

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
George Seneck, Sup. Tom Grace, Sup. Sally Chirlin Ted Guinn Michael Flanagan Perry Owen	Alex Larsen Bob Davis Paul Romahn	Shane Butler, Sr. Planner Rena Doing, Planner	Canice Paliotta Steven Palmatier Kenneth Fogarty Heriberto Rodriguez Karol Kucinski	Chris Lyons Paul Thomsen

Vice - Chairman Paul Romahn called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Guinn motioned to approve the November 14, 2017 minutes; second by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the November 14, 2017 239 minutes; second by Mr. Davis. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Mr. Guinn motioned to approve the December 12, 2017 239 minutes; second by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Mr. Butler advised the Planning Board members the County Planning Committee meeting dates have changed to the Thursday following the County Board of Supervisors monthly meeting. Planning Board members were asked if they wish to continue meeting on the second Tuesday of the month or change the meeting date to the same Thursday date the County Planning Committee meets. After discussion, the members present decided to table the decision for further discussion at the February Annual meeting.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier discussed the following:

- SUNY Morrisville has been awarded grant funding for the proposed Mobile Training Unit project enabling onsite employee training at companies requesting this service.
- Several School Districts have initiated a "Badging" Program. The goal of the program is to offer training modules enabling students to be better prepared to enter the workforce.
- Spectrum is currently running miles of Fiber Optic cable in the County. There are crews working along County Rte. 19 and in adjacent areas of the towns of Preston, Plymouth and Pharsalia.

Discussion continued about the progress and future availability of broadband services or possible satellite technology serving rural areas of the County.

Privilege of the Floor:

Mr. Fogarty questioned if the extension of broadband service along the NYS Rte. 12 corridor is strictly for commercial business and not available to residents. Mr. Flanagan stated individuals can tap into the service but must pay the installation fee, which could be \$2000-3000 plus a monthly fee. Mr. Fogarty commented Yates County had taken advantage of the Clean Energy Community \$ 100,000 Grant program. He questioned if Chenango County has considered applying. Mr. Butler stated County representatives had a meeting to discuss potential energy related projects for the County. Mr. Butler also stated we are aware of three (3) Towns (Guilford, Plymouth and Smithville) working on a grant application. Mr. Owen questioned if there is adequate time to survey residents to ask if they would be willing to pay for excess costs not covered by grants. Sup. Seneck stated unfortunately there is not adequate time to conduct a survey.

Ms. Paliotta commented on the Broadband Study contracted by Chenango County and what obligation does the County have to the residents. Mr. Palmatier stated the County has no obligation to residents relating to accessing broadband service. The study provided information on existing infrastructure and recommendations.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Tom Grace, Sup. Sally Chirlin Ted Guinn Perry Owen	Bob Davis Paul Romahn	Donna Jones, Director Shane Butler, Sr. Planner Rena Doing, Planner	Canice Paliotta Kenneth Fogarty Heriberto Rodriguez	Chris Lyons Michael Flanagan Alex Larsen

2018 Annual Organizational Meeting:

Mr. Guinn motioned to appoint Donna Jones as temporary Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Jones called the Annual Organizational meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. requesting nominations for officers of the 2018 County Planning Board and County 239 Review Committee.

Ms. Chirlin nominated Paul Thomsen as Chairperson, seconded by Sup. Seneck. Voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Guinn nominated Paul Romahn as Vice-Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Chirlin. Voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Guinn nominated Perry Owen as Secretary, seconded by Sup. Seneck. Voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Romahn nominated Ted Guinn as Chairperson of the 239 Review Committee, seconded by Sup. Seneck. Voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Guinn nominated Mr. Davis as Vice Chairperson of the 239 Review Committee, seconded by Mr. Thomsen. Voted all ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Jones closed the Annual Organizational Meeting at 8:24 a.m.

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the January 9, 2018 minutes; second by Mr. Guinn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the January 9, 2018 239 minutes; second by Mr. Owen. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Broadband Update:

Mr. Butler reported on the NYS Broadband Phase III awards and the companies receiving funds to upgrade/extend services into Chenango County. Companies awarded funding and designated as servicing the Southern Tier of NYS were contacted to determine if their service includes Chenango County.

- Armstrong Telecommunications: Pennsylvania organization, servicing along NYS border
- Clarity Fiber Solutions: Census blocks in Towns of: McDonough, Smithville, Lincklaen and Pitcher
- DTC Cable, Inc.: Delaware County

- Frontier Communications: No response
- Haefele TV Inc.: Ithaca, Spencer, Berkshire and Van Etten
- Hughes Network Systems, LLC: Satellite service, if feasible in the area
- MTC Cable: Catskill area
- Verizon Communications: No Fiber Optic service in this area

It is unknown if “Spectrum” applied for Phase III funding. However they have been actively upgrading service and extending fiber optic lines in various areas throughout the County in addition to connecting existing loops in the upgrade.

Consultant’s Report:

Mr. Palmatier was not available to provide a report.

Privilege of the Floor:

Mr. Fogarty stated the Town of Guilford continues to work on the Clean Energy Grant. He stated it is very important to encourage Chenango County to provide Veterans Service in the County. Sidney, in Delaware County, recently reopened a Veterans Service office.

Ms. Paliotta questioned if anyone is aware if “First Light” has any plans to provide additional broadband services in this area since purchasing “Finger Lakes Communications”? Discussion: No one is aware of any plans. Maybe additional information as awards progress. At this time it is a work in progress.

Sup. Seneck reported the Town of Guilford recently provided a “Smart Growth” presentation which was beneficial. The new website for the Town of Guilford will be available March 31, 2018. Sup. Seneck commented on the Veterans Services issue. Veterans Services were initially available at the NYS Veterans Home in Oxford, NY until NYS cut funding. Broome County has been providing services to Chenango County Veterans.

Ms. Chirlin stated she has been attending Chenango County’s Committee meetings. They have been very informative and she commended T. No. Norwich Supervisor Wansor for advocating to allow Public attendees to speak at one of the meetings she attended. Ms. Chirlin asked Sup. Grace to speak about the County Board of Supervisors meeting on Feb. 12, 2018.

Sup. Grace reported on the issue of hiring two additional staff in Behavioral Health Services. Finance Committee had recently voted against filling the positions. Sup. Grace in conjunction with Sup. Seneck opted “to test the Will of the Board” by presenting a resolution to the Board of Supervisors to fill the Behavioral Services positions at Mental Health Clinics. This action would reduce local share by \$5000, with no additional share costs required by the County. The resolution was passed by the full Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Guinn commented on the number of grocery stores closing along the main corridors (NYS 7, 8) and how it must affect individuals/families in the small villages with little or no access to transportation to purchase basic food items.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Tom Grace, Sup. Sally Chirlin Perry Owen Michael Flanagan Alex Larsen	Paul Romahn	Shane Butler, Sr. Planner Rena Doing, Planner	Karol Kucinski	Chris Lyons Bob Davis Ted Guinn

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:22 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the February 13, 2018 minutes; second by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Mr. Owen motioned to approve the February 13, 2018, 239 minutes; second by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Broadband Update:

Mr. Butler provided County maps indicating the census block areas designated to receive Broadband. One map indicated build out into NYS forest land in the County. This raised the question why Broadband would be extended into NYS forests? Mr. Butler will be contacting Phillip Rumsey, Southern Tier Regional Representative, Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, for clarification and any additional information that may be helpful in understanding the updates. Mr. Butler had recently contacted Mr. Rumsey to correct a misleading statement Mr. Rumsey made to several Town Supervisors advising them their Town would be receiving funds for Broadband upgrade, which was inaccurate. The Broadband companies were awarded the funds to do the upgrade in the grant designated areas.

Supervisor Seneck commented on the misinformation relating to Broadband service relating to available Mbps and varying costs to serve the area. In many areas the service is inadequate for students working online, Skyping, etc. Sup. Seneck is proposing writing a letter requesting accurate service information and support from our NYS Representatives: Sen. James Seward, Sen. Frederick Akshar II, Assemblyman Clifford Crouch, and Assemblyman Gary Finch.

Mr. Owen questioned if NYS provided any Broadband services or considered satellite vs fiber optic services. At this time no one is aware of any state operated/owned programs.

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported on the NYS Clean Energy Communities NYSERA grant proposal. Chenango County is currently working on four (4) required action items: Step 1- "Benchmarking" consisting of tracking all the electric usage in all County owned buildings over 1000 sq. ft. Step 2- A proposed large Solar complex in the Town of Norwich to provide NYSE&G customers with the option to sign up to the solarize program to offset their electric bill cost; Step 3- Participating in Training County Code Enforcement Officers in Solar installations; Step 4- Adopt a Unified Solar Permit

to promote a Solarized Campaign advocating for solar customers. All four (4) steps are required for the County to receive a \$ 150,000 grant. At this time there are still two (2) grants remaining with Chenango County competing with Delaware and Broome Counties for one of the remaining two grants. Adam Flint, the Community Owned Shared Renewables Working Group Coordinator for the NY Energy Democracy Alliance and So. Tier Solar Works Program Manager, is coordinating the Solarize program in this area.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier commented on the following:

- A meeting with SUNY Morrisville to discuss what training needs they feel will better prepare high school students and starting college students with workplace skills.
- Next week Mr. Palmatier will be meeting with Chobani to discuss their workplace needs. Other companies in the County have also expressed interest in developing their workplace programs.
- DCMO BOCES is currently implementing the BUZZ (Learning Management System) which utilizes online lectures, etc. and uses the classroom setting as the lab/hands on training setting. This program has been very useful to the instructor as a tool to evaluate how the student is learning and comprehends what they are studying.
- The "Badging Program" has been successful in the Pharmaceutical work programs. The "Badges" are available in phases as a student progresses through a program. It has been a useful tool in analyzing and pulling together curriculums together. Ms. Chirlin suggested Mr. Palmatier present these programs to the County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Palmatier added Chenango County United Way is working on the "ALICE" (Asset Limited, Income Constrained Employed) program to provide unskilled workers with the opportunity to move into skilled work training programs.
- Corning Company in Oneonta, NY has established a program to utilize skilled retirees on a part-time basis which has been working well for the retiree and the company.
- There is a SME (an organization supporting the manufacturing industry) article proposing a model program for students to operate a business in the school setting. A practical vs academic idea found to encourage student interaction and skills.

Privilege of the Floor:

Sup. Grace commented on the pending lawsuit Chobani has filed against the Towns of Columbus and Norwich relating to real property taxes. If Chobani wins the lawsuit it will be a considerable financial loss to the townships in addition to the County, Fire Districts, Schools and Libraries that depend on real property tax funds to operate. It has been surprising that Chobani would be pursuing this action especially having received two (2) PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) grants for their expansion programs.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Tom Grace, Sup. Michael Flanagan Alex Larsen	Paul Romahn Bob Davis Ted Guinn	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner	Steven Palmatier Karol Kucinski Canice Paliotta Kenneth Fogarty	Sally Chirlin Chris Lyons

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the March 13, 2018 minutes; second by Mr. Owen. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Mr. Guinn motioned to approve the March 13 and March 28, 2018, 239 minutes; second by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Broadband Update:

Mr. Butler contacted the NYS Broadband office inquiring about what appears on the census maps to be installation of Broadband in NYS land. If a residence is adjacent to NYS land the grant will refund the installer for the installation to a permanent residence, in addition to the distance wire that may have to be run through NYS land to reach the homeowner's property. The Broadband Office will use the Census blocks to make sure all of the houses units are covered. The grant requires the installations to provide the residence with the potential to receive Broadband speeds up to 100 Mb, and must be capable of lowest at 25 Mb download and 4 Mb upload.

Discussion continued about Spectrum's build out of fiber optic lines in the County. Town of Guilford residents voiced concern about the quality of the subcontractors work, the lack of communication and potential liability issues for property owners.

