

TIOGA COUNTY ED&P/TOURISM/CCE/SOIL & WATER  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

1:00 PM

- MINUTES
  - Approval of minutes of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- FINANCIAL
  - Economic Development- tracking
  - Planning- tracking
  - Sustainability Management- tracking
- OLD BUSINESS
  - Reports
  - Grants
  - Economic/Community Development
  - Land Bank
  - Workforce Development
  - Planning
  - Sustainability Management
  - IDA
  - Misc.
- NEW BUSINESS
  - Reports
  - Grants
  - Economic/Community Development
  - Land Bank
  - Workforce Development
  - Planning
  - Sustainability Management
  - IDA
  - Misc.
- PERSONNEL
  - Education Workforce Coordinator
  - PT- OSII
- RESOLUTIONS
  - B28-Authorization to Use American Rescue Plan Act Funds as Match for Southern Tier Network USDA Reconnect Grant
- PROCLAMATIONS- N/A
- ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING January 4, 2022

### **ATTENDEES:**

**Legislators:** Barbara Roberts, Dale Weston, Ron Ciotoli, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

**Staff:** Brittany Woodburn, Linda Sampson, Cathy Haskell

**Guests:** None

LeeAnn Tinney was not in attendance.

Committee Chair, Legislator Barbara Roberts, called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

### **MINUTES**

- Approval of minutes from December 7, 2021 – Ms. Woodburn asked for approval of the minutes from the December 7, 2021 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the December 7, 2021 minutes, seconded by Legislator Weston. All were in favor.

**TIOGA COUNTY SOIL & WATER:** Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh was not in attendance. The Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Coordination Services 2021 Report was previously emailed.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): LeeAnn Tinney** – Agenda, attachments and highlights previously emailed. Ms. Woodburn, ED&P Deputy Director, introduced herself and stated she was filling in for Ms. Tinney.

Following are the Director's Highlights:

**Meetings**– Ms. Woodburn reported the following meetings attended:

- ST8
  - Broadband – Met to share information on projects currently in progress related to broadband in the Southern Tier Region.
- Chamber of Commerce
  - Executive Committee – Monthly meeting attended.
  - Board Meeting – Monthly meeting attended.
- VEDA – Valley Economic Development Association; monthly meeting attended. Ms. Woodburn reported that Eleanor Hill, President and CEO of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce, had passed away recently. She was a member of VEDA and very active within the community.

- STREDC – Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Corporation; monthly meeting attended.
- Broome Tioga Workforce Development Board – Quarterly meeting attended.
- Regional Economic Development Council – Monthly meeting attended.
- Municipality Visits
  - Town of Nichols – Met to discuss the extension of broadband within the Town of Nichols.
    - Interested in submitting a USDA Broadband ReConnect Grant application to support the project; Esther Woods will be the point of contact. A resolution to allow the ED&P staff to assist with the application, as well as the administration of the grant, is in the committee packet and listed below.
- Business Visits
  - NYSEG
- Presentations- none

### Department Highlights

- Village of Owego
  - DRI (18 projects)- Continue to manage projects; all at different stages of development. The Home Central project is moving along quickly and has the most visible progress; possible completion in May.
    - Municipal project kick off meeting- Village of Owego had a kick-off meeting for their 6 municipal projects; ED&P will be providing administrative support. Hunt Engineering has been chosen as the design team. Projects will go out to bid in the near future.
  - NY Main Street, Owego (5 projects)- These projects are ongoing. Two of the projects are nearing completion and will be seeking progress payment for reimbursement. Two projects are getting ready to begin construction; possible completion date of June 2022 for these projects.
  - Owego Gardens 2 – Construction is progressing.
    - Booster Station upgrades – Continued discussions with Suez.
- Village of Nichols
  - USDA Shared Services- Sweeper/Vac Truck has been ordered.
- RESTORE NY
  - Owego- Project complete; waiting for reimbursement from the State.
  - Waverly- Project complete; waiting for reimbursement from the State.
- Land Bank
  - OASCD project – In partnership with the Owego Apalachin School District. The Land Bank is going to purchase a home on Liberty Street and the students will be doing the renovation. Proceeds from the sale will be reinvested in new projects with the school district. We have also been talking with local construction related businesses to partner with as well; making a connection with workforce development.
    - Memo of Understanding in place with the school district; finalizing funding by the end of the month.
  - Temple and Liberty LLC
    - Local Approvals
      - ❖ Village of Owego Planning Board will be meeting this month to make a decision on this project.
    - Property demolitions- To begin early to mid-January.

Legislative Chair, Ms. Sauerbrey, would like to know when the demolitions are going to happen. Ms. Woodburn agreed to let the committee know and reported working with the school district to have someone video the demolitions using a drone as well.

- Community Development
  - Waverly Gateway Beautification (mural projects)- Partnership between the school and the village.
- Workforce
  - Workforce Pipeline Development Study- Implementation
    - Education Workforce Coordinator
      - ❖ Sean Lanning- Potential candidate for this position with start date January 31<sup>st</sup>; resolution is being presented and is listed below.
- Economic Development
  - DRI Project administration
  - NYMS Project Administration- Owego and Candor
  - GIS Mapping Activities
  - STREDC Loan Committee
  - State Lead Responses
  - GIS/IDA/EDP Available Sites Mapping and Website
  - Staffing
    - PT position still vacant- Search continues to fill this position.
  - Annual Breakfast Event
    - 2022 event moved to end of February due to Covid related concerns.
    - DeLuge Media to provide video for this event.
  - Grant Awards (CFA)- The Governor announced the following Consolidated Funding Application awards this month:
    - Tioga County Shared Technology Services (\$103,522)- Partnered with IT on this application for Village of Owego and Town of Candor.
    - Village of Owego Police Station Restoration (\$468,416)- A Historic Preservation Grant for facade improvements to the Police Station.
    - Village of Waverly Economic Study (\$25,000)- Economic Analysis Study
- Planning
  - 239 Reviews ( 0 )
  - Renewal Energy Best Practices Study
    - MRB Group – Three proposals were received for the Municipal Solar Development Best Practices and Policies Study. A steering committee was created to review the proposals and would like to move forward with MRB Group to conduct the study. Resolution to be presented and listed below.
  - ST8 Build Back Better grant- Not awarded.
  - Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA)- Final summary will be complete next month.
  - Tioga County Legislative Redistricting Plan- Ms. Jardine continues to work on this plan.
- Other
  - Sustainability Manager- Ms. Woodburn reported Ms. Pratt, Sustainability Manager, will send a report on a monthly basis and present to this committee on a quarterly basis like CCE, Soil & Water and Tourism does. The committee was in agreement.
- Grants
  - Potential (8)
    - Temple and Liberty LLC- affordable housing

- Village of Owego- CDBG, Housing Rehab
- NYS HCR Community Investment Fund
- Evergreen Cemetery- Mildred Faulkner Truman
- REAP- Owego Elks, Hooker Foundation
- Tioga Terrace- Hooker Foundation
- Village of Waverly- Waverly Glen Park, Hooker Foundation
- ESD Capital Grant
- Pending (14)
  - Racker- USDA/CDBG Neighborhood Depot
  - Town of Richford- Senator Schumer, town hall
  - REAP- NPS Historic Preservation Subgrant Program
  - TCIDA-ARC- Education Workforce Coordinator
  - Tioga County- 2020/2021 Phase III
  - Town of Richford- FEMA (engineering of railroad stream crossing)
  - Evergreen Cemetery- TSB Foundation
  - Home Central, ESD Capital grant
  - Candor Historical Society- CFSCNY
  - Evergreen Cemetery- Weitsman
  - Tioga County- 2021/2022 (Phase II)
  - Carantouan Greenway- Mildred Faulkner Truman
  - Town of Owego- Cornell Design Connect- Tioga Terrace Park
  - Tioga County Property Development- Hooker- OACSD rehab
- Active (27)
  - Village of Owego- RESTORE NY, Briggs/Awad
  - Village of Owego- Downtown Revitalization Initiative
  - Village of Waverly- NYS Parks, Waverly Glen Park
  - Village of Waverly- RESTORE NY, Twigg
  - REAP- USDA, Public Well (equipment)
  - Village of Owego- Main Street (CFA)
  - Racker (CFA)
  - Raymond Hadley (CFA)
  - Owego Apalachin Central School District- WDI (workforce)
  - Village of Candor- NY Main Street
  - Candor EMS- Community Foundation, operating funds
  - Tioga Arts Council- Community Foundation, Retail for Good
  - Boys & Girls Club- Hooker Foundation, operating funds
  - Hooker Foundation- Education Workforce Coordinator
  - TCLDC-USDA RDBG- Tioga County Recruitment Tool
  - TCLDC-USDA RBDG- Technical Assistance to Business
  - Catholic Schools of Broome County- Fannie C. Hyde
  - REAP, Owego Elks Lodge- Mildred Faulkner Truman, building assessment
  - Candor Historical Society- Tioga State Bank
  - Village of Nichols- USDA Community Facilities (vacuum truck)
  - Candor Historical Society- Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation
  - Candor EMS- Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation
  - Carantouan Greenway- waterfront trail, TSB Foundation

