

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
October 19, 2021

Present: Legislators Jerry King, Ian Gilbert, Richard Chartrand, Ron Burns, and Lisa Virkler.

Others present: Legislators Larry Dolhof, Greg Kulzer, Phil Hathway, Andrea Moroughan, and Tom Osborne; County Manager Ryan Piche; County Attorney Joan McNichol; Treasurer Eric Virkler; Human Resources Director Caitlyn Smith; and Information Technology Director Conner Biolsi.

Committee Chair, Legislator King, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and asked that anyone who could not socially distance six feet to please wear a mask.

Legislator Chartrand made a motion to approve the September 21, 2021 committee meeting minutes, seconded by Legislator Virkler and carried.

2nd River Road Bridge in Town of Harrisburg & Town of Pinckney

Highway Superintendent, Tim Hunt reported that the 1st River Road Bridge in the Town of Harrisburg has been completed and looks great. Town of Pinckney Highway Superintendent, Don Cook proposed the idea of having the county assist with replacing the 2nd River Road Bridge with a culvert similar to the 1st Bridge project and then transferring ownership of the bridge over to the Towns. If the county waits and does the project under the Bridge NY program it could be several years away and the cost to the county would be 5% of the total project. The Towns would handle the project to replace the bridge with a culvert and only charge the county costs of materials. They would widen the road, remove the dip and put a culvert in to replace the bridge.

Don Cook went on to explain that the cost of the culvert has gone up some and is expected to increase 22% in 2022 which is why it is important to address this now to get the materials ordered. There is also no access to the gulf and therefore it would require a crane to set the culvert. There is also no close by dirt for this project and would require almost 500 loads, which would take 4 to 5 trucks hauling for 18 days. The recommendation from the Towns would be to order the culvert pipe now to avoid the material increase and then start the project in the spring of 2022. The 1st Bridge replacement project cost was \$90,000 but because of the material increase and hauling dirt this 2nd Bridge replacement project would be \$179,000. Both the Town of Harrisburg and Town of Pinckney are in favor of this project. Legislator Dolhof questioned the life span of a bridge versus a culvert and Tim Hunt explained that a Bridge life span is 75 years, and a culvert is 100 years. Treasurer Eric Virkler stated that this project was not in the 2021 budget, and it wasn't included in the 2022 budget either.

Legislator King made a motion to enter into an agreement with both the Town of Pinckney and the Town of Harrisburg to replace the 2nd River Road Bridge with a culvert at a cost of \$179,000.00 and then to turn ownership of the bridge over to the Towns., seconded by Legislator Burns and carried.

The following dockets were reviewed:

1. Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Lewis and the Town of Greig for Flood Damage Prevention Administration and Enforcement.

AYE 5 NAY 0

2. Authorizing an Extension to the Shared Services Agreement between the New York State Department of Transportation and the County of Lewis for the term of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 with each party contributing no more than \$77,000.00 in costs and services to the other.

AYE 5 NAY 0

3. Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreements for Shared Services Highway Maintenance between Lewis County Highway Department and Towns and Villages within the County of Lewis.

AYE 5 NAY 0

4. Authorizing Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to the Contract between the New York State Department of Transportation and Lewis County for the Transportation Federal-Aid Bridge Replacement Project known as CR21 over Gulf Stream.

AYE 5 NAY 0

5. Appointing Sarah Metott as a member to the Lewis County Planning Board.

AYE 5 NAY 0

6. Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreements with Development Authority of the North Country to provide Grant Administration Services and Construction Project Management Services under the Northern Border Regional Commission 2021 SEID and the CDBG-CV Grants.

AYE 5 NAY 0

7. Authorizing Agreement between the New York State Stop-DWI Foundation and the Lewis County STOP DWI Program for Project Crackdown.

AYE 5 NAY 0

8. Authorizing Agreement between the County of Lewis and NYS Division of Homeland and Emergency Services for 2020 SICG Radio Grant Award in the amount of \$684,510.00.

AYE 5 NAY 0

Legislator Chartrand voiced his concern that everyone that attends meetings should be wearing a face mask because that is the policy that was adopted. If people don't agree about wearing a face mask, then maybe the policy should be changed. The Security guards in the courthouse have the authority to enforce this policy but it doesn't seem to be working. In a conversation with the security guards at the previous board meeting Legislator Chartrand was told that two individuals from this group had told them not to make a big deal about it. The board adopted the mask policy and needs to enforce it or change the policy.

Legislator Virkler stated that she felt it should be enforced to the extent possible. Legislator Gilbert stated that he had voted against the policy due to vaccination status but supports it

because the majority voted for it. Legislator Burns voiced his concern that the vote can be done again and again until the desired outcome is achieved. Legislator Dolhof stated he had since spoken to Sergeant Claude Stewart in security about removing someone and because the Sheriff's Department won't assist, they would have to see if they could rely on Village of Lowville police. Legislator Moroughan stated that she does have a medical condition but does the best she can to comply. Legislator Osborne explained that the policy isn't a law but compared it to working at a manufacturing company who has a policy that you have to wear safety glasses. Ryan clarified that the policy states you have to wear a mask unless you can maintain 6 feet of distance. There was further discussion on changing the policy or enforcing it more. Ryan stated that there could be possible litigation implications involved with further discussion on this subject, so it was decided to have any further discussion on this subject in executive session later on.

County Attorney Joan McNichol asked for a motion to allow her to contract with DANC for assistance creating the RFPs for the Old Dairy Property. She believes that it could be under \$5,000.00 but will get a quote from DANC and then prepare a resolution for the November meeting if the committee agrees.

Legislator King made a motion for County Attorney to contract with DANC on behalf of the County to assist with the RFP process for the Old Dairy Property on State Route 812, seconded by Legislator Virkler and carried.

There being no other business to come before the committee, Legislator Chartrand made a motion to adjourn at 1:31 p.m., seconded by Legislator Virkler and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board