

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

Meeting Agenda - Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Call Meeting to Order

The Board convened at 9:30 a.m. in the Supervisors Chambers, second floor, County Office Building, Wampsville, NY. All Supervisors were present.

Attendees: Joe Wicks, Scott Ingmire, Melissa Felton, Lorin Corbin, Ryan Chaires, Emily Burns, Kaytlynn Lynch, Pete Walrod, Dana Krueger, Katie Livingston, Candy Morgan, Ellen Bowe, Joyce Gavitt, Melissa Davis, Tom Daviau, Larkin Podsiedlik, Matt Roberts, Jim Cunningham, Melissa During, Jamie Kowalczyk, Sam Field, Kipp Hicks, Chelsea Schuemer, Thomas Goldstein.

Melissa Felton took a moment to introduce Thomas Goldstein, a new law intern.

Approval of Minutes

1. April 29, 2026 Final Minutes

On motion by Supervisor Roberts, seconded by Supervisor Krueger, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

Sales Tax Update - Cindy Edick

1. Sales Tax Thru May 2026

Cindy stated both May distributions were up double digits in comparison to 2025. Ahead by about \$629,000 or 4.7%, it seems gas prices and some items with higher tariff taxes have contributed to the numbers. As well as the short-term rental fee is now being collected. Matt Roberts says a lot of the gas purchased in Madison County is actually Oneida Nation gas. Therefore, he thinks those taxes are not actually where they're coming from, but he feels that consumer confidence has increased recently.

Real Property Update - Ryan Chaires

Ryan stated nothing big to update at this time, they've received the remaining unpaid taxes for 2026 from all the county towns. Village taxes were sent out yesterday.

Career Center Update - Ellen Bowe

Ellen reported today for the Workforce Development that:

1. OJT with Meid Construction
2. OJT with Wanderers Rest in Canastota
3. OJT with Merlin Mold in Canastota
4. YWE with Chittenango Day Care Center

5. Funded 3 residents for their CDL License
6. Funded 1 resident for assistance in obtaining their Associates Degree in Childcare
7. Assisting one resident with driver training
8. Providing gas cards for several residents.
9. There is no current NYS Budget. Currently, there are no funds released for our summer youth program. We are currently using our staff only and paying the staff using WIOA funds.
10. At the end of June, they will be losing an additional 2 staff and will not be backfilling these openings.
11. Summer youth program cannot start until July 2026.
12. In addition, we cannot back fill our last Counselor position which we lost to the NYS DOL.
13. Ellen was advised last week, \$82,000 will be lost in WIOA funding beginning in July 2026.

IDA Update - Kipp Hicks

Kipp reported today that the Village of Cazenovia officials and state officials make up the core team of the Downtown Initiative committee. Plans will commence soon on how best to move forward with large-scale developments within the Town of Cazenovia. The Strategic Economic Plan progress is waiting for women in business of the state. They are anticipating meetings biweekly.

Kipp asked about any potential data centers; has anyone been approached? No one has been. Please let Kipp know should any approach occur. They have lots of impact on the land and waterways. Matt Roberts suggested the county towns/villages write legislation for any data center proposals that come with their own energy sources.

CCE Update - Larkin Podsiedlik/Katie Livingston

Katie reported today that the Ag and Ag Economic Development team has had over 40 technical assistance requests since the start of April, many of which have more than one correspondence or meeting. Common topics include grant applications, farmland viability, business planning, gardening, pests, food processing, and many new farmers reaching out with solid business plans and ideas. The team is also advising on a 9 Fresh grant application. There were 60 attendees at workshops in April, including Intro to Value-Added, Build a Better Pest Strategy, and Brassica Crop Care.

Upcoming are a free 5-month Preservation Series, Composting Workshop, Crawford Farms Equine Tour, Roadside Stand Success, Solace IPM and 3 Coffee Conversations at various coffee shops around Madison County. Open Farm Day is on July 25th & 26th this year, with 31 total stops (15 of which will be open both days), and 5 new or returning from several years ago. A June is dairy month campaign will kick off with Milk Mondays on CCEs social media, focusing on NYS/Madison County dairy, local

producers, and the benefits of consuming dairy.

For Garden and Environment, there were 25 attendees at workshops for the Ornamental Tree and Shrub Pruning Workshop and an Integrated Pond Management Workshop. Upcoming are The World of Dahlias, Teaching Garden Planting, and SNAP-Ed Garden Class.

2 Madison County 4-H members had the opportunity to attend a National 4-H Leadership Conference, and 5 will attend Career Explorations in June. All of these are fully scholarship free opportunities for enrolled 4-H youths.

For the first time ever, Tax Counseling for the Elderly completed nearly 1,700 tax returns completed and hit \$2M in refunds directly to seniors in our community. Larkin also shared a 6-month community impact report for CCE with everyone.

Tourism Update - Kaytlynn Lynch

Kaytlynn was happy to report their most anticipated element of our rebrand to Visit Madison County, NY has officially launched... the MCT new website! When Chelsea joined the office last September, she was thrown her right into the deep end with managing this project and Kaytlynn couldn't be more proud of how she handled it. Being an office of two, everything done is a collaborative effort, but kudos really go to Chelsea for bringing this vision to life.

MCT hosted a table again this year at the Wedding in NY expo at Turning Stone earlier this month and it was a success, and honestly much better than last year's show. This year, Nikita, PR rep, and Kaytlynn led the booth right next to Meier's Creek which was great because they sent couples over to Cody and Billy whereas they'd do the same. Blooms and Blossoms was just across the way from the booth as well, allowing a close proximity to send traffic back and forth in support of Madison County businesses. About 350 attendees came to the expo, Kaytlynn feels like they spoke directly with 125-150 people.

Last year many of the couples already had their date and venue selected, therefore a pivot was made to promoting bridal shower locations and bachelor/bachelorette weekends. Whereas this year, the majority of couples were just starting to plan for their 2028 weddings and beyond, allowing Kaytlynn and Chelsea to walk them through the counties 30+ venues for the big day, encouraging their guests to spend long weekends in Madison County.

A reprint of the wedding guide will be on the horizon in 2027, with new partners to add, remove the partner businesses that have closed, and an overall content refresh.

The Ice Cream Trail Returns for Summer 2026!

They're working with Hannah, the talented creative behind the recent rebrand, to illustrate a custom ice cream trail map

With 15 participating locations this year, including 3 new stops. Work is being done to collaborate with CCE and the Buy Madison Program to promote the trail again.

Postcards with the new map will be distributed to all locations in the coming weeks.

Visitor Insights

When checking the pulse on some visitor insights so far this quarter, she's happy to share that there's a 5% increase in visitation as compared to this same period last year, bringing up 18% of people here in the County being visitors to our destination.

Of that 18% visitor pool, 55% are out-of-state visitors, up 15% from the same time last year. This strongly indicates multi-night stays in our market, increasing occupancy taxes as a result.

NYC remains our top visitor market this quarter to date, with the largest factor being the education sector, Colgate and SUNY Morrisville.

PCD/HUB Update - Jocelyn Gavitt/Melissa Davis

Melissa was happy to report continued work with some of the townships around the county. She mentioned as a reminder to the Town Supervisors to work with the PCD. Melissa went on to state that she is learning a lot about the county and the townships, that she wants to be effective but that she's still just learning the ropes.

The PCD is putting out an application for a study with the USDA to potentially obtain funds to study the area regarding the biofuel/biomass of woods in Madison County. To look at the assets and marketability for a woody biomass study.

Melissa went on to report about the round table events coming up. They are the 18th with Angelino and the 29th with Gallahan and the 30th is with Miller. Asking supervisors and 2 business reps from each town to attend on June 16th at the HUB for the CFA workshops to open awareness for funding opportunities that will be available for the coming year with the new budget release. Wants to make a business database but doesn't have time and thought the clerk's office would have needed information. Melissa Felton says not really a good database because those are mostly DBA not LLC or Inc or Corp.

Dana says please encourage folks to go, and then you can meet them in person and that impression can give a better idea of proposals in person. It has workshops and trainings planned working with CCE and Canastota. Ellen was volunteered to help with the workforce outreach with launch point.

Jocelyn gave a quick update about the MicroEnterprise grant; they received lots of new applications which have started to be graded by the committee and will be awarded to 8 local businesses with 2 possible additions.

BUY Madison - Samantha Field

Samantha reported continued work on Buy Madison. With monthly emails being sent out, Still working on the year of the women farmer, with and anticipated release next week of the first showcase.

MCPLUS - Update

Scott shared that the work is continuing, more field work is being done now, with the fiber installation.

Planning Update - Scott Ingmire

Scott shared that, unfortunately, one of the local snowmobile clubs folded this year. But, another club took over those trails and participants, so thankfully, there shouldn't be much change for the users of the trails. Overall, this season was a great snowmobile season for riders, now the paperwork commences.

We've had lots of use at Delphi Falls in the Cascades Hall, with 75 reservations since January and about 2,500 attendees to date. A total of 12 weddings are reserved for the year so far. \$15,300 in revenue so far this year.

FLOW-PA funds are used for the Watershed Alliance to put into projects for the local farmers for soil and water updates, stream stabilization and retention ponds when new businesses go into places.

Coming up is Boat Float on June 13th. Please attend, to paddle or join the festival. Kaytlynn updated that they will partner with Visit Syracuse to help market and social posts. The general concept is to get people on the water to show that you can actually paddle 30 miles of the Old Erie Canal.

Active projects:

Town of Sullivan Comprehensive Plan

County infrastructure and NYS open space grants

Septic repair grant

Closeout Earlville main st grant

Microenterprise with PCD

Snowmobile Program

ReConnect and MIP Broadband projects

Agricultural District Maps

Resolutions

No Resolutions this month.

Other Committee Business

Preferred Agenda

Next Meeting

1. June 24, 2026 at 9:30 a.m in the Board of Supervisors Chambers

Adjourn

On motion by Dana Krueger, seconded by Melissa During, the Board adjourned at 10:29 a.m.