

APPROVED

TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Office of the County Attorney

Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building 56 Main Street Owego, NY 13827

Peter J. DeWind County Attorney ☎ 607 687 8253 📠 607 223 7003 🌐 www.TiogaCountyNY.com



FINANCE, LEGAL AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 13, 2026

10:30 A.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Legislators: Chair Monell, Ciotoli, Standinger, Flesher, Brown, Bunce, Aronstam, