

Human Resources & Insurance Committee Minutes  
March 2, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Darren O'Connor; Committee Members Joe Grasso, John Lant, Jon Schopf, Tom Richardson, Matt Veitch, Tom Wood; Supervisor Phil Barrett, Bill Peck and Chairman of the Board Todd Kusnierz; Steve Bulger, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden, County Administrator; Mike Hartnett, County Attorney; Marcy McNamara, Adam Kinowski, Wendy Tennant, Human Resources; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; Roger Schiera, Bill Fruci, Board of Elections; Andrew Jarosh, Betsy Garnsey, Brian Guarneri, Joann Kupferman, Brenda Lapierre, D'Arcy Plummer, Haile Tuccillo, Terri Wrisley, Treasurer; Paul Iachetta, UPSEU; Scott Brackett, CSEA.

Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Employee Recognition. Mr. O'Connor said that there are three recognitions today.

First was submitted by the County Auditor recognizing Maureen Lindell. Recently our good friend and colleague Bill Millard needed medical attention. Ms. Lindell's ability to remain calm during the situation was extremely courageous. She communicated with the 911 operator and was critical in helping Bill receive care. Ms. Lindell deserves to be recognized for her brave and noble act that portrays her admirable character.

Second was submitted by Acting County Attorney Hugh Burke. In the recent unfortunate occurrence involving Bill Millard who was stricken at work, Michael Naughton and Michael Hartnett rendered valuable assistance to Chris Shall, who was attempting CPR. All three should be commended.

Third was submitted by Treasurer Jarosh recognizing Terri Wrisley, Tax Collection Supervisor. Ms. Wrisley moved into the position of Tax Collection Supervisor right as the Covid 19 pandemic began in early 2020, and at the same time, that person performing that function retired. Terri has worked above and beyond this past year through closures, partial closures, quarantines, and more to ensure the County's tax collection program continued uninterrupted.

Mrs. McNamara gave an overview of the Workers' Compensation Report which was distributed with the agenda. Total paid out for the month of January was \$165,614.50, 22 claims received of which 9 were report only. 4 people did not use the 24/7 utilization and all were reminded of the process. There are currently 195 open cases and we are on budget for 2021.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to authorize the amendment of chapter 4 section M of the Saratoga County Policies and Procedures Manual in reference to the Vacation Carryover Policy. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said that these are carryovers that are brought about by work demands, the carryovers are limited to that.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to authorize the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Public Service Employees Union**

**(UPSEU) to make part of the Union, Registered Professional Nurses and Head Nurse in the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said that this item involves nurses being included in the Union.

**A motion was made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to authorize an agreement with Saratoga Hospital, Inc. Corporate Health Services for the physical examination and testing of county staff in accordance with its fee schedule for an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the duration of the 2021 calendar year. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said that this is a standard recurring agreement with the hospital for drug testing.

Mr. O'Connor said that item 8A regarding the Board of Elections has been withdrawn.

**A motion was made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Lant, to authorize the Sheriff's Department to hire transfers at step 1 instead of base salary. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said that it's often difficult to get people who have prior experience. Mr. Zurlo said that this will help with lateral transfers.

**A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Lant, to authorize an amendment to the 2021 Compensation Schedule to reclassify (1) Senior Account Clerk to (1) Special Clerk to the County Treasurer under the Saratoga County Treasurers Department. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said that there is no budget impact with this item.

**A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Schopf, to appoint Michael J. Hartnett as County Attorney, Base/Step1, for a term commencing on April 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021. The motion passed. Mr. Veitch recused from voting.**

Mr. Veitch said that he is recusing from voting as he had a comment prior to the vote being taken. Mr. Veitch said that he is in favor of Mr. Hartnett, but would like to potentially see the resumes of the other applicants who were interviewed. Mr. O'Connor said that he has worked with Mr. Hartnett with the EO203 group and believes Mr. Hartnett will be a wonderful County Attorney.

The vacancy review report was distributed and Ms. McNamara gave an overview on the positions that are vacant at this time.

**On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board