

REGULAR MEETING
October 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Michael A. Tabolt at the Croghan Firehall.

Roll Call: All Legislators were present.

Croghan Fire Chief Steven Monnat welcomed everyone, thanking the Legislators for their support, specifically for the radio communication system upgrades. He expressed gratitude for the overall cooperative efforts to enhance the safety of our communities.

Chairman Tabolt offered the Invocation, remembered those affected by the devastating hurricanes and flooding in Texas and Puerto Rico, calling for a moment of silence in memory of those who had passed, particularly those killed by the Las Vegas shootings. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

There were 24 persons present.

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.

Signed by: Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman
Bryan Moser

Dated: October 3, 2017

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

Chairman Tabolt opened the public hearing for comments on proposed off-road additions to the Lewis County Trail System on the Michael Wilk and Julie Painter properties in the Town of Osceola; and on the effectiveness of the program's administration of the 2015 Lewis County Direct Homeownership Assistance Program.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

On behalf of Snow Belt Housing, Executive Director Cheryl Shenkle O'Neill reported that in September of 2015 Lewis County had applied for \$324,800 in funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program for the Lewis County Direct Homeownership Assistance Program 2015. The first public hearing was held on 9/14/15 in preparation for the application and, as required, a second public hearing was being held today to provide residents with the opportunity to offer any comments on the accomplishments of the grant.

The goal of the program is to assist low and moderate-income households to purchase their first home by providing a buy-down on the mortgage, payment of most closing costs, and assistance to rehabilitate the housing unit to ensure that it meets code and HQS (Housing Quality Standards), as developed by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

The County was awarded a \$324,800 grant with an Agreement stipulation that all funds be expended within 24 months (by December 11, 2017). The application anticipated that eight households would be assisted with estimated program funds of \$176,000 for mortgage buy down and closing costs and \$104,000 for rehabilitation of the purchased homes. An additional \$44,800 was used for administration and program delivery assistance, bringing the total grant amount to \$324,800. The program is nearing completion with five homes closed to date and four pending with funds available for possibly one more grant, unless the projected homebuyers need more assistance.

The average down payment and closing costs assistance provided or projected is \$21,217 with ranges from \$12,500 to \$33,585. Three of the closed homes needed repairs and four of the pending homes will need repair work. The average grant provided is \$27,057. The average purchase price is \$87,500 and the average mortgage is \$68,188.

Ms. O'Neill reported there were no displacements because the homes purchased were either vacant or in one case, purchased by the existing tenant. The program is truly a countywide program in that one home purchased was in the Village of Lyons Falls, one in the Village of Croghan, one in the Hamlet of Glenfield, two in the Town of Turin, two in the Town of Denmark, one in the Town of Watson, and one in the Town of Greig.

These statistics were documented on the spreadsheet distributed to Legislators this evening with summaries for three of the assisted homeowners and photos of five of the homes purchased. In some cases, assisted homeowners are now paying less, even considering taxes and insurance, than they were in rent. Assisted homeowners are young families, as well as single individuals, who contribute between 1% and 2% of the purchase price of the home.

In response to Legislator Hathway, Ms. O'Neill stated the average applicant contribution is \$1,200. If at all, she said, homes generally require minor repairs.

Legislator Moser cited the favorable result for one first-time homeowner whose monthly rent of \$725 had been reduced to \$644 through the CDBG program.

In response to Legislator Dolhof, Ms. O'Neill reported the mortgage for these homeowners are all for 30 years.

The hearing was closed later in the meeting, but there were no public comments.

Chairman Tabolt declared the September 5, 2017 meeting minutes were approved by general consent after no corrections were noted.

Mr. John Lehman, candidate for District 1 County Legislator, urged the Board to adopt and forward respective resolutions to Federal representatives documenting their position on the Constitutional Convention and the Affordable Care Act (“ACA”). In reference to the latter, Chairman Tabolt deferred to Legislator Richard Chartrand, as the Board’s representative on the Hospital Board of Managers, who reported that Board had taken a position.

Chairman Tabolt relayed NYSAC’s support for a Constitutional Convention, while stating the Board had not formed a consensus. Legislator King voiced support to change the allowance for State officials to remain in office and receive their pension, regardless of a crime conviction. However, he urges caution that a convention may result in more aggregate loss than gain.

In response to Legislator Dolhof, Mr. Lehman reported opposition by the Beaver River Teacher’s Association due to the potential impact on State pensions, anticipating the Commission would encompass influential business owners who would protect their interests.

