

LOCAL LAW NO. 2-1983  
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

A LOCAL LAW CREATING THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY UTILITY REVIEW  
BOARD

BE IT ENACTED, by the County Legislature of the County of Chautauqua as follows:

SECTION 1. INTENT: It is the intent of this local law to create within the framework of County Government a Chautauqua County Utility Review Board, the purpose of which shall be to study and examine all factors that have an impact on or influence utility costs within Chautauqua County, including federal laws and regulations, State laws and regulations and determinations and policies of the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission, Public Service Commission of the State of New York and Power Authority of the State of New York.

SECTION 2. CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT: There is hereby created and established a Chautauqua County Utility Review Board.

SECTION 3. DUTIES AND POWERS: The duties and the powers of the Chautauqua County Utility Review Board should be:

A. To study the factors that have impact on or influence utility costs within Chautauqua County.

B. To examine existing utility rates within Chautauqua County.

C. To review all utility rate requests by utility companies which would have an impact on Chautauqua County.

D. To schedule and hold public information meetings and public hearings with the added authority to request representatives from the utility companies and the general public and present testimony at said meetings and hearings.

E. To establish a good working rapport with the New York State Public Services Commission and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and to make recommendations on rate increase requests.

F. To serve as an information collection agency in order to make recommendations to the State Public Service Commission, Federal Energy Regulators Commission and PASNY.

G. To study and report the impact of proposed rate increases on the economy and energy needs of the County.

H. To study and become familiar with the oil and gas industry in Chautauqua County, the federal and state laws and regulations pertaining thereto and the impact on utility rates.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT: The Chautauqua County Utility Review Board shall consist of nine (9) members, seven (7) of whom shall be appointed by the County Executive and two (2) of whom shall be County Legislators appointed by the Chairman of the County Legislature. The appointments shall be subject to the confirmation of the County Legislature. Each member shall serve for a three (3) year term except the members of the County Legislature shall serve only to the end of their term. The County Executive shall designate the Chairman of the Board from the membership thereof. The membership shall be representative of industry, labor, agriculture, commerce, senior citizens, civic organizations, and household consumers.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS AND REPORTS: The Chautauqua County Utility Review Board shall meet at such times determined to be advantageous or essential by the membership of the Board, the County Executive, or the County Legislature, or at the call of the County Executive. The Board shall file an annual report describing its activities for each year with the County Executive, the County Legislature and the County Comptroller no later than thirty (30) days after the close of the County's fiscal year and shall further furnish any additional reports requested by the County Executive, the County Legislature or the County Comptroller or mandated by law.

SECTION 6. COMPENSATION. The members of the Chautauqua County Utility Review Board shall serve without compensation unless the County Legislature by resolution establishes compensation. The members shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and other out-of-pocket expense necessarily incurred in the conduct of official board business. All such reimbursement shall be made strictly within the limits set forth by the County of Chautauqua for reimbursement at the time the claim arises.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Local Law shall take effect immediately and shall expire on December 31, 1983 unless extended by appropriation local legislation.

Adopted by Legislature: 3/23/83

R/C Vote: 18 Yes; 3 No; 4 Absent:  
(No's: Brinkman, Davies, Heeden)

Adopted as Local Law 2-83