MADISON COUNTY PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda - Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Call Meeting to Order

The Board convened at 11:02 am by Supervisor Shwartz in the Supervisors Chambers, second floor, County Office Building, Wampsville, NY. All Supervisors were present.

Attendees: Melissa Felton, Eve Ann Shwartz, Scott Ingmire, Mark Scimone, Cindy Palmer, Joe Wicks, Jamie Kowalzck, Ellen Bowe, Candy Morgan, Jocelyn Gavitt, Kaytlynn Lynch, Ryan Chaires, Kyle Reger, Hannah Reece, John Pinard, Emily Burns, Kipp Hicks, Katie Livingston, Larkin Podsiedlik, Ryan Coe, Tom Daviau, Dave Jones, Keith Lummis, Joe Vaughn (SBA rep.), Jim Cunningham, Mary Cavanaugh, Pete Walrod.

Approval of Minutes

1. July 23, 2025 Final Minutes

On motion by Supervisor Pinard, seconded by Supervisor Reger, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

2. August 19, 2025 Final Minutes

On motion by Supervisor Jones, seconded by Supervisor Pinard, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

Sales Tax Update - Cindy Edick

1. Sales Tax thru Sept. 2025

Cindy reported on the sales tax, stating distributions in September are continuing to trend on the positive side; still about 7% ahead from last year at the same time. October is being processed now. Therefore it is unknown yet what the tax amount will be at the final count.

Real Property Update - Ryan Chaires

Ryan reports today for Real Property; they've finished this years auction. Overall the county had $238,000 owed in back taxes, after bids came in the total was at $440,000. Bringing a surplus of about $193,000. Overall, Ryan says it was a very successful auction. He went on to mention a draft resolution will be submitted for vote to ratify and accept the bids from the public auction to convey the ownership of each premises. It is not yet final because the final payment deadline is this coming Friday.

Career Center Update - Ellen Bowe

Ellen reported today for the Workforce Development office that the Summer Youth Employment Program is complete. There are left over funds in the amount of about $9000 to give back to the state, Ellen decided on a whim to ask the state to keep the funds to distribute evenly among the program participants. The state said yes go ahead

and keep it, in doing so the year end incentive will go directly to the youth workers. Giving each youth a little bonus check.
The next Job fair is coming up in mid October, Ellen will have further information on that coming out soon.
Staff member Katie will be leaving her position soon, at this time it has been decided not to back fill that position. The funds will be used to train Madison County residents. Ellen reached out to MVCC about their CDL programs, there is a grant option available that would allow some Madison County residents to train for the CDL that are in need of it for their currently held positions. The funds would be open to businesses with employees on staff needing the training, the business would pay 40% while the grant funds would pay the 60% for employees to participate.

IDA Update - Kipp Hicks

Kipp reported today for the IDA; The Oneida Hotel demolition has begun, there will be a ground breaking ceremony held on Oct. 9th at 11a. The revolving loan funds have been paid out to Poolville and the PCD projects. At the upcoming Board Meeting this week, they are being asked to take a ¼ acre of land to allow the former Dunns new owner to improve the parking for his patrons. Janie and Junes, a new restaurant in Oneida has opened and is running well so far.
Kipp is aware of 2 projects that have dropped off the Small Businesses list in Downtown Oneida. Therefore, they have additional funds that could be available for others interested in participating.

CCE Update - Larkin Podsiedlik / Katie Livingston

Larkin reported today for the CCE; saying that the asbestos is being removed now that the AG center next door is being used as a temporary office, while some staff are working from home.
They will be holding their Farm bureau meeting at Delphi Falls County Park next month.

Katie reported for the AED that she recently went to the Turning Stone vendor meeting to learn how to sell at the casino.
Open farm day results showed a good interest from patrons in the area. A post Farm Day diner was hosted at the Farmstead 1868, this gave the open door for a discussion of how best to move forward for next years event. Katie reported reaching about 35,000 people through social meeting posts and marketing. There was an increase of public views on their website with over 4000 views in the month prior to Open Farm Day. Surveys were collected from about 150 people that attended showing the event was well perceived and people are interested in a return event next year.

Tourism Update - Kaytlynn Lynch

Kaytlynn first shared some visitor insight data; So far this quarter, 10% of all spending came from visitors. This spending data contains both credit and debit sales and a mix of various types of credit cards.
84% of all accommodation funds spent came from visitors, as well as 21% of all arts, entertainment and attractions.
The percentage of visitor cardholders are between the ages of 25-54 and they have

household incomes of over $100,000. 39% of these visitors have children.
The Old Erie Canal State Park is the top performing point of interest this quarter, totaling 40% of the sample size (about 7,000 cell phones tracked)
Kaytlynn was happy to share that earlier this week on Monday morning, Allison Lehr, Museum Manager at the All Things Oz Museum, took part in a fantastic segment on New Channel 9's Bridge Street.
She spoke about new exhibits at the museum featuring a first-edition copy of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," the Cowardly Lion costume from the original Broadway production of The Wiz, costumes and props from the movie Wicked, among other items. They were able to secure the tv time thanks to the dedication of our PR rep, Nikita Jankowski, President of Belesai Communications in Syracuse.
Coming up this weekend, Madison County Tourism will be hosting Bill Clevlen, better known as Bill On The Road, on the west side of the County. Bill is a travel journalist and broadcaster with a focus on road trips. He's putting together a waterfalls trip across New York to highlight where travelers can find a mixture of hidden gems and well-known locations. He's also showcasing the places travelers can use as a home base when traveling to the waterfalls. Bill will stay 2 nights in a cottage on the south end of DeRuyter Reservior and will cover both Delphi and Chittenango Falls. He will also visit downtown Cazenovia and Chittenango, specifically the All Things Oz Museum – a destination he asked us about specifically based on his research. She is working in collaboration with Visit Syracuse and our PR rep Nikita to host Bill while he's in Central New York.
This October, they will be hosting Buffalo-based influencer Carly, a content creator and blogger specializing in fun getaways, hidden gems, and unique stays throughout NYS. You can find her on Instagram @carlymarie_travelwithme and on Facebook at Carly Marie. Her audience is primarily U.S.-based, with over 19% located in New York State. These are adventure seekers, mostly between the ages of 25 to 45. They are highly engaged and eager to explore places like us, where local comes to life. More to come on her visit as we begin building her itinerary with our partners.

PCD/HUB Update - Jocelyn Gavitt / Hannah Reece

Hannah reported for a the HUB, stating a successful Village Art Walk program throughout the summer. With 30 plus artists and musicians showcasing their offerings at 6 different venues throughout the Village of Hamilton. The program kicked off the summer at The HUB with about 75-100 people in attendance. By the end of the summer there were about 250-300 people coming through for the events. The events brought folks into the local businesses that may not have come otherwise.
The upcoming September Social will be hosted at the HUB premises on Friday 9-26 from 12p-2:30p. Hannah has hopes of integrating local business experts into the meeting/social gatherings to offer strong business connections within the community.

Jocelyn reported for the PCD saying that the Microenterprise submissions put the project over the $500,000 mark and therefore are now eligible to ask for more funding. She reported looking into any new CDBG grants that could be applied for with the county and/or the Village of Canastota.
Reporting on the housing collaborative led by the Madison County Health Department

to make a housing impact. The Health Dempairector Eric Faisst received $41,000 in grant funds to check the local efficiency of code enforcement officers within the county.

BUY Madison - Sam Field

Sam was not in attendance today. Ryan stated no new updates this month, that work is continuing with C&D for next years' marketing campaigns.

MCPLUS - Update

Scott reported that the project is going along well at this point. Most of the construction is now being done, the jams that were in the way are done now. About $10 million from MIP grant funds are being used to improve the lower portion of the county with broadband service. There are hardships across the state for like projects. Mark will compare with other counties and entities to share the experiences of working on the project.

Planning Update - Scott Ingmire

Scott shared that the Planning Department will be hosting about 60 people for a PZI training on Sept 30th at Delphi Falls Cascades Hall. Offered to all county, town and village representatives of the Planning and Zoning Boards.
Scott reviewed a budget modification being submitted to the Finance committee. The funds will help to wrap up the remaining Delphi Falls County Park project. To include equipment purchases and a shed build for on-site keeping of the materials needed to keep the building open year round (i.e. shovels, snowblower, etc.)

Resolutions

1. Review of Budget Modification

Review of budget presented by Scott, no vote needed from this committee. The resolution will go before the Finance Committee for vote.

2. Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Colliers for a Waterway Assessment of the Old Erie Canal in the Village of Canastota

On motion by Supervisor Jones, seconded by Supervisor Pinard, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

3. Halt the Proliferation of Utility-Scale Solar and Wind Projects by the New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) which overrides Local Land Use Policy, Causes Loss of Farmland and Threatens the Agricultural Industry in Madison County

On motion by Supervisor Wicks, seconded by Supervisor Pinard, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

4. Authorizing the Chairman to Amend an Agreement with the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District

On motion by Supervisor Wicks, seconded by Supervisor Pinard, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

5. Authorization to Submit a Grant Application to the New York State Office of Community Renewal

On motion by Supervisor Reger, seconded by Supervisor Wicks, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

6. Draft Resolution
   Ratifying and Accepting Bids Received at Public Auction and Former Owner Purchases and Directing the Conveyance of County Owned Premises

On motion by Supervisor Wicks, seconded by Supervisor Reger, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

7. Resolution in Support of Congressional Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) and in Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans

On motion by Supervisor Wicks, seconded by Supervisor Pinard, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

Other Committee Business

1. Executive Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Wicks to enter into Executive Session at 12:25 pm. Supervisor Pinard seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Preferred Agenda

Next Meeting

1. October 22, 2025

Adjourn