Legislator Brennan referred to merits conferred by NYSAC. Chairman Tabolt desires to change some of the mandates heretofore dismissed by State lawmakers, however, has justifiable concern there is no local control or input for Convention selections.

Legislator Brennan asserted having no understanding of the ACA to enable an opinion. Legislator Moser referred to potential negative impact on our hospital and other facilities throughout the State if proposed ACA Medicaid payments were adopted. He endeavors to understand who would benefit or be impacted the most.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTICES:

John Boyd has submitted a letter of resignation from the Junkyard Review Board.

The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has informed they have listed the First Lewis County Clerk’s Office located in Martinsburg, NY on the NYS Register of Historic Places and have nominated it to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Greene County Legislature forwarded a copy of their enacted resolution to commence litigation against manufacturers of prescription opiates.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS:

Legislators have received copies of the County Treasurer’s September report and the 3rd Quarterly Bed Tax Report; the 9/13 and 9/22/17 Solid Waste and Highway Audit reports; and the minutes of the 9/12/17 Junkyard Review Board meeting.

The September monthly report of Director of Weights and Measures James A. Richmire has been received and placed on file with the Clerk of the Board.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Philip Hathway, Taxation/Elections/Information Technology Committee Chairman, was pleased that Chairman Tabolt was being recognized tonight in his hometown. He deferred to County Manager Ryan Piche for an update on the broadband initiative. The new user friendly County website will be implemented in early November, to include on-line completion of employment applications and direct submission to the Human Resources Department.

The Real Property Tax Director is assisting 2020 Census Coordinator Frank Pace with Consolidated Boundary and Annexation Survey programs, and Planner Cassandra Buell is assisting with 9-1-1 address investigations. The 2010 Real Property Auto CAD software will no longer be technically supported effective 12/31/17. Accordingly, Legislator Hathway made a motion to authorize purchasing the 2018 version at a cost up to \$2,500 from 2017 budget appropriations, seconded by Legislator King and carried.

Legislator Roscoe Fawcett, Jr., Social Services/Office For Aging/Youth Committee Chairman, reported that Robo calls (reverse 9-1-1) would inform pre-approved HEAP applicants they do not need to apply or phone the office, thanking Sheriff Carpinelli and Dispatch staff for the courtesy calls. Persons are encouraged to phone the Office For the Aging for insurance counseling when Medicare open enrollment starts on 10/15/17.

Legislator Fawcett announced that Director Brenda Bourgeois had resigned, extending well wishes for her future endeavors. The Office For Aging is open from Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., including the lunch hour. The HEAP program will accept applications effective 11/13/17; and those 55 or older interested in employment should call 315-376-5312.

Legislator Fawcett reported 170 attendees at the Octoberfest event where Copenhagen resident Nancy Jones was awarded the Randy Streeter Senior Citizen of the Year plaque.

Legislator Fawcett termed the "Lewis County Night Out" event a great success that was well attended.

Legislator Bryan Moser, County Officers/Junkyards/Veterans' Services/ Human Resources Committee Chairman, reported on three Junkyard issues, one in Watson awaits Judge Burker's response; two West Leyden properties are to be cleaned up by 10/12/17 or be presented to the Town of Lewis Judge. County Attorney Joan McNichol stated that both of the West Leyden owners have been fined. The Committee continues their review to amend the Junkyard Law so that if a property owner does not timely respond, property clean-up may be directed with the attendant cost imposed upon the owner's next tax bill.

Legislator Moser reported results of the CITEC consultant survey indicated minimal inconsistency with existing management employee salary ranges. The recommended salary schedule is based on a 9-point value system that will provide a guide for management replacements.

Legislator Moser reminded of the 10/7/17 Family Farm Day to be held at the Beller Farm on Route 126 between Naumburg and Carthage at 10 a.m. and will encompass a calf birthing. He also reported attending the 4-H awards being very impressed by the number of youth participants. Legislator Fawcett reminded of the concurrent 10/7/17 Fall Foliage Tour.

Legislator Jerry King, Courts and Law Enforcement/Fire & Emergency Services/Building Codes Committee Chairman, made a motion to authorize Sheriff Carpinelli to hire a temporary Jail Nurse for a period up to 12 weeks during the impending FMLA leave of the current employee, seconded by Legislator Chartrand and carried.

