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COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
):SS  
STATE OF NEW YORK)

March 2, 2012

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, February 22, 2012 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Jonathan Beach, Area 2  
Robert Butler, Area 6  
Mark Dame, Area 8  
Samuel Dyer, Area 3  
John Gallagher, Area 9  
Pete Keenan, Area 5  
James Langley, Jr., Chairperson, Area 7  
Harry McManus, Area 1  
Sara Rowden, Area 4

EXCUSED: Robert Heins, Area 10

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Zurlo, County Administrator  
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator  
Van Crockett, Acting County Attorney  
Katherine Brown, Senior Stenographer

Chairperson Langley called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michael Zurlo conducted roll call. Legislator Heins asked to be excused.

Legislator Dyer offered a motion to accept the minutes of the February 8, 2012 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Butler. (Carried 9-0-1).

Chairperson Langley asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Chairperson Langley recognized Clyde Rabideau, Sr. of the Irish Settlement Road, Schuyler Falls, New York. Mr. Rabideau addressed the Legislature regarding the County sales tax on gasoline. He stated in 2006, New York State implemented \$.08 per gallon which remains today. Mr. Rabideau believes the County tax should be set at cost per gallon rather than a percentage of cost. He commented this is a rural County, and people must drive to go to work and to shop. The Legislature should seriously consider changing the sales tax on gasoline to cents per gallon.

Chairperson Langley recognized John Farley of Foxfire Drive, Plattsburgh, New York. Mr. Farley addressed the Legislature regarding increasing revenue. He stated Governor Cuomo has made it his intention to pursue legalized gambling in New York State. Mr. Farley suggested that the County consider installing slot machines in the Plattsburgh International Airport and referenced enplanement numbers to create an estimate of how much money the County could realize if it had gaming at the Airport.

Chairperson Langley recognized Thomas LaVora, a freshman at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh. Mr. LaVora expressed his concern regarding the condition of sidewalks in the City during the winter months. He asked if the County could do a better job at clearing and salting the sidewalks, especially for those students who do not have a vehicle and must walk. Mr. LaVora was referred to the Mayor's Office because the County is only responsible for maintaining the sidewalks adjacent to County property in the City of Plattsburgh. All property owners are responsible for the sidewalks adjacent to their property in the City of Plattsburgh.

Chairperson Langley recognized March, 2012 as American Red Cross month.

There being no one further to address the Legislature, Chairperson Langley called for standing committee and liaison reports.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Dyer**

Legislator Dyer reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee met Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

Resolution #119 is included on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation. The resolution authorizes a contract with McKenna Associates for architectural and engineering services for 2012 Master Plan Projects.

James Cleveland, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, provided an overview of Master Plans and discussed 2012 Master Plan Projects. The Committee approved 2012 Master Plan Projects.

Legislator Dyer complimented Buildings and Grounds Department's staff for their excellent work to the floors and walls in the Probation Department.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

#### **Finance Committee – Legislator Rowden**

Legislator Rowden reported the Finance Committee met Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

Joseph Giroux, County Treasurer, discussed 2011 sales tax receipts, which brought in higher sales tax revenue than projected.

Mr. Giroux reported the PARC PILOT payments are very close to being paid in full. Once all payments are paid in full, the properties will go on the tax roll.

#### **Human Services Committee – Legislator Keenan**

Legislator Keenan reported the next meeting of the Human Services Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

#### **Personnel Committee – Legislator Gallagher**

Legislator Gallagher reported the Personnel Committee met Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. Resolutions #129 through #151 are included on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation. Several of the resolutions are primarily for backfills, as well as a few downward reclassifications. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

#### **Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator McManus**

Legislator McManus reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met today at 5:15 p.m. Resolutions #152 through #163 are included on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation. Rodney Brown, the Deputy County Administrator, stated the meeting highlights included: authorizing contract with the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce for marketing services for 2012; two leases extensions with the United States of America (Customs Border Protection and Federal Drug Administration); authorizing the Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the demolition of the large hangar (bids will go out within a few days with return by mid-to late March, 2012); January, 2012 enplanements were 18 percent higher than January, 2011; trip by Chairperson Langley, Airport Management Chris Kreig and himself to the Federal Aviation Administration in Garden City, Long Island, February 9-10, 2012 to discuss Capital Improvement Plan priorities.

Mr. Brown stated a tour of the Airport for the Legislature is scheduled for Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Additional details will be forthcoming.

