



Schoharie County Operations Review Committee

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Public Works Commissioner

Bonnie Post

Director of Community Services

John Riedl

Superintendent, Margaretville Central School (Retired)

Mission of the Committee:

Find our efficiencies so that County Government can deliver services for less by improving workflows.

To answer the question what can we do differently in Schoharie County to lower the general cost of County Government without laying off employees and continuing critical services. One immediate action and three initial demonstration projects have been identified.

June 18, 2021 Report of the Committee

The County Operations Review Committee was established as a Special Committee to report to the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2021. A total of five committee meetings have been held to date which were open to the public. The Committee established a mission statement, as well as a focus to examine and make recommendations regarding 1 immediate action and 3 actions for reorganizing certain systems as outlined in the County Administrator's presentation to the Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2021. Subcommittees were created to explore in depth Human Services Centralization, Improve Tax Collection Rates & Strengthen the Tax Levy System, and Maximize Resources through Centralized Financial Functions.

A web page for the Operations Review Committee has been created [County Operations Review Committee – Schoharie County, New York \(schohariecounty-ny.gov\)](https://www.schohariecounty-ny.gov/county-operations-review-committee) and is updated on a regular basis, with meeting agendas, minutes and reference materials. The Committee has developed both methodology and a questionnaire to gather information first about Schoharie County Government Systems, and then about other small upstate Counties for comparison. This will provide valuable information for the Committee as it makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the proposed projects. The Committee also interviewed Personnel Director Barb Schaffer and Confidential Assistant to the County Administrator Fonda Chronis prior to their departure.

The County Operations Review Committee discussed March 2021 Presentation to the Board of Supervisors Appendix A, creation of the Office of Human Resources and Budget. This proposal had been identified as an immediate action. As this was an interim step towards the Appendix B proposal of creating a Finance Department and given the vacancies that were pending in both the County Administrator's Office and Personnel Office, the Committee recommends that the creation of the Office of Human Resources and Budget not be considered at this time. This was approved at the April 19, 2021 County Operations Review Committee.