

## Legislative and Research Committee Minutes

October 13, 2009 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Rowland; Supervisors Raymond, Southworth, Veitch, Wright, and Yepsen; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Kathy Marchione, County Clerk.

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

**On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Ms. Yepsen the minutes of the June 9, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mrs. Marchione said in September all Department of Motor Vehicle fees increased 25%. Beginning in April of 2010 the State has mandated that the Department of Motor Vehicle issue a new license plate and charge a fee of \$25 for the new plate. If an individual would like to keep the existing number that they have, there will be an additional charge of \$20.

Mrs. Marchione said DMV is in its eight year with the existing license plate. The last time there was a reissue of license plates was in 1986.

Mrs. Marchione said she is opposed to the reissuing of license plates. It is a waste to throw away the existing plates as they are still in good shape, and it is a bad idea to be adding additional fees for the public to pay in a down turned economy.

Mrs. Marchione said the only plates that will not be affected are Veteran plates.

Mrs. Marchione said the county share with the new increase would be 12.7%.

Mrs. Southworth said it is definitely not the right time. So many people are struggling as it is. We may find that there are people who are not going to be able to get to work because they can't afford the extra \$25 on top of the 25% increase in registration costs to put their cars on the road. This is not

the right thing to do especially when we are not told there is any other reason other than to generate revenue.

Ms. Yepsen asked if Mrs. Marchione had received support from other counties.

Mrs. Marchione said she has received unanimous support.

Ms. Raymond said letter should be established to stress the inconvenience to residents, and the fact that there is nothing that looks at individual circumstances.

Ms. Raymond suggested attaching a notice with every new plate that individuals must change their EZ-pass and any parking permits they may have.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Ms. Yepsen to move forward to the Law and Finance Committee the opposition of reissuing license plates and charging additional fees. Unanimous.**

Mr. Rowland asked if the county receives any revenue from registration transactions done on-line. Mrs. Marchione said the county does not receive any revenue unless the transaction is mailed or the individual comes into the DMV office to register their vehicle.

Mr. Rowland asked what could be done to get the word out? Mrs. Marchione suggested that a message be sent out with the tax bills. She said she would discuss that possibility with the County Treasurer and report back to the committee.

Mr. Rowland said the Economic Development committee has requested support from the Legislative and Research committee to memorialize the county's policy of only buying computers with AMD chips or chips that are actually manufactured by Global Foundries.

**A motion was made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a resolution urging New York State and all New York State counties and cities to implement a plan of only purchasing computers that operate on AMD chips. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Yepsen asked if there would be a purchasing problem with the lowest bidder? Mr. Rowland said on State contracts there is a choice.

Ms. Raymond said it might be wise if we were to do something leading up to January. Even if we only meet with our own delegation or do something to begin working on the legislative agenda. She suggested limiting requests to three or four items at the most.

Ms. Raymond said we need to take a strong stance that there is no way possible that any federal health plan that gets tied in with Medicaid in any way comes to the county.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wright the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom