



Cornell University
 Cooperative Extension
 Oneida County

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March 26, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 26, 2026

Time: 6:00PM

Location: CCE OC, 121 Second Street, Oriskany, NY 13424

	Count	Board Member	Position	Term	Expiration
	1	Anna Weeks	President - STEM / Community Connections	2	12/31/2027
	2	Rosanne Loparco	Vice President / Master Gardener	1	12/31/2026
	3	Hollie Wolanski	Secretary – 4H / Dog Obedience / Education	2	12/31/2027
	4	Dick Presky	Treasurer / Insurance	1	12/31/2026
X	5	John Brouillette	At-Large / Agriculture	1	12/31/2027
X	6	Kathryn Festine	At-Large / Legal	1	12/31/2027
X	7	Torie Hairston	Social Work / Education	1	12/31/2028
	8	Mary Kline	At-Large / Education / BOCES		12/31/2026
	9	Jessica Nelson	At-Large / Agriculture / Farm / Education	1	12/31/2028
	10	Howard Regner	At-Large Agriculture / Farm / Education	2	12/31/2028
	11	Paul Sears	At-Large / Master Gardener / STEM	1	12/31/2026
	12	Debbie Spinella	At-Large Agriculture / Education	2	12/31/2027
	Appointed	George Joseph	Legislative Representative	N/A	N/A
	Appointed	Paul O'Connor	State Extension Specialist	N/A	N/A

Staff/Community Attendance

1	Mary Beth McEwen	Executive Director	CCE Oneida County
2	Bonnie Backman	SBN Finance	CCE Oneida County
3	Terri Harrison	Office Manager	CCE Oneida County
4	Richelle Singer	Child Care Council	CCE Oneida County
5	Lori North	Director of Operations	CCE Oneida County

2026 Board Schedule

Date	Description
January 22	Reorganization Board Meeting
February 26	Committee Meetings / Board Orientation, 5:30PM food and 6:00PM, General Overview of Programs
March 26	Board Meeting, 6:00PM
April 23	Committee Meetings, HR 5-6:00PM, Program 6-7:00PM
May 21	Board Meeting, 6:00PM
June 25	Board Meeting – Audit Presentation, Dermody, Burke & Brown 6:00PM
July 16	Committee – Boonville Fair Legislative BBQ
August	No Meeting Scheduled
September 24	Board Meeting
October 22	Annual Meeting
November 19	Board Meeting
December	No Meeting Scheduled

Call to Order: (6:00PM)

Pledge of Allegiance:

Introductions: everyone introduced themselves

Staff Presentation:

- Richelle Singer and Katie Lambe – Child Care Council focused on the Community Navigator

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Motion to approve January 22, 2026, Board meeting minutes.

Vote:

Motioned by: Paul Sears
Second by: Dick Presky
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

Finance:

- Review 2025 year-end financials – Bonnie Backman

Motion to accept the CCE Oneida County 2025 year-end financials pending Cornell Cooperative Extension Administration year-end review.

Vote:

Motioned by: Dick Presky
Seconded by: Paul Sears
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

- Review 2025 year-end fund balances.

Motion to accept CCE Oneida County 2025 year-end fund balance transfers.

Vote:

Motioned by: Dick Presky
Seconded by: Paul Sears
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

- Notes to the financial statement including 2025 liquidity statement.

Motion to accept CCE Oneida County 2025 liquidity statement.

Vote:

Motioned by: Paul Sears
Seconded by: Dick Presky
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

Motion to accept CCE Oneida County 2025 liquidity statement.

Vote:

Motioned by: Paul Sears
Seconded by: Dick Presky
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

- Remove Kristen O’Breza as an authorized check signer as she is also authorized to sign disbursement vouchers.

Motion to remove Kristen O’Breza as an authorized check signer.

Vote:

Motioned by: Debbie Spinella
Seconded by: Rosanne Loparco
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

- Investment status update - Mary Beth will distribute the proposal.
- SNAP funding Update – In the budget for \$226,000.00 increased to \$754,406.00. Is the Board in favor of modifying the budget so financial reports more accurately reflect the budget.

Motion to revise the budget to reflect the increase of SNAP Ed funding.

Vote:

Motioned by: Dick Presky
Seconded by: Howard Regner
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous

New Business:

- State Extension Specialist Report, Paul O’Connor. CCE Oneida is strong and will check in from time to time. The civil rights and sexual harassment training will have Attorneys create the training; Board President training will be utilizing zoom and having other Board Treasurer trainings. SBNs will be reviewed which the Leads met and review which will have new agreements in October, 2026;
 HR Policy Project 8 to 10 years, compliance reviewed by Executive Directors, off campus with a legal review.
 Land grant, Federal partner in USDA, approve appropriation, flows through USDA.
 To Albany 105 visits, line staff display, requested \$3 million increase. We have been level funding for the last 20 years with a \$1.5 million increase three years ago.

Old Business

- Board of Directors Business Cards. The discussion is to have a generic business card to distribute through the Community. Since Rosanne is out in the Community through Master Gardener Volunteer, she would like an individualize business card.
- Did you Know – Everyone is receiving the ‘Did you Know’

Executive Director's Report:

- Grant from Stewart's - \$1200.00 to be used for Dairy in the Classroom supplies.
- Cornell Library Project Extended through 9/30/2026 - \$10,500.00
- Building Update is continuing with the upcoming wall removal
- Grant submissions:
 - NY Ag & Markets – Farm to School, \$149,843.10
 - Senator Gillibrand – Congressionally Directed Spending – Grant Funds Requested \$429,686.76 with fringe - \$573,129.69
 - NYS 4H – Thrive Lab - \$59,962.84
 - NY Ag & Markets – Farmers Market Resiliency Grant - \$199,007.53
 - NY Ag & Markets – Farmers Market Resiliency Grant - \$49,672.84
 - NYFVI - \$115,461.32
 - NY Ag & Markets - \$24,995.00 – Transportation for Youth to County Fairs
 - Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation - \$1,500.00
 - AARP - \$14,748.00
 - SARE - \$104,005.06
- Grants in Process:
 - American Farmland Trust – Regional Navigator
 - NYS Ag & Markets – Workforce Development
 - DASNY – NY Plays
 - 4-H Harbor Horizons, outdoor experience \$5,000.00
 - Oneida County adding \$15,000.00 for the Youth Bureau
- Staffing Updates
 - Community Energy Advisor
 - AG Workforce Development Coordinator
 - OCPM Market Manager
 - Farm Business Management Educator

Executive Session if Required: Not applicable

Time:

Vote:

Motioned by:

Seconded by:

Discussion:

Motion Carried:

Adjourn: Time: (8:20PM)

Vote:

Motioned by: Hollie Wolanski
Seconded by: Rosanne Loparco
Discussion: No discussion
Motion Carried: Unanimous