



ONEIDA COUNTY FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD



Brymer Humphreys, Chair

Michael J. Cosgrove ♦ Roger Crary ♦ Daniele Harris ♦ Paul Snider
Pat van Lieshout ♦ Carol Watkins ♦ James J. Genovese II ♦ Kathy Pilbeam ♦ George Joseph

OC Farmland Protection Board
11:00 A.M. Wednesday, March 25, 2026 Minutes
Oneida County Planning Department

I. Call to order

Humphreys called the meeting to order at 11:20 A.M.

II. Attendance

The following persons were present: Brymer Humphreys, Mike Cosgrove, Paul Snider, Matt Pawlusik, James Genovese II, Carol Watkins, Pat van Lieshout, Daniele Harris, Cheryl Colucci, Madalyn De Carr and Amanda Vinci

Guests: Danielle Salisbury

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Motion by Cosgrove to approve December minutes as submitted. Second by Genovese. Motion carried.

IV. Ag District 1 Review and Open Enrollment 2025 Update

Ag District 1 Review and Open Enrollment 2025 were certified by NYS Ag & Markets on March 4, 2026.

V. Introduction of Danielle Salisbury- Prospective Member for Agricultural Preservation Representative Seat

Pawlusik introduced Danielle Salisbury, who expressed interest in being a member of the Farmland Protection Board and would hold the Agricultural Preservation Representative seat. Danielle is a resident of Oneida County and a current Board member of the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.

Motion by Pawlusik recommending Salisbury be appointed to the Farmland Protection Board. Second by Cosgrove. Motion carried.

Pawlusik will send an appointment letter to BOL.

VI. Review of Applications for Open Farmer Representative Seat

The Board reviewed applications submitted by two Oneida County residents, Marylynn Collins and James Tolbert, seeking to fill one open Board seat. Watkins asked for consideration seating both applicants and expanding the Board. The Board discussed increased farm community representation, member responsibilities and quorum.

Motion by Cosgrove to appoint both Collins and Tolbert to the Farmland Protection Board. Second by Snider. Motion carried.

Vinci will reach out to Collins and Tolbert. Pawlusik will send appointment letters to BOL.

VII. Short EAF for Ag Districts & Cooperative Agreement

Pawlusik presented a Short EAF for the Board to review. This form could be adapted for use by the Board in place of the current SEQR. The Board will review and potentially introduce a vote at the next meeting.

VIII. Ag District 2 Applications- (Ava, Lee, Rome and Western)

There were 25,600.91 acres in Agricultural District 2 since the last review. The Board reviewed 32 new applications, totaling 2,651.88 acres. Total number of acres removed from the district was 3,468.73 due to change of owner. New total acres for Ag District 2 is 24,784.06.

Motion by Snider to approve all 32 applications. Second by Pawlusik. Motion Carried

IX. Open Enrollment 2026 Applications

The Board reviewed 6 applications. Applications were submitted by 6 landowners and included 11 parcels, totaling 289.5 acres.

Motion by Snider to approve all 6 applications. Second by Harris. Motion Carried

X. Scheduling of Public Hearing

The Board would like to hold the public hearing in early June, either in the City of Rome or the Town of Lee. Salisbury will reach out to the City of Rome. Vinci will report back to the Board.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Humphrys. Second by van Lieshout. Meeting adjourned at 1:52 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: TBA early June in the City of Rome or Town of Lee