St. Lawrence County
Board of Legislators
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Operations Committee
Monday, January 12, 2026
6:00 PM

Members Attending: ~~Mr. Burke~~, **Ms. Curran**, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Gennett, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Hull, ~~Mr. Levato~~, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, Ms. Terminelli, and Mr. Webster

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ms. Curran called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m.

Due to extenuating circumstances, Legislator Sheridan attended the meeting remotely from 1460 Gulf Boulevard, Clearwater, Florida.

Mr. Gennett moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

Mr. Forsythe moved to amend the agenda to allow time for a presentation by Mr. Defiore from Massena, seconded by Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Gennett moved to approve the minutes of December 8, 2025, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

3. EMERGENCY SERVICES – RICK RUSAW

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications for a SFY25 Next Generation 911 (NG911) Grant and Modifying the 2026 Budget for Emergency Services – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Webster and Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract Extension for the FY20 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (FY20 SICG) with New York State Office of Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Services – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract Extension for the FY21/22 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (FY21/22 SICG) with New York State Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services – Mr. Webster moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract Extension for the FY23 Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (FY23 SICG) with New York State Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

4. PLANNING – JASON PFOTENHAUER

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with New York State Office of Community Renewal for Community Development Block Grant Funds and Modifying the 2026 Budget for the Planning Office – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Sub-Recipient Agreement with the Development Authority of the North Country for Delivery of the Countywide Housing Rehabilitation Program, Round #6 – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Gennett and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

5. PROBATION – TIM LEPAGE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign the St. Lawrence County STOP-DWI 2026 Plan for the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee – Mr. Webster moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

B. Arming of Probation Officers (Discussion) – Mr. LePage

6. SHERIFF – PATRICK ENGLE

A. Authorizing the St. Lawrence County Sheriff to Enter into a Section 287(g) Memorandum of Agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with eleven (11) yes votes, two (2) no votes (Haggard and Terminelli), and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

B. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for Postage, Inmate Prescriptions, and Overtime – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

Ms. Doyle introduced a discussion regarding the authorization for the use of County parking lots.
She reported that the Surrogate Stairs project is currently delayed due to inclement weather, now behind 27 days past substantial completion. The goal is to ensure the stairs are properly

cured, allowing them to remain in good condition for years to come. While the stairs project faces delays, the window replacement project is progressing as it is managed by the same company. The crew has successfully completed the asbestos removal while adhering to proper PPE protocols and is now focused on window installation.
Ms. Doyle reports that the Courthouse Improvement project was originally scheduled to start today but has also faced delays due to necessary revisions to the building permit. The New York State Code is currently under review and will issue a new permit once complete.
Ms. Doyle noted that the Finance Committee meeting will be the first to occur under the new timeline established for 2026. She mentioned that there will be no meeting next week in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, with offices closed except for 24/7 operations.
She adds that the DANC presentation scheduled for tonight will be postponed until a new date is set by the Board of Directors.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board (Denesha) – No report

B. Alternative to Incarceration Board (Burke) – No report

C. Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library (Haggard) – No report

D. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board (Curran) – No report

E. Environmental Management Council (Terminelli) – No report

F. Fire Advisory Board (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha

G. Jury Board (Sheridan) – No report

H. Local Government Task Force (Forsythe) – No report

I. Planning Board (Hull) – Mr. Hull

9. OLD/NEW BUSINESS
Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 8:44 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Mr. Perkins moved to go to Open Session at 9:11 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato).

11. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Reagen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Burke and Levato). Chair Curran adjourned the Operations Committee Meeting at 9:13 p.m., as there was no further business.