#### **Public Safety Committee – Legislator Butler**

Legislator Butler reported the Public Safety Committee met Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. Resolutions #164 through #181 are included on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Chamber of Commerce – Legislator Rowden**

Legislator Rowden reported on two upcoming events sponsored by the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce: the Annual Ski Day at Whiteface Mountain in Lake Placid, New York on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>; and the Legislative Breakfast at the West Side Ballroom in Plattsburgh, New York on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Clinton Community College – Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported he recently met with President John Jablonski and discussed several items: attendance projections, renovations to the heating plant and fundraising for the College's new library. He attended the monthly Board of Trustees' meeting on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. The Middle States Reaccreditation Self Study which will be conducted February 26-29, 2012 at the College was also discussed.

### **Cooperative Extension – Legislator McManus**

Legislator McManus reported the next meeting of the Cooperative Extension is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Legislator Dyer reported the "Food From the Farm: Eating Local in the North Country" event is scheduled for Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Plattsburgh City Gym, 52 US Oval, Plattsburgh, New York.

Legislator Dyer reported this is a very active Committee. He remarked Executive Director Amy Ivy does an excellent job. The Extension is continuously looking for new grants for additional program funding.

Legislator Rowden remarked the "Food From the Farm: Eating Local in the North Country" event is an excellent example of agricultural tourism being done as part of the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce's "Destination Plan."

### **Board of Health – Legislator Beach**

Legislator Beach reported the next meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled for Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

### **Intercounty - Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported he attended an Intercounty meeting on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in Essex County. Randy Douglas, Chairperson of the Essex County Board of Supervisors, welcomed the Committee. Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) President Ted Blazer and Vice President Jeff Byrne discussed ORDA's mission, as well as its importance to the economy of Essex County and the greater North Country region. The Committee approved a resolution sponsored by Lewis County urging the New York State Association of Counties prepare and disseminate an action plan to bring mandate relief to New York State Counties.

Mr. Zurlo asked if ORDA discussed Belleayre Mountain take over that was proposed in the Governor's 2012 budget. Legislator Dame replied this issue was not discussed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> in Saratoga County.

#### **Soil and Water – Legislator Dyer**

Legislator Dyer reported the Soil and Water Conservation District met Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. He reported the 2011 books are closed and annual reports are complete. He also reported District Manager Steve Mahoney will retire effective Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Legislator Dyer stated it will be tough when Mr. Mahoney retires because agriculture is huge in Clinton County, and Mr. Mahoney has been very involved. Legislator Dyer reported 19 agriculture assessments were made and the ag plastic baler continues to be used steadily. The creation of a website for the Soil and Water Conservation District was discussed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

#### **Grievance Committee – Legislator Gallagher**

Legislator Gallagher reported a potential grievance the Committee had yet to receive was resolved. Mr. Zurlo replied that is correct, and stated the potential grievance was resolved as a result of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the County's Home Health Agency.

#### **Workforce Investment Board – Legislator Gallagher**

Legislator Gallagher reported the Youth Board will meet Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. He stated he is no longer able to attend the Board meetings via a conference call and thus must be replaced on the Board. Legislator Gallagher stated he has requested approval from the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to remain on the Youth Board and continue attending meetings via a conference call. He is awaiting a response from WIB.

#### **Staff Reports**

Acting County Attorney Van Crockett stated he did not have a report. Mr. Zurlo thanked Mr. Crockett for his service this evening.

There being no further business, Chairperson Langley moved onto resolutions.

The following resolutions were approved unless otherwise noted.

Resolutions #119 through #122 were approved.

Resolution #123 titled, "Awarding Bid for Printing of Election Ballots – Board of Elections"

Legislator Dame offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Beach.

Discussion:

Legislator Gallagher asked if this is a significant increase from 2011 in the contract amount. Mr. Zurlo replied yes, but stated the Board of Elections' Commissioners are recommending even though the bids are equal, there is legitimate reason not to go with the previous vendor who provided this service. Carried (9-0-1).

Resolutions #124 through #138 were approved.

Resolution #139 titled, "Approving Backfill of Permanent, Part-Time Station Attendant – Landfill"

Legislator Gallagher offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Rowden.

Discussion:

Legislator Butler asked when the policy changed for backfilling positions. Mr. Zurlo replied the policy did not change; these positions are backfills for vacant, permanent, part-time positions.

Legislator Gallagher noted these positions will most likely not be filled all at one time; some may be filled during the spring or summer. These resolutions will get the positions in place to be filled. Carried (9-0-1).

Resolutions #140 through #169 were approved.

Resolution #170 titled, "Authorizing Contract with TwinState – District Attorney"

Chairperson Langley offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Beach. Carried (8-0-1-1). Legislator Butler abstained.

Resolutions #171 through #191 were approved.

Chairperson Langley asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being no further business, Chairperson Langley entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to adjourn Regular Session at 7:56 p.m., seconded by Legislator Butler. Carried (9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine A. Brown  
Senior Stenographer