- Candor EMS, Tioga State Bank Foundation
- Village of Owego- OPRHP, OPD building restoration
- TC IT- CFA LGE, shared services Owego/Candor
- Village of Waverly- ESD Planning, Economic Analysis
- Completed (0)

Legislator Ciotoli asked if there was a time frame on the pending grant applications. Ms. Woodburn reported they are all on different timelines; however we continue to follow up.

**2021 Budget**

- Economic Development- Year end; tracking.
- Planning- Year end; tracking.
- Solid Waste- Year end; tracking.

**Resolutions**

- A19-Municipal Solar Projects Best Practices and Policies Contract
- A21-Authorize Hire of Education Workforce Coordinator (Sean Lanning) EDP Dept.
- A22-Recommend Members to the Susquehanna Heritage Area Commission (Maffei/Ortu)
- A25-Authorizing Legislative Chair Signature on NY Tioga III LLC Payment in Lieu of Tax Agreement-2022
- A28-Authorization to Submit Application and Administer a USDA Broadband ReConnect Grant for Town of Nichols

Ms. Woodburn or Ms. Tinney will be at the Legislative Meeting to answer any questions.

After reviewing the resolutions, Ms. Woodburn asked this committee for support to move all resolutions forward; vote on each resolution was the same and follows:

Legislator Roberts -	yes
Legislator Mullen -	yes
Legislator Weston -	yes
Legislator Ciotoli -	yes

Not on the agenda, it was discussed and decided that going forward each committee member will get a paper copy of the ED&P Legislative Committee Packet.

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Linda Sampson  
 Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning



# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2022 01

ACCOUNTS FOR: A	General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
<b>A6422 Economic Development</b>								
A6422	411132	Tax On Hotel/Motel	-30,000	0	-30,000	.00	.00	-30,000.00 .0%
A6422	419890	Contribution To Ec	-20,000	0	-20,000	.00	.00	-20,000.00 .0%
A6422	421891	Other Home & Commu	-26,200	0	-26,200	.00	.00	-26,200.00 .0%
A6422	510010	Full Time	277,161	0	277,161	11,335.50	.00	265,825.50 4.1%
A6422	510020	Part Time/Temporar	12,190	0	12,190	.00	.00	12,190.00 .0%
A6422	540010	Advertising	3,000	0	3,000	-49.50	.00	3,049.50 -1.7%
A6422	540040	Books	450	0	450	.00	.00	450.00 .0%
A6422	540070	Car Maintenance	2,000	0	2,000	.00	.00	2,000.00 .0%
A6422	540180	Dues	400	0	400	173.00	.00	227.00 43.3%
A6422	540220	Automobile Fuel	150	0	150	.00	.00	150.00 .0%
A6422	540320	Leased/Service Equ	1,320	0	1,320	.00	.00	1,320.00 .0%
A6422	540360	Meals/Food	750	0	750	.00	.00	750.00 .0%
A6422	540420	Office Supplies	1,280	0	1,280	28.60	.00	1,251.40 2.2%
A6422	540480	Postage	380	0	380	.00	.00	380.00 .0%
A6422	540485	Printing/Paper	1,500	0	1,500	.00	.00	1,500.00 .0%
A6422	540590	Services Rendered	20,000	0	20,000	-3,500.00	.00	23,500.00 -17.5%
A6422	540620	Software Expense	100	0	100	.00	.00	100.00 .0%
A6422	540660	Telephone	740	0	740	.00	.00	740.00 .0%
A6422	540733	Training/All Other	5,000	0	5,000	350.00	.00	4,650.00 7.0%
A6422	581088	State Retirement F	15,206	0	15,206	1,449.01	.00	13,757.39 9.5%
A6422	583088	Social Security Fr	22,030	0	22,030	1,461.53	.00	20,568.24 6.6%
A6422	584088	Workers Compensati	8,944	0	8,944	400.06	.00	8,543.64 4.5%
A6422	585588	Disability Insuran	384	0	384	21.32	.00	363.12 5.5%
A6422	586088	Health Insurance F	56,915	0	56,915	4,254.16	.00	52,660.75 7.5%
A6422	588988	Eap Fringe	88	0	88	4.58	.00	83.22 5.2%
TOTAL Economic Development		353,788	0	353,788	15,928.26	.00	337,859.76	4.5%
TOTAL General Fund		353,788	0	353,788	15,928.26	.00	337,859.76	4.5%
TOTAL REVENUES		-76,200	0	-76,200	.00	.00	-76,200.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		429,988	0	429,988	15,928.26	.00	414,059.76	



**Tioga County**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**

FOR 2022 01

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	353,788	0	353,788	15,928.26	.00	337,859.76	4.5%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Sampson, Linda \*\*





# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2022 01

ACCOUNTS FOR: A General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
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### A8020 Planning

A8020 510010 Full Time	150,743	0	150,743	6,259.40	.00	144,483.60	4.2%
A8020 540010 Advertising	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8020 540040 Books	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540140 Contracting Servic	22,000	0	22,000	.00	.00	22,000.00	.0%
A8020 540180 Dues	800	0	800	400.00	.00	400.00	50.0%
A8020 540220 Automobile Fuel	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8020 540320 Leased/Service Equ	1,200	0	1,200	.00	.00	1,200.00	.0%
A8020 540360 Meals/Food	190	0	190	.00	.00	190.00	.0%
A8020 540390 Mileage Expense	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540420 Office Supplies	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
A8020 540480 Postage	900	0	900	.00	.00	900.00	.0%
A8020 540485 Printing/Paper	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
A8020 540590 Services Rendered	4,875	0	4,875	.00	.00	4,875.00	.0%
A8020 540660 Telephone	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540733 Training/All other	1,200	0	1,200	.00	.00	1,200.00	.0%
A8020 581088 State Retirement F	11,872	0	11,872	1,097.41	.00	10,774.97	9.2%
A8020 583088 Social Security Fr	10,535	0	10,535	860.48	.00	9,674.33	8.2%
A8020 584088 Workers Compensati	2,449	0	2,449	187.58	.00	2,261.10	7.7%
A8020 585588 Disability Insuran	136	0	136	10.00	.00	125.72	7.4%
A8020 586088 Health Insurance F	44,033	0	44,033	3,222.08	.00	40,811.39	7.3%
A8020 588988 Eap Fringe	29	0	29	2.14	.00	26.98	7.3%
TOTAL Planning	254,662	0	254,662	12,039.09	.00	242,623.09	4.7%
TOTAL General Fund	254,662	0	254,662	12,039.09	.00	242,623.09	4.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	254,662	0	254,662	12,039.09	.00	242,623.09	



**Tioga County**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**

FOR 2022 01

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	254,662	0	254,662	12,039.09	.00	242,623.09	4.7%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Sampson, Linda **							



# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2022 01

ACCOUNTS FOR: A General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
<b>A8160 Refuse &amp; Garbage</b>							
A8160 439892 Solid waste State	-28,000	0	-28,000	.00	.00	-28,000.00	.0%
A8160 510010 Fulltime	61,961	0	61,961	2,863.90	.00	59,097.10	4.6%
A8160 510050 All Other-On call,	325	0	325	.00	.00	325.00	.0%
A8160 540010 Advertising	7,500	0	7,500	.00	.00	7,500.00	.0%
A8160 540180 Dues	175	0	175	.00	.00	175.00	.0%
A8160 540270 Insurance-Liabilit	1,425	0	1,425	1,275.55	.00	149.45	89.5%
A8160 540390 Mileage Expense	167	0	167	.00	.00	166.75	.0%
A8160 540420 Office Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0%
A8160 540444 Permits, Fees, Ins	100	0	100	.00	.00	100.00	.0%
A8160 540480 Postage	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8160 542140 Contracting Servic	100,000	0	100,000	.00	.00	100,000.00	.0%
A8160 542261 Household Hazardou	75,000	0	75,000	.00	.00	75,000.00	.0%
A8160 542485 Printing/Paper	1,500	0	1,500	.00	.00	1,500.00	.0%
A8160 542640 Supplies (Not offi	11,000	0	11,000	.00	.00	11,000.00	.0%
A8160 542680 Tires	3,900	0	3,900	.00	.00	3,900.00	.0%
A8160 581088 State Retirement F	7,587	0	7,587	696.42	.00	6,890.58	9.2%
A8160 583088 Social Security Fr	4,396	0	4,396	378.67	.00	4,017.33	8.6%
A8160 584088 Workers Compensati	1,411	0	1,411	97.94	.00	1,313.06	6.9%
A8160 585588 Disability Insuran	113	0	113	5.22	.00	107.78	4.6%
A8160 586088 Health Insurance F	9,585	0	9,585	824.16	.00	8,760.84	8.6%
A8160 588988 EAP Fringe	115	0	115	1.12	.00	113.88	1.0%
TOTAL Refuse & Garbage	260,460	0	260,460	6,142.98	.00	254,316.77	2.4%
TOTAL General Fund	260,460	0	260,460	6,142.98	.00	254,316.77	2.4%
TOTAL REVENUES	-28,000	0	-28,000	.00	.00	-28,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	288,460	0	288,460	6,142.98	.00	282,316.77	



**Tioga County**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**

FOR 2022 01

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	260,460	0	260,460	6,142.98	.00	254,316.77	2.4%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Pratt, Ellen \*\*



# Tioga County Tourism

## January 2022

### **DRI Wayfinding Sign Project**

The steering committee is meeting with the Branding and Design Team to begin this process of defining a new brand for the Village of Owego. The contract with ID SignSystems has been submitted to the state.

- The Tioga Arts Council's renovations are underway.

### **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds**

Tioga County Tourism received ARPA funds for new tourism initiatives. Planning for a new brand, travel guide and website designs are the 2022 focus for a portion of these funds.

### **Tioga Arts Council 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Becca is on the committee that is assisting in organizing a series of events that will commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Tioga Arts Council. The Visitor Center will also be dedicating space for exhibitions and promotions for the Anniversary.

### **Recruitment Website**

The branding process and website navigation for the recruitment website is ongoing. The tagline "Find Your Way Here" has been chosen and a logo is in being developed.

### **Agricultural Resource Group (ARG) / Finger Lakes Farm Country (FLFC)**

Tourism will be working with ARG to organize and promote Sundaes at the Farm in July. We will also be coordinating with Cornell Cooperative Extension to update and provide content for the website.

### **Events**

All regular events are being planned for 2022. Lori has been adding events to our calendar. A new event fundraiser, the Tioga Tour Gran Fondo, is in the planning process. It is a biking event that is part of a nation-wide cycling race organization. It will be a timed race for amateur competitors, but will also be able to be enjoyed by those that simply want to ride. Tourism has assisted with providing routes and information from our past event "Bike Tioga" and our Bad Ass Bike Tour brochure to assist with planning. We will also be building out a web page on our website to help promote the event.

### **ILNY Matching Funds Cooperative Marketing Program**

Tioga County Tourism has been approved to run a \$30,000 cooperative marketing program in 2022. Outreach for applications will begin shortly.

REFERRED TO: ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. – 22 AUTHORIZATION TO USE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS AS MATCH FOR SOUTHERN TIER NETWORK USDA RECONNECT GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF BROADBAND IN THE TOWN OF NICHOLS

WHEREAS: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Broadband ReConnect Program furnishes loans and grants to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas; and

WHEREAS: Rural areas include cities, villages, townships and towns with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest US Census Data; and

WHEREAS: The Town of Nichols fits the USDA defined criteria under the Broadband ReConnect Program; and

WHEREAS: The Town of Nichols has identified a need for the extension of broadband services to unserved and underserved areas; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County supports and encourages the extension of broadband services within the County; and

WHEREAS: The Southern Tier Network (STN) is a nonprofit open access communication organization that enables fast affordable reliable internet access in New York State's Southern Tier Region; and

WHEREAS: The Town of Nichols is in support of an application to the USDA Broadband ReConnect Program by STN; and

WHEREAS: The USDA Broadband ReConnect grant requires a match not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total project cost; and

WHEREAS: The ultimate numbers for the build out have not been finalized, but are estimated at \$1.7 million dollars; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County has pledged American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds toward the effort to extend broadband services to unserved and underserved areas of the County; and

WHEREAS: The Town of Nichols and Tioga County have agreed to provide an equal match injection not to exceed \$300,000 each; and

WHEREAS: \$300,000 will be provided using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding which will be allocated to account A1680 540140 M7674 Contracted Services with a separate Resolution provided by the ARPA Fund Administrator; and

WHEREAS: The USDA Broadband ReConnect grant application will be in the name of STN and submitted for a total of approximately \$1,275,000 in grant funds; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature hereby authorizes the use of ARPA Funds to be utilized as matching funds for the purpose of extending broadband to the unserved and underserved areas of the Town of Nichols in an amount not more than the Town of Nichols match and not to exceed \$300,000.



Serving Tioga County Farms, Families & Youth for 100+ Years

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Tioga County

343 Cass Hill Rd.  
Candor, NY 13743

607-223-2753  
tioga@cornell.edu  
tioga.cce.cornell.edu

### January 2022 CCE Agricultural Highlights

#### Prepared for Tioga County Legislature Update

#### 4-H & Youth Development

- Hired new 4-H Educator; Bobbie (Robinson) Kuhlman; a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Tioga County dairy farmer.
- Working with Candor Highschool to offer Animal Science, Environmental Ed, Small Engine Repair and Welding classes as electives beginning Fall 2022. Classes will be held at CCE Tioga headquarters: Hilltop Community Farm
- 4-H Tractor Safety series kicks off in February at Hilltop Community Farm

#### Infrastructure planning for Beginning Farmer Business Incubator and other Educational programming at Hilltop Community Farm

- Tioga County Soil and Water District assisting in wetland restoration project at new farm. Plans include a stormwater retention pond that will benefit the Pipe Creek watershed.
- Parking lot, electricity upgrades, indoor and outdoor learning areas will be other infrastructure requests in upcoming Capital Campaign.

#### Agriculture Resources Group

- January monthly report attached.

Respectfully submitted,

**T Hanson | Executive Director**

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Tioga County



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Serving Tioga County Farms, Families & Youth for 100+ Years

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Tioga County

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### Agriculture Resource Group Quarterly Report to the Legislature

ARG set out an ambitious set of priorities in 2021, and most of them were directly addressed and completed within the calendar year. These include:

- Updating the Agriculture Resource Directory <https://www.tiogacountyny.com/media/9336/arg-ag-directory-4-2-21.pdf> This resource is a one-stop shop for farmers to connect with agriculture service providers, both agencies and for-profit agricultural businesses.
- Improved ARG presence for the Tioga County Fair. ARG coordinated with CCE Tioga and Tioga County Soil and Water to have a strong presence in the fair. There were multiple demonstrations, story times by local agriculture writers, spinning demonstrations, farm toy displays, and more.
- Solar and Agriculture co-location (Agrivoltaics) research and information. Solar fields are coming to Tioga County. ARG members sought more information about doing small scale agriculture (grazing sheep, keeping bees, etc.) within the confines of a solar field. CCE Tioga hosted a Cornell Ag and Life Science intern, Leigh Miller, who did research on this rapidly evolving field, and created three fact sheets that both farmers and municipal leaders can use to make decisions regarding solar, leasing land to solar developers, and planning agrivoltaics at solar fields. A decision matrix was drafted and disseminated to municipal leaders to help them make informed decisions about permits for solar developments.
- Safety for farmers on large farm equipment and for the Amish using buggies and bicycles on our roads has been a concern of farmers for several years. ARG has been exploring the use of lawn signs to remind residents and visitors to take care when driving our roads—especially those where the line of sight is obstructed.

For our January meeting, members of ARG set out priorities for 2022. These include:

- Having a “Farm Vehicle Awareness” month in the early fall and giving lawn signs to residents to raise awareness of safe driving techniques. ARG will pay for the signs and also submit articles to media and social media to remind folks to drive safely.
- Sundaes at the Farm will return in 2022, assuming it can be done safely. Planning is beginning for a July event.
- ARG will work with the county’s agriculture teachers to help them connect with the opportunities and resources in our farming community and agriculture service providers. We envision creating a document that lists contacts, expertise, and resources the teachers can use with their students.
- Work continues on the strategies presented in the KK & P study, especially around aggregation. Possibilities include aggregation for bulk purchases of farming inputs, aggregating products for markets, and the like.
- CCE Tioga and Experience Tioga will work together to increase awareness of the agritourism opportunities in the county. We will help roll out the new Finger Lakes Farm Country tour widgets and help new farmers get listed on the FLFC website. <https://fingerlakesfarmcountry.com/>



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**Legislative Report  
February 2022**

**AGRICULTURE:**

- **AGNPSC Grant Updates:**
  - Round 23: Grants complete working close out for both Round 23 grants.
  - Round 24: construction complete of fencing and waterlines, working on solar pump issue for watering system.
  - Round 25 –Project Completed.
  - Round 26 - Implementation of fall cover crops occurred, obtained soil samples, and waiting to fall 2022 implementation.
  - Round 27- Grant awarded for 3 farms to implement stream corridor plans, including buffer and wetland components. Work plan submitted to state waiting on contract.
- **Buffer Planning & Implementation –** Staff are currently working on buffer planning for spring 2022.
- **Partnerships:**
  - ARG – Attended January ARG meeting discussed focus for 2022.
- **AEM Base Round 16 Program.**
  - 2 year contract complete work on grant closeout all funds expended (\$270,000).
  - Implementation has been completed on 2 farms that installed grazing systems along with wetland and/or riparian buffer systems. We also assisted with Riparian buffer mowing payments on 2 other farms this work is done to ensure buffers are established.
- **AEM Base Round 17 Program:**
  - Submitted a work plan for our next 2 years of funding, requesting \$280,000, with breakout as follows: \$180,000 technical assistance funding and \$100,000 for implementation, working on finalizing work plan for implementation now.
  - **BMP Verification for Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP)** received new verification list of 2022: 14 farms, 1 stream and 1 wetland project.
  - **Plan development with farms –** we have numerous farms working with the District on grazing plans (2), stream corridor plans (3), and Comprehensive Nutrient Management plans (3).
- **NRCS Contribution Agreement (CTA):** Tioga SWCD has a PE on staff, we received a contract from NRCS to support engineering workload in the watershed. 75% of our staff time is covered for design, construction oversight, and as-builts.
  - **Otsego Projects:** 5 projects underway (combination of farmstead and stream practices)
  - **Cortland Projects:** 3 projects designed and implemented, assessing additional workload for 2022.
  - **Steuben Projects:** 2 projects completed in 2021.
  - **Chenango:** 1 stream project design completed, implementation planned for 2022.
  - **Chemung:** 1 Cropland project design completed

**CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL:**

Working with NYSDEC on new contracts and agreements to support the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP).

**DEAN CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT:**

Watershed Rehabilitation Planning project with NRCS: continued work on plan. A virtual public meeting was held on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, there was good participation but no questions. Next steps will be to identify the local sponsors (County, T of Spencer and SWCD) preferred alternative based on the alternatives presented at the public meeting.

**HAZARD MITIGATION:**

- County Contract – working with ED&P on purchasing of BATool for tracking of project progress.
- NYRC Regional River Initiative: construction underway for at both projects Gaylord Rd and Fuller Hollow Creek. Fuller Hollow anticipated to be wrapped up next week; Gaylord Road was stopped for winter work and will resume in the spring. Completion date of Gaylord will be 6/1.
- Disaster Declaration 4625 working on projects funding requests.

**STORMWATER:** Town of Owego Solar project SWPPP to review.

**STREAM PROGRAM:*****WQIP grants:***

- Fox Rd. Culvert Design- design underway, expect completed design this winter.
- Owego Creek – Glenmary Drive project – developed design and engineering cost estimate, estimate exceeds grant funds, we will continue to look for other grant sources, and in the meantime will wait to see if our HMGP buyout application is successful.
- Municipal and Private landowner assistance- multiple site visits made to assist landowners with stream issues and assistance provided to highway departments on planned projects.

**MEETINGS, TRAININGS & MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES:**

- Ag Assessments: working on assessments.
- Tree and Shrub – order forms complete, posted to website and being mailed.
- Solar BMP Committee – participating in county committee, working with consultant to develop recommendations for solar project review and installation including draft Pilot language, BMPs that municipalities should consider requiring, etc.