

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

Transcript 3/2/2021

SPEAKERS

Darren O'Connor, John Lant, Jonathan Schopf, Michael Hartnett, Matt Veitch, Joe Grasso, Several Supervisors, Tom Richardson, Therese Connolly, Marcy McNamara, Tom Wood, Michael Zurlo

Darren O'Connor

Welcome to the March meeting of the Human Resources Insurance Committee. I think attendance has been taken right Therese? Okay, so we're going to adjust the schedule here a tiny bit, but the first item will still be approval of the minutes for January 26. Do we have a motion?

Tom Wood

I'll make a motion, Supervisor Wood.

Darren O'Connor

Supervisor Wood, second?

Joe Grasso

I'll second.

Darren O'Connor

Supervisor Grasso, discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? carried. Okay, if everybody doesn't mind, I'd like to adjust the schedule a tiny bit to move up our employee recognitions right now so that we can handle that now. Partly because it's the best part of the meeting, I think. So there are three that we'd like to recognize today. The first is put in by the Saratoga County Auditor. I would like to recognize Maureen Lindell on Thursday, February 11. Our good friend and colleague Bill Millard needed medical attention. Maureen was there to help. Her ability to remain calm in a very difficult time and situation was extremely courageous. She communicated with the 911 operator and was critical in helping Bill receive care. Maureen deserves to be recognized for her brave and noble act that portrays her admirable character. Thank you very much, Maureen. That was quick thinking and a very, very difficult situation. Hugh Burke acting Saratoga County Attorney. 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. Thank you very much. This was a very difficult situation for the entire County

and providing that kind of assistance which is far outside of the scope of normal duties deserves to be recognized. So thank you very much for that. A third is Drew Jarosh the Saratoga County Treasurer submits recognition for Terri Wrisley Tax Collection Supervisor. Terri 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 and fluid circumstances through closures, partial closures, quarantines, and more to ensure the County's tax collection program continued uninterrupted. The taxpayers concerns were addressed, continually changing Executive Orders were complied with, and all with learning the ins and outs of her new position on the fly. What a baptism in a new position. Thank you very much, Terri, and thank you for submitting these very worthy candidates for employee recognition. Thank you very much.

Jonathan Schopf

Mr. Chairman, Jon Schopf joining a little bit late. My apologies.

Darren O'Connor

Welcome, Jonathan. Okay, we'll go back to the regular agenda now. The workers compensation report. Marcy.

Marcy McNamara

Total paid for the month of January is \$1,650,000. Claims received 22, 9 were report only. For the utilization, we had 4 no's, we looked into them, and all were notified to remember to call the 1-800 number. Open cases currently are 195, which looks good for us. We have not been in the 100's in a while. And we are on budget for 2021. Although it's the first month knock on wood.

Darren O'Connor

Okay. Sounds good. Any questions from committee members for Marcy on the Workers Comp report? Other supervisors? I know Bill is on the line. Any other questions? Thank you very much, Marcy. We'll move to the next item on the agenda. And that's to authorize an extension of Resolution 118-2020 authorizing a temporary vacation carryover amendment resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic. These are carryovers that are brought about by work demands. And I think the carryovers are limited to that. And Marcy, I think we have a few in this category. Right? Okay, so do we have a motion?

John Lant

John Lant, I'll make that motion.

Tom Richardson

Tom Richardson I'll second it

Darren O'Connor

Discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Next item on the agenda is a resolution authorizing a memorandum of agreement with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Officers Association. This involves nurses, I think, for nurses to be put into the Union. Do we have a motion to pass this resolution?

John Lant

I'll make that motion. John Lant

Matt Veitch

Second Supervisor Veitch.

Darren O'Connor

Discussion. We're good on this right Sheriff? Okay, any other discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Next item on the agenda is a resolution authorizing the contract renewal with Saratoga Hospital Corporate Health Services and I think this is a fairly standard recurring agreement with the hospital for drug testing, etc. Do we have a motion to pass this resolution? submit this resolution?

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Tom Richardson

I'll second that.

