



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen
Old Commissioners Room – Oneida County Courthouse

Special Commissioner Meeting

21 JULY 2025 – 9:00 AM

* RECORDING # 250721-0146 *

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Chairman Bill Lewis, Commissioner Ken Eliason, and Commissioner Brian Jeppsen

Approve Agenda

*Commissioner Eliason motioned to approve the agenda as outlined.
Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.*

Engineering Interviews – Follow-Up

The Board of County Commissioners continued their discussion regarding engineering firm options, following interviews at the prior meeting. They considered the implications of staying with the current firm versus transitioning to a new one. Topics included how ongoing projects would be transferred without incurring duplicate costs, potential liabilities, the scope of current firm obligations, and the need for continuity in service.

Both the Road & Bridge and Planning & Zoning departments shared perspectives. Planning & Zoning expressed support for retaining the current engineer, citing active collaboration on more than a dozen projects, several of which are complex or new for the county. In contrast, Road & Bridge raised concerns about communication and support, particularly on a joint transportation project with another county, where deadlines are approaching and key steps may be delayed.

The Board reviewed terms of the current engineering agreement, which allows termination with seven days' written notice. The contract does not include an exclusivity clause. Commissioners discussed the possibility of using different engineering firms for different departments in the future, depending on project type and departmental needs.

No final decision was made. The chairman will meet with the current engineer and Planning & Zoning to discuss expectations and concerns. The Road and Bridge stated that they are currently working with Paragon Engineering and have also been working with Keller and Associates on an Arbon Highway grant.

Letters will be sent to the recently interviewed firms to thank them for their time and inform them that the county plans to continue with its current firms at this time.

Commissioners agreed the interviews were valuable in identifying firms the county may consider for future projects as needs arise.

Budget Discussion – FY2026

Commissioner discussed budgets, including consideration for donation requests made by the Malad Valley Theater Guild (known as Iron Door Playhouse) and the Oneida County Museum.

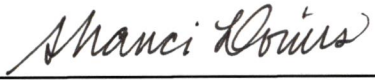
Commissioner Lewis motioned to allocate \$2,500 to the Malad Valley Theater Guild (aka Iron Door Playhouse) and \$2,500 to the Oneida County Museum in fiscal year 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 10:30am*****



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk