



**MINUTES
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday March 9, 2022 to follow Judicial**

Full recording of meeting can be found on Youtube: <https://youtu.be/jVdr8FVtX4o>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Chris Petrus, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:50PM

MEMBERS: Legislators, Tricia Kerr, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Heidi Nightengale, Lydia Patti Ruffini, Vice Chair Hans Pecher and Robert Shea

OTHERS: Chair David Gould, Legislator Mark Strong, County Attorney Chris Palermo, BOE Commissioners Katie Lacey and Cheryl Heary, Veterans Director Kevin Swab, County Clerk Sue Dwyer, Assitant County Attorney Brittany Massi, CIO Tom Bunn, and Deputy Clerk to the Legislature Amanda Morgan

MINUTES TO APPROVE: February 9, 2022, **Motion by Shea, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.**

Motion by McNabb-Coleman to approve appointments, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS:

Records Advisory Committee:

Phil Bauso, 158 Garrow St., Ext., Auburn, NY - -Term 1-1-22 to 12-31-2023 – new appt.

Veteran's Advisory Board:

Terry Baxter, 5547 Skinner Hill Rd., Moravia, NY 13118 – term – 7-1-21 to 6-30-24

Tom Crawford, 202 N. Marvine Ave., Auburn, NY 13021 - term – 7-1-21 to 6-30-24

Todd Fisher, 4179 State Rte. 90, Union Springs, NY 13160 - term – 6-30-20 to 7-30-23

Laurie Fischer, 4179 State Rte. 90, Union Springs, NY 13160 – term - 6-30-21 to 7-30-23

David Gould, 2741 Sand Beach Rd., Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 7-1-22 to 6-30-25

Karen Macier, 2 State St., Suite 2, Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 7-1-20 to 6-30-23

Tom Minicucci, 143 Burtis Point Rd., Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 7-1-20 to 6-30-23

Jim Orman, 1719 Honoco Rd., Aurora, NY 13026 – term – 7-1-22 to 6-30-25

Mike Quill, 86 Lansing St., Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 7-1-20 to 6-30-23

Charlie Ripley, 1418 Salt Rd., Moravia, ny 13118 – term – 7-1-19 to 6-30-22

Kevin Swab, 7230 Owasco Rd., Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 1-3-22 to 1-2-25

Nick Valenti, 1 Grove Ave, Auburn, NY 13021 – term – 7-1-21 to 6-30-24

PRESENTATION: Chris Petrus, re: Form of Government – **Attached**

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

Cherl Heary and Katie Lacey (Board of Elections) no updates

Sheila Smith (Clerk of the Legislature)

- I am beginning work on updating Cayuga County Policies and will be bringing them through the resolution process to be approved.

Christopher Palermo (County Attorney) – no updates

Susan Dwyer (County Clerk)

- The NYS Archives Shared Services Grant is due March 18. Michael McNeill has been working on gathering data and writing narrative since December. He is the principal writer with the other three members of the DREAMS Team Project reviewing, editing, and proofreading the information. We are hopeful that we will be awarded the grant so we can assist the Town of Owasco with their document situation and tackle a portion of the County Clerks records as well.
- The County Historian's Office submitted an article in The Citizen featuring a newly re-identified photograph of a small house on Court Street in Auburn (which would have sat in the lot next door to where the County Historian's Office is now), that was owned by Luke Freeman., son of the Freeman family who accompanied John Hardenburgh when he founded the City of Auburn. They researched Luke Freeman and found that he was a very well- known business person in his community.

- In the DMV we have been assisting the First Student Bus Company with School Bus renewals, DOT Inspections, and organizing their passenger numbers and school license plates.
- All of my 4 departments completed their USER SPACE NEEDS SURVEY.

Tom Bunn (Information Technology)

Staffing Update

- We have tentatively filled the Senior Computer Systems Technician position; tentative April 4th start date
- Bringing forth two resolutions to create two new County positions:
 - Senior Systems Administrator
 - Senior Network Administrator

IT Help Desk data – February 2022

- 411 new support tickets were created
- 97% support tickets were resolved (403)
- Average resolution time (per ticket) – 2.2 hours

Active Projects

Upgrade Chambers audio/video solution

Phase I of project complete – Support and training of new system has been delivered

Phase II will improve audio experience for those attending in-person

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) solution

- Solution set for March 4th implementation
- Communication will occur week of February 28th

Streamline IT functions and processes

- Papercut print management solution complete

Future Projects

Project plan underway to redesign/enhance Network and Server infrastructure

- Very large project in scope, met with two vendors to discuss project scope
- Updates will be forthcoming

