

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

March 4, 2025

1:00 PM

- MINUTES
 - Approval of minutes of February 4, 2025

- FINANCIAL
 - Economic Development
 - Planning
 - Sustainability Management

- 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

- RESOLUTIONS
 - C06-Urge NYS to Fund State-Mandated Agricultural District 8-Year Reviews Under AGM Article 25AA
 - C07-Authorize 2025 Request for Inclusion of Land in Agricultural Districts
 - C08-Authorize 2025 North Tioga Agricultural District 8-Year Review Modifications

C10-Appoint Member (AFoster) to the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board

C11-Authorize Legislative Chair Signature on RESTORE NY Co-Development Agreement Between TCPDC and County

C19-NYS CDBG Public Facilities SEQRA Type II

- PROCLAMATIONS - N/A
- ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING February 4, 2025

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Ron Ciotoli, Keith Flesher, Dennis Mullen, Jake Brown, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: Brittany Woodburn, Linda Sampson, Elaine Jardine, Bryan Goodrich, Cathy Haskell, Jackson Bailey, Peter DeWind

Guests: JoEllen Rose, interested resident

Committee Chair Ron Ciotoli, called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): Agenda and attachments previously emailed.

I. MINUTES

- A. Approval of minutes from January 7, 2025 –Committee Chair Ron Ciotoli asked for approval of the minutes from the January 7, 2025 committee meeting. Legislator Brown made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 7, 2025 meeting, seconded by Legislator Flesher. All were in favor.

Ms. Woodburn reported the following:

II. FINANCIAL

- A. 2025 Budget
 1. Economic Development
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
 2. Planning
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
 3. Sustainability Management
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

III. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

- A. Reports
 1. Tioga County Tourism – Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet.
 2. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District – No report this month.

3. Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)– Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet. Dr. Kristi Snyder, CCE Executive Director, was in attendance and reviewed her report, highlighting the opening of the “Extension of Extension” office at the Neighborhood Depot offering office hours for the community to come and meet with staff. Dr. Snyder also reported on open positions at CCE, Campus Connection, Agriculture Outreach Programs, Horticulture Outreach, Collaboration & Research, Master Gardeners, Ag Team–South Central NY Dairy Livestock and Field Crops, 4-H Youth Development, Family Resource Center, Smart Energy Choices, and WIOA Youth Employment Program/Workforce.
4. Economic Development and Planning – In keeping with staff reporting Ms. Woodburn introduced Elaine Jardine, the County Planning Director. Ms. Jardine reported on the NYS General Municipal Law, Article 12-B, §239. This is a process the Tioga County Planning Board goes through monthly; reviewing proposed projects that require planning and zoning actions (local approvals) and makes recommendations. This process, that begins and ends with the municipality, is referred to as a 239 Review. A written report explaining this process was emailed previously and was in the committee packet. Ms. Jardine reviewed this report highlighting NYS Mandated Tasks, Triggers in Tioga County (Municipal Planning and Zoning Actions), and Procedural Facts.

Ms. Jardine also distributed a packet of information regarding the Eight Year Agricultural District currently in review and the annual request for inclusions for 2025.

Ms. Jardine reported:

- There are three agricultural districts that go by a municipality in Tioga County:
 - North Tioga Agricultural District which consists of the Towns of Richford, Berkshire, Newark Valley and the Village of Newark Valley; this is currently up for review.
 - The Spencer Agricultural District; consisting of Towns of Spencer, Candor, Barton and Tioga.
 - The Owego Nichols Agricultural District.
- There was one enrollment request for inclusion this year.
 - Resolution listed below for a public hearing to be held February 20th at 10:00AM for the one land inclusion.
- The required process regarding the North Tioga Agricultural District Review (in distributed packet) was completed by the Planning staff. The Ag and Farmland Protection Board recommends the proposed modifications to the North Tioga Agricultural District.
 - A resolution is listed below for the public hearing to be held February 18th @ 1:00PM in the Berkshire Town Hall.
- A resolution will go before NYSAC asking NYS to fund State Mandated Agricultural District Reviews to be passed at the NYSAC Conference in February.
- Ms. Jardine will put forth a resolution in March for the County Legislature to urge the state to fund the unfunded mandate for agricultural district reviews.

B. Grants

1. Active Grants – See attached EDP Grant Tracking spreadsheet. Ms. Woodburn reported there aren't a lot of changes; highlighted the following:
 - a. CDBG Public Facilities, Neighborhood Depot – Ms. Woodburn distributed and reviewed the most recent Monthly Capital Project Report that included an update and completion photos of the Neighborhood Depot project. Ms. Woodburn pointed out:
 - The facility will provide conference rooms, a large training room, and affordable rental space to non-profit organizations, such as Racker, United Way, Rural Ministry, and the CCE office.
 - The facility will serve as a community emergency shelter with temporary accommodations for 150 displaced residents.
 - The project has been completed, the certificate of occupancy has been issued, working on closing out with the State.
 - A ribbon cutting event will be held in the spring.
 - ED&P assisted in securing over \$5M in grant funding for this \$7.9M project.
 - b. CDBG Public Facilities, Catholic Charities – This is for the mobile food truck to establish the life skills café, community kitchen and food rescue programs. This grant was awarded. A resolution is listed below to accept the award and authorize the Legislative Chair to sign the grant agreement and subrecipient agreement with Catholic Charities.
 - c. CDBG Microenterprise – A resolution is listed below to enter into a contract with Thoma Development to perform administrative services. The amount, not to exceed \$43,000.00, will be reimbursed by CDBG funds. This grant program is for small businesses, with 5 or less employees, that can apply for up to \$35,000.00 in grant funds.

C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego DRI – This is the multi-site program that runs through the IDA and the ED&P staff administers; 5 active projects ongoing.
 - a. 187 Main Street, Owego- This project, just over \$250,000.00, is complete. A full rehabilitation of the 1300 square foot commercial space with the addition of a rooftop deck. Ms. Woodburn distributed before and after photos. The property owner had a 50% match. This space is for Kathy's Cakes and The Owego Brewing Company.
2. Village of Waverly NY Forward – This is moving slowly with the State trying to get the contracts out.
 - a. 607 Cayuta Avenue, Waverly – Soprano's Market is one of the business development projects through Empire State Development. They will be making exterior upgrades, parking lot improvements and a rubber roof replacement as well as proposing a patio area. Ms. Woodburn distributed a project description that included photos. This is a \$700,000.00 project with a NY Forward investment of \$420,000.00.
 - b. Continue assisting project sponsors with ESD, SEQR and SHPO processes.

3. Foundation Coalition

a. TCFC Panel Discussion at Neighborhood Depot – Mr. Lanning organized and held this event; seven foundations, approximately 35-40 people in attendance. Legislative Chair Sauerbrey reported being there with Mr. Bailey adding it was a nice event; a solid project for the nonprofit community to work together or independently to get funding for their projects.

4. Restore NY Village of Newark Valley – An Architect has been selected for this project; design services have begun as well as getting quotes for environmental testing.

5. EDP/IDA Available Sites Mapping and Website – Ms. Schnabl and Ms. Yelverton are working with Mr. Goodrich, GIS, on revamping the site mapping tool on the ED&P website. This will include updating the flyer and information on each site on the website.

D. Land Bank

1. 81 North Avenue, Owego – Demolition and interior construction work is in process. Ms. Woodburn will bring a project update with photos next month.

2. 32 Lyman Ave – Rehabilitation on this single-family home is complete and will be listed for sale shortly. A project update with photos will be brought forward next month.

3. LBI Open Round – The Land Bank is submitting an application requesting \$1.8M for rehab and demolition projects in Tioga County.

E. Workforce Development

1. Talent Supply Table Umbrella Committee – The next committee meeting in February, Mr. Lanning will host a District 214 presentation by Dr. Lazaro Lopez, “Ready by Design.” A presentation that will recount the steps Dr. Lopez took that made High School District 214 a national leader in career-connected learning.

F. Planning – Ms. Jardine reported on this process earlier.

1. 239 Reviews –

a. 2025-001: Village of Owego, Zoning Amendment, Board of Trustees – Applicant wishes to repeal §195-32 of their zoning code which requires a special use permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals for every project requiring a building permit in areas subject to flooding. Staff advised the County Planning Board to recommend approval of the zoning amendment, and the County Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of the zoning amendment.

b. 2025-002: Town of Owego, Livestock Special Use Permit, Marshall – Applicant wishes to establish a horse farm and keep three horses on their 7-acre property on Bornt Hill Road. Staff advised the County Planning Board to recommend approval of the livestock special use permit, and the County Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of the livestock special use permit.

2. North Tioga Agricultural District 8-Year Review- Ms. Jardine spoke about this earlier.

G. Sustainability Management

1. NYPA EV Charging Stations – Construction is progressing.
2. The 2024 Household Hazardous Waste and the 2024 Waste Reduction & Recycling grant applications and reimbursement have been submitted by Dr. Pratt.
3. Private Hauler's Resource HUB has been added to the Sustainability website.
4. 2024 YTD
 - a. Paid to Broome County

	2024	2023
i. HHW=	\$9,266.55	\$12,925.50
ii. E-Waste=	\$1,994.65	\$6,000.05
b. Towns/County (EWaste)=	\$2,261.20	\$679.68

H. IDA

1. Annual Report – Ms. Woodburn distributed and reviewed the DRAFT Annual Report outlining what was accomplished in 2024. Ms. Woodburn explained that the IDA is a public benefit corporation that was established in 1971 to facilitate economic and industrial development in Tioga County. It is made up of seven board members that are appointed by the Tioga County Legislature. Legislative Chair Sauerbrey and Legislator Monell both serve on the board. The Board meets monthly to conduct business.

The IDA is a one tool that Economic Development Organizations can use to help drive economic development in communities. They have programs and projects that they are allowed to offer that cannot be offered at the County level. Low interest loans, lease programs, Payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) incentives, they can acquire property, invest in infrastructure improvements to name a few.

The ED&P Department has always had a connection with the IDA. Because the IDA has not been able to find anyone to fill the vacant administrative position, some of the ED&P staff have been taking on the administrative duties of the IDA. ED&P agreed to this arrangement only until December 2024 with the understanding to revisit the arrangement.

After some discussion, it was decided to continue with the arrangement, do some research on how other counties are structured and report back to this committee with updates.

A resolution is listed below to enter into an Administrative Services Agreement between the County and the IDA.

IV. RESOLUTIONS

- B04-Re-Appoint Member (M Kiechle) to the TCLDC Board
- B05-Re-Appoint Member (J Ward) to the TCLDC Board
- B06-Re-Appoint Member (K Flesher) to the TCLDC Board
- B07-Recommend Members to the Susquehanna Heritage Area Commission
- B09-Administrative Services Agreement Between Co of Tioga and Tioga County IDA
- B10-Accept NYS CDBG Public Facilities Food Truck Grant Award and Modify EDP Budget

- B13-Filing of an application for State Assistance HHW for 2024
- B14-Request for Reimbursement for Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling State Assistance Program
- B15-Appoint Member (J Tornatore) to the Tioga County Planning Board
- B16-Appoint Member (R Ciotoli) to Ag and Farmland Protection Board
- B17-Set Public Hearing for North Tioga Agricultural District Eight-Year Review
- B18-Set Public Hearing for 2025 Annual Agricultural District Inclusions
- B20-Authorize TCEDP to Contract with Thoma Development Consultants

After reviewing the above resolutions, Ms. Woodburn asked this committee for support to move the resolutions forward. The vote to support the above resolutions follows:

- Legislator Ciotoli – yes
- Legislator Mullen – yes
- Legislator Flesher – yes
- Legislator Brown - yes

V. PROCLAMATIONS - N/A

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson
Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
A General Fund							
A6422 Economic Development							
A6422 411132 Tax On Hotel/Motel	-35,000	0	-35,000	.00	.00	-35,000.00	.0%
A6422 419890 Contribution To Ec	-20,000	0	-20,000	.00	.00	-20,000.00	.0%
A6422 421891 Other Home & Commu	-25,000	0	-25,000	.00	.00	-25,000.00	.0%
A6422 510010 Full Time	365,879	0	365,879	37,900.61	.00	327,978.39	10.4%
A6422 540010 Advertising	3,000	0	3,000	810.00	.00	2,190.00	27.0%
A6422 540040 Books	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
A6422 540070 Car Maintenance	2,000	0	2,000	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0%
A6422 540180 Dues	1,000	0	1,000	775.00	.00	225.00	77.5%
A6422 540220 Automobile Fuel	150	0	150	.00	.00	150.00	.0%
A6422 540320 Leased/Service Equ	1,350	0	1,350	203.11	.00	1,146.89	15.0%
A6422 540360 Meals/Food	750	0	750	.00	.00	750.00	.0%
A6422 540390 Mileage Expense	50	0	50	.00	.00	50.00	.0%
A6422 540420 Office Supplies	1,280	0	1,280	-585.15	.00	1,865.15	-45.7%
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 540487 Program Expense-WD	100,000	0	100,000	399.00	.00	99,601.00	.4%
A6422 540590 Services Rendered	19,190	0	19,190	.00	.00	19,190.00	.0%
A6422 540620 Software Expense	100	0	100	.00	.00	100.00	.0%
A6422 540660 Telephone	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
A6422 540733 Training/All other	4,820	0	4,820	350.00	.00	4,470.00	7.3%
A6422 581088 State Retirement F	32,928	0	32,928	3,505.68	.00	29,422.32	10.6%
A6422 583088 Social Security Fr	19,190	0	19,190	3,725.21	.00	15,464.79	19.4%
A6422 584088 Workers Compensati	0	0	0	984.92	.00	-984.92	100.0%
A6422 585588 Disability Insuran	0	0	0	48.84	.00	-48.84	100.0%
A6422 586088 Health Insurance F	47,077	0	47,077	13,906.95	.00	33,170.05	29.5%
A6422 588988 Eap Fringe	0	0	0	12.96	.00	-12.96	100.0%
TOTAL Economic Development	522,144	0	522,144	62,037.13	.00	460,106.87	11.9%
TOTAL General Fund	522,144	0	522,144	62,037.13	.00	460,106.87	11.9%
TOTAL REVENUES	-80,000	0	-80,000	.00	.00	-80,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	602,144	0	602,144	62,037.13	.00	540,106.87	



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	522,144	0	522,144	62,037.13	.00	460,106.87	11.9%

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



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRNFRS/ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
A General Fund							
A8020 Planning							
A8020 510010 Full Time	188,916	0	188,916	12,864.61	.00	176,051.39	6.8%
A8020 540010 Advertising	200	0	200	58.34	.00	141.66	29.2%
A8020 540040 Books	600	0	600	121.00	.00	479.00	20.2%
A8020 540140 Contracting Serv	22,000	0	22,000	120.00	.00	21,880.00	.5%
A8020 540180 Dues	800	50	850	813.00	.00	37.00	95.6%
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	10.50	.00	489.50	2.1%
A8020 540480 Postage	900	0	900	.00	.00	900.00	.0%
A8020 540485 Printing/Paper	1,000	0	1,000	431.45	.00	568.55	43.1%
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	-50	1,150	.00	.00	1,150.00	.0%
A8020 581088 State Retirement F	0	0	0	2,151.88	.00	-2,151.88	100.0%
A8020 583088 Social Security Fr	8,863	0	8,863	1,325.95	.00	7,537.05	15.0%
A8020 584088 Workers Compensati	0	0	0	268.64	.00	-268.64	100.0%
A8020 585588 Disability Insuran	0	0	0	13.32	.00	-13.32	100.0%
A8020 586088 Health Insurance F	40,000	0	40,000	5,512.33	.00	34,487.67	13.8%
A8020 588988 Eap Fringe	0	0	0	3.56	.00	-3.56	100.0%
TOTAL Planning	272,644	0	272,644	23,694.58	.00	248,949.42	8.7%
TOTAL General Fund	272,644	0	272,644	23,694.58	.00	248,949.42	8.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	272,644	0	272,644	23,694.58	.00	248,949.42	



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	272,644	0	272,644	23,694.58	.00	248,949.42	8.7%

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



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03								
ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED	YTD	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE	PCT	
A General Fund	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	ACTUAL		BUDGET	USE/COL	
A8160 Refuse & Garbage								
A8160 421890 Other Home & Comm	-1,980	0	-1,980	.00	.00	-1,980.00	.0%	
A8160 425900 Waste Hauler Permi	-400	0	-400	-300.00	.00	-100.00	75.0%	
A8160 439892 Solid Waste State	-30,000	0	-30,000	.00	.00	-30,000.00	.0%	
A8160 510010 Fulltime	71,743	0	71,743	7,696.62	.00	64,046.38	10.7%	
A8160 520280 Tools Large/ Power	0	4,845	4,845	.00	.00	4,845.18	.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 540320 Leased/Service Equ	2,000	0	2,000	203.11	.00	1,796.89	10.2%	
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	98,000	0	98,000	11,208.64	.00	86,791.36	11.4%	
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	7,113	0	7,113	1,451.16	.00	5,661.84	20.4%	
A8160 583088 Social Security Fr	5,303	0	5,303	808.03	.00	4,494.97	15.2%	
A8160 584088 Workers Compensati	1,195	0	1,195	179.08	.00	1,015.92	15.0%	
A8160 585588 Disability Insuran	68	0	68	8.88	.00	59.12	13.1%	
A8160 586088 Health Insurance F	11,895	0	11,895	1,921.60	.00	9,973.40	16.2%	
A8160 588988 EAP Fringe	16	0	16	2.36	.00	13.64	14.8%	
TOTAL Refuse & Garbage	266,495	4,845	271,340	23,179.48	.00	248,160.45	8.5%	
TOTAL General Fund	266,495	4,845	271,340	23,179.48	.00	248,160.45	8.5%	
TOTAL REVENUES	-32,380	0	-32,380	-300.00	.00	-32,080.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	298,875	4,845	303,720	23,479.48	.00	280,240.45		



TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 03

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	266,495	4,845	271,340	23,179.48	.00	248,160.45	8.5%

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



Tioga County Tourism February 2025

DRI Wayfinding Sign Project

A final plan is being formatted by IDS Sign Systems and local partners with guidance from NYS DOT. Once approved, fabrication and installation are next steps.

Tioga Antique Trail Campaign

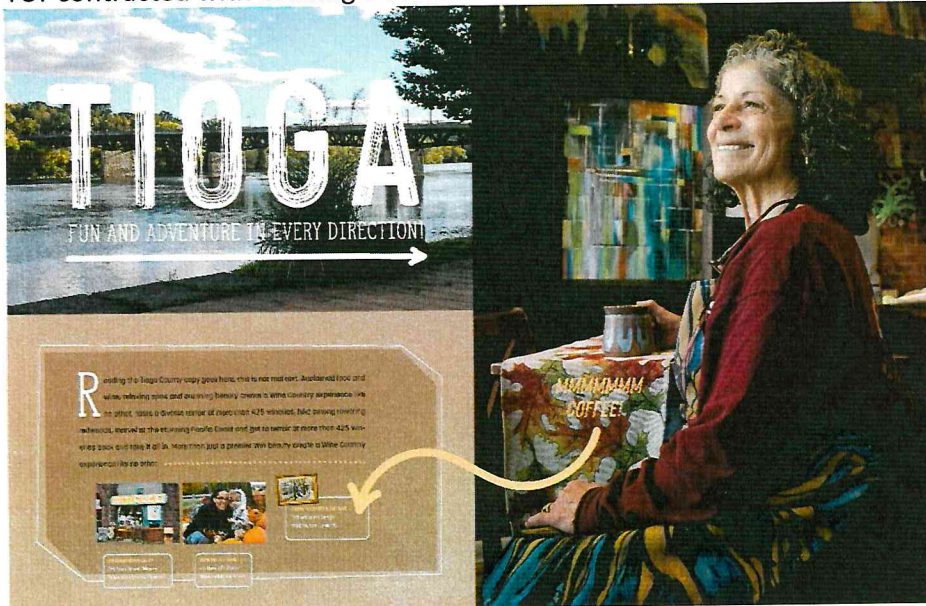
TCT created on-site promotions for distribution to antique shops around the county. Lori has delivered these. A digital campaign is being created to further promote this trail. A highway sign application has been created and will be submitted to DOT to promote this program to travelers.

Content Project Progress

Video have been completed outdoor content. River and mountain biking content shoots are complete. Communities content project has begun.

Travel Guide

TCT contracted with Crafting a Brand to create the Travel Guide. The initial proof is complete.



