

**ALLEGANY COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
REGULAR SESSION**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Board of Legislators was called to order at 2:07 p.m. by Chairman Curtis W. Crandall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by former United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Ronald Z. Atzrott.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Legislator Pullen.

**ROLL CALL:** 15 Legislators Present: Scott Burt, Curtis Crandall, Philip Curran, David Decker, Dwight Fanton, Karl Graves, Dwight "Mike" Healy, Judith Hopkins, Charles Jessup, Kevin LaForge, Aaron McGraw, Timothy O'Grady, David Pullen, Debra Root, Norman Ungermann, Jr.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board meeting minutes of August 22, 2016, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Chairman Crandall presented a certificate to Ronald K. Atzrott, former United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal, in grateful appreciation of his service to our country. Mr. Atzrott's service dates were from January 24, 1968, to February 16, 1970. Following Basic Training at Parris Island, assignments included: Camp Lejeune, Camp Pendleton, and Vietnam. Commendations he received included: National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, Vietnam Service Medal with one star, and Rifle Marksmanship Badge. Mr. Atzrott led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at the beginning of the meeting as part of the Veterans' Honorary Pledge of Allegiance Program.

Chairman Crandall invited Jack Wood to share some information regarding economic development in Allegany County. Mr. Wood remarked on a partnership between Alfred State College and Allegany County that has helped to bring all areas of economic development in the County together with common goals. Mr. Wood announced that he was stepping down as Chairman and CEO of the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency and Dr. Craig Clark will take his place. He also stated he plans to end his consulting contract with the County by the end of this year. He feels it's a positive change, and the partnership with Alfred State College and Craig Clark is a good move forward. He will continue to assist Craig Clark through the end of the year, but Mr. Clark is now in the driver's seat. He thanked the Board for the incredible experience he's had working to promote economic development in the County. He remarked that he is incredibly proud of what's been accomplished. He noted how the population size has changed in Allegany County over the years, and remarked on

the unfortunate circumstances of Medicaid and Medicare getting larger. He said that they've gotten "wound up" over hotels and other types of business, but what's really needed right now is to get a 1,000 person factory to come to Allegany County. Chairman Crandall thanked Mr. Wood for his dedication and remarked on some of the many things Mr. Wood has done to develop the economy in Allegany County. Mr. Wood put together a team of people and they've got a lot of things that are "teed up" for us. He said, "We have Jack to thank personally for that." Chairman Crandall presented Jack Wood with a plaque expressing thanks for his dedication and passionate leadership in recent economic development efforts.

Catherine Schuyler NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution) Regent Joan Sinclair spoke to those in attendance in commemoration of Constitution Week. Constitution Week is being celebrated from September 17 through September 24, with the day following, September 25 marking the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights by the first Congress. The DAR adopted a resolution in 1955 to establish Constitution Week. A resolution was adopted and signed into Public Law 915 on August 2, 1956. Ms. Sinclair stated that the Rushford Public Library will be hosting a Constitution Week display this coming week. Ms. Sinclair distributed leaflets telling about George Mason and his role in establishing the Bill of Rights. Chairman Crandall read a proclamation declaring September 17-24, 2016, as Constitution Week in Allegany County.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Executive Director Laura Hunsberger shared information and upcoming events related to our local Cornell Cooperative Extension. The annual Farmer Neighbor Dinner will take place on September 28. She encouraged everyone to attend the dinner because "...it's an opportunity during harvest time to celebrate and express thanks to our local farmers and producers, and educate the community about the many advantages of purchasing and consuming locally grown or raised food." She noted that the hundreds of farms in Allegany County produce \$73.3 million dollars in agricultural products; and that money is recirculated throughout our communities creating jobs and supporting other local business. Ms. Hunsberger also spoke about local food being more nutritious. Much of the food we eat travels an average of 1,500 miles to reach us. This lengthy travel results in extensive fuel consumption and requires fruits and vegetables to be picked before they are ripe. Additionally, Ms. Hunsberger mentioned the economic impact of supporting our local agriculture. She stated, "Did you know that for every dollar produced in the local agricultural economy, another \$0.43 is generated in a non-agricultural industry? That multiplier effect translates into another \$31.5 million in local economic activity and makes Allegany Agriculture a nine-figure industry... Every local agricultural production job requires another 1.45 jobs to support that output and for every job in agricultural manufacturing, another 2.83 jobs are needed to support that position. Ag means local jobs, and those jobs mean a productive and sustainable tax-paying citizenry." She mentioned that the Allegany County 4-H program has doubled in participants in the past year. The 4-H program teaches life skills, leadership, time-management, decision making and goal setting. She thanked everyone for their continued support of the agricultural producers and manufacturers in Allegany County.

Sheriff Ricky Whitney addressed those in attendance in honor of Sheriff's Week. The Office of Sheriff was established in New York State's first Constitution in 1777, and has

existed continuously ever since. The Sheriff is the only law enforcement office in New York State to be directly elected by those he serves; "...He is a true public servant, directly accountable to the people of his community." Sheriff Whitney noted that this is the thirty-first annual celebration of Sheriff's Week in New York State. He congratulated his fifty-six colleagues who are the elected Sheriffs in their respective counties across New York State. Chairman Crandall read a proclamation declaring September 18-24, 2016, as Sheriff's Week in Allegany County. He thanked Sheriff Whitney for his service in operating the Sheriff's Office and the Jail.

Sheriff Whitney also announced a new service to the County, the CodeRED Community Notification System. CodeRED is an emergency notification service that allows emergency officials to notify residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email and social media regarding time-sensitive general and emergency notifications. He stated that automated calls would be going out to County residents this week notifying them of the service.

William Heaney addressed the group regarding Allegany County History Week. This event will take place September 21-24, 2016. Displays including national and local history items, Lincoln memorabilia, Allegany County artifacts, and replicas of the Hamilton-Burr dueling pistols will be on display at the David A. Howe Library in Wellsville. School children from around the County will have the opportunity to visit the library to see the displays. On September 21, Craig Braack will speak about the creation of County towns. Jim Pomeroy will speak about the Genesee River Valley on September 22, and Brendan Heaney will portray John L. Sullivan on September 23. All of these presentations will take place at 7 p.m. at the library. On Sunday, September 25, "Voice from Our Past" will be presented from 2-4 p.m. at the Palmer Opera House in Cuba. This will include first person narratives of historic characters with music from the past. Many town museums throughout the County will be open as part of the event. Mr. Heaney noted that the concept came about because the Fireball Run is going to be coming through Allegany County at the same time. He remarked, "It's a very historic time for everyone in Allegany County and I hope you're all a part of it."

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, ETC.:**

1. Report of Intrafund Transfers Approved by the County Administrator in August.
2. Report of Tax Bill Corrections Approved by the County Administrator in August

#### **PROCLAMATION:**

Chairman Curtis Crandall proclaimed September 17-24, 2016, as Constitution Week in Allegany County. September 17, 2016, marks the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Adoption of the Bills of Rights by the first Congress.

Chairman Crandall proclaimed September 22, 2016, as Fall Prevention Awareness Day in Allegany County, and urges health and human service organizations to continue

developing and evaluating strategies to prevent falls among older adults that will translate into effective fall prevention interventions.

Chairman Crandall proclaimed September 18-24, 2016, as Sheriff's Week in Allegany County.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 193-16**

**RESOLUTION SETTING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING THE APPROPRIATION OF \$230,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND  
REPAIR RESERVE TO ACCOUNTS ESTABLISHED TO REPLACE THE BOILERS  
AND STORAGE TANKS AT THE ALLEGANY COUNTY JAIL**

Offered by: Public Works and Ways & Means Committees

**WHEREAS**, it will be necessary to set a date for a public hearing for the purpose of considering an appropriation of \$230,000 from General Fund Repair Reserve to established accounts for the replacement of the three remaining original boilers and four original storage tanks at the Allegany County Jail, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a public hearing shall be held on September 26, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in the County Legislators' Chambers, Room 221, 7 Court Street, County Office Building, Belmont, New York 14813, before the Allegany County Board of Legislators, for the purpose of considering the appropriation of \$230,000 from the General Fund Repair Reserve to accounts established for the replacement of the three remaining original boilers and four original storage tanks at the Allegany County Jail.

