

STEUBEN COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

9:30 a.m.

*Legislative Chambers, 3rd Floor, Annex Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Scott J. Van Etten, Chair William Thew	Robert V. Nichols, Vice Chair Daniel Warriner	Jeffrey P. Horton
STAFF:	Jack K. Wheeler Rochelle Casselbury Lisa Rodbourn Mitch Alger Heather Schneider Lisa Tracy	Christopher Brewer Curtis Warner Kathy Muller Stacy Housworth Matt Marmor	Tim Rosell Michele Kuhn Lise Reynolds Aura Lee Jefferds Todd Housel
LEGISLATORS:	Kelly H. Fitzpatrick Michael Volino	Hilda T. Lando (Zoom)	Nicholas D. Pelham
OTHERS:	Eddie Van Stine, Public Information Specialist Brian O’Neal, WLEA		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Van Etten called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2026, MEETING MADE BY MR. THEW. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Sheriff’s Office

1. **Accept NYS OMH Cares Up Grant** – Mr. Wheeler requested authorization to accept the NYS OMH Cares Up Grant in the amount of \$40,000 per year for three years. He noted this grant is awarded to full-time first responder agencies for the development of a wellness program.

MOTION: ACCEPTING THE NYS OMH CARES UP GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 PER YEAR FOR THREE YEARS MADE BY MR. THEW. SECONDED BY MR. HORTON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

B. Public Works

1. **Budget Transfer**

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$245,000.00 FROM THE ROAD PROJECTS FUND TO THE 2025 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS UNASSIGNED MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$2,140,000.00 FROM ROAD IMPROVEMENTS UNASSIGNED TO 2026 ROAD PROJECT FUNDS MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Landfill Expansion Project** – Mr. Van Etten commented the tour of the Landfill went very well and he appreciates their attention to the questions that were asked. Mr. Nichols asked when we bond for the project, how will that be paid for? Mr. Wheeler explained that it will be paid wholly out of the Landfill Enterprise Fund. You have the ability to use General Funds in the Enterprise Fund. Mr. Nichols commented we always kept the Landfill costs out of the real property taxes.

Mr. Horton stated that he would like to reiterate the earlier discussion about no longer having rate deals for haulers bringing trash from outside the county. Mr. Wheeler stated the rates that were approved; we are considering amendments to those for 2027 and beyond. Mr. Horton stated he is in favor of raising the rates.

Mr. Van Etten stated we have a self-supporting Enterprise Fund. When we bought the additional land, did we use General Funds for that? Mr. Wheeler stated we used Enterprise Funds. Mr. Van Etten stated that going forward, we could justify using General Funds to purchase additional land. Mr. Wheeler commented the bids came in at \$20 million for the expansion project.

C. Community Services

1. **Request to Roll-Over Unused 2025 Opioid Funds to Family Service Society** – Ms. Jefferds requested authorization to roll-over \$1,723.57 in unused 2025 Opioid funds to Family Service Society for 2026.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE ROLL-OVER OF UNUSED 2025 OPIOID FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,723.57 TO FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY FOR 2026 MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. THEW. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

D. Office for the Aging

1. **Accept Funds from OFA Advisory Council** – Mr. Wheeler requested authorization to accept \$15,474.65 from the OFA Advisory Council. Mr. Wheeler stated the Advisory Council is dissolving their 501c3 status. These funds will be specifically used by the Office for the Aging.

MOTION: ACCEPTING \$15,474.65 FROM THE OFA ADVISORY COUNCIL MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

E. Social Services

1. **NYS Office of Victim Services Grant** – Ms. Muller requested authorization to accept and appropriate the NYS Office of Victim Services Grant in the amount of \$288,412.00. She also requested authorization to amend the Major Equipment List to include the purchase of a colposcope for the Hornell CAC site. The cost of the colposcope is \$22,000 and they will utilize these grant funds to purchase.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE THE NYS OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$288,412.00 AND TO AMEND THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LIST TO INCLUDE THE PURCHASE OF A COLPOSCOPE FOR THE HORNELL CAC SITE, UTILIZING SAID GRANT FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000.00 MADE BY MR. WARRINER. SECONDED BY MR. HORTON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

F. Public Health

1. **Roll-Over Unspent 2025 Opioid Campaign Advertising Funds to 2026** – Mr. Marmor requested authorization to roll-over \$4,717.09 in unspent Opioid campaign advertising funds from the 2025 budget to 2026.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ROLL-OVER \$4,717.09 IN UNSPENT OPIOID CAMPAIGN ADVERTISING FUNDS FROM THE 2025 BUDGET TO THE 2026 BUDGET MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. THEW. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

G. Historian

1. **Accepting Funds from NYS 250th Commemorative Commission** – Mr. Wheeler requested authorization to accept \$15,000 from the NYS 250th Commemorative Commission.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE HISTORIAN TO ACCEPT \$15,000 FROM THE NYS 250TH COMMEMORATIVE COMMISSION MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. THEW. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

H. Commissioner of Finance

1. **Monthly Reports** – Ms. Housworth presented the monthly financial reports for review.

2. **480(A) Forestry Exemption – Mossy Bank Park** – Mr. Alger stated a property owner adjacent to Mossy Bank Park would like to sell 15 acres to the Village of Bath. The Village of Bath applied for a grant to expand the park and would like to use the grant funds to purchase this parcel. Once the owner of the property sells those 15 acres, he will no longer meet the requirements of the 480(A) Forestry Exemption which has a minimum requirement of 50 acres. If you go below 50 acres, then you are assessed a penalty. As the property owner is selling this parcel to the Village for a public purpose and that use is tax exempt, he is requesting the county waive the penalty which would be \$6,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO WAIVE THE 480(A) FORESTRY EXEMPTION PENALTY RELATIVE TO PARCEL #174.00-01-002.000 SITUATE IN THE VILLAGE OF BATH MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. WARRINER. MOTION CARRIES 4-0-1 WITH MR. THEW ABSTAINING.

I. County Manager

1. **Corrective Action Plan** – Mr. Wheeler presented the corrective action plan for the State Comptroller’s Audit entitled “Steuben County Financial Management”. This plan does require approval and adoption by both the standing committee and Full Legislature. One thing that we will be doing is updating the *Administrative Code* to require multi-year financial and capital planning.

Mr. Van Etten stated he is not happy with the State Comptroller’s report. They criticize us for budgeting conservatively, yet they operate a sales tax system that is smoke and mirrors and that no one knows what is going on or how much you can expect, and they don’t provide any reporting at all to support it. It is kind of hypocritical on their part. We are being responsible when we conservatively estimate our revenues because we don’t want to get caught by surprise. If we had better information from them, we might be able to more closely budget what we think the number is going to be. Mr. Wheeler stated he would agree.

MOTION: APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN RELATIVE TO THE STATE COMPTROLLER’S AUDIT ENTITLED “STEUBEN COUNTY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT” AS PRESENTED AND FORWARDING SAME TO THE FULL LEGISLATURE FOR APPROVAL MADE MR. THEW. SECONDED BY MR. HORTON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HORTON. 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, April 14, 2026
9:30 a.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, April 1, 2026