Project plan underway to implement Office/Microsoft365

- Early stages of project; meeting with various vendors
 - Training will be critical
- Will provide several benefits
 - Anywhere access
 - Secure cloud storage
 - Business Continuity
 - Centralized Collaboration
- Updates will be forthcoming

Kevin Swab (Veterans)

In February 2022 the VSA assisted/fielded/supported:

- 26 general VA claim questions,
- 5 disability claims started
- 12 pending claims being monitored
- 7 pension/dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC)/aid and attendance (A&A) claims worked
- 15 requests for military records dispositions
- 7 healthcare inquiries
- 9 Veteran burial claim requests
- 42 miscellaneous Veteran related inquiries
- transported Veterans for 54 appointments at Syracuse VA

RESOLUTIONS

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Motion by Kerr to bundle GO 1 & 2, 2nd by Pecher, all in favor.

3-22-GO-1 Authorizing the County Attorney to fill an open Assistant County Attorney Position

3-22-GO-2 Re-Appointed the Cayuga County Attorney for a two Year Term

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

3-22-GO-3 Authorizing to create and fill a Senior Network Administrator position in the Cayuga County Information Technology Department. **Motion by Pecher, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**

3-22-GO-4 Authorizing to create and fill a Senior Systems Administrator position in the Cayuga County Information Technology Department. **Motion by Shea, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.**

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

3-22-GO-5 Approval of Revised SUNY Capital Request/Plan Resolution. Motion by Kerr, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman. **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman, all in favor.**

Motion by Kerr to adjourn at 8:11PM, 2nd by McNabb-Coleman, all in favor.



ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

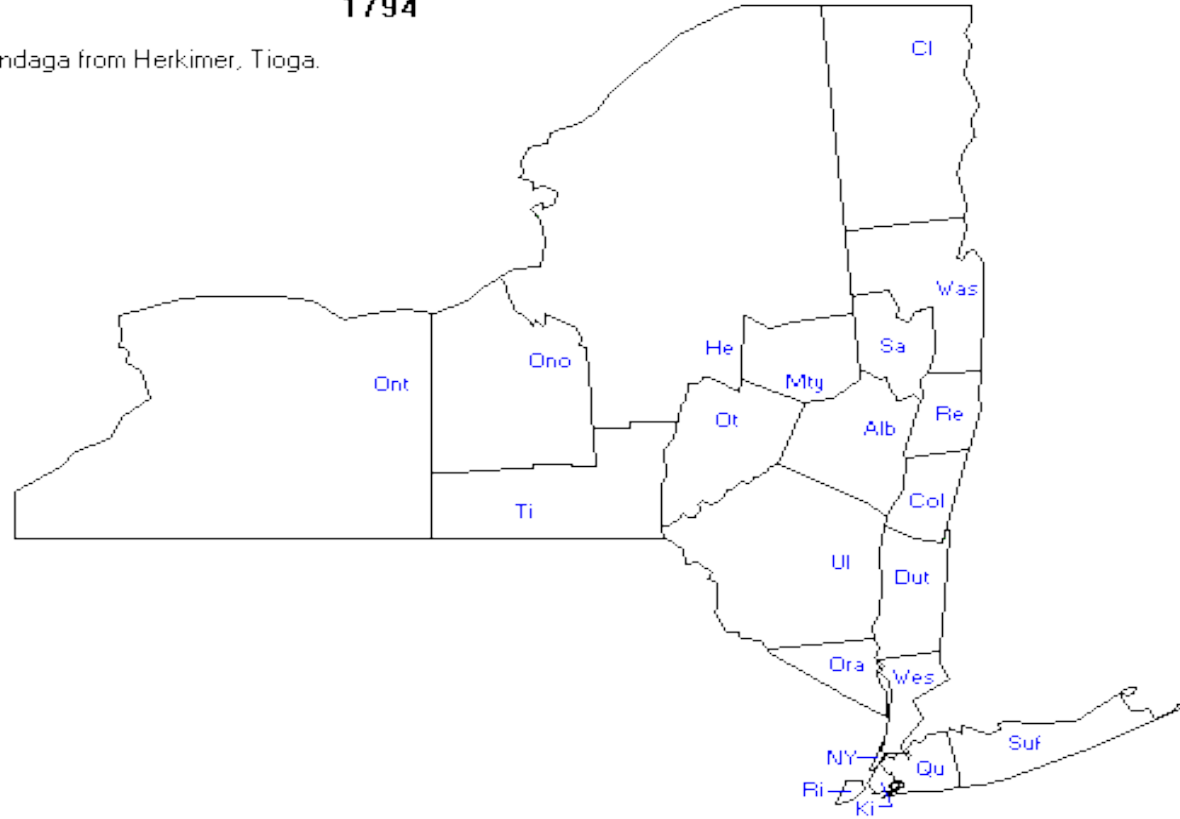
Government Operations

March 9, 2022

HISTORY

1794

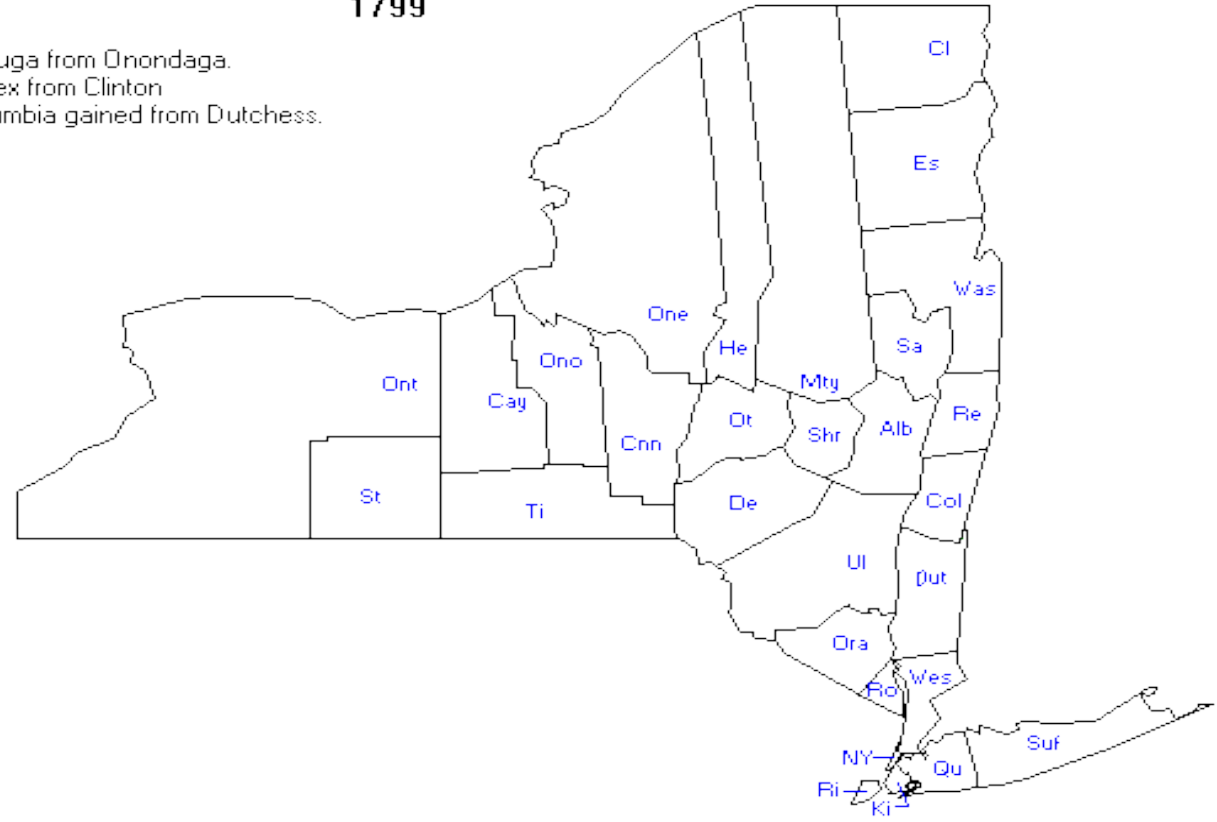
Onondaga from Herkimer, Tioga.



HISTORY

1799

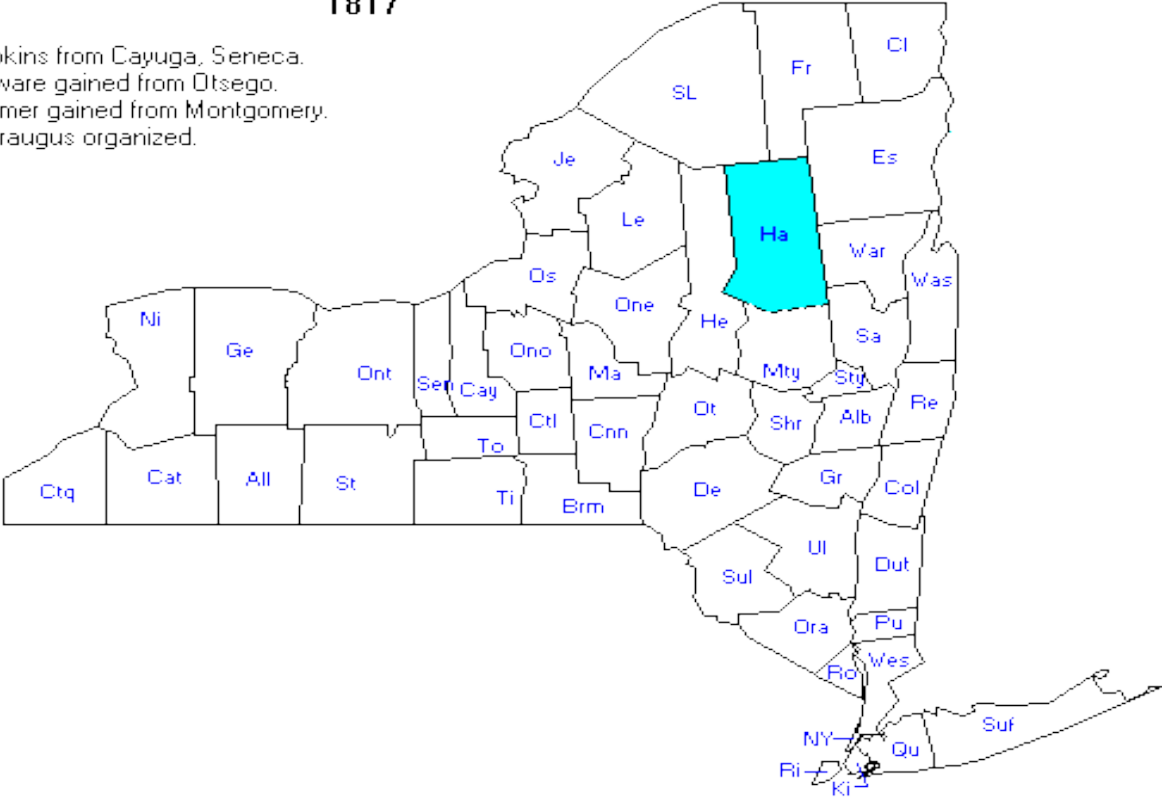
Cayuga from Onondaga.
Essex from Clinton
Columbia gained from Dutchess.



HISTORY

1817

Tompkins from Cayuga, Seneca.
Delaware gained from Otsego.
Herkimer gained from Montgomery.
Cattaraugus organized.



- Board of Supervisors: government body that oversees the operation of County government
- County Legislative Body Composition
- City of Auburn adopted charter March 8th, 1896
- BOS still in operation in 16 NY Counties



HISTORY

ADOPTING A CHARTER

- Article IX of the State Constitution establishes the “Bill of Rights for Local Governments”
- Grants power to local municipalities
- No provision for elected County Executive

ADOPTING A CHARTER

- Article 4 Municipal Home Rule Law
- Empowers Counties to adopt a Charter
- Initiated by:
 - Resolution
 - OR
 - Petition

ADOPTING A CHARTER

Charter:

Charters stand in relationship to a county, city, village, or town the same way that a state constitution does to a state or a federal constitution does to a nation.

They define the powers and functions of elected officials as well as the organization and procedures of local government.

ADOPTING A CHARTER

- Level of detail included in the Charter
 - Long-Form vs Short-Form
 - Long-Form: Voluminous body of work with exhausted level of detail
 - Short-Form: “The short-form charter makes it possible to present to the voters a relatively simple, more easily understood document in which only essential organizational matters are covered, along with basic allocations of power, duties and authority.” (Adopting and Amending County Charters)

ADOPTING A CHARTER

- Voter Referendum
 - Requires significant voter education and advocacy
 - BOE by August to have on fall ballot

BENEFITS OF A CHARTER

- Home Rule Law
- Redistricting
- Delineation of Powers
- Establishing Officers (Executive, Comptroller)
- Accountability to the electorate

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

County Executive

- A **county executive** is the head of the executive branch of government in a County.
- The executive may be an elected or an appointed position. When elected, he or she typically functions either as a voting member of the elected county government, or may have veto power similar to other elected executives such as a governor or mayor.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

- Local Law 7 of 2017
 - Replaced Local Law 10 of 2010
 - Attempted to address the growing need for someone to manage the day-to-day operations of the County.

PROPOSAL

- Legislative Initiative Charter
- Short-Form
- Establish Executive
- Address Redistricting
- Submit for Voter Referendum

TASKS

- Develop Charter Committee
- Draft Short-Form Charter/Template
- Committee presents draft to Legislature for Vote
- Legislature vote on resolution
- Submit to BOE to be put on ballot
- Public education and advocacy

TASKS

- Voter Approval
- Implementation
 - Elect Executive
 - New Legislative Districts