

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 19, 2018

Chairman Rodney Shaw called the regular meeting to order on Monday, March 19, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the Court House. Commissioner Jack Carpenter, Commissioner Goff Searl, Clerk Niki Collier, Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko and County Counselor Zoe Newton were all present. Commissioner Goff Searl opened the meeting with prayer.

Commissioner Searl moved to approve the minutes of Monday, March 12, 2018. Commissioner Carpenter gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Joel Haden stated that rock had been hauled to several locations throughout the county. Commissioner Shaw asked if the employee that runs the brush hog could run the rock picker during this time of the year? Mr. Haden agreed to try to work that in. Commissioner Carpenter stated things looked good. Joel reported that he had walked the landfill and identified the problem areas and crews will make some repairs and add a terrace to divert water and prevent additional water damage.

HR Administrator Crystal Wade presented travel request for approval.

Commissioner Searl stated he attended a meeting with Meals on Wheels and The Peoples Place in Cedar Vale and it went well. He stated that it seemed both entities would like to continue working together and they addressed the need for some repairs to the building and decided to hire a cleaning person. Commissioner Searl made a motion to renew annual membership with Cedar Vale Chamber of Commerce, Commissioner Carpenter gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

County Clerk Niki Collier advised the Commission that Mr. Duncan had sprayed for weeds around the courthouse, jail, and dumpsters. She stated that she would be working with Crystal Wade in HR this week to get trained on the payroll process. Mrs. Collier also reported the generator functioned properly during the weekly backup test.

Commissioner Carpenter stated he received a phone call from a Fire Chief concerned that the County had not been placed under a burn ban. Commissioner Carpenter advised that there is a standing resolution addressing agricultural burning. The Commissioners requested Treasurer Amy Goode join the meeting and she provided information regarding putting a notice in with the annual tax statements. County Clerk Niki Collier stated she could publish an article in the local papers and on social media to remind citizens of the burn resolution. Emergency Manager Cody Collier joined the meeting. Mr. Collier stated that the standing resolution allowed a way to prohibit burning in dangerous weather and more flexibility than a seven-day ban. Mr. Collier stated there has been an increase of people calling before they burn and he felt the resolution was working well. Commissioners and Counselor Zoe Newton reviewed resolution 2017-02 and requested the County Clerk to publish a reminder article in the newspaper and on social media. Commissioner Shaw stated he would like to see fines assessed to those violating the resolution. Mrs. Newton suggested that the Board consider updating the resolution to make the violation a civil matter rather than a criminal matter

and this would allow fines to be issued directly. The Board noted their appreciation for the rural fire volunteers and the work they do.

Commissioners reviewed a fund request from the Chautauqua County Blues Festival and inquired about previous funds issued. Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko reported that in previous years the Festival received \$250.00 per year. The Commissioners decided to continue this discussion at a later date.

Commissioner Searl motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Carpenter, motion passed 3-0.

Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

Rodney Shaw, Chairman, Second District Commissioner

Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Niki Collier, County Clerk