

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
May 19, 2020 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Daniel Pemrick; Committee members Ed Kinowski, Todd Kusnierz, Jonathan Schopf, Kevin Tollisen, Sandra Winney, Mo Wright; Supervisors Phil Barrett, Eric Connolly, Tara Gaston, Alan Grattidge, John Lant, Jack Lawler, Darren O'Connor, Bill Peck, Mike Smith, Tom Wood, Benny Zlotnick and Chairman of the Board Preston Allen; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Matt Rose, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Marcy McNamara, Adam Kinowski, Human Resources; Cathi Duncan, Public Health.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, the minutes of the May 13, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mrs. Winney, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Authorizing contracts with up to 50 contact tracers to meet Capital Region re-opening metrics.

Mr. Schopf confirmed that a portion of the current 34 county employees being used as contract tracers were non-essential employees who were brought back in to do contact tracing. Mr. Schopf confirmed with Ms. Duncan that these employees were not getting paid an additional \$25 per hour on top of their regular salary. Mr. Kusnierz expressed concern as he believes per the Governors executive order they should be paid the additional pay and was looking for advice from Counsel on that. Ms. Duncan said that the request is to authorize 50 additional tracers however they would only be utilized if or when needed. Mr. Schopf asked when the County would be reopening at 100% capacity. Mr. Hellwig said that not until the Governor makes that announcement, and we are not there right now. Ms. Duncan said that the State has 31K applicants right now, however they are not ready to go, and in order to meet the metrics, Saratoga had to do this on their own. Ms. Duncan said that the majority of her additional 50 tracers have already been trained and certified. Mr. Kusnierz asked what the process is for individuals who are interested in becoming contact tracers. Ms. Duncan said that the requirements are based on the NYS information, 18 years old or above, high school diploma, however she believes someone with medical knowledge, a good background and good way of talking to people is important. This is why they tapped into the medical community as much as possible. Ms. Gaston said that the website coronavirus.help.ny.gov has the list of qualifications required, training and pay for the State hiring process, for any other county residents that are interested in applying to the State.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board