

**ALLEGANY COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
ORGANIZATION MEETING**

**JANUARY 2, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Organization meeting of the Board of Legislators was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by former United States Navy Pharmacist's Mate Third Class Raymond McClure.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Legislator Philip G. Stockin

**ROLL CALL:** 15 Legislators Present: Gary Barnes, Janice Burdick, Curtis Crandall, Philip Curran, David Decker, William Dibble, Dwight Fanton, Karl Graves, Brooke Harris, Steven Havey, Dwight "Mike" Healy, Judith Hopkins, John Ricci, Debra Root, Philip Stockin.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1-19**

**REAPPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATOR CURTIS W. CRANDALL TO  
CHAIRMANSHIP OF BOARD OF LEGISLATORS; AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE NUMBER  
OF BOARD MEMBERS ON COMMITTEES**

Offered by: Legislator Dwight R. Fanton

Pursuant to County Law § 450

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Legislator Curtis W. Crandall is reappointed Chairman of this Board of Legislators, with term of office commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2019.

2. That said Chairman is authorized to determine the number of Board members to serve on each of the standing and special committees of this Board which have been or may be established by this Board.

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

Adopted: Voice Vote

**OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED:**

Allegany County Judge Thomas Brown administered the Oath of Office to Chairman Curtis W. Crandall, who was accompanied by his wife, Cathy, following adoption of Resolution No. 1-19. Chairman Crandall assumed leadership of the meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2-19**

**REAPPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATOR PHILIP B. CURRAN AS VICE CHAIRMAN**

Offered by: Legislator Dwight R. Fanton

Pursuant to Rule 70 of County Board Rules  
as enacted by Resolution No. 77-89

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Legislator Philip B. Curran is reappointed Vice Chairman of this Board of Legislators to act pursuant to, and during the designated time periods specified in, County Board Rules.

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

Adopted: Voice Vote

**OATHS OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED:**

Allegany County Judge Thomas Brown administered the Oath of Office to Vice Chairman Philip B. Curran following adoption of Resolution No. 2-19.

Allegany County Judge Thomas Brown administered the Oath of Office to Sheriff Ricky L. Whitney.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Chairman Crandall asked Clerk of the Board Riehle to play two videos for the audience that he had selected. The videos were based on "The Ragged Old Flag" written by Johnny Cash to remind us all of the importance of honoring our flag and our country as well as our veterans and currently enlisted service men and women for their sacrifices in defending our country.

Chairman Crandall presented a certificate to Raymond D. McClure, former United States Navy Pharmacist's Mate Third Class, in grateful appreciation of his service to our country. Mr. McClure served during World War II from June 12, 1944, to June 4, 1946. He served in the reserves and was then called back up to serve during the Korean War from

1950 to 1952. Following Basic Training at San Diego, CA, assignments included: Long Beach Hospital, CA; USS President Adams; Hawaii; Oregon; Saint Auburn; and Japan Occupation Forces. Commendations he received included: World War II Victory Medal. Chairman Crandall remarked on many important historical events that took place during Mr. McClure's time of service. Senator Catharine Young joined Chairman Crandall in presenting a certificate to Mr. McClure. Senator Young congratulated and thanked Mr. McClure for his service. She remarked that he's part of what has come to be known as the greatest generation. She said, we all think about the sacrifice and courage it takes to serve in time of war; he served during World War II and then went back to serve during the Korean War. Senator Young thanked Mr. McClure again and said she was honored to be part of paying tribute to him. Mr. McClure led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at the beginning of the meeting as part of the Veterans' Honorary Pledge of Allegiance Program.

Senator Catharine Young presented Public Health Director Lori Ballengee with Women's Health Initiative Grant funds in the amount of \$250,000. These funds will enable the Health Department to offer women's health screenings, prevention education and professional training. Senator Young stated that for several years she has been able to secure \$50,000 in funding for Cancer Services here in Allegany County. This is an additional \$250,000 that will provide resources for people to get the screenings and help that they need. She said that many people live here because it's rural and they love it, but it also makes it more difficult to find health care providers. Senator Young stated that this will go a long way in doing the best we can here in Allegany County. Lori Ballengee thanked Senator Young for her commitment to Allegany County. Mrs. Ballengee said that they already had one screening event planned for women aged fifty and older, as well as women over forty with chronic health issues. This screening event will be free of charge. These are truly lifesaving screenings. Chairman Crandall thanked Senator Young for being a voice for Allegany County and asked her to share some current events.

Senator Young stated that the next two years will be challenging. For the first time since 2010, we have total New York City centered control over both houses of the Legislature. The Governor is very focused on New York City issues. She mentioned the push for the legalization of marijuana saying that it doesn't make sense to her that we spend \$30 million on smoking cessation programs to then go ahead and legalize marijuana. There are health concerns with marijuana. Legalizing it will increase access to our children. She believes there will also be an increase in the problem with people driving under the influence. She stated that she will continue to be a strong voice for Allegany County. We are going to have to fight over the distribution of State funds. We need to advocate for ourselves.

**RESOLUTIONS (Continued):**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3-19**

**APPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN HENRY AS  
COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Offered by: Public Works Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Justin Henry of the Town of Almond is appointed to the office of County Superintendent of Public Works for a term of four years to commence January 5, 2019, and expire January 4, 2023, at an annual salary of \$86,000.

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

Adopted: Voice Vote

**RESOLUTION NO. 4-19**

**APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN PERKINS AS YOUTH BUREAU PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Offered by: Resource Management Committee

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Brian Perkins is appointed Youth Bureau Program Director effective December 29, 2018, to serve during the pleasure of this Board of Legislators and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

Moved by: Mr. Decker  
Seconded by: Mr. Graves

Adopted: Voice Vote

**RESOLUTION NO. 5-19**

**APPROVAL OF BOARD CHAIRMAN'S APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL D. HENNESSY  
AS DIRECTOR OF COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY**

Offered by: Personnel Committee

Pursuant to Executive Law § 357 and Resolution No. 58-45

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the appointment by the Chairman of this Board of Legislators of Michael D. Hennessy as Director of the County Veterans' Service Agency for a term commencing January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2019, is approved.

Moved by: Mr. Havey  
Seconded by: Mr. Harris

Adopted: Voice Vote

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Chairman's Appointments:**

**ACCORD Board of Directors** (1-year term)

Vicki Grant  
Reita Sobeck-Lynch

**Allegany County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board** (4-year term)

Scott Torrey, Belmont (coterminous with his designation as Executive Director  
of the Soil & Water Conservation District)

**Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Development Board** (3-year term)  
(Joint Measure with Cattaraugus County Chair James J. Snyder)

Reappointments: (3-year term)

Cesar Cabrera, Buffalo  
Mike Hendrix, Olean  
Spencer Murray, Ellicottville  
Matt Harrington, Cuba  
Lisa Lee, Belmont  
Richard Zink, Salamanca

New Appointments: (3-year term)

Jeremy Martin, Olean  
Carrie Walker, Wellsville

New Appointment: (Remainder of Celeste Schoonover's 3-year apt. expiring  
12/31/19)

Mike Marvin, Olean

**Comprehensive Planning Board** (2-year term)

Legislative Members:

Gary R. Barnes, District IV  
John D. Ricci, District III  
Debra Root, District III

Planning Board Members:

Aaron Dale Foster, Andover  
Jon Gorton, Portageville  
Lee Gridley, Wellsville

At-Large Members:

Edward Eicher, Wellsville  
Richard Ewell, Wellsville  
Charles O. Jessup, Alfred Station  
Michael Johnsen, Dalton

**Cornell Cooperative Extension** (1-year term)

David A. Decker, Cuba (Legislative Representative)  
Gary R. Barnes, Wellsville (Legislative Representative)

**Emergency Food and Shelter Program (Local Board)** (1-year term)

Jeffrey N. Luckey, Fillmore

**Emergency Interim Successor** (1-year term)

Philip G. Stockin, Houghton

**Emergency Management and Fire Director** (1-year term)

Jeffrey N. Luckey, Fillmore

**EMS Coordinator** (1-year term)

Jeffrey N. Luckey, Fillmore

**Hazard Mitigation Team**

Jeffrey Luckey, Allegany County Office of Emergency Services  
Karl Graves, Allegany County District IV Legislator, Member of Resource  
Management Committee  
Justin Henry, Allegany County Public Works Superintendent  
Kevin (Fred) Demick, Allegany County Highway Superintendent Association  
President  
H. Kier Dirlam, Allegany County Planning Director (GIS Mapping)  
Scott Torrey, Allegany County Soil and Water Conservation District Executive  
Director  
Kyle Redman, Allegany County Soil and Water Technician  
Tyler Shaw, Allegany County Environmental Health Director

**InterCounty Association**

Voting Members:

Gary R. Barnes, Wellsville  
Brooke Harris, Alfred  
Brenda Rigby Riehle, Belmont

Alternate Voting Members:

Philip B. Curran, Alfred Station  
William G. Dibble, Little Genesee

**Majority Leader**

Dwight "Mike" Healy, District II Legislator

**Open Space Advisory Committee** (1-year term)

H. Kier Dirlam, Angelica

**Resource Conservation and Development Board** (1-year term)

County Representative Member:

Scott Torrey, Belmont  
Philip B. Curran, Alfred Station (Alternate)

Legislative Member:

Dwight "Mike" Healy, Belmont

Member at Large:

Norman G. Ungermann, Jr., Cuba

**Solid Waste Hearing Board** (1-year term)

*Members must include the Chairman of Public Works and two Legislators who are not on the Public Works Committee.*

Dwight R. Fanton, Chairman of Public Works  
David A. Decker, District II Legislator  
Philip G. Stockin, District I Legislator

Alternates

John D. Ricci, District II Legislator  
Dwight "Mike" Healy, District III Legislator

**STOP-DWI Coordinator** (1-year term)

Brian Perkins, Andover

**Transportation Task Force** (1-year term)

Dwight R. Fanton, Wellsville  
Gary R. Barnes, Wellsville

**Chairman's Appointments Subject to Board Approval:**

**Fish & Wildlife Management Board** (2-year term)

Landowner Representative  
Rob Chamberlain, Belfast  
Alternate: Scott Alsworth

**Allegany County Land Bank Corporation Board of Directors** (2-year term)

H. Kier Dirlam, Allegany County Planning Director  
Darwin Fanton, Wellsville

**Planning Board** (3-year term)

John Roederer, Houghton  
Lee Gridley, Wellsville  
Bryan D. Fanton, Wellsville

**Ex-Officio Members** (1-year term)

Justin Henry, County Superintendent of Public Works  
Terri L. Ross, County Treasurer  
Philip G. Stockin, Ways & Means Committee Chairman

**Veterans Service Agency Director**

Michael Hennessy

Certification was received from the Personnel Committee appointing Health Bedow as **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ALLEGANY COUNTY MUTUAL SELF-INSURANCE PLAN** for 2019.



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

1. Communication from the Republican Party Board members recommending that the Chairman designate Dwight “Mike” Healy as Majority Leader for 2019.
2. Communication from the Republican Party Board members recommending that the Spectator be designated their official newspaper for 2019.
3. Any Legislator wishing to attend the NYSAC Conference in Albany from January 28-30, 2019, should let Clerk of the Board Riehle know today or as soon as possible.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

“Looking back at prior statements I have made at our Organization meetings; I have always taken the opportunity to humbly say to my fellow Legislators ‘thank you.’ Thank you for the privilege and honor to be your Chairman. I accept this position with the utmost sincerity, and I continue my promise that I will treat this position with the dignity it deserves and you with the respect you deserve. As your Chairman, I will do all I can to help this Board not only meet but exceed the responsibilities each of us has accepted as County Legislators. It’s truly a blessing to serve and work with this Board of Legislators and to witness your dedication to making Allegany County a better place to live. As Chairman, I have been fortunate to have Legislative colleagues that have been ready, willing, and able to sort through information, address the issues, and make tough choices to overcome obstacles and advance the County in a variety of positive ways.

‘These words have been spoken in some form or another each time I have taken the floor as the ‘new’ Chairman. I say new since this is an annual appointment – good for one year. I want you to know that when I entered the building today, I had the same feelings of excitement and honor in serving as a County Legislator, let alone Chairman of the Board, as I had the first day I took the oath of office. Each time I enter the building for our meetings, I pray for guidance in all that I say and do as a Legislator and that each of us is utilized to the best of our abilities and that we make the right decisions for Allegany County.

‘A year ago, we started the first year of our four-year term together. Many of us didn’t know each other at that time and we were wondering how we were going to “hit it off” as they say – what is this person I’m now serving with really like? I wonder what committees I will be assigned to. As you were sitting here as Legislators, the Department Heads were sitting in the back as they are today, and they were thinking – I wonder if I’m going to “hit it off” with the new Legislators, what are they really like, I wonder who is going to be on my committee of jurisdiction? And everyone in the room was thinking – I hope Crandall doesn’t screw up and do something stupid with the committee assignments.

‘The distribution of the committee assignments always seems to be the focus and highlight of this meeting. And making those assignments is one of the more difficult duties as

Chairman. I did something different a year ago with the assignments – each Legislator was given a leadership position of either Committee Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and that was done before I knew if we were going to “hit it off” or not. I figured that if I made some drastic mistake, changes could be made to correct them. I have had a few comments and questions on the committee assignments for 2019, and I was asked whether or not I planned to make any changes, and if changes were typical. When I asked back if there was a problem, the answer was no. As typical, we will distribute the Standing Committee list at the end of the meeting and keep everyone in suspense and keep everyone here while I finish my statement – by now - I know how you are.

‘I have been blessed in the time I have served as Chairman to have back-to-back exceptionally good Boards, and I state that on a regular basis when asked about the job as Chairman. That has not always been the case and is not the case in many other counties and other governmental bodies. While we have healthy differences of opinion on various subjects, we approach them and express them as ladies and gentlemen and maintain the proper decorum in this Board Room and out. We show the proper respect for one another, and for these positions – for that, I Thank You.

‘Beyond the Board, the key to a successful operation is the management, staff, and employees. Our first line of operational management is our County Administrator. To our County Administrator Tim Boyde thank you for the expertise and professionalism you have given to Allegany County and for the capable day-to-day management of operations. It has been comforting to know that you have been at the helm and that you are willing to spend a little of 2019 with us as well. Landing in Tim’s lap was the County-Wide Shared Services Initiative in which he went beyond the call of duty. Tim, you did an excellent job in the planning, carrying out numerous meetings, and coordinating the leadership of the Towns and Villages to a successful plan. Tim also has utilized key management positions as an advisory cabinet and elevated communications between his office and the departments. For a great job as County Administrator, Thank You Tim.

‘To our Clerk of the Board Brenda Riehle and her staff, I express my gratitude to the handling of a very busy 2018. Besides the dozens of regular Board meetings and Standing Committee meetings we kept your office extra busy with a record number of Committee of the Whole meetings. Our Committee of the Whole meetings exceeded the number of regular Board meetings and topped the number of these meetings in many years. Starting the year with department tours and a number of Roundtable 2021 conversations which added to an already full schedule of meetings and the minutes they produce. Thanks, Brenda.

‘To our County Treasurer Terri Ross and her staff, thank you for the many times you were called on to analyze and explain our financial position, budget line items, matching and optimizing state and federal funding, and the efforts and expertise you contributed to our budgetary obligations. Thanks, Terri.

‘To our County Attorney Carissa Knapp, 2018 provided a hectic and full calendar for you as well to say the least. Starting the year as our interim County Attorney, patiently waiting for us to advertise and scrutinize the position, and ultimately concluding that on May 29 you

should be officially appointed the Allegany County Attorney. In hiatus for the first part of the year did not prevent you from confidently planning and preparing the County Attorney's office for your management once officially appointed. Madam Counselor, you definitely pass the stress test. All this going on while at the same time fielding legal fast balls in a calm, confident, and professional manner. Thank you, Carissa.

'I would like to acknowledge and thank each of our Department Heads and the employees of Allegany County. Your hard work and dedication is noticed and it is appreciated, thank you for the great jobs you do.

'Sheriff Rick Whitney – congratulations on your reelection. No offense but we hope to hear less of you in 2019 than we did in 2018. Congratulations, Sheriff.

'Senator Young, thanks for being here today at our Organization Meeting and bearing gifts no less. More importantly thank you for the voice you provide us in Albany and properly conveying the needs and concerns of Allegany County. For many years you have given tirelessly to both Senate and Assembly positions. Thank you, Senator Young

'As this Board of Legislators moves into 2019 and beyond, we will:

- Continue to advance the Action Items brought forward in the Roundtable 2021 conversations. We will expand and use the document as a guide and scorecard for our time together.
- We will continue responsible stewardship of Allegany County finances that has been trusted to us.
- We will deliberate on all matters that effect the people of Allegany County and dutifully work on their behalf.
- We will continue to advocate and invest in economic development for our County.
- We will take ownership of the many programs directed to us that improve the quality of life for our more vulnerable population including our seniors, our veterans, and our youth.

'In conclusion, It's by working together that positive change is made, a combination of experience and expertise, mixed with some new and fresh ideas that will move things forward. Our term as Legislators is moving fast, let's not waste it, let's spend it on the proper stewardship, accomplishments and good deeds, so that at the end of this short time together we can look back and say, Yes, we did make a difference for Allegany County. Thank you."

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:**

County Administrator Tim Boyde mentioned some of the improvements made to County buildings during 2018. Renovations were made to the third floor to give more office space to departments that were overcrowded. The Park-n-Ride Project at the Crossroads Center was completed. Further upgrades will be made to this in the future. Records storage space was increased. The Legislative Chambers was improved. A new sound system, video projector and screen, as well as a new heating and cooling system were added.

In the area of economic development, although there were some negative things that occurred, we shouldn't lose sight of the positive. PM Research expanded into the facility by Wellsville Airport. Site Selectors came to Allegany County and spoke about our strengths and our ability to attract businesses that are willing to relocate. A Young Professionals group was developed. Hopefully this will help us to keep some of our youth in the area and possibly bring others into our county. The Crossroads development project is still underway. Our number of unemployed residents has decreased from 1,300 to 800.

The Public Defender's Office received a grant to allow for counsel at first appearance. The Department of Health has added a water lab. They now have the ability to test both public and private water supplies. This should allow for quicker results and therefore cut down on the time needed for real estate transactions to take place.

The County-wide Shared Services Plan as well as looking at staffing patterns at the Jail should provide us opportunities to save in the future. In 2019, we will need to look at Ground Floor renovations, additional Social Services space needs, and continued work on the Crossroads development project.

Mr. Boyde stated that it had been his privilege and honor to serve in the role of County Administrator.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Committee assignments were distributed to Legislators.

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