



Tioga County REAP LDC Board
September 16, 2026, at 12:00 PM
Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

- **Call to Order**
12:07pm, no quorum
Quorum was met at 12:37pm
- **Roll Call**
 - Attendance: Marley Norton, Edgar VanScoy, Ladd Yost, Christina Brown, Robert Williams (Joined at 12:37pm), Danielle Singer (Joined at 12:50pm)
 - Guests: Brenda Smith
 - Excused: Christine Lester, Ann Hill
- **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of May 13 meeting minutes
 - **Motion:** E. VanScoy, 2nd C. Brown, All in Favor/Carried
- **Reports**
 - **Treasurer's Report** – Sent prior to meeting, all reviewed and acknowledged the report. Nothing has changed since prior meeting. Motion: E. VanScoy, 2nd: L. Yost All in favor/carried.
 - **President's Report** – No formal report, discussing recent activities in New Business.
 - **Brenda Smith, USDA RD Community Programs Director** – B. Smith shared that REAP is in between applications periods now. Applications were due by August 15th. Money was pulled back and no CF or WEP Funds were given out in NY. WEP money was transferred to Vermont. Final numbers are not out yet. There was some Tioga interest, but no applications submitted.
- **Unfinished Business**
 - **Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosures 2026** – M. Norton reminded board members to send in their disclosures and will re-send to those who have not submitted.
 - **Board Member Recruitment Strategy** – M. Norton has not heard from any municipalities that are not yet represented. M. Norton will continue to push the programs and look for members. Also reaching out to each municipality for funding priorities and seeing if they align with REAP.
 - **REAP 2026 Action Plan Updated** – M. Norton will send the current Action Plan to E. VanScoy, NYCON offers a plan review and will be beneficial. E. VanScoy will put in an inquiry through NYCON for plan review, which is included in the \$60 a year membership.
- **New Business**
 - **Village of Spencer Fire at Shurfine** – Discussed possible ways to help. USDA has a disaster assistance fund, but the grocery business is not eligible. REAP is not the appropriate program but Team Tioga will try to reach out to the owner and offer help if possible after insurance is settled. Discussed Catholic Charities potentially helping with food supply if possible. Tioga County Food Alliance meeting on Monday September 21st to discuss sustainable plan. M. Norton will send more information via email.

- **REAP interest** – V. of Waverly not eligible for REAP grant funding for current water project due to EDU numbers. Tioga County Chamber of Commerce was interested in RBDG to support their small business incubator, but did not submit an application. Possibly will apply next round. Tioga County Tourism was granted \$99,000 in RBDG funds for marketing, website design, etc. M. Norton shared more information via shared screen. M. Norton will reach out to Wetlands Brewery to get video and picture of the REAP equipment to post on social media. Their business is doing well and they are very busy, so scheduling will be important.
- **NYCON** – Paid \$60 in May, expires at the end of December. All agree that NYCON can be beneficial and E. VanScoy is going to try to attend the NYCON Orientation. Motion to pay for re-registering for NYCON: E. VanScoy, 2nd: R. Williams, All in favor/carried
- **Town Fees Discussion** – E. VanScoy shared that town fees can be lowered from \$00.10 per person to \$00.05 cents per person. REAP does not require as high of operational costs as in the past. This will decrease the overall fees requested from \$10,000 to \$5,000. Not all municipalities pay into the fees currently. E. VanScoy believes lowering the cost may also help with buy-in. C. Brown will send the fee track list for the municipalities that have paid in the past. Motion: E. VanScoy, 2nd: R. Williams. All in favor/carried.
- **Announcements**
 - One-Minute Updates
 - Team Tioga: Offering a \$35,000 small business grant program. Currently open and will remain open through October 13th. The program is for new and existing small business owners with less than 5 employees. For equipment, fixtures, inventory, training, TA and capital. There is a LMI requirement. M. Norton will share the flyer with the group.
 - TC Soil & Water has had successful pasture walks and other summer events. Currently in grant season.
 - **NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, January 13th @ Noon – Microsoft Teams**
- **Adjournment:** 12:53pm