

SPECIAL LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2007 – 3:30 P.M.

Present: Chairman Hargrave; Supervisors Gutheil, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Thompson, Wood, Janik, Trottier, Daly, Barrett, and Raymond; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Jack Murray, County Auditor; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Jasper Nolan, Saratoga County Republican Chairman; Press.

Chairman Hargrave called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Mr. Hargrave said the sub-committee that was setup at the last Law and Finance Committee asked for a special meeting to discuss the charge of the Personnel Committee that was discussed at the Law and Finance Committee.

A copy of the recommended charge of the Personnel Committee and research from other counties was distributed to all committee members for their review. Mr. Gutheil stated that he thought it was a good idea to form a Personnel Committee in order to bring the Supervisors closer to the budget process.

Mrs. Johnson said she would like to have discussion between Supervisors to gather additional information and clarification before moving forward to establish a Personnel Committee.

Mr. Johnson said a Personnel Committee is warranted, however, he would need more time to study the matter before making a decision.

Mr. Wood said the concept of a Personnel Committee is appropriate, however, he had questions on what would happen to the committees that the Personnel Committee would assume responsibilities for. How many members would be on the Personnel Committee and by whom would they be appointed?

Mr. Hargrave said it is standard that a committee is appointed by the Chairman of the Board and most of the committees consist of seven members.

Mr. Gutheil said the intent was to keep the Personnel Committee the same as the other standing committees with seven members. The committee would assume the current responsibilities of those other committees.

Mr. Gutheil said if the Personnel Committee is not formed in October, it will be too late for the committee to do anything constructive.

Mr. Thompson asked who currently does the evaluations on Department Heads? Mr. Wickerham said there isn't a formal evaluation sheet or program. They are evaluated through all of the committees.

Mr. Peck said the idea of a Personnel Committee is needed. There needs to be some overall oversight of Department Heads and better communication between them.

Mr. Peck said he would like to see a rules change done at the January Law and Finance Committee and establish a Personnel Committee at that time, giving more time to review and define the charge of the Personnel Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Gutheil, seconded by Mr. Thompson to form a standing Personnel Committee and incorporate the recommendations of the subcommittee.

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Johnson to table the motion made by Mr. Gutheil to move forward with the standing Personnel Committee. Ayes – A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Wood Noes – Hargrave, Gutheil, Thompson Motion passed.

On a motion made by Mr. Gutheil, seconded by Mr. Thompson the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom