

**SECOND DAY
ANNUAL SESSION
November 25, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chairman Michael A. Tabolt.

Roll Call: All Legislators were present.

Chairman Tabolt offered the Invocation followed by a moment of silence for those deceased, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

There were 11 persons present.

Chairman Tabolt announced approval of the November 4, 2014 meeting minutes.

REPORT OF THE RULES AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:

The Rules and Legislation Committee had met and recommended to waive the rules to allow action on late resolutions.

Dated: November 25, 2014

Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman
Bryan Moser
Craig Brennan, Committee

Legislator Moser made a motion to waive the rules, seconded by Legislator Brennan, and carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Arlene Hall, Executive Director of Mountain View Prevention Services, distributed and encouraged each Legislator to read informational pamphlets about their sponsored community forum spotlighting the heroin epidemic. One hundred attendees representing 30 groups, organizations, schools and agencies listened to featured speakers from the Upstate New York Poison Control Center. Most notably, Conifer Park of Schenectady, who provides in-patient services for our tri-county residents, had set up a table at the event to distribute information, as did Access Care and Resources, Credo Community Center and the local Coalition.

Mrs. Hall referenced and strongly encouraged reading "real stories" on the State website at combatheroin.ny.gov. Persons may make referrals to Mountain View Prevention Services, Credo Community Center, the hotline available 24/7 at 1-877-8-HopeNY; or mountainview.org for a substance abuse self-screening that provides contact information for assistance.

In conclusion, Mrs. Hall announced that Jefferson County would sponsor a similar seminar on 12/11/14. The Poison Control Center guest speaker, she said, had noted like presentations throughout 54 counties across the State and was impressed with the illustrated local interest and participation. Mrs. Hall thanked the Board for their efforts and supporting County appropriations.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Philip Hathway, Ways and Means/Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairman, reported that County auction items were sold equating proceeds of \$11,388.05. The in-ground tank project at the public safety building will be deferred until spring 2015. Meanwhile, the Town of Lowville is working to repair the bleeder valves. The threshold at the public safety building is being renovated to comply with the Americans With Disability Act (ADA).

Legislator Hathway reported a 2015 priority project is to repair the Outer Stowe Street parking lot, and remains optimistic for State grant funding, when successful applicants are publicly announced by the State on December 10, 2014.

Legislator Neil Pepper, Office For the Aging/Social Services/Youth Committee Chairman, encouraged everyone to participate in the "Santa For Seniors" program sponsored through the Office For Aging.

Legislator Jerry King, Courts and Law Enforcement Committee Chairman, made a motion to authorize Sheriff Carpinelli to purchase two (2) 2015 Polaris Switchback 600 Adventure snowmobiles from Gamble Distributors, Inc. for a total of \$19,940.00, seconded by Legislator Dolhof and carried.

Legislator King made a motion to authorize Chairman Tabolt to forward a letter on behalf of the Board in support of the North, Central and South Lewis County Volunteer Fire Department applications, for an "Assistance To Firefighters" grant through FEMA. The grant funds would aid their efforts to purchase new radios that are compatible with the overall communications upgrades now in progress. The motion was seconded by Legislator Chartrand and carried.

Legislator Lawrence Dolhof, Economic Development/Recreation Trails Committee Chairman, urged support of his sponsored resolution for recommended changes to the Adirondack State Land Master Plan. There will be a memorandum of understanding drawn up between the Recreation/Forestry and Parks Director and the Sheriff for ATV law enforcement. The railroad easement from Burdick's Crossing to Glenfield has all been brush-hogged, but gates will be erected in the spring to prohibit trucks from traveling that portion of the trail.

Legislator Dolhof reported that Bernier, Carr and Associates have been asked to consider 4 or 5 additional prospective sites in their commerce park conceptual design development. Also, Tom Gillette is heading up research to determine the feasibility of constructing satellite educational facilities in Lewis County.

Legislator Dolhof reported that Frank Pace and Soil and Water Conservation District employees had received flood mitigation and monitoring training. Mr. Pace added that five persons have been certified to operate the monitoring system, and that Soil and Water would be

purchasing related equipment. The NYSDOT has authorized the equipment to be placed on bridges to enhance monitoring operations.

Legislator Craig Brennan, Transportation/Solid Waste Committee Chairman, thanked the Buildings and Grounds personnel for the great job to complete the drain and floor at the Highway garage.

The Jerden Falls Road Bridge repair has been completed in response to the "flagged" designation, which should be removed upon inspection. Legislator Brennan thanked Jefferson County for their engineering assistance with bridge repairs. The bids for the VanAmber Road Bridge were opened earlier in the day and were notably less than projected.

Legislator Brennan reported that handling fees of \$10 for old televisions and monitors up to 20" and \$20 for anything over 20", would be presented at the next meeting, as imposed in Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties. The revenue will offset the expense of exporting these recyclable items.

Legislator Gregory Kulzer, Taxation/Information Technology/Elections/Agriculture Committee Chairman, reported that Internet connections had been installed at the Lowville Commons to meet the needs of the Board of Elections.

Legislator Kulzer also reported that a Tax Map Technician position will be replaced by a Tax Map Technician Trainee at a lesser rate; and that it had been determined that a Tax Map Technician had been working out-of-title and would be promoted to a Geographic Information Specialist.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

In response to the Board's resolution requesting State reimbursement for flood damage expenses, Chairman Tabolt reported receiving a call from the Governor's office informing their intent to reimburse the County and the local municipal share.

The Board had also penned their concern with State Legislation that would have provided additional benefits to veterans, affirming no objection to the enhanced benefits, but invoking the State assume fiscal responsibility for related costs. Chairman Tabolt was pleased to report the Governor had vetoed the legislation, citing NYSAC's support. Senator Griffo and Assemblyman Blankenbush have each indicated their support of the Board's position, expecting an amended State Bill.

Chairman Tabolt relayed receipt of a letter from R. E. Energy thanking the Board for documenting support for renewal of energy credits, reporting their 3-year energy credit extension.

Chairman Tabolt also relayed being informed by the Croghan Town Board of the impending retirement of their dog catcher, who provides related services to several towns. They wanted to put the County on notice for an impending request to take over animal control services.

RESOLUTION NO. 397 - 2014
RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING ON
2015 TENTATIVE LEWIS COUNTY BUDGET

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with County Law Section 359, the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby sets the public hearing on the 2015 Tentative County Budget to be held in the second floor board room of the County Court House, State Street, Lowville, New York on the 2nd of December, 2014 to begin at 5:00 p.m.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Brennan, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 398 - 2014
FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW
(INTRODUCTORY NO. 7 - 2014), COUNTY OF LEWIS

Introduced by Legislator Michael A. Tabolt, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, there was presented and introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators held on November 4, 2014 a proposed Local Law entitled **“A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR INCREASES TO SALARIES FOR CERTAIN LOCAL OFFICIALS.”**

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That a public hearing will be held on December 2, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., before the Lewis County Board of Legislators on the Second Floor Board Room at the Lewis County Courthouse, New York, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York to hear all persons for or against such Local Law.

Section 2. That at least five (5) days notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the Board of Legislators.

Moved by Legislator Hathway, seconded by Legislator King, and adopted.

LOCAL LAW (INTRODUCTORY NO. 8 - 2014)
COUNTY OF LEWIS

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

A LOCAL LAW RESCINDING LOCAL LAW NO. 8-2014 TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW § 3-C (A/K/A 2% TAX CAP) FOR THE LEWIS COUNTY 2015 BUDGET

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of Lewis as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE

This Local Law shall be known as **“A LOCAL LAW RESCINDING LOCAL LAW NO. 8-2014 TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW § 3-C (A/K/A 2% TAX CAP) FOR THE LEWIS COUNTY 2015 BUDGET.”**

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

The Board of Legislators for the County of Lewis hereby finds and determines that the anticipated budgetary needs for fiscal 2015 will have Lewis County remain within the tax levy limit established by General Municipal Law § 3-c, **and more commonly referred to as the “2% tax cap”, as that term is therein defined and calculated.**

SECTION 3. ENACTMENT AUTHORITY

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to authority provided in Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York as well as the specific authority found in General Municipal Law § 3-c[5].

SECTION 4. OVERRIDE AUTHORIZATION NOT REQUIRED

The Board of Legislators has adopted a budget for fiscal year 2015 that does not exceed the **“tax levy limit”** as that term is defined and calculated pursuant to the provisions of General Municipal Law § 3-c, **and therefore, the Board of Legislators authorizes rescission of Local Law No. 8-2014.**

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**RESOLUTION NO. 399 - 2014
FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW
(INTRODUCTORY NO. 8 - 2014), COUNTY OF LEWIS**

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

WHEREAS, there will be presented and introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators to be held on November 25, 2014 a proposed Local Law entitled **“LOCAL LAW RESCINDING LOCAL LAW NO. 8-2014 TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW § 3-C (A/K/A 2% TAX CAP) FOR THE LEWIS COUNTY 2015 BUDGET.”**

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That a public hearing will be held on December 2, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., before the Lewis County Board of Legislators on the Second Floor Board Room at the Lewis County Courthouse, New York, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York to hear all persons for or against such Local Law.

Section 2. That at least five (5) days notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Chartrand, seconded by Legislator King, and adopted.

**LOCAL LAW (INTRODUCTORY NO. 9-2014)
COUNTY OF LEWIS**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of the Courts and Law Committee.

**A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS
FOR ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE COUNTY OF LEWIS**

SECTION 1. TITLE

This local law shall be entitled ðA Local Law Establishing the Residency Requirements for Assistant District Attorney for the County of Lewis.ö

SECTION 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Local Law is to establish the residency requirements for the position of Assistant District Attorney for the County of Lewis.

SECTION 3. AUTHORITY

This local law is enacted pursuant to the authority granted by Municipal Home Rule Law § 10 and Public Officers Law § 3(1).

SECTION 4. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

In the County of Lewis, the provisions of Public Officers Law § 3(1) requiring a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the state for which such person shall be chosen or within which such person's official functions are required to be exercised, shall not prevent a person from holding the office of Assistant District Attorney for the County of Lewis, provided, however, that such person performing the duties and functions of Assistant District Attorney for the County of Lewis is a resident of an adjoining county within New York State, and establishes his or her residence within Lewis County no more than twelve (12) months from date of accepting the position.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**RESOLUTION NO. 400 - 2014
FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW
(INTRODUCTORY NO. 9 - 2014), COUNTY OF LEWIS**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of the Courts and Law Committee.

WHEREAS, there will be presented and introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators to be held on November 25, 2014, a proposed Local Law entitled "**A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR THE COUNTY OF LEWIS**".

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That a public hearing will be held on December 2, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., before the Lewis County Board of Legislators on the Second Floor Board Room at the Lewis County Courthouse, New York, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York to hear all persons for or against such local law.

Section 2. That at least five (5) days notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Pepper, seconded by Legislator Moroughan, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 401 - 2014
RESOLUTION AMENDING 2015 TENTATIVE COUNTY BUDGET BY
AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN WITH REFERENCE TO
LEWIS COUNTY SELF-INSURANCE PLAN**

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby amends the 2015 Tentative County Budget, by amending the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis, to set the 2015 salary for the Administrator of the Lewis County Self-Insurance Plan at \$9,123.00.

Section 2. That the Treasurer is hereby authorized to amend the Tentative Budget Schedule 5-S1710.4 Administrator to \$9,123.00; increase Account S1710.1999 to \$9,123.00 and decrease Account S1710.4903 to \$12,240.00.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Hathway, seconded by Legislator Brennan, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 402 - 2014
RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS
CAPITAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the following budget appropriation is hereby approved to the Capital Building Maintenance account; balance of \$413,484.00 funds from A9950.9923 (To Capital Building Maintenance) for Stowe Street maintenance expense:

HAC50310 (Inter-fund transfer)	\$100,000.00
HAC1621.4 (Stowe St Maint)	\$100,000.00

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator King, seconded by Legislator Kulzer, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 403 - 2014
RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS
CAPITAL DATA PROCESSING**

Introduced by Legislator Philip Hathway., Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes District Attorney Leanne Moser to hire a Temporary Full-time Assistant District Attorney, effective December 1, 2014.

Section 2. That the appointment of said Assistant District Attorney shall become permanent, simultaneously effective upon the resignation of the current Assistant District Attorney.

Section 3. That the annual salary of said Assistant District Attorney shall be \$57,500.00, effective December 1, 2014.

Section 4. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Pepper, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 406 - 2014
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND
NYS DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of Courts and Law Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis has entered an Agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services in the amount of \$6,000,000.00 for the Radio System Project (öProjectö); and

WHEREAS, the Project consists of constructing and installing capital equipment for the purpose of upgrading the emergency radio communications system for use by all emergency service agencies including but not limited to the Public Safety, Emergency Response and Law Enforcement within Lewis County, and also to be compatible with communications systems in adjoining counties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to extend the period of the grant to allow adequate time to complete the project and expend the funds.

Now, Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby approves an extension of the Agreement between the County of Lewis and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the grant award of \$6,000,000.00 for the Radio Systems Project through December 5, 2015.

Section 2. That the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute, seal and deliver said Agreement.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 407 – 2014
RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by Legislator Craig Brennan, Chairman of the Transportation Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the following budget appropriation is hereby approved in the Highway Department Account for bridge repairs:

Increase Revenue:	
D50310 (Inter-fund Revenue)	\$100,000.00
Increase Expense:	
D5110.49 (Maint Materials)	\$100,000.00

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Brennan, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 408 - 2014
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH
NYS DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES AND
PROBATION DEPARTMENT –IGNITION INTERLOCK PROGRAM**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of the Courts and Law Enforcement Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a grant Agreement between the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, by and through the Probation Department, for a GTSC Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring Program.

Section 2. That said Agreement shall be effective for the period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015, in the total amount of \$5,535.00.

Section 3. That the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute, seal and deliver said Agreement.

Section 4. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Pepper, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 409 - 2014
RESOLUTION AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN
WITH REFERENCE TO SHERIFF'S PARKS & RECREATION PATROLS**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of the Courts and Law Enforcement Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby amends the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis, with reference to the Sheriff's Department, to create the following temporary positions for the winter Parks and Recreation patrols:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Deputy Sheriff (6)	Temporary Part-time	Grade 22A

Section 2. That Sheriff Michael Carpinelli is hereby authorized to fill said positions Effective immediately through April 30, 2015.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator King, seconded by Legislator Pepper.

Legislator King made a motion to amend Section 1 to reduce the number of created positions to five (5), seconded by Legislator Dolhof and carried.

The resolution was then adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 410 - 2014
RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE/TRANSFER FUNDS
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by Legislator Jerry King, Chairman of the Courts & Law Enforcement Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the following 2014 budget changes are hereby approved in the Sheriff's Department accounts for the purchase of two (2) snowmobiles, utilizing Capital Equipment funds from HAD9901.9; balance \$319,043.00:

Part 1

Appropriate:	Amount:
A50310 (Inter-fund Transfer)	\$18,000.00
A3112.2909 (Misc Equip)	\$18,000.00

Part 2

Transfer:	
A3112.1103 (Parks & Rec Overtime)	\$1,940.00
A3112.2909 (Misc Equip)	\$1,940.00

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Hathway, seconded by Legislator King, and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 411 - 2014
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
ADIRONDACK ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES AND
THE ADIRONDACK PARK LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD
TO AMEND THE ADIRONDACK STATE LAND MASTER PLAN

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman of the Economic Development and Planning Committee.

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages (AATV) and the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board have long advocated for a comprehensive review of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (SLMP) - the document that governs the use of all 2,614,000 acres of State-owned land in the Adirondacks; and

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Agency is currently initiating a process to review and amend the SLMP - which has not had a major review in a quarter century and is in need of significant revisions to reflect the realities of today's Adirondacks and the needs of the people who seek to make their homes and earn their livings here; and

WHEREAS, upon passage of the Adirondack Park Agency Act by the New York State legislature, the Act required the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) to draft the Adirondack State Land Master Plan for approval by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rockefeller's Memorandum in Support of the Act, and the Press Release he issued when he signed the SLMP in 1972 made it very clear that both he and the State

legislature intended that the State interest in the protection and preservation of the natural resources of the Adirondacks be balanced with the needs of the residents for a strong economy and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, the Statement of Legislative Findings and Purposes of the APA Act (Section 801) states:

“The basic purpose of this article is to insure optimum overall conservation, protection, preservation, development and use of the unique scenic, aesthetic, wildlife, recreational, open space, historic, ecological and natural resources of the Adirondack park.

A further purpose of this article is to focus the responsibility for developing long-range park policy in a forum reflecting Statewide concern. This policy shall recognize the major State interest in the conservation, use and development of the park's resources and the preservation of its open space character, and at the same time, provide a continuing role for local government.”

WHEREAS, for the past four decades, State land purchasing and management policy in the Adirondacks have been tipped decidedly against economic sustainability. During that time, many traditional uses have been severely restricted or prohibited, and 320,000 acres of productive private forest lands have been purchased and converted to “forever wild” State forest preserve lands; and

WHEREAS, today, as documented in the 2014 *Adirondack Park Regional Assessment*, Adirondack populations continue to dwindle, schools continue to lose students, and emergency services continue to struggle financially and lose volunteers; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the Agency's current willingness to review and amend the SLMP, it is incumbent on local government to take this **unique** opportunity to support amendments to the SLMP that reflect the need for economic development **sensibly balanced** with the character of the Adirondacks; and

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board (Review Board) and the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages (AATV) have prepared the attached list of their recommendations for changes in the SLMP.

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby states its support for the recommended amendments to the State Land Master Plan attached hereto, to which this Board has additionally urged changes for ATV use, and cited the importance of forestry and logging industries, and encourages the AATV and the Review Board to pursue said recommendations with all due haste; and

Be it further RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Deputy Director of Planning, Kathy Regan, Adirondack Park Agency, PO Box 99, Ray Brook, NY 12977 and via email to SLP_Comments@apa.ny.gov; and

Be it further RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator Charles Schumer, Congresswoman-Elect Elise Stefanik, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Senator Elizabeth Little, Senator Hugh Farley, Senator James E. Seward, Senator Joseph A. Griffo, Senator Patty Ritchie, Senator Kathy Marchione, Senator David Valesky, Senator Liz Krueger, Assemblyman Dan Stec, Assemblywoman Janet L. Duprey, Assemblyman Al Graf, Assemblyman Mark Butler, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Robert Sweeney, DEC Commissioner Joe Martens, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, DEC Region 5 Director Bob Stegemann, DEC Region 6 Director, Judy Drabicki, the Twelve Counties of the Adirondacks, the Adirondack Park Agency, the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages and the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board.

Moved by Legislator Dolhof, seconded by Legislator Hathway, and adopted.

Amending New York's State Land Master Plan:

Return Balance to the Plan: The introduction to the Plan contends that "the protection and preservation of the natural resources of the state lands within the Adirondacks must be paramount." However, when the APA was created, and the SLMP was developed, the guiding documents from the state legislature and governor made it clear that the **complementary needs of the environment and the economy should be balanced** on state lands. For the past four decades, state land purchasing and management policy in the Adirondacks have been tipped decidedly against economic sustainability. During that time, many traditional uses have been severely restricted or prohibited, and 320,000 acres of productive private forest lands have been purchased and converted to state forest preserve lands. Today, as documented in the 2014 Adirondack Park Regional Assessment, Adirondack populations continue to dwindle, schools continue to lose students, and emergency services continue to struggle financially and lose volunteers. The time is here to amend the SLMP to reflect the need for economic development that is complementary with the character of the Adirondacks.

Maintain Scenic Vistas: The writers of the SLMP were visionary in creating roadside pull-offs where visitors and local residents alike could enjoy a multitude of scenic vistas. Currently, however, there is no provision in the Plan to allow the trimming or removal of vegetative growth that blocks these views. We propose a provision be added to restore and maintain these vistas through trimming or cutting.

Expand Mountain Bike Uses: Modern visitors bring bikes to explore the Adirondacks, but cannot see some of our most majestic areas. Currently, mountain bikes are not allowed in areas designated as Wilderness, Primitive or Canoe. The Plan should be updated to allow bicycles to use existing roads and state truck trails in those areas or corridors that would be designated for such uses if the road infrastructure exists to support it. Bikers, like hikers, hunters and those who fish, bring money into our communities and return regularly to use state land.

Address Invasive Species: As is all too apparent from the challenge now confronting Lake George, in the southeastern Adirondacks, we need to protect our

lakes from the threat posed by invasive species ó something that was not envisioned when the Plan was created. We propose adding a provision in the Plan that calls on the state DEC to create boat inspection and washing stations in Intensive Use areas on major water bodies and/or major Adirondack entry points to help block invasive species.

Improve Snowmobile Trails: The current Plan calls for snowmobile trails in the Adirondacks to be "essentially the same character as a foot trail." While that might have made sense with the snowmobiles being ridden in 1972 ó due to the use of approved mechanical groomers and rider safety - it does not make sense in 2014. Snowmobile trails can certainly exist and be maintained over some existing hiking trails, as the Plan suggests, but in order to be safe today's modern snowmobiles need wider paths, deeper snow pack and wider turns than what would be expected of a foot trail. We propose changing the language to ensure that snowmobile trails are not required to be of the same character as foot trails.

Allow For More Grooming of Cross Country Ski Trails: The current Plan allows cross-country ski trails to be groomed only on Intensive Use areas. We propose that grooming also be allowed in Wild Forest areas to open up more state land to be used by the passive recreational skier. Grooming is currently not permitted in Wild Forest areas, though the current guidelines call on the state to "provide the types of outdoor recreation that will afford public enjoyment without impairing the Wild Forest atmosphere."

Powder Skiing: We support the call by the Adirondack Powder Skier Association to create a provision in the Plan that would allow low-impact ski touring trails to be created in certain Wilderness and Wild Forest areas. Once again, it would bring a low-impact wintertime activity to certain areas of the Adirondacks that would help local and regional economies.

Improve Float Plane Access: When Lows Lake in St. Lawrence County was closed to float planes, the DEC promised to designate areas in the Adirondacks where floatplanes would be allowed to land, leave visitors and take off again. That designation has not yet happened and we call on the APA to study alternative lakes for landings and to make good on that DEC promise!

Natural Materials/Bridges: New and existing bridges are currently required to be constructed of natural materials. Suspension bridges, such as the existing bridge at Whitehouse on the Northville-Placid Trail, are scheduled for removal because steel cables were used in the original construction. Likewise, a new bridge proposed over the Cedar River in the Essex Chain Lakes, would have a lower profile, if permitted to be constructed of "man-made" materials, such as steel. The plan needs to take a common sense approach to new bridge construction and maintaining existing infrastructure.

