



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

126 N. Salina Street, Suite 200, Syracuse, New York 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax: (315) 422-9051
Paul W. Pinckney, Chairman David V. Bottar, Executive Director

August 24, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

FROM: David Bottar, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Meeting – August 31, 2022

The Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board will hold its next meeting on August 31, 2022. The meeting will feature guest presentations from Jeff Gasper, Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Tier Network, Inc., and Jim Basse, Chief Operating Officer for Empire Access.

As part of an ongoing series of meetings this past year regarding broadband internet service in Central New York, the agency is pleased to have two guest speakers scheduled for the Board meeting on August 31st. The first speaker is Jeff Gasper, Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Tier Network (STN). The STN is a non-profit, open access network telecommunications company that was formed over ten years ago through a public-private collaboration among Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board, Corning Incorporated, and Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties. The STN operates and leases bandwidth on its 550-mile open access middle mile dark fiber infrastructure network and now serves a broader eight county alliance that has expanded to include Allegany, Yates, Tioga, Tomkins, and Broome Counties.

The second speaker is Jim Basse, Chief Operating Officer for Empire Access. Empire Access is one of the area's leading telecommunications companies providing the latest communications technologies for business and home customers. The company operates across a region that stretches from Syracuse to Rochester and south through portions of the Finger Lakes and into northern Pennsylvania. The company provides phone, internet, and security systems over a dedicated fiber optic connection for customers ranging from retail, manufacturing, wineries, banks, schools, public safety, and residential. Empire Access is currently working with Madison County to use funding from a USDA Reconnect grant to buildout a new fiber broadband network in the County.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 31st, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Please note the meeting will be virtually only via a ZOOM video conference platform as shown below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83828293262?pwd=NVgraHZwTGViK3A4TjRXcGxPSjd6UT09>

Meeting ID: 838 2829 3262

Passcode: 864494

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Please contact David Bottar by email: dbottar@cnyrpdb.org if you have any questions regarding this meeting and to confirm your attendance. Thank you.



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**CNY RPDB
Meeting**

**August 31, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

Virtual “Zoom” Video Conference Meeting

AGENDA

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | Call to Order | Paul Pinckney |
| 2. | Approval of Day’s Agenda and Meeting Minutes from June 29, 2022 | Paul Pinckney |
| 3. | CNY Regional Broadband Initiative
-Joe Stark, President and CEO, ECC Technologies
-Jeff Gasper, Chief Executive Officer, Southern Tier Network
-Jim Basse, Chief Operating Officer, Empire Access | David Bottar |
| 4. | Executive Directors Report | David Bottar |
| 5. | Board Meeting Schedule
-Executive Committee September 28, 2022
-Board Meeting October 26, 2022 | David Bottar |
| 6. | Old/New Business | Paul Pinckney |
| 7. | Adjournment | Paul Pinckney |

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