled, RESOLUTION INCREASING AUTHORIZATION OF CAPITAL PROJECT #155 - AIRPORT OBSTRUCTION STUDY. This resolution increases authorization by \$28,300 to assess the obstructions to a 3 degree Glidepath at the County Airport.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
Legs. Malone and Gearsbeck in opposition.
YES: 23 NO: 2 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Santore offered Resolution No. 146, entitled, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION E-911. Oswego County accrued excess interest income on advance funds received from the Department of State. This resolution authorizes the budget modification necessary to remit a check to the State in the amount of \$6,878.97 to close out the grant.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Santore offered Resolution No. 147, entitled, RESOLUTION AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT "COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM DESIGN" DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, E-911. This resolution awards a professional services contract to Langone and Associates to continue work required as specified in an existing contract with Madison County to design a new communications system for Oswego County.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Santore offered Resolution No. 148, entitled, RESOLUTION AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT "COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION/MANAGEMENT" DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, E-911. This resolution awards a professional services contract to Charles Gabriel to continue work required in an existing contract with Onondaga County to assist in the implementation and Project Management of a new communications system for Oswego County.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

Leg. Santore offered Resolution No. 149, entitled, RESOLUTION AWARDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FIRE TOWER INSPECTION DEPARTMENT OF THE FIRE COORDINATOR. This resolution awards a professional services contract for inspection services to Elliot, Leboeuf and McElwain (ELM), Inc. at a cost of \$5,320.

Resolution passed, with a voice vote
YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

UNFINISHED/ MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Leg. Doyle requested that a card be sent from the Legislators to Richland Supervisor James Atkinson, who is in the hospital. Chairman Leemann also welcomed Leg. Ospelt back.

At 3:10 p.m., Leg. Brown moved to adjourn, seconded by Leg. LeClair. All approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON GENERAL ISSUES:

Beverly Ripka of the Oswego County Library Council thanked the Legislature for its past support and noted that library use is up considerably across the county.

There were no others wishing to speak.