Legislator King made a motion to authorize Sheriff Carpinelli to temporarily promote a Deputy Sheriff to Sargeant and a Sargeant to Deputy Sheriff/Criminal Investigator, effective immediately through December 31, 2017, seconded by Legislator Chartrand. Legislator Brennan inquired the need. On behalf of the Committee, Legislator Chartrand said the purpose was to catch up on the case back-log, recommending approval for three months, during which further review will occur during 2018 budget deliberations. The motion then carried.

Legislator King reported that EF Johnson has made equipment adjustments, which have reduced pager background noise. He and Robert MacKenzie will tour to confirm resolve of the static issues.

Legislator King expressed thanks to Legislators and staff for the kind thoughts and sympathy card after the passing of his mother-in-law.

Legislator Lawrence Dolhof, Economic Development/Recreation, Forestry and Parks, Committee Chairman, made a motion to authorize an appropriation of \$750.00 for the North Country Regional Economic Development Council to prepare and submit a printed Progress Report to the State, including design and graphics as part of the annual competition, seconded by Legislator Moser and carried.

Legislator Dolhof reported low ridership for the JCC connector bus route, because many classes start before the arrival time. Lewis County and JCC representatives are researching potential changes to enable more student riders. He also urged support of his sponsored resolution for a bus shelter at the hospital.

There were 10,030 ATV operator participants in the "Buck Run" event, compared to 327 last year. Four accidents involving three personal injuries occurred during the event, but there were many positive comments from business owners and social media. Legislator Dolhof also stated the Molpus timber management company has agreed to work with County officials to create a trail from Harrisville to Belfort.

The recent business leaders' breakfast was well attended and deemed a success. The upcoming 10/13/17 manufacturing day will provide students from all area schools, who are pursuing careers, an opportunity to tour local businesses.

Legislator Dolhof further reported that Skewed Brewing will lease the Lowville Trinity Avenue building from the IDA with plans to create 4-5 new jobs as they increase production.

Legislator Craig Brennan, Ways and Means/Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairman, said October meetings would be scheduled for 2018 County budget deliberations.

Building maintenance personnel had painted floors and will install carpeting at the public safety building. Legislator Brennan commended Supervisor Frank Archer for reutilizing used carpeting from another County office space to effect cost saving.

Legislator Gregory Kulzer, Transportation/Solid Waste Committee Chairman, made a motion to authorize Highway Superintendent David Becker to promote one full-time Machinery Equipment Operator (Medium) to a full-time Heavy Equipment Operator due to an impending retirement; and to also refill the Machinery Equipment Operator (Medium) position, in accordance with Civil Service regulations, effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Legislator Moser and carried.

Legislator Kulzer reported 204 households participated in the Hazardous Waste Day, which helps the Development Authority by reducing general waste. Personnel have been trained to operate the new weigh station scales. Recycled and trash volumes each continue to increase, the latter defying explanation.

Legislator Kulzer reported ongoing paving by the Highway Department and planned rehabilitation of the Sears Pond Road. The fuel depot remains operational with used parts and replaced dispensers. The oil-water separator will be inspected and cleaned by a contractor for an estimate of \$2,000.

As the representative on the Double Play Community Center Board, Legislator Kulzer reported 107 male and 82 female participants aged 4 – 12 years in the summer recreation program, well above the 45 last year. The program served residents from various Towns throughout the County and the Center utilized \$2,400 of the County appropriation to supplement the program.

Legislator Kulzer has tickets available for the Center's sponsored "Comedy Night" in November; and announced a 10/8/17 scheduled fund raiser event. He was pleased to term the Center as an asset to the Community. Legislator Chartrand relayed several women participants of the swim program personally phoned him to convey their gratitude.

Legislator Richard Chartrand, Hospital Committee Chairman, reported the Federal initiative to cut the 340B prescription drug reimbursement program by 30% or greater effective 1/1/2018, which equates a substantial loss for the hospital. All members of the Board of Managers have been asked to contact Congresswoman Stefanik to oppose the cut. A late resolution was enacted to urge Congress not to reduce the 340B prescription reimbursement program for hospitals.

Legislator Chartrand relayed the Board of Managers had recognized computer department employee Danielle York as the July employee-of-the-month, by presenting her a flower bouquet.

He reported that CEO Gerald Cayer has implemented three aspects of governance as a guide for the Board of Managers: 1). Fiduciary – to determine the most efficient use of funds that fosters accountability and discipline in the workplace; 2). Strategic – market positions, strategic drivers, identify key stakeholders, and analysis to determine strengths and weaknesses; 3). Generative – leads the Board to ask whether issues are framed correctly, whether appropriate sources are being utilized or how else issues could be viewed, which leads to ultimate reconsideration of overall strategies.

Legislator Chartrand reported the Hospital's County debt of \$1.5 million. Regardless of July and August losses attributable to orthopedic and related ancillary services, the \$3,238,000 year-to-date surplus is well above the budget level of \$760,430. A sole supervisor will oversee surgical, emergency room, hospitalist and nursing home physicians to promote efficiencies.

Legislator Chartrand made a motion to hold the 11/7/17 Legislator meeting in Harrisville to honor Legislator Hathway, who is not seeking re-election, seconded by Legislator Moroughan. Legislator Hathway's strong objection to the recognition was duly noted, but the motion carried. The location of the meeting will be appropriately advertised when known.

Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Public Health/Community Services Committee Chairwoman, made a motion to authorize Director Penny Ingham to refill a supervising public health nurse position that will be vacant as of 10/26/17, seconded by Legislator King and carried.

Legislator Moroughan made a motion to authorize advertising for applicants to fill the vacant Office For the Aging Director position, seconded by Legislator King and carried.

Legislator Moroughan announced a proclamation would recognize 10/22-10/28/17 as "National Lead Prevention Week". Public Health staff will administer employee flu vaccinations at the Court House and DSS buildings.

Legislator Moroughan reported that Director of Community Services Patricia Fralick has returned to the office with regular hours. The South Lewis Girls Varsity Soccer team and the South Lewis Chapter of Sources of Strength recently co-sponsored a charity event that raised \$500 for Suicide Prevention. Information materials had been distributed to enhance awareness.

Legislator Moroughan relayed that Congresswoman Elise Stefanik had announced the YEAH Coalition was awarded a \$125,000 drug free communities support program grant to support substance abuse prevention programs. The Lewis County Chamber of Commerce had recognized Mountain View Prevention Services (MVPS) for providing prevention services for 30 years; and former Jefferson County Mental Health Association Executive Director Korin Scheible, had been appointed MVPS Executive Director.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Chairman Tabolt reported that he, Legislator Brennan, Ryan Piche and Joan McNichol had attended the NYSAC conference. Although it is yet unknown how the vehicles will interact with pedestrians or other obstructions, they heard about near future driverless cars that will travel inches apart at speeds up to 90 mph. A test was conducted with a driverless tractor trailer that delivered cargo 150 miles away, with plans to parlay this technology to school buses and snow plows. Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul had told of being a passenger in a driverless car on two occasions, with certain implications to replace taxi services.

The Chairman and Legislator Brennan toured the Johnson Lumber Company expansion with Lieutenant Governor Hochul; and he had attended the 9/30/17 Hospital Foundation Gala, along with Ryan Piche.

Chairman Tabolt reported that Vice-Chairman Dolhof would appear in his stead tomorrow in Watertown to hear Governor Cuomo's announcement, along with Legislator Fawcett and Ryan Piche.

Chairman Tabolt reiterated the invitation to attend the 10/11/17 Hudson River Black River Regulating District (HRBRRD) meeting and lunch at Stillwater Hotel followed by a tour of the Stillwater dam and power plant.

Chairman Tabolt posed the issue of wind turbines, affirming the Board's wholehearted support of Fort Drum, while taking exception for one faction dictating an automatic ban on new projects. Several Legislators had toured the airfield and heeded General Piatt's desire to work together, agreeing to timely share proposed new wind projects for their consideration. He invoked related comments to a letter composed by Ryan Piche and Atty. McNichol purporting the Board's collective stance on wind energy.

Referring to regional Boards and organizations that have publicly shared their respective position, Mr. Piche strongly encouraged the Board to do likewise. The referenced letter-to-the-editor articulates a concise stance and would be published in the Watertown Daily Times and forwarded to pertinent stakeholders and other media sources. He distinguished that Lewis County has more to gain or lose than any other faction.

Terming the letter factual and void of demands, Legislator Hathway expressed his support, while voicing displeasure with Assemblywoman Addie Jenne's statement to prohibit wind projects without consideration or outreach for other opinions. He directly correlates the County's tax rate being 30 cents less per thousand dollars of assessed value from that of 10 years ago, to wind turbine revenues. These funds make special projects possible, such as the radio communications upgrades. Legislator Hathway agrees with fostering good relations with Fort Drum officials as understood by the meeting with General Piatt.

Legislator Hathway made a motion to forward the letter to the Watertown Daily Times, seconded by Legislator Dolhof.

Legislator Moser suggests the letter also be forwarded to the FDRLO, Congresswoman Stefanik, City of Watertown Mayor and every other entity that has publicly stated their opposition to new wind projects. He submits the letter is meant to invoke discussion by all entities to identify viable solutions that benefit everyone.

Legislator Dolhof understood the General is not opposed to wind power projects, but asks to be involved at project inception to afford Fort Drum an opportunity to weigh in, with those present in agreement to work toward that effort. He termed it a good exchange with the General and awaits their ultimate decision in regard to the air space. Legislator King concurred, understanding the General awaits the joint land use study report. If indicated, the County would heed concerns when considering future projects, while he asserts rightful inclusive discussion.

Legislator Chartrand referred to the 2-year wind project sighting process, reaffirming the Board's intention to consider Fort Drum's input and/or concerns. He opined that "Some anti-wind energy people are using some well-intentioned people wrongly", to support their initiative to do away with all of it! He favors the letter that confirms unwavering support for Fort Drum.

Legislator Moser changed his suggestion into an amending motion to forward the letter to all his aforementioned entities, seconded by Legislator King and carried.

In response to Legislator Brennan's concern to assure that Fort Drum officials receive information in a timely manner, Atty. McNichol confirmed they receive all mailings as a listed interested party in the Article X sighting process. Additionally, she added, the Department of Defense Clearinghouse also examines the effect of wind projects on behalf of military installations.

Regardless of the State and Federal bureaucracies, Mr. Piche reported direct communication with Fort Drum Lt. Col. Polk, with ongoing contact and access through IDA Director Eric Virkler and Planning Director Frank Pace.

The motion to forward the letter was then unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:

Ryan Piche cited the 6-month interval 10% health insurance premium increases and wages were the primary 2018 County Budget considerations. He and Patricia O'Brien have compiled 95% of the budget and will devise a meeting schedule with the Ways and Means Committee to relate their mitigating recommendations for deliberation.

Mr. Piche is handling requisitions for the Office For the Aging during the absence of a Director, and HR Director Chris Boulio and DSS Commissioner Jennifer Jones regularly check in to assist personnel with daily operations.

Mr. Piche awaits the executed Mohawk Networks contract now that final changes have been agreed upon. The original prediction of 23 repeater towers has expanded to 55 to bolster the 9-1-1 signal throughout the County.

He had attended the Cream Cheese Festival, Hospital Gala, the REDC meeting in Potsdam, the NYSAC conference in Syracuse, OFA's sponsored Oktoberfest, and he and Frank Pace had attended the ASUA breakfast to hear General Piatt's informative speech about overall Fort Drum operations.

Mr. Piche and Hospital CEO Gerald Cayer had a joint introductory meeting with County and Hospital union representatives. He cited Mr. Cayer's desire to report monthly to the Board, specifically today to respond to Legislator Moser's inquiry posed at the last meeting.

SPECIAL REPORT:

Mr. Cayer distributed information and explained he had been evaluating hospital, nursing home, home health and hospice systems during his first eight weeks. He reiterated Legislator Moser's question of why a retiree went to an outside facility for a diagnostic test so that the County health insurance plan would not have to pay as much.

The charge master is essentially the hospital price list of 8,206 items that is competitive with area facilities, but some may be comparatively higher or lower than regional facilities. Mr. Cayer had met with insurance representatives to review participant utilization numbers for domestic, as well as other institutions. The domestic claims do not reflect non-employed doctor visits or respective ancillary tests for non-hospital employed physicians.

Mr. Cayer explained the retiree paid \$350 for an out-of-network test and the County insurance plan paid \$340 of the total \$690 cost. Pursuant to the County health plan, the same test at our hospital would cost \$980 and be entirely borne by the plan, which he labeled a flaw. It's a health insurance plan design issue, as opposed to a pricing issue. All health insurance program participants should be responsible for some level of co-payment, such as invoked by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). He proposes to redesign the plan in conjunction with union representatives and members.

Mr. Cayer was pleased to report that of the 761 July participant visit claims, 696 or 91% were doctor visits, as opposed to emergency room, in-patient or diagnostic procedures, declaring it a testament the County health insurance plan is working very well.

Contrary to private clinics that may refuse to treat non-private payors, Lewis County General Hospital-owned clinics must serve all prescribed diagnostics as a vendor receiving Medicare and Medicaid payments. This increases overhead costs, and has been a contentious issue for nearly two decades. Mr. Cayer recited a quote from professional acquaintance Leah Binder, president and CEO of the Leapfrog Group, a non-profit organization that advocates for improved safety and quality at hospitals. "To achieve true value, you have to have high-quality care at a good price", he quoted. Rather than giving preference to free-standing imaging centers, Ms. Binder proposes that payments should be based by judging the quality of imaging diagnoses, similar to the existing Delivery Systems Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program.

Mr. Cayer cited a distributed article about the challenges of the ACA, asserting his belief not to repeal without replacement that would otherwise risk catastrophic impact.

The Board of Managers has modernized the organizational chart and is formulating a new Mission Statement to recognize the future of Lewis County healthcare and the impacts well beyond the hospital walls. A stated goal is to optimize services to include persons beyond the county borders to support the infrastructure and enhance future facility viability.

In response to Legislator Chartrand, Mr. Cayer recommends forgoing the customary annual nursing home rate increase, preferring instead to identify and implement efficiency opportunities, while optimizing resources. Increasing rates would invoke higher private source payments, negatively impacting those who are already challenged to meet their needs, because Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates are not proportionately increased.

In response to Legislator Hathway, Mr. Cayer reported the preliminary 2018 budget was pared down from the initial \$5 million deficit. Contractual agreements and the entire workforce, including non-filled positions, have all been evaluated, and all historical trending data has been applied. He is cautiously optimistic to meet the break-even goal, dependent upon stabilization of orthopedic services and general surgery. Moreover, knowledgeable that ancillary services are dependent upon doctor visits and orders, long-term planning and full recruitment efforts are critical to enable timely replacement of impending physician retirements.

Ryan Piche referenced the data sheet provided by the health insurance consultants indicates 38% of the total July 2017 claims were for hospital services with attendant cost to the plan of 38.1%, indicating the overall plan is viable.

COUNTY TREASURER REPORT:

Patricia O'Brien recited the current fund balance of the Special Legislative Contingency Fund - \$388,154.14; Contingency Fund-\$323,924.27; Capital Data Processing Fund-\$117,770.63 and Capital Equipment Fund - \$404,883.73, of which \$142,434.52 is the Highway portion, year-to-date sales tax revenues are above budget at \$7,266,703.01; and current Hospital debt is on schedule at \$1.5 million.

The 8/31/17 Internal Service Fund balance of \$1,952,602.62 reflects an increase of \$193,130.57. Ms. O'Brien relayed optimism for continuing increases.

In response to Legislator Moser, Ms. O'Brien stated the same businesses customarily make late bed tax payments, with one outstanding delinquent exception.

In response to Legislator Chartrand, Mr. Piche reported there were no additional Hospital or County allocations requested for the Internal Service Fund at this time, instead opting for continual review for timely recommendations if deemed necessary.

PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd)


Chairman Tabolt declared the hearing closed at 6:53 p.m. after no one wished to speak.

REPORT OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE:

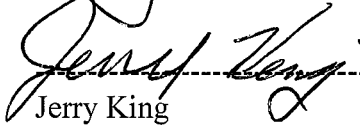
**REPORT OF
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
ON THE EXAMINATION OF CLAIMS**

To: The Honorable County Legislators

The Ways and Means Committee reports that they have examined the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$ 1,169,683.60 and recommend that they be audited and allowed for the amounts claimed.



Craig Brennan Chair



Jerry King Committee



Richard Chartrand Committee

Dated: October 3, 2017

Approved on motion by Legislator Dolhof, seconded by
Legislator Brennan, and carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Tabolt reported that after learning about Copenhagen residents who had collectively responded to save a neighbor's life, he directed that a commending Proclamation be composed. Legislator Brennan will present the Proclamation at a 10/8/17 scheduled event to be held in Copenhagen.

A Proclamation was read to commend several persons who rendered life-saving assistance to Croghan resident Kevin Ardison. County employees Warren Shaw and John Reed were present to accept a copy of the document. Steven Monnat accepted the document on behalf of the Croghan Fire Department and Lewis County Search & Rescue. Citing his 40 years as an EMS responder, Mr. Monnat said, "This is why we do this". He expressed appreciation for employers who allow responders to wear their assigned pagers so they may assist in times of need, concluding that good things happen when we work together.

Others that were recognized for their part to assist Mr. Ardison were his son Bryan, daughter Kiley, and Deputy Sheriff Richard Knight.

A third Proclamation was also read in recognition of "National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week" from October 22-28, 2017.

At 7:35 p.m. the Board recessed to a separate room for ongoing litigation update from Atty. McNichol.

After reconvening at 8:04 p.m., Legislator Chartrand made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Moser and carried.