Amend the Signage Policies: Many small businesses are located off the main highways on side roads where the travelling public is not aware of their existence due to current sign restrictions. Small business is the largest segment of our economy and promoting such with appropriate signage may make the difference for their survival. Additionally, there are few signs alerting tourists to our major attractions, such as the Adirondack Museum and the Wild Center. Exit 29 on the Northway is a prime example where tourists could exit for these attractions, yet there are no signs on the Northway or at the exits when they get off. We propose amending the SLMP to allow standardized signs on the Northway, other main highways and state rights of way directing visitors to lodging, gas, food, local businesses, and tourist destinations.

Increase ATV Use: Lewis County would like the State to understand the impact that legal ATV use can have on the economic sustainability of Adirondack and North Country counties and consideration of ATV trails and use of ATVs on State lands is a significant issue in the SLMP.

Forestry and Logging: Lewis County would also like to cite the importance of forestry and logging industries to the economy and relaxing State restrictions on their land should be considered as a vital component of improving the economic sustainability.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Legislator King requested a letter be forwarded to Governor Cuomo to entice timely reimbursement of State grant funds upon project and paperwork completion. He cited outstanding grant receipts for a Highway project, as well as renovations completed at Constable Hall.

Legislator Hathway stated his concerns with the Hospital proposed 2015 budget based on utilization and financial records for the previous 34 months. During that period there were only a minimal number of months that projected levels were attained for operating income; gross patient care revenue; net patient care revenue; total operating revenue; units of service for surgeries, surgeon visits, Obygn visits, admissions and clinic visits. Two surgeons and other doctors have left the facility or have given their notice to leave in the near future, without replacement confirmation. Accordingly, Legislator Hathway remains pessimistic for how the respective units of service and related revenue can be maintained. Regardless, he declared he would not reject their budget, but wanted his concerns on the record.

County Manager Liz Swearingin shares Legislator Hathway's concerns for the proposed increased volumes that impact annual revenue projections, terming them counter intuitive, while citing the Hospital's financial history, coupled with fundamental changes promoting health care outside the hospital environment. Moreover, our population remains stagnant. Ms. Swearingin asserted the Board of Legislators' accountability to the public is to appoint knowledgeable qualified members to the Hospital Board of Managers. The Managers are then charged to conduct due diligence to effect appropriate budget and policy oversight to maintain operations. The Board

of Managers approved the 2015 proposed budget with only one dissenting vote. Therefore, void of any conflicting or quantifiable information, Ms. Swearingin submits that Legislators' confidence in the Board of Managers should be illustrated by approval of the proposed budget.

Legislator Chartrand pointed out the Hospital's \$11 Million deficit of six months ago that is projected at zero by the end of the year; and that both Boards agreed to the Memorandum of Agreement that outlines their debt repayment plan. However, he remains perplexed about the numbers.

Legislator Moser queried the validity of the zero debt projection, while citing the substantial outstanding debt owed to vendors; while admittedly confused about the Hospital's accounting methods. He was concerned that the County would have to cover the expense if the vendors randomly demanded payment.

Ms. Swearingin distinguished the debt to the County as totally separate from the facility's outstanding vendor debt, although stated the average 120-day payment is comparatively longer than the industry average. Legislator Hathway reported that all local vendors had been paid in full in 2013, which relieved fiscal pressure for the small businesses.

Legislator Chartrand conceded the expressed concerns were valid, but acknowledged the Board of Managers are of the Legislators' ongoing scrutiny and expect to make adjustments as necessary.

Legislators Pepper and King each impressed they do not want to break the Agreement, rather provide Hospital officials an opportunity to attain their outlined goals.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Legislator Brennan made a motion to adjourn at 6:029 p.m., seconded by Legislator Chartrand and carried.