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported the Planning Department has nearly completed the Benchmarking Action Item for electric usage in all County owned buildings over 1000 sq. ft. We will be contacting Adam Flint to discuss the next step for County participation in the Solarize Campaign. The Unified Solar Permit was completed by Chenango County Code Enforcement. The last action item is a Solar Code Enforcement Training which is in the process of being scheduled.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier commented on the following:

- A meeting with SUNY Morrisville Engineering Professors to discuss training at Unison and Corning facilities. The consensus is young Engineers can design plans/products but the concepts are too difficult to make. Workplace skills are a very important component in learning and training.
- A presentation relating to the “Badging Program” will be discussed at DCMO BOCES. SUNY Morrisville is working on development of a Badge Certificate to Degree program.
- “Robotics” has been a successful program in Oxford. “Robo Rave” on April 7, 2018 drew participants and interested parties from around the United States.
- Superintendent of Unadilla Valley School system, Robert Mackey, will be meeting to discuss “Problem Exploration Entrepreneurship”.
- “Career Pathways” will be a topic of discussion in Sidney on April 12, 2018
- NYS Department of State will be hosting a “Farm to Table” program for foreign delegates again this year.

Mr. Butler commented on the “Aviation Career Day” scheduled June 8, 2018 at the Warren Eaton Airport. This event is coordinated by Ms. Martha Ryan, DCMO BOCES, in conjunction with the Rome NY Air Group. The program will focus on “Aviation Careers” with invitations to primarily Middle School students in the area.

Privilege of the Floor:

- **Ms. Paliotta** suggested a map should be made available promoting the Maple Producers in Chenango County. Discussion: Mr. Butler there was a recent discussion relating to maple regulatory issues and concerns that over production of maple products could result in over supply. It is important to keep “supply and demand” in balance.
- **Mr. Fogarty** commented on the progress of the Clean Community grant in the Town of Guilford. Supervisor Seneck added the Town moving forward with LED street lighting, and an EV charging station.
- **Sup. Grace** stated the Town of Columbus is providing grant funds to the owner of the Columbus Hotel to reopen and revitalize the hamlet/Town of Columbus. The funds were available from previous HUD Revolving Loan grants for the Community.

Discussion continued: Sup. Grace commented on the “ALICE” Report and the lack of affordable housing in the area. He stated Otsego County has started a “tiny house” building program in an effort to offset the lack of affordable housing. Mr. Butler commented on the two new Chenango County grant programs: First Time Homebuyers VIII and Mobile Home Replacement III for Chenango County residents. Opportunities for Chenango will be presenting to the County Planning Committee on how the programs are managed. Mr. Palmatier commented that too often “renters” do not respect property owner’s property resulting in major expense to repair damage. Discussion continued relating to housing issues and if any potential consideration given to housing for Morrisville students in the future.

- **Sup. Seneck** commented on Town of Guilford is working on updating their website. Encore Energy considering installation of a solar project on Marble Rd, Town property. The Hybridge LLC Windpower farm is still moving forward along County Rd. 35.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Senior Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Sally Chirlin Paul Romahn Bob Davis Ted Guinn		Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner	Steven Palmatier	Tom Grace, Sup. Michael Flanagan Alex Larsen

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the April 10, 2018 minutes; second by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Mr. Guinn motioned to approve the April 10, 2018, 239 minutes; second by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported the second of the required four action items has been approved. The remaining two (2) action items are the Solarize Campaign and Code Enforcement Training. For the Solarize Campaign there will be a “Kick Off” event scheduled, June 6, 2018 @ “Awestruck Ciders” in Sidney and an introductory event sponsored by an area business will follow.

Department Update:

- Chenango County Planning Department continues to interview eligible candidates for the Planner position.
- NYSE&G has confirmed they will be upgrading and possibly widening their primary high voltage transmission lines per FERC requirements. Numerous smaller electric generating plants have closed in recent years requiring the updates to accommodate the surge in electric demand and the Solar/Wind farms providing power to the grid. Chenango County will be affected by the transmission line upgrade. The NYSE&G high voltage transmission line will extend from the Oneida County, Marcy station, through Chenango County to the Jennison station in Bainbridge. Neighbors in close proximity to the route have voiced concern about the impact on their property and potential of eminent domain to secure additional right way, in addition to the close proximity of the high voltage lines to buildings, businesses and homes that have inadvertently encroached on the existing right of way. Mr. Owen commented on the potential of environmental and health issues that may result from the increased voltage emitted.
- The proposed Solar Project at the Evans farm, near NYS Rte. 23, T. Norwich, will apparently be built to allow reclamation of the land with the property remaining in the Evans family.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier commented on the following:

- Lack of an adequate supply of natural gas is creating an energy issue affecting Economic Development in Otsego and Chenango Counties. The NYSE&G natural gas pipeline, designed in 1953 is not able to supply NG to our current customer base reliably. Some larger businesses in the two Counties have to stop using natural gas on cold days to assure adequate supply to residential customers. A study to assess energy upgrades at companies is ongoing. The natural gas produced by Norse, in Chenango County, is piped north to Morrisville to the Dominion line. NYSE&G gets its supply from the Dominion Pipeline in DeRuyter and is one of the highest priced taps in NY with limited supply. NYSE&G did not want Norse gas due to the contamination issues. Companies are considering the possibility and cost of establishing Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) equipment on site.
- SUNY Morrisville has developed portable hydraulic/pneumatic mechanical labs for onsite training to provide basic training skill sets at manufacturing companies. Students are given the opportunity to choose a pathway. There will be a Pharmaceutical pathway available in the near future for student consideration.
- Oxford School District continues to move forward with developing NEA badging programs while other districts are still discussing the idea.
- The various programs provided have given 11 & 12th grade students opportunities to better understand their future education. Several students have started programs and as they reach a better understanding of their career options, some have changed their career destination before moving on to college.
- The "ALISON" program provides online courses. This is a helpful tool enriching knowledge to pursue a career.
- Raymond Corporation has been supportive of the Otselic Valley School plasma welding program. CNC lathe machine training may be available to potentially enhance program.
- The various training programs available in the participating schools benefit the County by decreasing poverty.

Privilege of the Floor:

- Mr. Davis stated they plan to start construction of the pedestrian bridge reconnecting two sections of the old High-bridge Rd.
- Sup. Seneck gave an update on the T. Guilford website. Spectrum has been actively extending broadband lines throughout the town and has broadband connection ready at Camp Mesorah.
- Ms. Chirlin commented there is a large parcel of land in T. No. Norwich that will be subdivided.
- Mr. Romahn questioned if anyone has considered filling the two vacancies on the County Planning Board, after the resignations of Mr. Beadle and Mr. Lyon. Mr. Butler stated he has asked the Board of Supervisors to spread the word or suggest anyone that may interested in joining from their respective towns.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Senior Planner.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Sally Chirlin Paul Romahn Bob Davis	Tom Grace, Sup. Michael Flanagan Alex Larsen	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Steven Palmatier Karol Kucinski Canice Paliotta	Ted Guinn

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the May 8, 2018 minutes; second by Ms. Chirlin. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the May 8, 2018, 239 minutes; second by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported on the “Kick Off” Solarize Campaign event, June 6, 2018 @ “Awestruck Ciders” in Sidney. To meet Chenango County’s \$ 150,000 grant goal, ten (10) Chenango County residential/commercial property owners must sign up for the program, in addition to County Code Enforcement Officers must participate in a Code Enforcement training class. If the grant is awarded to the County it will be used to upgrade energy efficiency in the County Office building. At this time the Code Enforcement class is not scheduled. Mr. Butler has been following up with NYS to schedule a Code Enforcement class in Chenango County. The number of eligible Chenango County residential/commercial “Standard Meter” accounts, if any at this time, is unknown. Residential/Commercial properties with “Demand Meters” are not eligible.

On July 11, 2018 Cornell Co-operative Ext. will be hosting an informational meeting at which time more Chenango County residential/commercial property owners will have an opportunity to participate in the program.

Several towns in Chenango County had been participating in the Solarize Campaign for a \$ 50,000 grant, unfortunately the \$ 50,000 grants have been awarded. However, some towns are still working toward acquiring a \$ 5000 grant.

Transportation Grant:

Mr. Butler reported on the transportation meeting, May 31, 2018, at SUNY Morrisville, attended by William Wagner, Jason Zbock, Rena Doing and Mr. Butler. The discussion focused on:

- The Veterans Volunteer transportation program in Watertown, NY. A member of the organization may visit Chenango County in the fall to provide more information on their successful program.

- Mr. Wagner is working with Joseph Coe, Chenango County Veterans Service Officer, seeking potential partners, volunteer drivers, to drive a van/vehicle when available. This project is still in initial stages, possibly work through the Community Thrive Program.
- SUNY Morrisville needs transportation for their Nursing Program students, 4X a week, to Path Finder Village, Spring Brook Oneonta, Bassett Hospital and Clinic Sites in the general area. Students in other programs may require transportation to the main campus in Morrisville, N.Y.
- Unison and Corning Corporation have also expressed a need for transportation of employees for potential training programs.
- Mr. Wagner stated the MMSCNY transportation program would assume all responsibility for van costs, GPS tracker, service, etc. to be available 5X a week, 2X day for a 12 passenger van or two (2) minivans. Studies indicate the 12 passenger and mini vans are safer options. Passengers or the business will pay part of the costs.
- Mr. Zbock is working on a grant proposal to be available by June 21, 2018 for a 30 week program with possible extension into summer or weekends if/when necessary.

Department Update:

- Shane Butler, Director Chenango County Planning Department introduced the new County Planner, Corey Katusha.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier commented on the following:

- Jason Zbock, SUNY Morrisville, will be applying for the "Community Thrive Challenge", \$ 1million grant. The focus will be to support workforce development for individuals receiving Public Services assistance and "ALICE" (Asset Limited, Income Constrained Eligible) individuals.
- The mobile training van carrying the portable hydraulic/pneumatic mechanical lab for onsite training has been delivered. Training kits will be available to provide basic training skill sets at manufacturing companies, in addition to applications for ARC grant funds to purchase additional equipment.
- Friday, June 8, 2018 a successful Aviation Training Day sponsored by: DCMO BOCES, Unison, Amphenol and Senator Akshar hosted ~300 middle/high school students, from Norwich, Sherburne-Earlville, Bainbridge-Guilford, Oxford and Edmeston School Districts, at the former Chentronics building adjacent to the Warren Eaton Airport. EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) was available setting up information stations with representatives from: Mohawk Valley Community College; University of Maine Aviation program; Life Net Medical Services; and Drone Companies. The Robotics program was also available.
- In 2019 a similar education program will be set up focusing on Health Care Training opportunities.

Privilege of the Floor:

- Mr. Larsen stated the first NYS&W train recently started delivering shipments, meeting the June 12, 2018 grant dead line for completion.
- Sup. Grace commented on the public hearing for the proposed Slaughterhouse project in the Town of Sherburne. There were several complaints at the Public Hearing, some were from residents in the adjacent Town of Columbus. The meeting morphed into a chaotic atmosphere with concerns expressed about the County 239 Review. Sup. Grace recommended the County Planning Board consider changing the County 239 Review, of eligible projects, to after Public Hearings. Mr. Flanagan commented the project must comply with NYSDEC SEQRA guidelines. He believes the project is still moving forward.
- Mr. Owen commented on the BOCES program and the concern many students are not genuinely interested in the programs they are enrolled in. BOCES should conduct trial interviews and teach students how to conduct themselves.

- Sup. Seneck stated the Town of Guilford is still working on their website. The Highbridge Windfarm Program will be discussed at a public meeting June 13, 2018. Town of Guilford is considering updating current fees and inquired what subdivision fees are for other towns in the County.
- Ms. Chirlin stated a recent subdivision was approved in North Norwich.
- Mr. Romahn stated the Town of Oxford subdivision fee is \$ 90 and the applicant pays for the Public Hearing Notice in the newspapers.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Senior Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Paul Romahn Bob Davis	Tom Grace, Sup. Alex Larsen Ted Guinn	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Karol Kucinski Canice Paliotta Philip Wade	Michael Flanagan Sally Chirlin

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Owen motioned to approve the June 12, 2018 minutes; second by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the June 12, 2018, 239 minutes; second by Mr. Owen. Members voted all ayes, motion approved.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reminded everyone of the Solarize Campaign event scheduled for July 11, 2018 @ Cornell Co-operative Extension, No. Broad St. Norwich, NY. At this time there are only three (3) County residents signed up for the Community Solar program. To meet the \$ 150,000 grant goal, ten (10) Chenango County residential/commercial property owners must sign up by October. The other remaining requirement is County Code Enforcement participating in a Code Enforcement training class. Isaiah Sutton is working on setting up a training.

Discussion:

- Have the local papers been made aware of the program? Mr. Butler stated they have printed articles referring to the program.
- Does the County have a Facebook page? Mr. Butler stated Chenango Co. IT Dept. has certain sites blocked and special approval would be required.
- Has placement of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station been considered, possibly at the County? Mr. Butler stated this has been discussed and looking into requirements, etc. at this time.

Transportation Grant:

Chenango County Planning Department continues to work with Mobility Management meeting with various organizations explaining the “GetThere” program, in addition to a Veterans and Volunteer Driver program

Consultant’s Report:

Mr. Palmatier was not available to provide a report.

Privilege of the Floor:

Sup. Grace stated Otsego Electric, which serves the Town of Columbus, has received a grant to provide 100mb per sec internet service. Co-Op Electric customers in areas of the T. Columbus and T. New Berlin will be also be eligible. The Carol Kinney Memorial building is scheduled to open in August. Question was asked regarding the status of the Columbus Hotel. Sup. Grace stated it is moving along possibly reopening Sept. or October.

Sup. Seneck stated the Town of Guilford website is up and running. The new town water well has been drilled, just waiting for water test results before putting on line. The Hybridge wind project proposed by Calpine Energy Solutions is a State project not a T. Guilford project. Calpine Energy will be meeting with various County/Town representatives to discuss the project. Additional information about the company and projects may be found on their website: <https://www.calpinesolutions.com/>

Mr. Guinn reported Catholic Charities has purchased the former Westcott building on Leilani Lane in the T. Norwich. The plan is to convert the building to ~ 30 efficiency units for the homeless or less fortunate individuals in the County.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Senior Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
August 14, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Paul Romahn Tom Grace, Sup. Alex Larsen		Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Karol Kucinski Canice Paliotta	Michael Flanagan Sally Chirlin Bob Davis Ted Guinn

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Due to a lack of quorum the July Planning Board and July 239 minutes were not approved.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler stated the County has reached the required ten (10) Chenango County residential/commercial property owners sign ups for the Community Solar program, completing the third action item. Isaiah Sutton advised Mr. Butler the fourth and last action item is moving forward. NYSERDA Code Enforcement staff has reviewed and approved one of the two (2) required plans and expect the second plan will be approved in approx. two (2) weeks. When this phase is complete the County is eligible to apply for the \$150,000 grant.

Transportation Grant:

Mr. Butler reported on the proposed Volunteer Driver program to provide service for non-Medicaid residents. This service would offer rides to medical/dental appointments, human services appointments, employment, shopping, etc.. A Volunteer survey form has been prepared to reach out for interested volunteers. The survey was available at the Chenango County Fair and various locations throughout Chenango County, in addition to being posted on Facebook and the Chenango County website.

Mr. Thomsen asked how this would affect a volunteer driver's insurance. Mr. Butler stated Mobility Management provides assistance with a blanket add-on insurance policy for an approved volunteer driver, in addition to mileage reimbursement up to \$500/yr.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier reported on the following:

- A group of individuals visiting Chenango County through the “International Visitors Program”, sponsored by NY Department of State, toured the Chobani facilities, Kutik’s Honey and Norwich Meadows to observe the various agriculture related businesses. One of the guest visitors works with licensing and tours of farms in the United Arab Emirates. She stated they are interested in purchasing agriculturally viable land in the United States.
- Norwich Meadows utilizes about 150 acres in various locations in the County. Their primary source for sales is in NYC. The Union City Café in NYC features products produced in Chenango County.
- Work Force Development program has secured the new equipped teaching van. SUNY Morrisville will utilize the van for training at the Corning Oneonta facility. They are developing a plan to provide similar training at Unison and Chentronics as they have expressed interest in the program.
- The Badging Program has added “Competency in Production” to their program.
- NYSDEC has expressed interest in finding a company specializing in harvesting and processing spruce. Baille Lumber and James Webb sawmills do not process spruce. It would be beneficial to the County to find a location that would work well for siting this specialized mill. The ideal location would be approximately 50 acres, in a sparsely populated area, with access to rail service.
- Discussion continued on availability of fuel to power the drying kilns. Baille Lumber uses waste wood and propane for their kiln. Natural gas is in the area but the NYSE&G lines are limited to what they can supply larger customers. There has been discussion to build a decompression station in the Oneonta area to download compressed natural gas from compressed natural gas tank trucks to supplement natural gas supply to large users during extremely cold weather. The only option available for the larger use customers is to temporarily switch to fuel oil which is expensive and dirty.

Privilege of the Floor:

Mr. Thomsen questioned what the problem is with the railroad crossing bars apparently misfiring and dropping when no trains are in the area? Mr. Larsen stated the railroad is aware of the problem and has been working to correct it.

Sup. Grace stated the “Carol Kinney Memorial” building is scheduled for the grand opening, August 18th. The Columbus Hotel has applied for their liquor license with a potential opening date October 1, 2018. The Chobani assessment lawsuit continues, the primary question is if the silos are taxable. Baille Lumber had a similar assessment problem questioning if kilns are taxable.

Mr. Owen commented on Amazon’s very large warehouse in Kentucky. It is primarily all operated by robotics. He mentions this because Raymond Corporation is utilizing more robotics.

Sup. Seneck stated on August 22, 2018, Calpine Energy will be hosting an open house workshop relating to the proposed Wind project in the Town of Guilford. The workshop will focus on the Article 10 process. Calpine stated the project is moving at a faster pace than anticipated.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena M. Doing, Senior Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Paul Romahn Tom Grace, Sup. Alex Larsen	Ted Guinn Bob Davis	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Karol Kucinski Canice Paliotta	Michael Flanagan Sally Chirlin

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the July 10, 2018 minutes; Seconded by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the July 10, 2018, 239 minutes; Seconded by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the August 14, 2018 minutes; Seconded by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the August 14, 2018, 239 minutes; Seconded by Mr. Romahn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler stated the County has received a letter from New York State Development (NYSERDA) stating the formal completion of the third (3rd) action item for the Clean Energy Communities' grant. This leaves one action item to be completed before the County can apply for the \$150,000 grant. Mr. Butler stated that he has been in contact with Isaiah Sutton of County Code Enforcement, who is coordinating the fourth (4th) and final action item. The last item is an energy codes training given by NYSERDA. Mr. Sutton and the County Code Enforcement Department has had one training with NYSERDA and are waiting on a response from NYSERDA to complete the second (2nd) training. Mr. Butler stated he is working with the NYSERDA contact to get the last action item completed.

Sup. Seneck asked if the grant project had already been approved by NYSERDA. Mr. Butler responded that the project had not yet been approved by NYSERDA. NYSERDA is looking for the \$150,000 to be recouped in a period of twenty (20) years. The County Planning Department is gathering data to confirm usage of natural gas and support the proposed project. Mr. Butler mentioned that NYSERDA is hoping to have the grant money spent soon and could be lenient on the recoup of the project.

Sup. Seneck updated the County Planning Board on the proposed Calpine High Bridge Wind Farm project in Guilford. Sup. Seneck stated that the open house held on August 22nd was well received by attendees with approximately fifty (50) people in attendance. After the meeting Sup. Seneck was approached by Calpine representatives asking if the Town of Guilford is ready to discuss land use agreements. Sup. Seneck responded that the Town was not ready at this time, the Town is still looking for consultants for legal, engineering, and environmental information to assist with the project. Sup. Seneck stated he is looking for four (4) individuals with experience in business, engineering, and environmental knowledge, residing in the Town of Guilford, to serve on a steering committee. Interested individuals would attend meetings in Albany, once Calpine has filed the proper documents. Sup. Seneck has two individuals interested in assisting the Town and is hoping two (2) others will volunteer shortly. He requested suggestions from the Town Board members. Sup. Seneck stated that he has signed a building permit for Calpine to place another meteorological monitoring tower in the town, at this time there is no confirmed location. Sup. Seneck mentioned the Town of Guilford will be hosting a training on wind energy development on October 17th from 6-10pm. Sup. Seneck has invited members of surrounding towns, the County and others.

Transportation Grant:

Mr. Butler reported on the proposed Volunteer Driver program to provide service for non-Medicaid residents. The County Planning Department has sent out letters and flyers to local churches in the County to place in their church bulletins. Hopefully this will generate some public interest in the program, which currently has five (5) volunteers signed up. Guest Canice Paliotta asked if the County could put the information on its webpage for people to find. Mr. Butler responded that he has requested I.T. to make such changes but hasn't seen it up yet. Mr. Davis asked if the program would serve Chenango County residents only. Mr. Butler responded that the program would serve only Chenango County residents but would transport them out of the County as needed. Mr. Davis stated that a local volunteer program for veterans in the area is having difficulty finding drivers.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier reported on the following:

- Blues Fest on August 17th-18th went very well this year.
- Badging program is starting for training in the healthcare related field. This would give those in the SUNY Morrisville and DCMOBOCES programs hands on experience and preference for future employers. Mr. Palmatier stated that he has interest from Unison, Centronics and Raymond for a badging program related to manufacturing/engineering. The three (3) companies, among others have job openings but are unable to fill them with skilled labor. The program would bridge that gap and provide the skills necessary for employment.
- The Morrisville badging program is waiting on the delivery of the van and course kits. Mr. Palmatier stated that companies are interested in speeding up the badging training, but training takes time to teach the proper skills.
- The A.L.I.C.E program is lacking funding and Mr. Palmatier feels this population could benefit from skills training. The training would provide them the skillset to apply for jobs. Mr. Owen commented that sometimes having the right opportunity available benefits future growth.
- Mr. Palmatier has been working with Mr. Larson, Chenango County IDA, and the County Planning Department for potential sites in the County to locate a softwood chip lumber mill. A pamphlet of potential sites will be prepared for a developer to look over. The chip mill would require less land than a typical saw mill, access to three phase electric, and rail service as priorities for proposed sites.

Privilege of the Floor:

Sup. Grace stated the "Carol Kinney Memorial" building has re-opened after restorations inside the building. Regular public hours for Saturday visits will be posted soon. Sup. Grace mentioned a major subdivision will be coming up in the Town of Columbus and the public hearing for the subdivision will be held soon. The County Planning Board will probably receive information next month.

Sup. Grace stated at the monthly Board of Supervisors meeting the Waste Management Plan for the landfill was discussed. Sup. Grace mentioned that multiple issues came up during the public comments such as the odor and the amount of recycling. Sup. Grace stated that residents at Plymouth Reservoir are affected by the smell, which according to one resident “interrupts her sleep”. Mr. Palmatier stated that the Town of Preston also has an issue from the strong odor. Mr. Romahn commented that even with best practices an odor would still be present and it’s hard to make a landfill not stink. Sup. Grace stated that he was unaware of how little the County recycles and that Burt Adams Garbage Disposal would no longer accept recyclables without a charge. Mr. Palmatier stated that the market for recyclables is shrinking, making it hard for companies to make a profit. Sup. Seneck stated that Chenango County is one of a few counties that has relatively clean recyclable products which for now makes it profitable, but that could change in the future. Sup. Grace stated that more should be done now and in the future to address some of these issues.

Sup. Seneck stated that the Town of Guilford has launched its new Town website. Sup. Seneck stated he was surprised how many towns do not have a website only webpages. Sup. Seneck feels that in today’s age having a good website is a good way to communicate to the public. Guilford has been able to post forms such as subdivision forms among others for public use. Posting of meeting minutes and public notices, such as a boil water advisory. Ms. Doing asked how the Town communicates with residents who do not have internet access. Sup. Seneck stated that the Town of Guilford still posts meetings and other information in public forums such as radio and newspaper.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Corey Katusha, Planner and Rena Doing, Senior Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Paul Romahn Tom Grace, Sup. Alex Larsen	Ted Guinn Bob Davis	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Canice Paliotta	Michael Flanagan Sally Chirlin

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Mr. Guinn motioned to approve the September 11, 2018 minutes; Seconded by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Romahn motioned to approve the September 11, 2018, 239 minutes; Seconded by Mr. Guinn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported that the fourth (4th) action item has been completed. The last item was an energy code training through Chenango County code enforcement. The closeout letter from NYSERDA has not arrived which shows NYSERDA acknowledges the completed training. Once the letter has been received the Planning Department can apply for the \$150,000 grant. The grant will be used to replace the boiler and control system in the County Office building. The Planning Department, Julie Gates of Public Facilities, Postler & Jaeckle Corp, and a member of Cornell recently had a meeting on the project. One requirement of the grant is for the \$150,000 to be recouped in twenty (20) years, the meeting was to address this issue. It was determined that through the combination of the boiler and controls the requirement for the \$150,000 would be met. Additionally the project can also use State tax incentives to lower the cost of the project. This would allow for monies left to be used for another project.