2. That the Clerk of the Board of Legislators is directed to prepare, with the assistance of the County Attorney, a notice of said public hearing, to cause the publication of a copy of said notice in each of the two newspapers which have been officially designated by this Board to publish "notices," and to affix a copy of said notice on the County bulletin board in the County Courthouse at Belmont, New York; both publication and posting to be made at least five days before the public hearing.

Moved by: Mr. Fanton  
Seconded by: Mr. Jessup

Adopted: Voice Vote

**RESOLUTION NO. 194-16**

**DESIGNATING STEUBEN TRUST COMPANY AS DEPOSITARY FOR COUNTY CLERK FUNDS; AUTHORIZING COUNTY CLERK AND DEPUTY COUNTY CLERKS TO ACCESS SUCH FUNDS**

Offered by: Personnel Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Steuben Trust Company, of Hornell, New York, be, and is hereby designated as a depository in which funds of the Allegany County Clerk may be deposited.
2. That Allegany County Clerk Robert L. Christman, Deputy County Clerk Linda K. Healy, Deputy County Clerk II Jessica L. Lynch, Deputy County Clerk III Wanda F. Bise, and Ryan M. Keib (pending Deputy County Clerk) each be, and they hereby are, jointly and severally, authorized to sign checks and orders for the payment of money, withdrawing funds so deposited and that said Trust Company shall be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to honor and pay any checks and orders so drawn, when so signed, whether such checks be payable to the order of the officers signing them, or any of said officers, in their official capacity, or not.
3. That a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the said Trust Company and that said Trust Company be promptly notified in writing, of any change or changes from time to time in this resolution or in the instructions given herein, or in the personnel of any of the county officers named herein.

Moved by: Mr. Fanton  
Seconded by: Mr. O'Grady

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

**RESOLUTION NO. 195-16**

**APPROVAL OF SALE OF 2016 TAX SALE PROPERTY**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

Pursuant to New York Uniform Delinquent Tax Enforcement Act and Resolution No. 195-97, as amended by Resolution No. 95-98.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the sale of the tax delinquent properties shown below, to the owner and purchaser shown, for the consideration shown, subject to terms and conditions of sale for such properties, is approved.

2. That upon the securing by the County Attorney of a proper court order authorizing the conveyance to the County of the below mentioned properties which is subject to the 2014 and/or back to the year 1995 (TF95 up to and including TF2014) tax foreclosure proceedings and the subsequent execution of a deed of all of the properties to the County by the County Tax Enforcement Officer, the Chairman of this Board of Legislators is authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the County of Allegany and to cause to deliver to such owners and purchasers quit claim deeds of the County's interest in such properties and to affix to such deed the official seal; all upon satisfaction of the terms and conditions of sale and the full payment to the County Treasurer of the monetary consideration.

New Owner Address Sale price	Parcel details	County title Recorded Date Liber, Page
Bolivar-Richburg Educational Foundation 100 School Street Bolivar, NY 14715	Parcel ID:023889;272.8-1-18 Property loc: 560 S Main St Assessed Value: 17,800 Acres: 0	County of Allegany  Book: Page:
Tax sale amount: 25		

Moved by: Mr. Jessup  
Seconded by: Mrs. Root

Adopted: Roll Call  
13 Ayes, 2 Noes, 0 Absent  
Voting No: Burt, Decker

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 195-16 included: Legislator Burt remarked on the low selling price, but found even more troubling the second sentence in the letter from the bidder in which they ask for the one-year County tax charge to be waived. He's concerned it could set a precedent for future sales. He indicated he wouldn't be supporting the resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. 196-16**

**AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS TO ACT AS TOURIST  
PROMOTION AGENCY AND TO APPLY FOR STATE FUNDS  
FOR TOURISM PROMOTION PURPOSES**

Offered by: Planning & Economic Development and Ways & Means Committees

Pursuant to Article 5-A of the Economic Development Law

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Planning & Economic Development Committee of this County Board of Legislators is authorized to act as a tourist promotion agency and to apply for state funds up to \$236,625 for tourism promotion purposes.

2. That if the application for the funding is approved, such Committee, or its designee, shall submit the grant agreement to this Board for approval and appropriation of such funds prior to commencing any work pursuant to the terms of the grant agreement or expending any of such funds.

3. That the Clerk of this Board is directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to the New York State Commissioner of Economic Development.

Moved by: Mrs. Root  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

### RESOLUTION NO. 197-16

#### **APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATION SUPPLEMENT FOR THE PROGRAM OF CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION; TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT; AUTHORIZING COUNTY TREASURER TO PAY THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AMOUNT TO SUCH ASSOCIATION**

Offered by: Resource Management and Ways & Means Committees

Pursuant to County Law § 224 (8)

**WHEREAS**, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Allegany County (CCE-AC) has requested an appropriation supplement of \$49,000, and

**WHEREAS**, this amount had originally been included in the CCE-AC 2016 budget request, but not included in the County's 2016 Budget, and

**WHEREAS**, due to the recent creation of a single county association, it was recommended that CCE-AC return to the Legislature mid-year to review its finances, and

**WHEREAS**, it has become apparent that supplemental funding is necessary to cover salaries of existing staff in the program areas of 4-H, agriculture, horticulture and finance, and

**WHEREAS**, this Board believes that in order to allow CCE-AC to continue to offer programs that benefit Allegany County residents, CCE-AC will require additional funds, and

**WHEREAS**, CCE-AC has indicated that by taking a one-day furlough each week the sum of \$35,000 in additional funds would be sufficient to meet its needs, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That an appropriation supplement of \$35,000 for the Cornell Cooperative Extension program, is approved.

2. That the sum of \$35,000 is transferred from Account No. A1990.4 (Contingency) to A8751.4 (Cooperative Extension).

3. That the County Treasurer is authorized and directed to pay the supplemental amount appropriated of \$35,000 to the duly bonded Treasurer of such Association.

Moved by: Mr. Graves  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
12 Ayes, 3 Noes, 0 Absent  
Voting No: Burt, O'Grady, Ungermann

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 197-16 included: Legislator Pullen stated that from communications with other Legislators, he knows not everyone will be supporting this resolution. We are facing some tight times financially; sales tax revenue is down, and we have other expenses to consider. Legislator Pullen would like to encourage support of the programs Cooperative Extension offers. He understands differences of opinion but feels the extension programs are valuable in supporting residents and urged support of the resolution. Legislator Decker thanked Laura Hunsberger for her updates on the programs. The Allegany County 4-H Program has doubled in size since splitting from Cattaraugus County. He said, "If we don't support our youth in agriculture, we won't have agricultural business in Allegany County." He feels that there is a period of adjustment after splitting from Cattaraugus County and that our local office is taking steps to adjust to a new financial situation. Our local office is taking a one day per week furlough to cut costs. Legislator Decker indicated he would be supporting the resolution. Legislator Healy thanked Legislator Pullen for his optimistic remarks about the program and he said he'd like to see the program succeed. He stated that he would support the resolution, but will be watching carefully to see what progress is being made financially. Legislator O'Grady indicated that he would not be supporting the resolution. He said it's mainly due to economic reasons. He's not debating the merit of Cooperative Extension, it comes down to finances. Legislator Burt stated that Ms. Hunsberger's efforts are commendable, but he believes in only a portion of the programs and feels the program needs a complete overhaul. He indicated that he wouldn't be supporting the resolution.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 198-16**

### **TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACCOUNTS**

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the transfer of \$1,100 within Weights and Measures accounts for the purchase of a slide bed for the work truck is approved as follows:

<b>From Account No.</b>	<b>To Account No.</b>	<b>Amount</b>
A6610.404 Consumer Affairs – Maintenance	A6610.201 Consumer Affairs – Equip.	\$250
A6610.408 Consumer Affairs – Supplies	A6610.201 Consumer Affairs – Equip.	100
A6610.411 Consumer Affairs – Repairs	A6610.201 Consumer Affairs – Equip.	250
A6610.419 Consumer Affairs – Printing	A6610.201 Consumer Affairs – Equip.	300
A6610.421 Consumer Affairs – Education	A6610.201 Consumer Affairs – Equip.	<u>200</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>

Moved by: Mr. Curran  
Seconded by: Mr. Pullen

Adopted: Roll Call  
13 Ayes, 2 Noes, 0 Absent  
Voting No: Burt, Ungermann

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 198-16 included: Legislator Burt noted that these transfers don't cover the entire cost of the slide bed. The cost is actually almost \$3,000. The purpose of the slide bed is to ward off possible falls but Mr. Burt suggested a set of steps that would fit into the hitch, costing around \$100, might be a better option. He's also concerned other employees may want the same things for their vehicles. Mr. Burt questioned the durability of the slide bed.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 199-16**

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF INSURANCE PAYMENT FROM NYMIR AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO RISK RETENTION ACCOUNTS**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, a check in the amount of \$6,593.83; representing the cost less a \$500 deductible, to repair a DPW 2012 Peterbilt Tractor Trailer (#9792) that was damaged by a falling tree on July 14, 2016, has been offered by NYMIR (New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal) in settlement for such damage, now, therefore, be it

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the sum of \$6,593.83 representing the settlement on a DPW 2012 Peterbilt Tractor Trailer (#9792) that was damaged on July 14, 2016, is accepted.

2. That the sum of \$6,593.83 is placed in Account No. CS1931.429 (Risk Retention - Uninsured Property Loss) with a like sum credited to Revenue Account No. CS1930.2680.00 (Insurance Recovery).

Moved by: Mr. Jessup  
Seconded by: Mr. Curran

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

**RESOLUTION NO. 200-16**

**ACCEPTANCE OF SECTION 5311 CAPITAL MOBILITY MANAGEMENT FUNDING  
FOR THE ALLEGANY COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR CALENDAR  
YEARS 2015 AND 2016 THROUGH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION (NYSDOT)**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the sum of \$475,379 in Section 5311 Capital Mobility Management Funding for the Allegany County Public Transportation System for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years from the New York State Department of Transportation, is accepted.

Moved by: Mr. Jessup  
Seconded by: Mr. Healy

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 200-16 included: Legislator O'Grady expressed his concerns about taxis that are becoming a common sight in Wellsville. There seem to be more taxis transporting residents to doctor appointments. A public transportation system was developed to help the County save money on transporting Medicaid patients to appointments, but now the people are using taxi service. New York State has contracted with a company who is arranging transportation to doctor appointments. Legislator O'Grady suggested they need to take a look at this and push for legislation to request the County gain control of Medicaid transportation in order to keep our costs low. Otherwise, we may lose our public transportation system. Chairman Crandall indicated that the taxi service being seen in the area is located in Syracuse. He suggested that the topic could be brought up during committee meetings so they can collectively take a position on the topic. Legislator Ungermann asked Larry Kaminski, Mobility Management Planner for Ardent Solutions, Inc., to provide ridership figures for the County's public transportation system. Legislator Ungermann stated that the County's share of the cost for the system is roughly \$53,000, which isn't a lot. Chairman Crandall stated that previously the County had been paying more than \$400,000 to transport Medicaid recipients to appointments.

**RESOLUTION NO. 201-16**

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY OF ALLEGANY  
AND ALLEGANY COUNTY FEDERATION OF SNOWMOBILERS, INC.;  
APPROPRIATION OF STATE GRANT-IN-AID**

Offered by: Planning & Economic Development and Ways & Means Committees

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Agreement between the County of Allegany and Allegany County Federation of Snowmobilers, Inc., is approved.

2. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Agreement.

3. That the sum of \$125,000 in State grant-in-aid will be appropriated in the 2017 Budget to Account No. A7185.483 (NYS OPRHP Funding Award), with a like sum credited to Revenue Account A7185.3089.00 (AC Snowmobile Association – State Aid). No budget adjustments are necessary at this time.

Moved by: Mrs. Root  
Seconded by: Mr. Graves

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 201-16 included: Legislator Ungermann stated that this is simply a pass-through and the money for this comes directly from snowmobile registration fees.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 202-16**

#### **APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE SDG IMO-TCS TAX COLLECTION MODULE**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Agreement with Systems Development Group, Inc., for the purchase of the SDG IMO–TCS Tax Collection Module for \$3,000 per year for five years, is approved.

2. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute such agreement.

Moved by: Mr. Jessup  
Seconded by: Mr. Graves

Adopted: Roll Call  
15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 202-16 included: Legislator Decker asked if there were additional maintenance costs for this. Real Property Tax Director Joe Budinger stated that they already have a standard maintenance agreement with them and this is just an add on feature.

Resolution Intro. No. 206-16 (**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE WESTERN REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE [WREMAC] NOT ELIMINATE THE EMT-CC LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION**) was not pre-filed and was considered from the floor on a motion made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator

Decker, and carried by an affirmative voice vote of the requisite two-thirds of the Board membership.

## RESOLUTION NO. 203-16

### RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE WESTERN REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WREMAC) NOT ELIMINATE THE EMT—CC LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

**WHEREAS**, this Board has been contacted by a number of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and ambulance companies regarding a matter being considered by the Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (WREMAC) relating to the EMT-CC level of certification, and

**WHEREAS**, there is great concern that WREMAC will vote to eliminate the EMT-CC level of certification, and

**WHEREAS**, if eliminated, advanced life support, (ALS), would need to be provided by a paramedic holding an EMT-P certification, and

**WHEREAS**, rural ambulance services serving Allegany County are primarily staffed by volunteers and tend to have EMT-CCs as the providers of ALS, and

**WHEREAS**, there are very few individuals serving in Allegany County who are paramedics holding the EMT-P level of certification, and

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of EMTs active in Allegany County are volunteers with other full-time work, and

**WHEREAS**, obtaining EMT-P certification requires a substantial commitment of time and money that most of these volunteer EMTs will be unable or unwilling to pursue, and

**WHEREAS**, due to the large geographic size of Allegany County and its distance from major metropolitan areas, few if any paramedics are currently available or will become available to respond to the emergency medical needs of County residents, and

**WHEREAS**, EMT-CCs are able to provide advance care on par with that provided by paramedics, and

**WHEREAS**, if EMT-CC certification is eliminated, it is highly likely that advanced life support will be unavailable in emergency response situations and people will die or suffer serious medical complications, now therefore, be it

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That this Board strongly urges the Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee to refrain from eliminating EMT-CC certification as there is a lack of viable alternatives for providing ALS emergency response services in rural Allegany County.

2. That certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo; Senator Catharine M. Young; Assemblyman Joseph M. Giglio; Dr. Howard A. Zucker, Commissioner of Health for New York State; Dr. Brian M. Walters, Director WREMAC, the New York State Association of Counties and the Inter-County Association of Western New York.

Moved by: Mr. Curran  
Seconded by: Mr. Graves

Adopted: Voice Vote

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 203-16 included: Legislator Ungermann said that from what he understands the full-fledged EMT has 1,100 hours of training. He feels we're beginning to see the end of volunteers. He stated, "We're going to be in a position of more tax dollars going out the window." He urged everyone to support this resolution. Legislator Decker agreed. From what he understood, based on material presented during committee meetings, was that comparing an EMT-CC to a Paramedic, there's only one medication an EMT-CC can't administer that a Paramedic can. Legislator Decker feels that eliminating this position would be an elimination of the volunteer program. These volunteers have spent a tremendous amount of time getting and keeping their certifications. We won't have a volunteer service in anything; it will be State mandated. Legislator Healy remarked that volunteers are the backbone of our local area and other rural counties. Instead of making things difficult for them, we should be making things easier for them. Legislator Pullen expressed his thanks to our volunteers for the amount of dedication and sacrifice they put in. We have been tremendously blessed by these people and their dedication.

#### **AUDITS:**

A motion was made by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried, that the audits be acted upon collectively and by totals.

A motion was made by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Root, and adopted on a roll call vote of 15 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, that the audit of claims, totaling \$4,897,702.15 including prepaid expenses, be approved for payment as recommended by the County Administrator. (*Allegany County's Local Dollar Share of the NYS Medicaid Program paid year-to-date is \$7,147,882.*)

#### **COMMENTS:**

Legislator Ungermann reminded everyone that the Cuba Garlic Festival takes place September 17 & 18. This is the 12th annual event.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m. on a motion made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Burt, and carried.