

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
LAKE PLEASANT, NY  
FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 9, 2011**

Members present: Bill Farber, Rick Wilt, Neil McGovern, Ermina Pincombe, Bob Edwards, Barry Hutchins, Clark Seaman and John Frey

**CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT  
11:00 AM**

Also present: Don Purdy, Jay Griffin and Gary Wickes

Bob asked Bill how he wanted to proceed.

Bill explained that the Board made decisions throughout the Budget process that impacted certain departments.

Bob asked if Don had any questions.

Don looked at the budget and discussed what they would like to do next year.

Gary reported they received new manikins through the Sheriff's Office; that they will use in Indian Lake. He has a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday with them.

He will also have a First Responder Course starting in Speculator after Christmas.

Gray reported what they did this past year. They had two MCI drills in Indian Lake and Long Lake. They have had two courses one in the Southern end of County and one in the Northern end. Thirteen people graduated and three re-certs.

Gray stated he has spent many hours getting his certificate back to teach courses. He has attended all ARAMS Council meetings. He has done a lot of work on the MCI trailer and it is now ready to take to the different squads to see. The inside of the trailer had to be re-built.

Gary discussed what is inside the trailer. They have 28 back-boards, 50 head blocks, cold/hot packs, blankets, oxygen, masks, for a rehab or fire incident. He has no budget, but has bought items out of his own pocket.

He has setup kits to start command posts.

He's been busy from Benson to Inlet working with Lifenet for safe landing zones. He has at least two in every community. The reason being, some of the landing zones they have used in the past were dangerous.

Ermina asked where the landing zone in Benson is. It is still in the same spot and also on Route 30. Gary proceeded to explain.

Gary gave laminated maps to all the Fire Departments, Ambulance Squads and the Sheriff's Office on the landing areas and he did this with his own money.

Don stated Gary is now certified, how does the County want to use him? He and Jay are back to six hours a week. If the County wants to use him to teach the six hours won't cover that.

Neil asked how we trained before. Gray stated everything goes through NYS DOH. The State has a set amount that they will pay per student and the instructors are paid out of that money. Discussion continued.

Bill stated that they need a Central Government Committee meeting to spend more time with the EMS Coordinator and/or Fire and Emergency Manager also.

Rick asked Don if he has any out of pocket expense. Don stated really no. There has been talk about more interaction with the Fire Departments and EMS. Personal contact with the departments to see what is needed from the County.

Jay reported that they had a meeting this morning with FASNY. They have a program to pay for college. If any members of the department are in school and can keep a "C" average they will pay 75% of their tuition at a Community College. An "A" student will received 100% funding.

Jay agreed to eight hours after he took the Sheriff job. He still agrees to that, but does not want to go any lower.

It was stated that Gary only put in for mileage twice even though he has been all over the County.

Jay reported that he does not attend a lot of meetings. The last class only got three people; it was requested from a department.

They scheduled Refresher Courses for this winter, two in the southern County and two in the northern County.

Neil asked if they have heard from the State that they are requiring too much for basic EMS and Fire. Jay stated they said it works everywhere else.

Regarding his budget Jay stated it's hard to keep up with everything with the hours he has now.

Bob stated Don will come on with a stronger leadership role and less meetings with Jay and Gary. Jay asked what meetings he was referring to. Bob stated in Don's office. Jay stated he is here on Wednesday. People stop in with questions from the southern part of the County and he also takes calls from the State on Wednesdays.

Bill suggested that Don, Jay and Gary need to talk again and set up a Central Government Committee meeting to discuss the details. The budget is not going to change. Don is in the office, if he needs to pick up more of what Jay & Gary are doing that is fine.

We need to discuss this in December, because the appointments are due January 2012.

Bill thanked them for coming in.

The Board discussed what needs to be discussed at the Central Government Committee meeting.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**11:45 AM**

Also present: Cathy Rogers and Judy Peck

Bob wanted to review the decreases in their 2012 budget lines. Bob reported that he has looked at some of the meetings they attend and would like them to car pool if possible.

Bill stated he was glad that the Board wanted this meeting with them. He is between the Board and the departments regarding travel authorizations. Bill asked the Board who was going to handle the authorizations that have just come in from the Board of Elections. They would like to see them car pooling and using a County car.

Neil questioned last year in comparison to other departments. He didn't see any lessening in their travel when he did see it in other departments.

Cathy stated that Bill won't sign unless both travel authorizations are together. There are some Committees that she is on and Judy is not and sometimes Judy wants to attend two days and Cathy wants to attend all three.

Bill stated that the struggle for the Board is to understand that in the past they have been told that if one Commissioner goes then both Commissioners have to go. If one Commissioner is in the office then both needs to be in the office. Then there are circumstances you just talked about that seem in conflict with this. Help us understand how that is and how that works.

Cathy stated they have Regional meetings that are day trips, both Republicans and Democrats, she runs the meeting with another Republican Commissioner. The overnight conferences; one in January and one in June that are on the Legislative Committee they present to the State Board. Then in April the State Board of Elections has theirs. Next year they are looking at possibly three Primaries so they are putting everything in their January Conference.

Bill stated then on that explanation the course of action the Board took was the correct one. The Board cut the money and you and Judy can figure out what you can afford to do.

Neil stated you are two Department Heads in the same office and you need to carpool when you can or use a county car.

Ermina asked when you meet in Saratoga Springs do you need to spend the night. Cathy stated no, those are day trips. Ermina stated that she was referring to staying in Lake George last year.

Cathy stated they may be mandating an extra Federal Primary for the United States Senate and Member of Congress and then they have the September Primary for your local and State offices. Bill questioned her on this and stated he doesn't think it is going to happen.

**INTERNAL MANAGEMENT**

**12:10 PM**

Also present: Kim Byrne

Bob reported that they had called her in because they have finalized the budget and wanted to know her feelings about it and if there was anything they overlooked.

Bill stated this meeting isn't meant to supplement having an Internal Management meeting to set the schedule.

Bob stated he was happy to see how quickly she responded on the training she needed.

Kim stated she had voiced her feelings at the last meeting. She is not happy her hours are being cut and nothing else has changed in her budget.

Bill stated they did increase her travel budget by \$2,000.

Neil stated she needs to take advantage of any training for Civil Service and in management. You need to set the bar high and be an example. You need to be above approach on how you do things.

Kim asked if he meant leadership and disciplinary training.

Neil stated yes, but you will probably not be handling disciplinary actions to another department, but you can give advice.

Kim reported generally she is not included in those types of things.

John stated, take the personalities out of this. We are cutting things we don't want to. We need to find a place to take some out, somewhere.

Kim stated she was not authorized to go to training because she is out of the office, now her hours have been cut and can go to training.

Barry stated they wanted to work with her to come up with a schedule that works for her office. You said it would work before we took it to the Board.

Neil stated the talk was you would have some flexibility with how you use the Clerk's hours. Concentrate her hours while you are at training. Kim stated there will be times when we need to adjust the schedule.

Bill stated we will have an Internal Management meeting at the end of December to do Employee Evaluations and we can meet and discuss a schedule for training etc.

Kim left at this time.