

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Via Zoom  
Friday, March 17, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** Katie Bronson, Ariel Camp, John Celso, Ryan Davis, Sarah Davis, Jennifer Geiger, Steve Griffin, Julie Maslyn, Julia Murphy, Wendy Provan, Mike Sykes,

**Guest:** Tim Pezzolesi,

**Staff:** Lynn Freid, Jen May, Michael Woloson

**I. Presentation: *Taste NY, New York's official 'eat local, drink local' program, Tim Pezzolesi, Economic Development Specialist, NYS Dept of Ag and Markets***

Taste NY highlights the quality, diversity, and economic impact of food and beverages grown, processed, or produced in New York State. The entire presentation can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhdavZtxV9w>, 19:40.

**II. Economic Development Updates**

Mr. Davis reported that Ontario County's focus continues to be on their housing study and infrastructure throughout the county.

Ms. Davis stated that Seneca County has been spearheading redevelopment efforts for the former Willard drug treatment facility on Seneca lake. An RFP was issued to have a firm come in and do a Highest and Best Use study last November and a firm has finally been chosen and will be approved at the next IDA meeting. The results of the study are expected to be returned late this summer. Things continue to be strong, but companies are still having a hard time with staffing.

Ms. Bronson shared that Wayne County is in the last stages of their housing study and completing their business park feasibility study.

Mr. Griffin added that Yates County continues to support housing and infrastructure and they are closer to completing their larger housing project. An agreement has been reached with Beacon Development, from Boston, for the project. Penn Yan School District has announced a formal job shadowing program, hopefully starting in the next 60-90 days.

**III. Workforce Development Updates**

Ontario County - Mr. Sykes - There are several OJTs in process and more beginning soon.

Wayne County - Mr. Celso - There has been an upswing in hiring and more interest in the OJT program.

NYS DOL - Ms. Murphy - The Geneva office has been assisting Rapid Response with the closure of Real Eats and a job fair for the impacted employees is being planned.

**IV. Finger Lakes WIB Update**

FAME will soon launch a campaign to select the 2023 FLCC scholarship.

**Next meeting: June, 2023**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.**