I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Van Etten called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 2019, MEETING MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Bonadio

1. Review of 2018 Financial Statements – Mr. Shepard reviewed a summary of the 2018 Financial Statements. It is important to note that there were no misstatements identified during the audit. Total fund balance increased approximately $6.2 million or 7.5 percent in 2018. He stated that new accounting standards will be coming in the future. GASB 84 which relates to fiduciary activities will become effective for year-end December 31, 2019 and GASB 87 relative to accounting for leases will become effective for year-end December 31, 2020. With GASB 87, leases will be considered short-term or long-term and you will pick up the entire value of the obligation without regard to whether you own it or not. You will then have to book leases as an asset. Mr. Shepard reviewed the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance.

Mr. Van Etten asked with regard to the State/Federal receivables, is that increase due to delayed accounting or a slowdown in payments? Mrs. Hurd-Harvey replied she would suspect it’s a combination, but will go back and look at that. Mr. Shepard commented there has been a general slowdown as the State has been delaying payments. Mrs. Hurd-Harvey stated the ILS (Indigent Legal Services) grants are two to three years out, but we are spending the money. Mr. Shepard noted it is a good thing to keep our eyes on and make sure that the vouchers are going out in a timely fashion.
Mr. Van Etten asked this year there was no change in OPEB? Mr. Shepard replied this year the net change was $6 million as it went from $55 million to $61 million. He stated 2017 was when you put the adjustment in place for the new standards. There is nothing more to catch up and this is just the normal change.

Mr. Swackhamer asked Mr. Shepard is there anything of concern that he sees coming up? Mr. Shepard replied the two new GASB standards he mentioned earlier are just a change in reporting, nothing that would impact the County.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked why is there such a difference in the investment rate of return of 7 percent referenced on page 48 and 3.44 percent referenced on page 51? Mr. Shepard replied the first rate of 7 percent is pension cost and that is driven by the State system. Mr. Donnelly explained it used to be 8.5 percent. Mr. Shepard stated OPEB has a 20-year bond index.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked are you eliminating the entries for transactions? Mr. Shepard replied this is in reference to transactions between departments. In 2017 we did not classify, but in 2018 we did. The bottom line remains the same. Ms. Fitzpatrick asked about the shortage of revenue referenced in the first bullet on page 13. Mr. Shepard stated there was a shortage of federal funding for both Social Services and Special Children’s Services. Mr. Wheeler stated we kept the gaming revenue in as the State supposedly has a deal with the Senecas. We were expecting that money this year. Mr. Shepard stated we are still applying and claiming 2017 as the final year. Mr. Wheeler stated we did adjust down the gaming revenue for 2019. Mr. Shepard explained that revenue has not been booked; it is just a budgetary adjustment.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked with regard to property taxes, when we make the towns/villages whole, how do we book that? Mr. Donnelly explained we get a report back for taxes as well as the reserve and that is charged against the revenue as a budget item. With the schools we have to make the central schools whole. We have collections agreements with the city schools and the villages.

Mr. Van Etten asked Mr. Shepard based on the number of other counties he is involved with, how is our financial health in relation to others? Mr. Shepard replied he generally finds the rural counties do a better job than the urban counties do. You are doing a good job of managing operations and your debt load is very low. Mr. Van Etten stated you used to provide a metric of averages of counties and the State. Mr. Shepard stated yes, it is more difficult to do those comparisons now. He will look and see if we can try to put that back into the audit for next year.

**MOTION: APPROVING THE 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED BY BONADIO MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

IV. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Emergency Management Office

1. **Budget Adjustment** - Mr. Marshall requested authorization, within the State Homeland Security 2016 Grant, to transfer $2,892.00 from the Cell Phone Charges line item to Major Equipment to cover the purchase of a new frame for the command tent.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO TRANSFER, WITHIN THE STATE HOMELAND SECURITY 2016 GRANT, $2,892.00 FROM THE CELL PHONE CHARGES LINE ITEM TO THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM TO PURCHASE A NEW FRAME FOR THE COMMAND TENT MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

2. **Cohocton Water Tower Site** – Mr. Marshall informed the committee we have an old capital project for department radios and there is $16,202 remaining in that. He would like to rename that project and use those funds to do some of the work that needs to be done at the Cohocton tower site.
MOTION: AUTORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO RENAME THE “DEPARTMENTAL RADIOS” CAPITAL PROJECT TO “COHOCTON WATER TOWER SITE” WITH A BALANCE OF $16,202 AND AUTORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO USE THOSE FUNDS FOR WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AT THE COHOCTON WATER TOWER SITE MADE BY MR. NICHOLS FOR DISCUSSION. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK.

Mr. Swackhamer asked is this a container that can be moved? Mr. Marshall replied yes; there will be a telephone pole and we will be using a shipping container for the equipment. If we acquire a different tower site, we will be able to move that container to the new site.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

B. Buildings & Grounds
   1. Capital Project - Mr. Rose requested authorization to transfer $25,000 from the COB Parking Pave & Drainage Capital Project to the Pave Veteran’s, Records and Shop Access Roads Capital Project. He stated this paving work will be done by Public Works.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO TRANSFER $25,000 FROM THE COB PARKING PAVE & DRAINAGE CAPITAL PROJECT TO THE PAVE VETERAN’S, RECORDS AND SHOP ACCESS ROADS CAPITAL PROJECT MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MR. ROUSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Mr. Van Etten commented with regard to parking in the main parking lot, it is difficult to pull out of spots on the side with a big truck as people are parking on the side where grass is planted and blocking vehicles in. Mr. Rose stated he will look into that and put up some signs.

C. Department of Social Services
   1. Budget Transfer - Ms. Muller informed the committee they have seen more of an increase in emergency assistance for adults than they had anticipated. We have already spent, in the first quarter, what we had budgeted for the entire year, which is $60,000. She requested authorization to transfer $130,000 from the IV-E Foster Care line to cover costs through the end of the year, as well as the associated revenue. She commented the increase is due in part to Code Blue. We are working with Arbor Development who has applied for a grant to build a 50-unit housing building.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO TRANSFER $130,000 FROM THE IV-E FOSTER CARE LINE ITEM, ALONG WITH ASSOCIATED REVENUES, TO COVER COSTS FOR THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ADULTS PROGRAM MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

D. Commissioner of Finance
   1. Budget Transfer – Mrs. Hurd-Harvey stated relative to the settlement of claim that the Legislature approved last month, she needs to do a couple of transfers. The first is to temporarily transfer $183,680 from the Salaries line item in the Law Department to Judgements and Claims. The second is to transfer a total of $283,680 from the Contingent Fund with $183,680 being appropriated into the Salaries line item in the Law Department and $100,000 being appropriated to Judgements and Claims to pay for a claim relative to the excavator accident.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO TRANSFER $183,680 FROM THE SALARIES LINE ITEM IN THE LAW DEPARTMENT BUDGET TO JUDGEMENTS AND CLAIMS; TO TRANSFER A TOTAL OF $283,680 FROM THE CONTINGENT FUND AND APPROPRIATE $183,680 TO THE SALARIES LINE ITEM WITHIN THE LAW DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND $100,000 TO JUDGEMENTS AND CLAIMS MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.
2. **Five-Mile Creek Watershed Protection District** – Mrs. Hurd-Harvey informed the committee that they renewed the bond anticipation note with Steuben Trust as they had the lowest rate.

3. **Proposed Changes in RPTL Article 11, Tax Foreclosure** – Mr. Donnelly informed the committee that there is a bill in the State to change the order to allow people to pay the newest tax bill first in order to keep it out of foreclosure. If this passes, some people would be in foreclosure continuously and would never be foreclosed upon. Mr. Van Etten asked what is the logic, to eliminate the 5 percent fee? Mr. Donnelly replied he does not know. A downstate member proposed the bill.

Mr. Wheeler commented it is important to note that you have had a long history of being as lenient as possible. Most counties do not allow hardships or down payments. This is ill-advised from the State. These bills are in committee right now.

**MOTION:** OPPOSING NEW YORK STATE’S PROPOSED CHANGES IN REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW, ARTICLE 11 RELATIVE TO TAX FORECLOSURE MADE BY MS. FITZPATRICK. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

**MOTION:** TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS’ LAW, ARTICLE 7 § 105.1.H. THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY OR THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF SECURITIES, OR SALE OR EXCHANGE OF SECURITIES HELD BY SUCH PUBLIC BODY, BUT ONLY WHEN PUBLICITY WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT THE VALUE THEREOF MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. ROUSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO REMOVE FROM THE TAX SALE, PARCEL #136.18-03-033.000 (TAX SALE #90) AND TO ACCEPT AN OFFER OF PRIVATE SALE IN THE AMOUNT OF $748.67 INCLUSIVE OF DEED FEES MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. MOTION CARRIES 4-0-1. (MR. SWACKHAMER ABSTAINED DUE TO PERSONAL REASONS)

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO REMOVE THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES FROM THE TAX SALE: PARCEL #317.16-02-055.000 (TAX SALE #53), PARCEL #017.08-01-033.000 (TAX SALE #42), PARCEL #017.08-01-039.000 (TAX SALE #43), PARCEL #243.00-01-005.000 (TAX SALE #34) AND PARCEL #243.00-01-006.000 (TAX SALE #35) AND SELLING TO THE STEUBEN COUNTY LAND BANK CORPORATION FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF $32,000 AND WAIVING THE PENALTY MADE BY MS. FITZPATRICK. SECONDED BY MR. SWACKHAMER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO REMOVE FROM THE TAX SALE PARCEL #166.10.01-070.000 (TAX SALE #85) AND SELL TO THE CITY OF HORNELL FOR $7,865.22 SUBJECT TO NORMAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO REMOVE FROM THE TAX SALE PARCEL #151.72-01-027.000 (TAX SALE #80) TO EVALUATE FOR POSSIBLE SALE MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. ROUSH. MOTION CARRIES 4-1. (MS. FITZPATRICK OPPOSED)

**MOTION:** TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.
MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Tuesday, July 9, 2019
Legislative Committee Room
9:30 a.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, July 3, 2019.