Paddle the 607

The website for this paddle trail is complete. Additional Tioga County partners will be added. Paddling and camping content were the focus. TCT is assisting with a grant for a signage program to further promote the trail on launch sites.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Tioga County

Hilltop Community Farm
343 Cass Hill Road
Candor, NY 13743
t. 607-659-5694
e. tioga@cornell.edu
tioga.cce.cornell.edu

February 2024 – CCE Tioga Highlights

Prepared for the Tioga County Legislature Update (EDP, Agriculture & Tourism)

Organizational Updates: CCE Tioga – *Extension of Extension Office Hours* at the Neighborhood Depot:

Tuesdays 1-4pm - Agriculture Specialist Kelly Jackson | Wednesdays 1-4pm - Horticulture/Master Gardener Jean Koski

Welcome Catlin Tucker –Community Energy Educator *Caitlin joins CCE Tioga with experience in outdoor education from Avalon Nature Preserve and at Bloc Power she conducted outreach and assisted public with energy needs. Caitlin is a full-time staff member available to assist residents with access to the EmPower+ and other energy efficiency programs (Neighborhood Depot). Contact Caitlin directly at (607) 366-0833 ext. 0*
Youth Development Resource Educator *Applicant selected, hiring announcement to follow in March*

Campus Connection:

- **Cornell Garden Based Learning Short Course for Educators** - Master Gardener Jean Koski participating to bring more community engaging information to our Gardening Groups
- **Cornell Small Farms Courses** – affordable learning opportunities for the public and they also serve as continuing education for CCE Ag Educators. Kelly Jackson enrolled in Vegetable Production to bring more up-to-date information to Tioga for the 2025 growing season.
- **Livestock Program Work Team (PWT)** - Ag educators stay informed on pest concerns and upcoming educational events to share with the farming community – working on new public educational webinars
- **H5N1 Updates** – CCE staying up to date on current status in the state and country, passing info to farmers and providing media updates) <https://agriculture.ny.gov/animals/poultry>
- **CCE educators website on Bird Flu with FAQs:** <https://cals.cornell.edu/news/2025/02/frequently-asked-questions-about-bird-flu-new-york-state>

Agriculture Outreach Programs

- **Agricultural Resource Group & Local Ag Meetings:** Tioga County Farm Bureau and ARG Meetings
- **2025 Tioga County Soil Health Meeting:** event hosted by TC SWCD, Kelly presented on “IPM Resources” and along with Kristi shared CCE Tioga Program Updates.
- **School Connections:** Jean Koski coordinating book distribution “*The Pie that Molly Grew*” and readers for Ag Literacy Week throughout Tioga County (March 17-21, 2025) >>
- **Weekly Ag e-Newsletter – “All Things Agriculture”** shared weekly to 200+ farmers in Tioga County by Ag Educator Kelly Jackson
- Daily/Weekly interactions with farmers via email, phone or Farm visits as requested. KAJ99@cornell.edu
- **Farmers Market Benchmarks** Training session (virtual) –Kelly participating in new regional CCE program
- **Beginning Incubator Farmer Program:** Recruiting beginner Incubator farmers for the 2025 growing season at Hilltop Community Farm. Contact us for more information: Tioga@cornell.edu

Horticulture Outreach, Collaboration & Research

- **Grow Line Hot Topics:** Jean Koski offering garden planning Q&A + Owego Office Hours (Wed 1-4p)
- **Tioga County Gardening Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tiogacountygardeners>

Master Gardeners

- Ongoing planning for the Vegetable Variety Trials for 2025 growing season engaging Master Gardeners
- Seed Swap preparations, locations & volunteers ,obtaining donated seeds to distribute around Tioga County and working with local libraries to support Seed Libraries throughout the county
- Demonstration gardens landscape design plans ongoing along with plans for annual Plant Sale

4-H Youth Development

- Tractor Safety & Machinery Operations Training & Certification Program for Youth (age 14+) Ongoing
- 4-H Enrollment (rolling) for the 2024-2025 year - contact us for more information!
- **SEEKING JUDGES** for 4-H Public Presentations to be held Sat. March 15th at Tioga Center School.

Family Resource Center (FRC/Family Development Programs)

“Discipline is Not a Dirty Word” 4 participants completed patenting class that concluded in February
 “PS, it Works!” parenting classes started in February, in-person at Neighborhood Depot, Owego.

Educators attended several training sessions: Family Resource Centers located in libraries, by The National Family Resource Center. Cornell University CCE Advisory Committees through zoom, Strategies that build connection and empathy with children using the power of perspective talking by Early Childhood Investigators.

Playgroup Location	# of Playgroups	# of Families	# of kids	Total # of Attendees (unduplicated)	Total # Duplicated
Spencer Library	3	8	9	17	23
Waverly Playgroup	2	2	3	5	5
Waverly Nutrition Class	3	2	5	7	10
Nichols Library	3	2	3	5	5
Spencer Inspire	3	14	18	34	70
Berkshire	3	19	31	52	77
Candor	3	4	2	7	9
TOTAL	19	48	69	120	175

FRC Success Stories: A few parents/grandparents assisted another mother at a recent playgroup. This mother was struggling to keep her child from running out of the door. They stepped in and helped watch the door, so the mother could attend to her other child. A grandparent brought in gluten free and dairy free snack, because she knew another child at playgroup had a restricted diet. **Agencies partnered with:** Church of the Nazarene, Tioga County libraries, Inspire, First Baptist Church in Waverly, Spencer-Van Etten, Waverly and Owego-Apalachin School Districts, Owego Pennysaver, WAVR, PACT DSS, Tioga County Health Dept.

Smart Energy Choices:

- Conducted outreach and engaged potential partners at the Tioga County Resource Fair
- Held 2nd Hub/Contractor meeting coordinating partnerships with weatherization contractors
- Established a panel of Community Energy Advisors from Hubs across the state to create and provide a session with state-wide contractors at the BPCA (Building Professional Contractors Assn) Conference in February 2025
- Launched local project campaign to fix 12 roofs in the region (\$50,000 campaign with Impact Project)

Local impact: Working with 9 Tioga County customers to help them access the Empower+ program and worked on 2 “no heats” to assist residents in getting heat for their homes.

WIOA Youth Employment Program/Workforce: (36) enrolled participants in PY24.

WIOA Program	Active	Follow-Up	(6) enrolled in College degree programs,
Participants	56	28	(1) enrolled in Google IT Training
GED/Diploma Program	21		(1) Participant Earned GED; (2) to take Test
Employed	17	18	(11) Actively Seeking employment
(6) in Work Experiences (Thunderbird Atlatl, Refabulous Furnishings, Tioga County, SVE High School, Raymond Hadley); (3) Newly Employed (Kwikfill and Dollar General);			
(1) Promoted to Full-time at Best Buy; (5) enrolled at Job Corp (Oneonta/Glenmont)			
Training Program	6		
(2) Cosmetology; (2) Automotive; (1) CDL B; (1) Nursing; (1) Esthetics; (1) Security Guard			

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristi K. Snyder, Ph.D. CCE Tioga Executive Director

**EDP Grant Tracking Spreadsheet - Tioga County
Mar-25**

	Applicant	Grant Source	Purpose	Status	Requested	Resource	Technical Assistance
1	Tioga County	CDBG Public Facilities – Racker Neighborhood Depot	New construction of Neighborhood Depot Non Profit Hub	Closeout in process	\$ 3,000,000.00	NA	NA
2	Tioga County	ESD Restore NY Round VI – River House Confectionery and Mercantile	Rehabilitation of 178-180 Front Street, Owego	Awarded - in process	\$ 1,800,000.00	NA	NA
3	Tioga County	ESD Restore NY Round VII – Tioga Trails	Rehabilitation of 48-50 Lake Street, Owego	Awarded - in process	\$ 1,000,000.00	NA	NA
4	Tioga County	NYS Snowmobile	Snowmobile grant program for 5 clubs in Tioga County	Awarded - in process	TBD	NA	NA
5	Tioga County	NYPA – EV charging stations	To establish 2 - Fast Charging EV Hubs in Tioga County	Awarded - in process	\$ 2,000,000.00	NA	NA
6	Tioga County	Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste Programs	Allows for Tioga County to maintain a Sustainability Manager to expand and implement waste reduction strategies within the County. Allows the County to have a safe and economic method for the proper disposal of household hazardous waste.	Awarded - in process	\$ 56,774.88	NA	NA
7	Tioga County	ESD Restore NY Round VIII, Tioga County	Rehabilitation of 81 North Ave in the Village of Owego	Awarded - in process	\$ 165,000.00	NA	NA
8	Tioga County	CDBG Microenterprise program	Provide funding for small businesses with five or less employees.	Awarded - in process	\$ 212,500.00	NA	NA
9	Tioga County	NY SWIMS	Funding to support V. Owego public pool.	Awarded - in process	\$ 24,938.00	NA	NA
10	Tioga County	NYSERDA Fleet Inventory	Electric landscaping equipment and LED light fixtures.	Awarded - in process	\$ 15,000.00	NA	NA
11	Tioga County	CDBG Public Facilities – Catholic Charities	Mobile food truck to establish life skills café, community kitchen, and food rescue programs.	Awarded - in process	\$ 243,533.00	NA	NA
11	Tioga County	EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant	Assessment grant to provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments and community outreach	Application submitted	\$ 500,000.00	NA	NA

**EDP Grant Tracking Spreadsheet - Outside Agencies
Mar-25**

	Applicant	Grant Source	Purpose	Status	Requested	Resource	Technical Assistance
1	Village of Newark Valley	ESD Restore NY Round VIII	Rehabilitation of 10 and 14-16 Whig Street, NV	Awarded - in process	\$ 732,420.00		X
2	OACSD	Congressionally Directed Spending	Build out of former maintenance building for BT BOCES / Owego Apalachin CTE programs	Application submitted	\$ 1,000,000.00	X	
3	OACSD	ARC Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA)/Area Development	Build out of former maintenance building for BT BOCES / Owego Apalachin CTE programs	Application submitted	\$ 1,000,000.00		X
4	Town of Berkshire	ARC READY Local Government Program	Master park plan for George W. Smith park	Awarded - in process	\$ 50,000.00		X
5	Town of Berkshire	USDA Community Facilities	Equipment Purchases (mower, tractor, excavator)	Application submitted	\$ 311,210.00	X	
6	Tioga Hardwoods	ESD Small Manufacturers Modernization Grant	Equipment purchases/upgrades	Application submitted	\$ 112,240.00	X	
7	Tioga County IDA	USDA RBDG	Lounsberry Engineering Plan	Awarded - in process	\$ 90,000.00		X
8	Tioga County IDA	USDA RBDG	Equipment Lease Program	Awarded - in process	\$ 99,000.00		X
9	Village of Newark Valley	ESD Planning and Feasibility Studies Program	Downtown strategic plan	Application submitted	\$ 22,500.00		X
10	TCPDC	NY Main Street	62-64 North Avenue, Owego rehabilitation	Awarded - in process	\$ 438,316.00		X
11	TCPDC	Land Bank Initiative (LBI) Phase 1, Year 3	Operational costs	Awarded - in process	\$ 200,000.00		X
12	TCPDC	Land Bank Initiative (LBI) Phase 2	Demolition and rehabilitation projects	Awarded - in process	\$ 900,000.00		X
13	TCPDC	Land Bank Initiative (LBI) Open Round	Demolition and rehabilitation projects	Application submitted	\$ 1,823,100.00		X

REFERRED TO:

ED&P / AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -25

URGE NYS TO FUND STATE-MANDATED
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 8-YEAR REVIEWS
UNDER AGM LAW ARTICLE 25-AA

WHEREAS: The 2022 Census of Agriculture outlined a concerning trend in U.S. agriculture, fewer farms, reduced farmland, and larger average farm sizes; and

WHEREAS: New York is experiencing these challenges at an accelerated rate, with a 14 percent loss in farms and a 9 percent loss in farmland between 2012 and 2022; and

WHEREAS: According to the USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture, since 2017, New York State has seen a decline of 2,788 farms, including 1,865 dairy farms and 363,885 acres of farmland; and

WHEREAS: While the state achieved a significant milestone of over 100,000 acres of protected farmland in 2023, more than 98 percent of New York's farmland remains unprotected; and

WHEREAS: Governor Hochul has proposed making investments to improve "tracking of lost farmland, and capacity building within New York's network of community led land trusts to efficiently execute Environmental Bond Act dollars allocated for farmland protection;" and

WHEREAS: Article 25-AA of the Agriculture & Markets (AGM) Law, enacted in 1971, empowered counties to create and maintain county agricultural districts to protect and promote the availability of land for farming purposes through county agricultural and farmland protection boards; and

WHEREAS: Agricultural districts are a critical tool for farmland preservation and conservation, providing benefits and protections that only apply to farming operations and land used in agricultural production; and

WHEREAS: Under Section 303-a of Article 25-AA, counties are required to conduct comprehensive reviews of agricultural districts every eight years, producing the state's most detailed and accurate data about farmland conversion and agricultural viability; and

WHEREAS: The requirement constitutes a vital but unfunded mandate on counties, requiring significant staff time and resources to complete detailed parcel-level analyses, conduct public hearings, provide statutorily required notifications, and prepare comprehensive reports; and

WHEREAS: Accurate tracking of farmland changes through agricultural district reviews is essential for developing effective farmland protection strategies and targeting preservation efforts where they are most needed; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature commends Governor Hochul for enhancing state funding for the creation and implementation of county and municipal agricultural and farmland protection plans through Part OO of the Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation (TED) Article VII legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Tioga County urges the Governor and Legislature to amend TED Part OO to include funding for the state-mandated eight-year agricultural district reviews; and be it further

RESOLVED: That since these eight-year agricultural district reviews are the primary mechanism by which New York State tracks farmland changes at the parcel level and evaluates the effectiveness of agricultural districts in protecting viable farmland, NYSAC believes state funding support for these reviews is critical to achieving the Governor's goal of improved farmland tracking; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Tioga County shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE / AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO -25

AUTHORIZE 2025 REQUEST FOR INCLUSION
OF LANDS IN THE SPENCER AGRICULTURAL
DISTRICT #1

WHEREAS: In accordance with §303-B of the NYS Agricultural and Markets Law 25-AA, the Tioga County Planning Department has solicited agricultural landowners to request inclusion of lands in agricultural districts during the designated annual period of January 2 – January 31; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Planning has received one request for inclusion of land consisting of 10.9 acres in the Town of Tioga and, therefore, within the Spencer Agricultural District #1 and prepared the required report for this request; and

WHEREAS: The County Legislature declares itself to be Lead Agency for SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) requirements for this purpose; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Planning has found this modification plan will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts via completion of the New York State Agriculture & Markets SEQR Short Environmental Assessment Form for Agricultural Districts Modifications, which is consistent with the programmatic review of environmental effects of agricultural districting by the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board has reviewed said report and determined that the land to be included consists of viable agricultural land and its inclusion will serve the public interest by helping to maintain a viable agricultural industry within the District and therefore recommends to the Tioga County Legislature to approve this inclusion of land; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Legislature has held the required public hearing and no opposition was heard; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature makes a SEQR Negative Declaration and authorizes the 2025 request for inclusion of land listed in said report into the Spencer Agricultural District #1; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature directs the Tioga County Planning Department to submit said report to the Commissioner of NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets for final certification; and be it further

RESOLVED: That it is the intent of this county legislative body, upon approval by the Commissioner of NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, to make this inclusion to the Spencer Agricultural District #1 effective immediately.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P / AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -25

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A SEQR NEGATIVE
DECLARATION AND TO AUTHORIZE THE 2025
NORTH TIOGA AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT #3
8-YEAR REVIEW MODIFICATIONS AND
SUBMIT SAME TO THE NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
MARKETS FOR CERTIFICATION

WHEREAS: Pursuant to the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25AA and upon 300-day notice by the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Tioga County Legislature has initiated a review of the existing North Tioga Agricultural District #3 to determine if it should be modified or terminated; and

WHEREAS: The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board has been requested by the Legislature to review the District and make a recommendation for revision or termination; and

WHEREAS: By unanimous resolution the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board did approve a proposed plan for modification of the North Tioga Agricultural District and made said recommendation to the Tioga County Legislature; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Planning Department has conducted this review and has created a corresponding plan based on public comments, surveys and extensive consultation with area farmers; and

WHEREAS: A public hearing was held on February 18th, 2025 and the District map and findings along with the proposed revisions were presented to the public; and

WHEREAS: The proposed district review report is comprised of the map and findings filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature for the public comment period plus new requests recorded during the solicitation period and of revisions heard at said public hearing; and

WHEREAS: The County Legislature has indicated its desire to be designated lead agency for SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) requirements; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Planning has found this modifications plan to have “ little likelihood of significant adverse environmental impact...” consistent with the programmatic review of environmental effects of agricultural districting by the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That based upon review of the above as outlined on the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets “Environmental Assessment Form” provided by them for this purpose, the County of Tioga has determined that the proposed modifications of the North Tioga Agricultural District would not have a significant impact on the environment and therefore make a Negative Declaration for SEQR purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Planning Department shall submit to the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets along with the proposed plan for District modification the “State Environmental Quality Review, Negative Declaration Notice of Non-Significance” appropriately completed to reflect this determination; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature does hereby authorize the proposed plan as revised to date, and directs the Planning Department to prepare a submission package as required by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets describing this proposal, and to submit same on behalf of the Legislature to that agency for review as described in Article 25AA; and be it further

RESOLVED: That it is intent of this county legislative body, upon approval by the Commissioner of NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, to make this revised North Tioga District effective immediately.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. - 25

APPOINT MEMBER TO THE
BROOME-TIOGA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

WHEREAS: Maureen Abbott, representing the Public Sector, has resigned from the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board effective 12/31/24; and

WHEREAS: Amy Foster has expressed her desire to serve on the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board and fill the remainder of the vacant three-year term; and

WHEREAS: The Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board has found Amy Foster willing and able to fill said vacancy; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature hereby appoint Amy Foster to fill the remainder of the vacant three-year term on the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board March 11, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -25

AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE FOR CO-DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENT FOR NYS ESD RESTORE NY ROUND 8
GRANT FOR 81 NORTH AVE. REHABILITATION PROJECT

WHEREAS: Tioga County Economic Development and Planning (TCEDP) was approved by Resolution No. 162-24 authorizing the submission of a grant application to Restore New York Communities Initiative Round 8 (Restore NY) on behalf of the Tioga County Property Development Corporation (TCPDC) to rehabilitate a blighted, vacant mixed-use building at 81 North Ave. and authorizing Legislative Chair signature on grant related documents; and

WHEREAS: TCEDP was approved by Resolution No. 116-24 to schedule a public hearing for the Restore NY reconstruction and rehabilitation project; and

WHEREAS: TCEDP received the Restore NY Round 8 Award letter dated August 13, 2024 stating that TCEDP had been awarded \$165,000.00 for the rehabilitation project on 81 North Avenue; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Legislature accepted said Restore NY \$165,000.00 award and authorized the Chair of the Legislature to sign any and all grant related paperwork contingent upon review and approval of the County Attorney by Resolution #352-24; and

WHEREAS: A co-development agreement is necessary outlining the County responsibilities and Tioga County Property Development Corporation responsibilities regarding the development of 81 North Avenue; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Chair of the Legislature or duly authorized representative (including County Treasurer and/or County Administrator), is hereby authorized to sign the co-development agreement between Tioga County and the Tioga County Property Development Corporation upon review and approval of the County Attorney.

REFERRED TO: ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -25 NYS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
AWARD – SEQR EXEMPTION/TYPE II ACTION

WHEREAS: Tioga County Economic Development and Planning (TCEDP) was approved by Resolution No. 235-24 authorizing the submission of a grant application to New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Program in the amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 and authorizing Legislative Chair signature on grant related documents; and

WHEREAS: TCEDP was approved by Resolution No. 191-24 to schedule a public hearing for the NYS CDBG Public Facilities Program; and

WHEREAS: TCEDP has received the CDBG Program Award letter dated November 19, 2024, stating that TCEDP has been selected for a \$243,533.00 award; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Legislature accepted said CDBG Public Facilities Program award of \$243,533.00 and authorized the Chair of the Legislature to sign any and all grant related paperwork contingent upon review and approval of the County Attorney by Resolution No. 63-25; and

WHEREAS: TCEDP is required to submit an Environmental Review Record which includes Form 2-5A: Statutory Checklist Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is Exempt or Categorically Excluded Not Subject to Section 58.5 Pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58.34(a) and 58.35(b); therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Tioga County Legislature determine that the Catholic Charities Mobile Food Truck project is a Type II Action and is exempt under NYS SEQRA, pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 SEQR §617.5 (c) (21) minor temporary uses of land having negligible or no permanent impact on the environment, therefore further SEQR review is not required; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Chair of the Legislature or duly authorized representative (including County Treasurer and/or County Administrator), is hereby authorized to sign the Form 2-3A Certification of SEQRA Classification as the Certifying Officer.