



## **Tioga County Worksession Minutes**

### **June 19, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.**

#### **Legislators Present:**

Legislator Aronstam  
Legislator Brown  
Legislator Bunce  
Legislator Ciotoli  
Legislator Flesher  
Legislator Monell  
Legislator Roberts  
Chair/Legislator Sauerbrey  
Legislator Standing

#### **Legislators Absent:**

None

#### **Guests:**

Matt Freeze, Reporter, Morning Times

#### **Staff present:**

Cathy Haskell, Legislative Clerk  
Jackson D. Bailey II, County Administrator  
Ron Lanouette, 4<sup>th</sup> Assistant County Attorney (*departed @ 10:27 a.m.*)  
Commissioner of Public Works Hammond (*departed @ 10:27 a.m.*)  
Linda Parke, Personnel Officer (*departed @ 10:27 a.m.*)

**Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Sauerbrey opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. for the ***Fourth Special Legislature Meeting of 2025*** for Legislature consideration of the following:

- ***Authorization to Create and Fill Accounting Associate III; Temporarily Increase Full-Time Headcount – Department of Public Works***
- ***Authorize Contract for Consultant Services (Department of Public Works)***

Legislative Clerk Haskell took roll call. Legislator Standing led in the prayer, pledge, and voting process. Special Meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m. with regular Worksession immediately following.

**Welcome New District #5 Legislator:** Chair Sauerbrey welcomed Legislator Andrew Aronstam as the newly appointed District #5 Legislator serving the Village of Waverly and Town of Barton.

**Medicaid/SNAP Resolution Discussion:** Chair Sauerbrey reported two people took privilege of the floor at the June 10, 2025 Legislature meeting and presented a resolution for Legislature consideration regarding the potential cuts to the SNAP and Medicaid Programs as it affects New York State and our community. Chair Sauerbrey asked the Legislators if they were in support of moving this proposed resolution forward.

On a show of hands vote, all Legislators unanimously raised their hands not in support of moving this proposed resolution forward.

Legislator Standinger reported this is an orchestrated movement by folks from the metropolitan areas because that is where the bulk of the fraud is occurring. The threat of losing that money has invoked a coordinated response to all rural areas to try and garner support. There is very little fraud here and very little circumstances that would create a problem for people in our area. We are already addressing fraud issues, and this is not really a concern of ours.

**M/C Salary Committee Chair Appointment:** Legislative Clerk Haskell reported records indicate the Management/Confidential Salary Committee was established and appointed in 2006 comprised of the following positions: Chair of Personnel, Chair of the Legislature, Legislative Representative, Personnel Officer, Commissioner of Public Works, Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, and Secretary to the Sheriff. After the Deputy Commissioner of Social Services retired a couple of years ago, the Personnel Officer asked the Director of Administrative Services (Public Health) position to serve in his stead to have representation from the Health & Human Services Building.

Upon review of the appointed committee, the Legislature agreed that the County Administrator should replace the Chair of the Legislature position on this committee and that the Legislative Representative position will be determined annually with Legislator Ciotoli serving in 2025.

Chair Sauerbrey will appoint the following positions to serve on the Management/Confidential Group Salary Committee at the July 15, 2025 Legislature meeting:

- Personnel Officer
- County Administrator
- Commissioner of Public Works
- Director of Administrative Services (Public Health)
- Legislative Chair of Personnel Committee
- Legislative Representative (*Legislator to be determined annually*)
- Secretary to the Sheriff

**Approval of Worksession Minutes:** On motion of Legislator Brown, seconded by Legislator Ciotoli, the June 5, 2025 minutes were unanimously approved.

**Action Items:** Currently, there are no action items.

**Other:**

- **Active Shooter Training** – County Administrator Bailey reported he and Safety Officer Holbrook prepared a roster for each of the training dates, as coordinated by the Sheriff's Office. The training will be held on Monday, June 23, 2025, Tuesday, June 24, 2025, and Monday, August 18, 2025 and all rooms have been reserved. The expectation is that all

employees will attend an in-person training, however, one of the sessions at the HHS Building will be videotaped and uploaded to the NeoGov training platform for anyone who is unable to attend in-person.

- **Legislative Office Renovations** – County Administrator Bailey reported the Legislative Office renovations was discussed with the Legislature previously and he and Legislative Clerk Haskell spoke with Buildings & Grounds, and they would like to move forward with purchasing the necessary materials and begin the project. As of now, the plan is to start with the Legislative Clerk office followed by building a privacy wall with a door in the reception area, but still accessible to the Legislators.

Chair Sauerbrey addressed the transition of offices for the Chair of the Legislature and County Administrator and stated now is the time to move forward. County Administrator Bailey reported the Legislature will need to address the expectations and needs of the Chair of the Legislature in the future to determine office location so this can be coordinated with Buildings & Grounds.

The Legislature agreed with the proposed project moving forward. County Administrator Bailey reported an update will be reported to the Legislature at the July 10, 2025 Legislative Worksession.

- **Neighborhood Depot Ribbon Cutting** – Chair Sauerbrey reported the ribbon cutting for the Neighborhood Depot is on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. Chair Sauerbrey reported \$750,000 of the County's ARPA funds were used to fund this project. Additionally, the ED&P Department was responsible for writing the DRI grant application, that the Village of Owego was awarded in 2018 for \$10 million dollars, and this was one of the identified projects that resulted from this grant award. Chair Sauerbrey accoladed ED&P Director Woodburn and the ED&P staff for their assistance with this grant and project.

**Executive Session:** Nine Legislators were in attendance along with County Administrator Bailey and Legislative Clerk Haskell. Motion by Legislator Ciotoli, seconded by Legislator Bunce, to move into Executive Session to discuss matters regarding potential property acquisition and employment history of particular individuals at 10:21a.m. Motion carried.

Motion by Legislator Flesher, seconded by Legislator Monell to adjourn Executive Session at 10:44 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Next Worksession scheduled for Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cathy Haskell*

Legislative Clerk