

**ALLEGANY COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
REGULAR SESSION**

**JUNE 10, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Board of Legislators was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Chairman Curtis W. Crandall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by former United States Air Force Sergeant Leland D. Lafferty, Jr.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Legislator David A. Decker.

**ROLL CALL:** 14 Legislators Present: Gary Barnes, Janice Burdick, Curtis Crandall, David Decker, William Dibble, Dwight Fanton, Karl Graves, Brooke Harris, Steven Havey, Dwight "Mike" Healy, Judith Hopkins, John Ricci, Debra Root, Philip Stockin (Absent: Philip Curran)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of May 28, 2019, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried.

The Board meeting minutes of May 28, 2019, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Chairman Crandall closed the regular meeting to hold a public hearing on Local Law Intro. No. 2-2019, entitled "A Local Law Declaring the Opioid Epidemic and its Effect on Allegany County a Public Nuisance and Further Establishing a Cost Recovery Procedure for the County's Expenditures Incurred in Providing Services Related to the Opioid Epidemic."

There being no one desiring to speak, the public hearing was declared closed and the Board reconvened in regular session.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Chairman Crandall presented a certificate to Leland D. Lafferty, Jr., former United States Air Force Sergeant, in grateful appreciation of his service to our country. Mr. Lafferty's service dates were from June 23, 1970, to February 26, 1974. Following Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, TX, and Advanced Individual Training at Chanute Air Force Base, IL, assignments included: Thailand, and Loring Air Force Base, ME. Commendations he received included: Bronze Star Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, and Republic of Vietnam

Campaign Ribbon. Mr. Lafferty led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at the beginning of the meeting as part of the Veterans' Honorary Pledge of Allegiance Program.

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

1. Report of Tax Bill Corrections Approved by the County Administrator in May
2. Report of Intrafund Transfers Approved by the County Administrator in May
3. The NYS Board of Electric Generation Siting and the Environment issued a Notice of Information Forums and Public Statement Hearings for the Alle-Catt Wind Energy Project on May 20, 2019, noting that they will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Arcade Fire Hall and 6:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Central School Building on June 11.
4. Notice of next InterCounty Association meeting to be hosted by Cayuga County at the Springside Inn in Auburn on June 21
5. Correspondence from the Concerned Citizens of Rushford regarding the proposed Alle-Catt Wind Energy Project
6. Notice that the Allegany County Senior Picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 14, at the County Fairgrounds in Angelica

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 128-19**

**ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 2-2019, PRINT NO.1, A LOCAL LAW  
DECLARING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC AND ITS EFFECTS ON ALLEGANY COUNTY A  
PUBLIC NUISANCE AND FURTHER ESTABLISHING A COST RECOVERY PROCEDURE  
FOR THE COUNTY'S EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN PROVIDING SERVICES RELATED  
TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That proposed Local Law, Intro. No. 2-2019, Print No. 1, is adopted without any change in language, to wit:

**COUNTY OF ALLEGANY**

Intro. No. 2-2019

Print No. 1

**A LOCAL LAW DECLARING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC AND ITS EFFECTS ON ALLEGANY COUNTY A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND FURTHER ESTABLISHING A COST RECOVERY PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNTY'S EXPENDITURES INCURRED IN PROVIDING SERVICES RELATED TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Legislators of Allegany County, State of New York, as follows:

**SECTION 1. Purpose and Intent.**

The opioid epidemic is sweeping the country. Indeed, addiction to and abuse of opioids is one of the greatest challenges facing Allegany County, New York, (the "County"). A cause of this increasing crisis is the overabundance of prescription opioids. Vast amounts of prescription opioids were sold, distributed, and prescribed in the County over the past several years, a practice that continues today. The selling, distributing, and prescribing of large amounts of opioids in our community has created a public health and safety hazard affecting the residents of the County. This crisis has devastated families, wreaked havoc on our economy, and produced a generation of narcotic dependence. As a result of the opioid epidemic, costs related to healthcare, family and social services, criminal justice, addiction and rehabilitation, and many other areas have significantly increased. Many of these costs are paid by the County.

The purpose and intent of this legislation is to allow the County to recover these costs, despite the existence of the common-law municipal cost recovery rule (a.k.a. free public services doctrine) and declare the opioid epidemic and its effects on the County a public nuisance. Specifically, the County provides services related to the opioid epidemic, which are funded by tax revenues. This statute clarifies that reimbursement may be sought for the costs of providing such services, whenever practicable, from the responsible party. To accomplish this, the County establishes this cost recovery procedure and declares the opioid epidemic and its effects on the County a public nuisance.

**SECTION 2. Definitions.**

"Costs" means all expenditures related to the opioid epidemic that directly or indirectly arise from the County's response to a responsible party's action or inaction.

"Responsible party" means any person or corporation whose negligent, intentional, or otherwise wrongful conduct causes the incident resulting in the County incurring costs or who is found liable or made responsible by a court for the costs incurred by the County in the form of damages, regardless of the cause of action.

**SECTION 3. Governmental Function Cost Recovery.**

The County may recover the costs of governmental functions related to opioids marketed, sold, manufactured, dispensed, prescribed, and/or distributed by the responsible party. If a responsible party fails to pay the costs demanded, the County may initiate and

recover costs through administrative, civil, and/or criminal action against the responsible party. In that case, the County may also recover attorney's fees, interest, and any other payment or type of damages the court deems proper.

SECTION 4. Effect of Criminal or Civil Proceedings on Governmental Function Cost Recovery.

The initiation of administrative or civil proceedings for governmental function cost recovery does not bar the criminal prosecution of a responsible party for any associated violation. Similarly, criminal prosecution does not bar civil collection of costs for the violation giving rise to the criminal prosecution.

SECTION 5. Public Nuisance.

The County hereby finds and declares the following:

1. That addiction to and abuse of opioids is one of the greatest challenges facing the County;
2. A cause of this increasing crisis is the overabundance of prescription opioids. Vast amounts of prescription opioid pain pills were sold, distributed, and prescribed in the County over the past several years, which practice continues today;
3. There is evidence showing that approximately four in five heroin users began their addiction by first using and then misusing prescription pain medications containing opioids
4. The selling, distributing, and prescribing of large amounts of opioid pain pills in the County has created a public health and safety hazard affecting the residence of the County, resulting in devastation to County families, a negative effect on the County economy, wasted public resources, and a generation of narcotic dependence;
5. That selling, distributing, and prescribing of prescription opioid pain pills is a hazard to public health and safety, which has created a public nuisance to the citizens of the County, and said nuisance remains unabated;
6. That, in addition to all other powers and duties now conferred by law upon the County, the County is authorized to enact ordinances, issue orders, and take other appropriate and necessary actions for the elimination of hazards to public health and safety and to abate or cause to be abated anything which the commission determines to be a public nuisance;
7. That manufacturers of prescription opioids and those in the chain of distribution have wrongfully abused the privilege of selling and/or providing medication to our residents and must be held accountable; and

8. That it is the duty of the County to vindicate the rights of the citizens of the County and take action to abate this public nuisance.

SECTION 6. Retroactive Application.

This Local Law applies retroactively.

SECTION 7. Severability.

If any provision, clause, sentence, or paragraph of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this Local Law which can be given effect without the valid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Local Law are declared to be severable.

SECTION 8. Effective Date.

This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
13 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent  
Abstain: Harris

**RESOLUTION NO. 129-19**

**APPOINTMENT OF DEBORAH A. MCDONNELL AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR;  
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 249-18 TO AMEND THE SALARY OF THE  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

Pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 2019

**RESOLVED:**

1. That effective June 11, 2019, Deborah A. McDonnell is appointed County Administrator at an annual salary of \$124,000, with a term of office commencing June 11, 2019, and expiring December 31, 2021.

2. Paragraph number "7" of resolution No. 249-18 is hereby amended to show the annual base salary of the County Administrator as \$124,000.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 129-19: Chairman Crandall invited Ms. McDonnell forward to join him. He stated that Ms. McDonnell is our fourth County

Administrator in the history of our County. The position was established in 1992. Chairman Crandall stated, "In Debbie's 20-year tenure in local governments, she held prominent positions as the City Manager for the Village of Ossining, City Administrator of Poughkeepsie, NY, City Manager for Fairborn, Ohio, and Development Director for the Village of Saranac Lake, NY. Debbie holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration and is studying for her doctorate in Public Administration with a focus on building sustainable communities. She has extensive experience in economic development, downtown redevelopment, and waterfront planning. She is keenly focused on customer service, public outreach, and inclusion, which leads to a strong community. She has served on various boards including the local chamber of commerce, military affairs, Rotary, and served twice for Congressman Austria (Ohio) on a regional economic development project. Debbie once served as an elected official in Saranac Lake which gives her a balanced perspective on government services." Chairman Crandall welcomed her to Allegany County. Ms. McDonnell thanked the Board for putting their faith in her. She noted that she has spent time in both cities and small towns, but she really likes the small town atmosphere. Ms. McDonnell said she looks forward to working with the fabulous staff and expressed the importance of communication and sharing ideas.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 130-19**

#### **APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH DEBORAH A. MCDONNELL AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, Allegany County Local Law No. 1 of 2019, Section 2 Subsection c, allows the Allegany County Board of Legislators to negotiate and by resolution authorize the Chairman to execute a written employment agreement with the County Administrator, and such agreement to contain terms and conditions of employment, now, therefore, be it

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the employment agreement with Deborah A. McDonnell as County Administrator, effective June 11, 2019, through December 31, 2021, is approved.
2. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Agreement.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 131-19**

#### **CREATION OF ONE TEMPORARY, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IN THE CLERK OF THE BOARD'S OFFICE; AMENDING SECTION 4 OF RESOLUTION NO. 297-75**

Offered by: Ways and Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Legislators anticipate appointing a new County Administrator, and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of the temporary, part-time position of Administrative Assistant in the Clerk of the Board's Office will allow the County to retain the current Administrator to aide in the transition, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That one temporary, part-time position of Administrative Assistant is created in the Section IV Salary Plan at a salary of \$56/per hour, not to exceed \$10,000.

2. That Section 4 of Resolution No. 297-75, as amended, is hereby amended by adding the title of Administrative Assistant.

3. That the temporary, part-time position of Administrative Assistant shall take effect June 11, 2019, and be abolished September 1, 2019.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 131-19: A motion was made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried to amend the resolution. In both the heading and body of the resolution it should say "Clerk of the Board's Office" rather than "County Administrator's Office."

**RESOLUTION NO. 132-19**

**APPOINTMENT OF TIMOTHY T. BOYDE AS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Timothy T. Boyde is appointed Administrative Assistant to serve during the pleasure of this Board of Legislators.

2. That this resolution shall be effective June 11, 2019.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Voice Vote

**RESOLUTION NO. 133-19**

**APPOINTMENT OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE ALLEGANY COUNTY  
LAND BANK CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Offered by: Planning & Economic Development Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the appointments by the Chairman of the Board of David Evans of Bolivar, NY, to fill the remainder of Dean Scholes' two-year term and Aaron Whitehouse of Wellsville, NY, to fill the remainder of James Knapp's two-year term as members of the Allegany County Land Bank Corporation Board of Directors, effective immediately and expiring September 30, 2019, are confirmed.

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

Adopted: Voice Vote

**RESOLUTION NO. 134-19**

**ADJUSTMENT TO THE 2019 OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES BUDGET**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 179-18, grant funds in the amount of \$52,485 for the Office of Emergency Services were accepted, and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to appropriate the funds in the 2019 budget, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a budget adjustment of \$52,485 for the Office of Emergency Services shall be appropriated as follows:

A3662.204 Homeland Security – Motor Vehicles	\$50,000
A3662.207 Homeland Security – Emergency Services Equip.	<u>2,485</u>
Total:	\$52,485

with a like sum of \$52,485 credited to Revenue Account No. A3662.3306.EM18 (Homeland Security – State Aid).