Transportation Grant:

Mr. Butler reported that the Planning Department recently had a transportation meeting with Office of the Aging, Veterans services, CDO Workforce, DSS, Probation, First Transit and others. The meeting is used to address transportation needs in the County. One such need identified is a Coordinated Transportation Plan, Chenango County is currently the only county in New York State without one. A Coordinated Plan would open up possibilities for more funding for transportation in the County. The Planning Department has been working on a volunteer driver program, currently five (5) people have responded that they would be interested. A training session for the interested people will be scheduled soon. A Transportation grant is available through Mobility Management of South Central New York, for \$20,000 towards transportation. Ms. Paliotta asked if the grant would be used for shared services. Mr. Butler responded that the grant could not be used for shared services. Mr. Guinn asked what the new grant money would be used for. Mr.

Butler responded it would be used for advertising of transportation programs, training on public transportation options, to develop a Coordinated Plan, among other possibilities. Mr. Davis asked if the program would help benefit the VA van for Veterans needing to travel for medical appointments. Mr. Butler responded that Mobility Management of South Central New York has many programs that would help Veterans or others traveling for medical appointments. Mr. Davis commented that the van is suffering from a driver shortage due to lack of volunteers. Mr. Butler stated that driver shortages have been an issue throughout the county. First Transit, which pays their drivers, is suffering from a driver shortage which has put routes with low ridership at risk of not being served.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier reported on the following:

- There is an interest to locating a soft wood sawmill and wood shavings business in the County. Mr. Palmatier has recently taken a developer for the wood shavings mill to sites in Bainbridge and Sherburne. The developer was impressed with the sites and how much information Mr. Palmatier was able to provide.
- Oxford School has a team of students that have been invited to Japan for a RoboRave competition. The students will be flying out the second week in November. RoboRave is a program to teach students and teachers how to design, build, program and test robots to perform a variety of tasks. There is an interest in bringing a RoboRave competition to Chenango County and Mr. Palmatier has already received interest from teams in Japan and other Countries. A \$30,000 grant to help fund the program is on its way to Washington D.C. now.
- The Raymond Corporation in Greene is buying houses to expand its parking lot and assembly capacity. Raymond currently produces eighty (80) trucks a day and is looking to increase that to one hundred (100) trucks a day. Raymond has opened a medical center for its employees through UHS and is going to expand the care to employee's families.
- Mr. Palmatier recently ran a lean manufacturing training program in the Oneonta area with BOCES. 450 students experienced what it was like to be on an assembly line and learn different job roles along the assembly line. Mr. Palmatier would like to have a balanced manufacturing program for students and adults available in local schools for job training. The Greene School Tech teacher has expressed interest in teaching such a class.
- Camp Pharsalia has been released by the DEC, but one lane of State Hwy 23 is on the DEC right of way. Until this issue is resolved the site can't be used as a development site. Mr. Palmatier has reached out to Senator Akshar, Assemblyman Crouch and Sup. Brown to look into the problem.

Privilege of the Floor:

Mr. Butler asked Mr. Larsen if there has been any washouts along the railroad due to the recent rain and flash flooding. Mr. Larsen responded that there had been washouts along the railroad due to the weather. Funding may be available to fix the damage, but Mr. Larsen is unsure if there is enough damage to qualify for the funding. The washouts have caused an estimated \$90,000 worth of damage to the railroad. Mr. Butler asked what locations along the railroad line were damaged. Mr. Larsen stated that he was unsure of the exact locations at this time. Ms. Paliotta stated that washouts could become a more frequent problem due to a changing climate and lack of funding. Ms. Paliotta asked if better culverts and railroad beds could be installed to help prevent future damage. Mr. Larsen stated that when the railroad was being fixed to re-open, culverts were reinforced along with railroad beds. The washouts could be a freak accident due to the unusual amounts of rain that caused flooding. Historically the railroad might have dealt with the problem themselves, but are currently asking for some funding through the IDA. More funding available through the State would benefit the repair of current railroad lines.

Mr. Palmatier stated that he is taking an exporting class through Binghamton University. He asked if anyone knew of any businesses that are interested in exporting a product to make him aware.

Sup. Grace brought attention to the lack of ambulance services in Chenango County. Many towns are struggling to find volunteers for run ambulances in the town. The town then has to contract with a neighboring town for services or use an outside contractor. State regulations on training and insurance make it difficult for volunteer departments to keep costs low. Sup. Grace felt the County should get involved and provide some funding to help towns provide emergency medical services (EMS). The County and towns may have to look into a different way to provide EMS services. Mr. Davis asked if the County expressed any interest to help at the last Board of Supervisors meeting. Sup. Grace responded that the high cost of funding the service wasn't popular with the board members. Sup. Grace stated that the Town of Columbus, which he is the elected Supervisor was able to find EMS providers. It is becoming more difficult and couldn't guarantee they would find one in the future. The City of Norwich Fire Department has been contracting with neighboring towns for EMS services but the costs are rising and as the need grows the department might not be able to meet demand. Sup. Grace felt that Towns competing for EMS services does not benefit the County or its citizens. Sup. Grace asked Sup. Seneck of the Town of Guilford how he is dealing with the EMS issue. Sup. Seneck responded that finding EMS coverage for Guilford has been terrible. The cost of coverage is high and it's hard to determine what part of the town is covered and by who. Sup. Seneck felt that a regional approach and better coordination so only one EMS service arrives at a call is needed. Cooperstown Medical service, an EMS contacted provider, is expensive and for many towns too much to pay. Ms. Doing stated that the Town of Plymouth has been experiencing a similar issue and the training and insurance mandates are costly everywhere. At one time Emergency Management Director Matt Beckwith created a district/regional plan for services. Mr. Romahn asked if fire departments could be consolidated to save costs but still provide coverage. Sup. Seneck responded that consolidation is unpopular with citizens because the fire departments are a sense of identity for many towns. Mr. Palmatier stated that with State mandates and the loss of residents in the County makes it unlikely the problem will improve.

