

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

January 13, 2022

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held  
Wednesday, January 12, 2022 Clinton County, New York.

PRESENT: David Bezio, Area 4  
Calvin Castine, Area 1  
Robert Hall, Area 10  
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3  
Wendell Hughes, Area 8  
Joshua Kretser, Area 9  
Francis Peryea, Area 2  
Rob Timmons, Area 7

EXCUSED: Richard Potiker, Area 5  
Patty Waldron, Area 6

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator  
Kim Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator  
Jacqueline Kelleher, County Attorney  
Debra Tackett, Interim Public Health Director

Chairperson Henry called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislators Waldron and Potiker have asked to be excused.

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the December 20, 2021 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Legislator Hughes motioned to accept the minutes of the January 4, 2022 Organizational Meeting, seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (8-0-2).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature on any issue.

There being no one to address the Legislature, Chairperson Henry moved on to Committee Reports.

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

Legislator Timmons reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #11 and #12 on the agenda.

Mr. Zurlo reported the 2022 Committee meetings will start the first week of February with the same dates and times as 2021 but can change if needed.

#### **Children and Family Services Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo**

Mr. Zurlo reported the Children and Family Services Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #13 and #14 on the agenda.

#### **Economic Development and County Operations Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo**

Mr. Zurlo reported the Economic Development and County Operations Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #15 through #21 on the agenda.

Mr. Zurlo reported Molly Ryan, the Director of Economic Development and Executive Director of the Industrial Development Agency, has hit the ground running and the County will be well served with her being a part of the team.

#### **Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the Finance Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Finance Committee was polled on Resolutions #22 and #23 on the agenda.

## **Health Committee – Legislator Hughes**

Legislator Hughes reported the Health Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Debra Tackett, the Interim Director of Public Health, was present to provide a COVID-19 update. Ms. Tackett reported the case numbers are up and transmission rates are high with a positivity rate at almost 23 percent. There were a total of 1,396 new cases over the last seven days from January 2-9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Tackett reported testing is continuing at the Clinton County Health Department on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., for anyone who does not have insurance or a primary health care provider. Ms. Tackett reported Quadrant Biosciences, part of SUNY Upstate, has opened a testing clinic at SUNY Plattsburgh. Testing started on Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and 300 tests were administered, which has eased some of the stress from the hospital testing site on Hammond Lane.

Ms. Tackett reported the Health Department administered 17,000 vaccines in 2021, and year-to-date in 2022 as of January 10<sup>th</sup>, the Health Department has administered 1,115 vaccinations. The Health Department continues to vaccinate individuals from 5 years old to 100 years old and 75 percent of the total population has received at least one dose and 70 percent is fully vaccinated. Mr. Zurlo stated these statistics have since changed since the age limit was expanded to kids ages 5-12. Kim Kinblom, the Deputy County Administrator, asked for clarification if fully vaccinated included the booster or not. Ms. Tackett stated these statistics do not include the booster. Ms. Tackett reported this data is no longer going to be accurate due to the home-administered tests being given out, that will not be captured in any of the State data anymore.

Ms. Tackett reported the school clinics have been expanded to include the community, as well as staff and students, and some clinics will be open in the evening hours. Clinics at Clinton Community College have also expanded hours and the number of vaccines provided have been increased to 1,000 vaccines per day.

Ms. Tackett reported due to high numbers, the Health Department has not been able to contact everyone who is COVID-19 positive. The Virtual Call Center (VCC) has started to take more of the Health Department's cases and contact priority groups including K-12, Seniors 65 and older and anyone living in a congregate housing, and the State is also doing this. Ms. Tackett reported isolation is five days and starts the day of the first symptom, so people may not get a call from the Health Department.

Ms. Tackett reported New York City's numbers look like they are starting to trend down, and Upstate New York tends to lag a couple weeks behind, so the first part of February, we might see the numbers start to trend down.

Ms. Kinblom stated some employers require proof of quarantine to be provided in order to get paid for being out of work, and the Health Department has a form to fill out on their website. Ms. Tackett stated this is only for tests that are in the system, which are only lab-confirmed tests, not home tests. Mr. Zurlo reconfirmed that if someone is to take a home test and it shows that it is positive, to then go get a PCR test, which will be entered into the system as positive, and then individuals may go to the Health Departments website to get the isolation order for their employers. Jacqueline Kelleher, the County Attorney, stated private employers also require the isolation orders. Ms. Tackett reported if individuals test positive on an at-home test and don't require an isolation order, they should stay home and quarantine for five days.

Lastly, Mr. Zurlo formally introduced Ms. Tackett to the Legislature and stated they are pleased that she is here and stated they are very appreciative. Ms. Tackett thanked Mr. Zurlo and the Legislature for the opportunity.

**Human Services Committee – Legislator Peryea**

Legislator Peryea reported the Human Services Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

**Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry**

Legislator Henry reported the Personnel Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Personnel Committee was polled on Resolution #24 on the agenda.

**Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Hall**

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Plattsburgh International Airport Committee was polled on Resolutions #25 through #27 on the agenda.

Legislator Hall requested an Executive Session to discuss the Essential Air Service (EAS) contact at the Airport.

**Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine**

Legislator Castine reported the Public Safety Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #28 through #33 on the agenda.

**Transportation Committee – Legislator Kretser**

Legislator Kretser reported the Transportation Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Transportation Committee was polled on Resolution #34 on the agenda.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

**Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board – Legislator Kretser, Legislator Hughes**

Mr. Zurlo stated the reappointment of Legislator Hughes is on the agenda.

**Soil and Water – Legislator Peryea, Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

## STAFF REPORTS

### County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss contractual matters and pending litigation.

### County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo stated there is one outstanding collective bargaining unit contract to negotiate with the Corrections Officers Unit. These negotiations are scheduled to start on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Zurlo reported the Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS), the Federal Government's OSHA mandate for businesses over 100 employees, are required to have weekly testing if unvaccinated. This was heard in the Federal Supreme Court and all are waiting to hear a decision. The County is prepared to institute this policy if needed.

Lastly, Mr. Zurlo reported if anyone wants to purchase a legislative photo for 2022-2023, there is a form on each legislator's desk to complete.

There being no further business, Chairperson Henry moved on to resolutions. The following Resolutions were approved unless otherwise noted.

Resolutions #11 through #13 were approved.

Resolution #14 titled, "Amending Resolution #770 dated December 16, 2020 titled, "Amending Resolution #661 dated November 10, 2020 titled, "Authorizing Various Contracts for the Year 2021" was motioned by Legislator Kretser and seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated although the rate changes, the total cost of the contract remains the same.

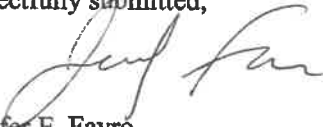
Resolutions #15 through #39 were approved

Legislator Hall motioned to enter into Executive Session at 5:41 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-2).

Legislator Hall motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:10 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (8-0-2).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Castine motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m., seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (8-0-2).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jennifer E. Favro  
Senior Typist

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