

MINUTES

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 8, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Lasher, Donalty, Kolczynski, Chatfield, Miller and Groat, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, Human Resource Director Chris Kalinski, County Attorney Dan Connors, Board of Elections Commissioners John Zornow and Gerry Clingerman, County Clerk Michael Jankowski, Purchasing Agent Christopher O'Connor and County Auditor Kristen Scott.

Minutes from the May 4th Committee meeting were approved as written.

The following transmittals were referred to the Government Operations Committee: (Supervisor Kolczynski did not vote on pass-thru transmittal, questioning the validity of the Committee's vote.)

--Authorization to create and fill one full-time Public Health Program Coordinator position and abolish the position of one full-time Public Health Educator and amend the Public Health Department budget. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create and fill the position one full-time Early Intervention Service Coordinator and one Public Health Program Coordinator and amend the Public Health Department budget. Both positions are paid for with grant funding and will be eliminated when these funds are no longer available. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to pay out of title pay to the Assistant Director of Nursing at the Wayne County Nursing Home for the period the employee worked in the Director of Nursing position. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create the position of Sergeant at the Sheriff's Office for the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Program and amend the Sheriff's budget to allow for the receipt of grant funding and the new position. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create six part-time Deputy Sheriff Road Patrol positions. This will add no additional cost to the budget, just allow for a larger pool of candidates in the Sheriff's Office. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to fill the position of full-time Assistant District Attorney and set the salary at \$92,196. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create the position of part-time District Attorney and set the salary at \$52,701. Approved 4-0.

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Steve Sklenar updated the Committee on the replica of the 111th NY Volunteer Soldier statue being given to the County by a private donor. Photos of the original statue, located in Gettysburg, were displayed. Mr. Sklenar reviewed the sacrifice of men from Wayne County in this regimen and the honor it would be to have the statue in the County. The donated statue will have a granite base and bronze statue. The statue coming to Wayne County will be 14 feet tall; the entire project will take approximately 18 months to complete. At this time, Mr. Sklenar is working with the Town of Lyons on a site in the park square across the road from the County Court House in Lyons to locate the statue. No funding for the project is needed from the County; however, depending where the statue is placed, there is a possibility County crews could be asked to assist with site preparation before and after the statue is placed. Supervisors gave their support for the project.

Mr. Lasher presented a transmittal requesting authorization to set a date for a public hearing on a local law in relation to publication of local laws. The Secretary of the meeting noted the high cost to advertise local laws that are lengthy. This would allow for a shorter version of the proposed local law to be published with information on how to obtain all the language in the legal advertisement. Depending on the length of a legal ad, they can be very costly. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Connors reviewed his monthly activities report. During May, the Office drafted and/or reviewed 36 contracts, one accident report, one grievance and two subpoenas. Staff responded to 46 FOIL requests, eight juvenile delinquent cases and one person in need of supervision case. Mr. Connors informed Supervisors a Federal Judge halted both Rockland County and Orange County orders designed to block New York City from sending migrants to hotels in their jurisdictions. The lawsuit occurred when civil rights groups challenged the county's declarations not to allow asylum seekers into their hotels and motels, arguing this action is illegal and discriminatory. Wayne County held a Board meeting on this issue earlier this week and agreed they would not issue a State of Emergency declaration with concern that asylum seekers would be relocated here.

The following transmittals were presented for the Board of Elections:

--Authorization to transfer \$317,705 from the County Reserve Fund to purchase 28 voting machines. Mr. Zornow noted this purchase was included in the County's Capital Plan and the units will be purchased through the NYS Office of General Services procurement process. Mr. Miller stated the need to plan for such costly purchases. It was noted the computerized units need to be replaced at the same time so they are compatible with each other. The purchase was planned, that is why funding was included in the County's non-equipment reserve fund. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to purchase electronic poll books. Mr. Zornow noted 60 out of 62 counties in the State utilize electronic poll books for their elections. The system was discussed in detail at last month's Committee meeting. The units offer savings in supplies, poll worker time, accuracy and

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post-election reporting. There are grant funds available in the budget for the purchase of 118 polling devices. Mr. Zornow stated Early Voting cannot occur without these units. Approved 5-0.

The Board of Elections Office received two e-mails from concerned residents about the placement of election signs. Mr. Zornow stated the Board of Elections is not the enforcement agency for this issue. The placement of signs was briefly discussed. It was noted each municipality may have different rules regarding sign placement and the local code enforcement officers should be contacted regarding the placement of signs.

The following transmittals were presented for the County Clerk's Office:

--Authorization to appoint Jane Milem as Wayne County Historian. Mr. Jankowski noted Mrs. Milem's plans to retire in 2024; however, this action will allow for the back filling of her position and someone to be trained for working in the Office once she leaves. He is still gathering input on what the functions of the County Historian's Office should be. The Committee will be updated regarding the status of the Historian's Office in the early fall. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with Community Development Solutions for digital enhancements to expand and enhance the existing laserfische document management software system in the County Clerk's Office. The cost of \$33,000 will pay for software and digital imaging services, an additional \$4,850 will pay for annual maintenance of the software modules. Mr. Jankowski said this purchase was reviewed and approved by the Information Technology Department. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Sams informed Supervisors the State Comptrollers' Office has disallowed most TA and TE trust accounts, requiring these funds now flow through the General Fund. For the County this includes the Employee Wellness Fund. Approximately \$60,000 has been accumulated through vending machine sales and have been in a separate account for about three years. Mr. Sams said administration has tried to figure out how to best utilize the funds. The County's Public Health Department said they would re-instate the Employee Wellness Program with the funds and that future revenues could be incorporated into their budget. No decision was made on what should become of this revenue line.

Mrs. Kalinski reported there were 17 new full-time hires during May, eight part-time and 17 seasonal, along with one retirement and 14 resignations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next meeting of the Government Operations Committee is scheduled for Thursday, July 6th at 9:00 a.m.