



YATES COUNTY LEGISLATURE
417 Liberty Street
Penn Yan, New York 14527
Phone 315-536-5150
Fax 315-536-5166

Leslie Church
Chairwoman
Emilee D. Miller
Clerk

GOVERNMENT OPERATION COMMITTEE MINUTES-FEBRUARY 2, 2026
PAT KILLEN, COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Killen, Leigh MacKerchar, Dick Harper, Ed Bronson, Sarah Purdy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nonie Flynn

OTHERS PRESENT: George Lawson, Rick Willson, Dan Banach, Doug Paddock, Leslie Church, Terry Button (2:49 p.m.), Jesse Jayne (Zoom, left at 2:59 p.m.), Jessica Mullins, Emilee Miller, Bob Brechko, Sheila Burt, Colby Petersen, Sandi Bastedo, Tim Groth, Chad Pierce, Molly Linehan, Kerry Brennan

Committee Chair Killen called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

Killen & MacKerchar will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the December 1st meeting were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ELECTIONS: Robert Brechko & Sheila Burt

Mr. Brechko & Ms. Burt reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Issues of significance
- January Objectives Achieved
- February Objectives Proposed
- Additional
 - Positions that are going to be up for elections this year at the towns will be published soon

SOIL & WATER: Colby Petersen

Mr. Petersen reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Sugar Creek Planning Grant
 - Good comments from landowners during the preliminary meeting
 - Will hold another meeting in March
 - Hope to have more detailed drawings and solutions to issues
 - DEC calls it Guyanoga Creek, but it is Sugar Creek
 - Mr. Banach inquired about the silt deposits making it difficult for the fish to spawn as they need gravel
 - While not directing fixing that problem, some of the other work being done should help
- Agriculture Environmental Management

- Closing out 8 grants and 3 of them have been submitted to the state already
- Have completed 165 Soil group worksheets
 - Probably end up somewhere around 200
- Soil Health & Nutrient Management Workshop
 - Will be DEC credits, but not a lot

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: Sandi Bastedo

Ms. Bastedo reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Highlights:
 - 17 Attendees for the pesticide training, 100% of them passed
 - Cut flower workshop had 47 attendees
 - Seed-to-Supper session starts on February 28th
 - Cornell Vegetable Program's Year in Review
 - Talks about the high tunnel research done in Yates
 - Natural Resources
 - Master Forest Owner Training on March 17th
 - Climate Steward Training starting on April 2nd
- Announcement
- Collaborations
- Yates CCE Agriculture and Horticulture Development Specialist Report December/January
- Upcoming Projects and Presentations
- Invasive Species/Water Quality/Forestry
- Money In Your Pocket – Vallie Castner
 - Setting up workshops with the well stations and continues to meet with families and individuals
- 4H and Youth Development
 - 4H is still in the process of hiring a 4-H educator

IT: Tim Groth & Chad Pierce

Mr. Groth reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Help Desk
- I.T. Project Update Summary
 - Laserfiche
 - Email and Exchange Project Work
 - 2nd Floor Server Room Relocation Project
 - Test will be tomorrow
 - Servers will be down
 - Not sure exactly what is going to happen
 - Palp Alto Xpanse/ASM Service
 - Network Access Control Project
 - Very time consuming
 - Data Classification Project Including SaaS migration
- 2025 Summary of Help Desk Rickets by Department
 - Total 3,836

Mr. Killen questioned the Committee to see if the following resolution(s) should proceed to the Legislative Meeting. After discussion/edits, there were no official objections.

Agendas, Minutes, Audio, and more at <https://www.yatescountyny.gov/AgendaCenter/Government-Operations-7>

- Authorized Exceptions to the Procurement Policy

COUNTY CLERK: Molly Linehan

Ms. Linehan reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Records Management
 - All of the final required reporting submitted to the state
 - Awaiting the final decision
 - Checked Laserfiche scans for clarity
 - Positive feedback so far
- DMV
 - Revenue for 2025
 - Does not have the printing for the report yet
 - Went well over what was anticipated
 - Meeting with the association
 - Digital signs to let them know of closure
- County Clerk's Office
- Financial Reports-Year-to-Date Comparisons

HUMAN RESOURCES: Kerry Brennan

Mrs. Brennan reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Community Giving Update
- Employee Relations Initiatives
- NYS Department of Civil Service Regional Forum
- Keuka College Art Display
- TV Displays
- Website and Intranet Updates
- Laserfiche Forms
- Reminder – Workplace Violence/De-Escalation Training

Mr. Killen questioned the Committee to see if the following resolution(s) should proceed to the Legislative Meeting. After discussion/edits, there were no official objections.

- Amend Resolution 46-26 Adopt 2026 Non-Union Non-Exempt Employee Wage Schedule
- January Recruitment and Turnover Report
 - Will start providing only bar graphs

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Jessica Mullins

Mrs. Mullins reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Seeking approval to move forward with obtaining a county-issued cell phone for the County Administrator and Director of Human Resources
 - The Committee agreed that it is best to keep personal life and work separate and approved the request

LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS: Leslie Church

Legislative Chair Church reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- Resolutions recognizing 100th Birthday of Yates County Residents
 - Legislative Clerk will draft a sample resolution

LEGISLATIVE CLERK: Emilee Miller

Mrs. Miller reviewed/reported on the following topics and the report was accepted as information:

- NYSAC 2026 Legislative Conference
 - March 16-18, 2026
 - At least 3 rooms still available
 - I am waiting to register through NYSAC until it is closer
- 2026 NYSACCLB 73rd Annual Training Conference
 - May 13–15, 2026

Ms. Purdy moved to enter into executive session on the basis of:

1. The employment history of a particular individual(s), attendees being members of the Committee, other legislators present, the Director of Human Resources, and the County Administrator; and
2. The employment history of a particular individual(s), attendees being members of the Committee, other legislators present, the Director of Human Resources, and the County Administrator; and
3. The employment history of a particular individual(s), attendees being members of the Committee, other legislators present, the Director of Human Resources, the Sheriff, the District Attorney, the Highway Superintendent, and the County Administrator.

Seconded by Mr. Bronson.

VOTE: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emilee D. Miller

Emilee Miller
Yates County Clerk of the Legislature