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent



**RESOLUTION NO. 135-19**

**APPROVAL OF ADDENDUMS TO LEASE AGREEMENTS WITH  
ALLEGANY COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 57-16 Allegany County entered into a lease agreement with the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency for a portion of land at the Crossroads site to be used as a parking lot for a period of twenty-five years effective January 1, 2016, and expiring December 31, 2040, and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 58-16 and further amended by Resolution No. 79-16, Allegany County entered into a lease agreement with the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency for approximately 5,275 square feet of space in the Crossroads Commerce Center for a period of 5 years effective January 1, 2016, and expiring December 31, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 59-16 Allegany County entered into a lease agreement with the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency for approximately 8,000 square feet of space in the Crossroads Commerce Center for a period of 5 years effective January 1, 2016, and expiring December 31, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, addendums to the above referenced lease agreements will clarify Allegany County's commitment to maintaining the Allegany County Park and Ride Lot, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Addendums to the above referenced Lease Agreements with the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency are approved.

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

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
13 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent  
Abstain: Hopkins

**RESOLUTION NO. 136-19**

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND  
VILLAGE OF BELMONT TO MANAGE AND PROVIDE MAINTENANCE TO  
ALLEGANY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 LOCATED IN THE**

**VILLAGE OF BELMONT AND TOWN OF AMITY**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Agreement with the Village of Belmont, to provide maintenance to Allegany County Water District No. 1, located in the Village of Belmont and the Town of Amity, for the period August 1, 2019, to July 31, 2022, is approved.
2. The County agrees to pay \$12,500 for such services annually for the term of the Agreement
3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute such Agreement.

Moved by: Mr. Fanton  
Seconded by: Mr. Healy

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Resolution No. 137-19, (**APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE OF BELMONT, NY, FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER; AUTHORIZING BOARD CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES; APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY FOR SAID PURCHASE**) was not pre-filed and was considered from the floor on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried by an affirmative voice vote of the requisite two-thirds of the Board membership.

**RESOLUTION NO. 137-19**

**APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE OF BELMONT, NY, FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER; AUTHORIZING BOARD CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES; APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY FOR SAID PURCHASE**

Offered by: Public Works and Ways & Means Committees

**WHEREAS**, the County of Allegany desires to purchase properties located at 8 Willets Avenue (tax parcel number 171.16-2-4), 10 Willets Avenue (tax parcel numbers 171.16-2-3 and 171.16-2-10), and 12 Willets Avenue (tax parcel number 171.16-2-2) within the Village of Belmont, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Board of Legislators does authorize the purchase of properties located at 8 Willets Avenue (tax parcel number 171.16-2-4), 10 Willets Avenue (tax parcel numbers 171.16-2-3 and 171.16-2-10), and 12 Willets Avenue (tax parcel number 171.16-2-2), Belmont, New York, by the County of Allegany from the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester for the sum of \$105,000.

2. That Chairman of this Board of shall be authorized to execute all necessary documents for the purchase of the properties.

3. That the sum of \$105,000 shall be transferred from Account No. A1990.429 (Contingency) to Account No. A1622.200 (Land Acquisition or Lease).

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

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Resolution No. 138-19, (**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH JAMES B. SCHWAB CO., INCORPORATED FOR THE LEASE OF A COPIER FOR THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**) was not pre-filed and was considered from the floor on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried by an affirmative voice vote of the requisite two-thirds of the Board membership.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 138-19**

#### **APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH JAMES B. SCHWAB CO., INCORPORATED FOR THE LEASE OF A COPIER FOR THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the agreement with James B. Schwab Co., Incorporated for the lease of a copier for the Public Defender's Office, is approved.

2. The County agrees to pay James B. Schwab Co., Incorporated \$954 annually for a five-year period.

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

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Roll Call  
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Resolution No. 139-19, (**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PLANNED CLOSURE OF THE LIVINGSTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND CALLING ON LEADERSHIP IN ALBANY TO RECONSIDER THE PLANNED CLOSURE**) was not pre-filed and was considered from

the floor on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried by an affirmative voice vote of the requisite two-thirds of the Board membership.

**RESOLUTION NO. 139-19**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PLANNED CLOSURE OF THE LIVINGSTON  
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND CALLING ON LEADERSHIP IN ALBANY TO  
RECONSIDER THE PLANNED CLOSURE**

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

**WHEREAS**, During the 2019-2020 New York State Budget negotiation process, the Governor requested and subsequently received expanded authority to have discretion to arbitrarily close prisons with merely a 90-day notice, and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) announced the closure of two state prisons via press release on May 18, 2019, and

**WHEREAS**, neither DOCCS, nor the Executive Branch, nor any other New York State Agency had a single public hearing or public comment period on the announced closure of the Livingston Correctional Facility, and

**WHEREAS**, 327 people, including Allegany County residents, work in some capacity at the Livingston Correctional Facility and these jobs are good, middle-class, public sector positions, and

**WHEREAS**, the public deserves a more informed, more transparent process with more opportunity for comment than a 90-day, definitive closing announcement, and

**WHEREAS**, the Livingston Correctional Facility was well-occupied at 92 percent and was recently upgraded with millions of dollars in taxpayer-funded capital upgrades, and

**WHEREAS**, DOCCS officials have provided no statement on redevelopment or re-use plans for the to-be-closed prison, and

**WHEREAS**, the Allegany County Board of Legislators stands simply for good government and has recognized and thanked the Governor and State government when decisions were of positive impact and conversely has taken to task and opposed the same parties when actions were of negative consequences, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Allegany County Board of Legislators hereby strongly opposes the planned closure of the Livingston Correctional Facility, and the complete lack of fair process

in reaching this decision and respectfully calls on leadership in Albany to reconsider this decision.

2. That the Clerk of this Board is directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, New York Senate District 57 Office, Assemblyman Joseph M. Giglio, State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, State Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie, the New York State Association of Counties, and the InterCounty Association of WNY.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin  
Seconded by: Mr. Fanton

Adopted: Voice Vote

Comments made regarding Resolution No. 139-19: Legislator Harris stated that he doesn't have a good understanding of this issue as he just received the resolution today. He stated that because he doesn't know a lot about this he can't vote on it today. He asked Legislator Graves to give some insight. Legislator Graves remarked that it's like putting ten pounds of potatoes into a five-pound bag. It just doesn't work. Corrections facilities have resorted to double-bunking inmates. Legislator Graves believes this leads to increased levels of stress and assaults due to confinement. Problems arise when they aren't able to separate inmates. Additionally, it's stressful and dangerous for law enforcement staff who must work in these conditions. Legislator Graves said it's the right thing to do to support this resolution. He asked Legislator Harris to reconsider voting in favor of this resolution. Legislator Graves noted that there are Allegany County residents who work at this facility. He urged the Board's support of the resolution. Legislator Healy remarked that it's another example of the pattern of how the State handles criminal justice. Legislator Harris said it's very evident that it is an attempt by Albany to take care of something and not do a good job of it. He agrees that the safety of inmates and jail staff should trump any cost savings. He stated he is still unable to vote for this as he doesn't have enough information.

#### **AUDITS:**

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

A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Healy, and adopted on a roll call vote of 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent, that the audit of claims, totaling \$2,551,842.12 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 \$2,195,700.*)

#### **MEDIA:**

Rich Mangels (*WJQZ*) asked about the local law regarding the opioid crisis in Allegany County and wondered if a law firm had been selected. County Attorney Knapp indicated that a law firm had been selected. Paul Napoli is the main attorney at the firm. We do have a retainer agreement with them. Mr. Mangels asked how the law firm would be compensated.

Ms. Knapp stated that it is a contingent fee. The County won't have to pay anything unless we get a recovery. If we receive a recovery, they will get a certain percentage of that.

Mr. Mangels asked what the Episcopal Church property in Belmont will be used for. Chairman Crandall stated that primarily it will be used to address the needs of our Board of Elections. The County has been looking for a number of years for a better option for housing the Board of Elections. We have been renting a building downtown. A portion of the church property will likely be sold and another portion used for meeting space. Minor renovations are needed to make it ready for use. We expect that the sale of one of the buildings will offset the renovation costs. Mr. Boyde elaborated saying that the Parish Hall will be converted into the Board of Elections office. We will look at converting the church into meeting and training space. The house is currently being used by Ardent Solutions. He noted that none of the properties are currently on the tax rolls.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on a motion made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried.