



**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
April 19, 2012**

Committee members in attendance included Agency Chairwoman Leilani Ulrich, Sherman Craig, Arthur Lussi, Designees Dierdre Scozzafava, Department of State and Robert Stegemann, Department of Environmental Conservation, and William Thomas, Committee Chair. Members Frank Mezzano, Cecil Wray, Richard Booth and Designee Jen McCormick, Department of Economic Development joined the Committee. Also participating in the meeting was Executive Director Fred Monroe of the Local Government Review Board. Staff included Executive Director Terry Martino, Associate Counsel Sarah Reynolds, Planning Director James Connolly, Local Planning Specialist Brian Grisi and Environmental Program Specialist Robyn Burgess.

The Committee meeting convened at approximately 11:35 a.m.

Local Government Services Program Report (B. Grisi)

Mr. Grisi briefly reviewed the program report that was included in the Board's April mailing packet. He noted that staff will provide a presentation at a future Agency meeting which will review the Agency's process to review and approve local land use programs. Since several amendments to local programs are currently under review by Agency staff, the presentation will highlight the staff review process for proposed amendments to local zoning and subdivision laws.

Designee Stegemann asked what the Agency's objective is in towns achieving approval of local land use programs. Mr. Grisi responded that the APA Act encourages the Agency to work with towns to promote and adopt Agency approved local land use programs. Staff are working with several towns that have expressed interest in undertaking integration of an Agency approved local land use program into their local land use controls. Staff are also exploring other options to work with communities on local land use programs adapted to suit their needs. Committee Chair Thomas noted the complexities for staff as well as the towns in drafting and adopting local plans. Local Government Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe added that in the Town of Chester, it was quite costly to achieve a final approved program which could be difficult for some towns but it does allow towns to maintain jurisdiction over class B projects proposed within the town. He noted that obtaining local jurisdiction over Class B projects is a benefit for the residents.

Member Craig noted that a goal should be set by the Committee in promoting and achieving local plans for towns.

Local Government Day March 2012 Update (R. Burgess, D. Kelleher)

Robyn Burgess presented a review of the 2012 Adirondack Park Local Government Day conference. She reviewed the various partnerships that are behind the success of the conference. Ms. Burgess provided an overview of the sessions that were held this year and thoughts for sessions for next year's conference.

Dan Kelleher spoke about the economic development content of this year's conference. He noted the presentations had a common theme of partnering and collaboration of all stakeholders on regional projects such as broadband, energy, and overall improvement of the economic environment of the Adirondack region to reach common goals.

Member Booth asked Mr. Kelleher for an economic fact sheet - Mr. Kelleher responded he would distribute that.

Local Government Review Board Executive Director agreed with Agency Chairwoman Ulrich that this year's event showed great communication and collaboration among participants and presenters. It was agreed that this year's conference was a great success.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.