Mr. Owen reminded members that elections are coming and expressed the need for everyone to register to vote and go out to vote come Election Day.

Mr. Davis stated that the construction of a pedestrian bridge in Guilford is underway.

Sup. Seneck updated the planned windmill training will now be held on November 8th.

Mr. Romahn brought attention to the empty seat on the Planning Board and asked what is being done to fill it. Mr. Butler stated that the Planning Department has sent notices to all Town Supervisors requesting names of potential interested members. Very few Supervisors have responded. Mr. Butler is trying to find members from towns that are not currently served on the Board. Mr. Palmatier who is a resident of Preston is interested in joining and Mr. Butler has asked the County Attorney if there would be a conflict of interest given Mr. Palmatier's work with the County.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena Doing, Senior Planner and Corey Katusha, Planner.

CHENANGO COUNTY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2018
Board of Supervisors Chambers**

<u>Board Members Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Guest(s) Present</u>	<u>Board Member(s) Absent</u>
Paul Thomsen George Seneck, Sup. Perry Owen Tom Grace, Sup. Alex Larsen	Ted Guinn Bob Davis Steve Palmatier	Shane Butler, Director Rena Doing, Senior Planner Corey Katusha, Planner	Canice Paliotta Karol Kucinski Ralph Scalzo Alan Lord	Michael Flanagan Sally Chirlin Paul Romahn

Chairman Thomsen called the monthly County Planning Board meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

Old Business:

Planning Board Minutes:

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the October 10, 2018 minutes; Seconded by Mr. Guinn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Sup. Seneck motioned to approve the October 10, 2018, 239 minutes; Seconded by Mr. Guinn. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

December Meeting:

Mr. Guinn motioned to cancel the December board meeting but still hold the 239 review at 8:30am; Seconded by Sup. Seneck. Members voted all ayes, motion carried.

Clean Energy Communities:

Mr. Butler reported that Chenango County Codes department met with the NYSERDA energy code trainers and completed site visits on two projects. A formal letter from NYSERDA acknowledging the completion of the final action item has not been received yet. Hopefully with the site visits complete it will be received soon. Planning met with Julie Gates of Facilities and Postler and Jaeckle Corp to go over project details. The grant funds of \$150,000 are going to be used to update the boiler and heating system for the Chenango County Office Building.

Transportation Grant:

Mr. Butler reported that the Planning Department recently hosted an informational session for people interested in a volunteer driver program. Fifteen (15) people attended the session, Bill Wagner of Mobility Management of South Central New York (MMSCNY) had a small presentation about the program and took questions from the audience. The Planning Department applied for a \$20,000 grant through MMSCNY and received a letter of acceptance for the grant. The grant money will be used to develop a coordinated transportation plan, promote and develop a volunteer training program, and promotion and training of MMSCNY Getthere transportation service.

Consultant's Report:

Mr. Palmatier reported on the following:

- The company looking to open a softwood chip facility is still interested in locating it within Chenango County. The Counties proximity to Frankfort New York, as well as access to rail is important for the chip facility.
- The DEC is looking to release Camp Pharsalia so that it could be used for economic development in the future. However part of State Highway 23 right of way is located on the camp's property. Before the DEC can release the property the DOT needs to release the easement. Mr. Palmatier is going to send letters to Town of Pharsalia supervisor Dennis Brown, Senator Fred Akshar, Assemblyman Clifford Crouch, and others to try and get it released.
- Oxford School has sent a team of students to Japan for a RoboRave competition. The team of students came in sixth (6th) place in the competition. Mr. Palmatier is looking to schedule a tour of GE Unison facility for the students when they return.
- Mr. Palmatier attended an adult education presentation with Jason Zbock of SUNY Morrisville. Mr. Zbock and Mr. Palmatier presented on the badging program they are developing. They were told by a head of the SUNY Colleges program that they are a year ahead of other college programs. The program is going to teach adults basic skills needed for jobs in manufacturing. The program will also be available to high school students so they have job employment skills. Mr. Palmatier commented that there are a lot of jobs available but a lack of qualified applicants to fill them.

Mr. Davis asked what the difficulties are for a company looking to fill positions. Mr. Palmatier responded that a lack of skills is one issue as well as difficulty passing a drug test.

Mr. Thomsen recognized Mr. Palmatier as a new member to the Planning Board.

Privilege of the Floor:

Ms. Paliotta asked Mr. Butler if the information for the volunteer driver program was available on the Counties website. Mr. Butler responded that the information is now available.

Ms. Paliotta asked if the railroad does or will ever be able to accept passenger cars. Mr. Larsen responded that the New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway (NYSW) who operates the railroad is not interested in passenger cars at this time. Ms. Paliotta stated that the County is looking into having a bed tax and that it would bring tourism to the County if a train ride was available. Ms. Paliotta asked what the current condition of the railroad is. Mr. Larsen responded that the rainstorms caused many washouts and damage to the railroad line making it unusable. NYSW is reluctant to fix it and the IDA is pursuing another grant to secure funds to help fix the damages. Ms. Paliotta asked if public pressure on the company would help to fix the railroad. Mr. Larsen stated that public pressure may help influence NYSW's decision, however any fix to the railroad is going to take time.

Sup. Seneck stated that the Wind Power workshop through NYSERDA has been postponed again. NYSERDA didn't think it would be able to do the training until sometime in January. A public hearing for phase three (3) of the fiber optic buildout was held in the County Office Building. The hearing was not well advertised with many not seeing or not receiving the public notice. Sup. Seneck stated that he was the only member from Chenango County Government to attend. The buildout would include some new service for McDonough and Guilford. Mr. Butler was going to follow up with the State as to the poor advertisement of the meeting.

With no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: TBD

Minutes recorded and prepared by Rena Doing, Senior Planner and Corey Katusha, Planner.