Darren O'Connor

Discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Okay, the next item on the agenda is some slight amendments to the 2021 Compensation schedule. I think the first item under 8A is withdrawn for the time being at least, that's the Election Board. The next item on the agenda is the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office, and that's to hire transfers into the Sheriff's Department at step one, and it's subject to negotiation. Sheriff, do I have that? Right? Okay, this is the one to hire the transfers into the Department at step one, instead of at the transfer rate. And I know from my experience at least that it's often difficult to get people in who have prior experience, and this prior experience also helps because it really saves money and time, etc. in

having to train these people. So it makes sense to me to bring them in at step one, rather than at the introductory rate.

Michael Zurlo

Correct, the problem is trying to get lateral transfers . So they are already in corrections at the base pay coming in, that's step one, gives us a little bit more flexibility in trying to get these people on board.

Darren O'Connor

Thank you, Sheriff. Do we have a motion?

Tom Wood

Supervisor Wood, I'll make that motion?

Darren O'Connor

Got that Therese?

Therese Connolly

I got Supervisor Wood and I believe Supervisor Lant is seconding it.

Darren O'Connor

Okay. Thank you. Discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Third item is Saratoga County Treasurer. We have a reclassification in the Department with no budget impact. Do I have that right Drew? Okay, do we have a motion on this resolution?

Darren O'Connor

Supervisor Richardson, I'll make a motion.

John Lant

Supervisor Lant seconded.

Darren O'Connor

Discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? carried. The next item on the agenda is regarding the appointment of Mike Hartnett as Saratoga County Attorney. Do we have a motion on that appointment?

Tom Richardson

I'll make that motion.

Jonathan Schopf

Second.

Darren O'Connor

Jonathan?

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Schopf seconded.

Jonathan Schopf

Correct.

Darren O'Connor

Discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Congratulations.

Matt Veitch

Count me is an abstention because I had a comment, but

Darren O'Connor

I'm sorry. So Matt Veitch is abstaining from that. Okay, we're good, we concluded that? Did you want to make a comment Matt?

Matt Veitch

I just would like to potentially see the resumes of the applications who came in, applicants who were interviewed, just so we can see who else had applied for the job, but I'm in favor of Mike as the Attorney, I just would like to review the other applicants just to know who we had there. That's it.

Darren O'Connor

Okay. I mean, I'll say that the we had a couple of other, a few other very, very qualified applicants. It was a very hard decision, because we had so many qualified applicants. It would have been nice to be easier. But Mike Hartnett just shined. And I know from working with Mike, in the EO203 group that he's

going to, he's terrific, and I think he's going to be a wonderful County Attorney. So congratulations, Mike, we're very glad you're willing to take on this added responsibility.

Michael Hartnett

Thank you so much. I appreciate the kind words and I look forward to the challenges and taking on and assisting the Board of Supervisors and accomplishing the goals that they've set out and the Administration and I really appreciate the opportunity. Thank you.

Darren O'Connor

So hopefully we'll get this through the Board of Supervisors, I'm sure that they'll be very, very happy as I am. All right, other business. Do we have any other business? Whoops, vacancy review. Questions for Marcy on vacancy review or Marcy do you have any kind of summary on how we're doing?

Marcy McNamara

In DPW we have an MEO and an Automotive Repair. In the County Clerk, we have Index Clerk. In DSS, we have a Social Welfare Examiner, a Caseworker and a Senior Caseworker opening. In Public Health, we have a Supervising Public Health Nurse, and in the District Attorney's Office, we have an Assistant District Attorney. In Real Property, we have several positions all open, but they will be filled based on internal promotions. In Purchasing, we have a Clerk part-time and in Aging we have a Senior Nutrition Coordinator.

Darren O'Connor

Marcy is kind of par for the course in terms of the number of vacancies.

Marcy McNamara

It seems to be a little bit high, but in Real Property, there's so many positions because of the backfill and in DSS. Yeah, I would say it's par for the course.

Darren O'Connor

Okay. Questions for Marcy? Alrighty. There's no motion on that or anything. Right Therese? Thanks Marcy. Any other business? Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Tom Richardson

You got it.

Joe Grasso

I'll second

Darren O'Connor

Discussion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Darren O'Connor

Opposed? Carried. Thank you, everybody. Appreciate it.