



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

MINUTES

Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board Board of Directors Meeting December 4, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Board members: Julie Abbott, Pamela D. Caraccioli, Emanuel Carter, Mary Chesbro, Jennifer Haines, Beau Harbin, Kipp Hicks, Trisha Hiemstra David Knapp, Mary Ann Messinger, Brendan O'Bryan, Paul W. Pinckney, Tim Stahl, Scott Steve, Marty Voss, Troy Waffner, Austin Wheelock, and Steve Zabriskie

Guests: Gary Pereira

Staff: Michael Boccuzzi, David V. Bottar, Erica Herman, Bruce Keplinger, Amanda Mazzoni, Aaron McKeon, Allison Perry, Lindsay Speer, and Patricia Wortley

1. CALL TO ORDER

Paul Pinckney called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm at the offices of the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board in Syracuse, New York. Mr. Pinckney noted the meeting included a zoom meeting link and that several members were participating in the meeting via the link.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

A motion was introduced and seconded to accept the agenda and minutes from the August 24, 2024 Board meeting as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. USDA RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE: ENERGY PROGRAM

Gary Pereira, Energy Coordinator for the US. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development was introduced and he presented a power point presentation with information regarding funds awarded in Upstate New York over the past two years through the USDA Rural Business Cooperative Services program under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) and the Business & Industry Loan Guarantee Program for energy projects. Mr. Periera referenced a schedule in his report noting \$3.6 million in grant funds allocated to businesses in CNY and \$59 million in loan guarantees. Mr. Periera concluded his remarks by reviewing several specific projects that were funded in CNY over the past two years Starlight Acres in Munnsville, NY.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The next item discussed on the agenda was a brief program status report as presented by Mr. Bottar. Mr. Bottar noted that staff remain actively engaged in the full range of program activities as outlined in the agency's planning work program for 2024. Mr. Bottar noted the agency's NYS CAO Municipal Infrastructure Program – Phase 3 broadband application is continuing through the State's review process and a final funding decision is anticipated in January 2025. Mr. Bottar noted that as part of the project, he is continuing to meet with representatives from Cayuga and Cortland Counties to secure legislative resolutions to provide \$10 million of interim construction financing required for the project. Mr. Bottar also noted the agency has secured a fully executed contract with the USDA Forestry Service for the \$9 million grant award to the agency for the CNY Forestry Initiative. Mr. Bottar indicated this project is scheduled to begin implementation in April 2025.

5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pinckney noted there was no old or new business presented to the Board for discussion. It was noted that the next Executive Committee is scheduled for January 29, 2025 and the next Board meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2025.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was introduced and seconded to adjourn the meeting; the motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary A. Messinger, Secretary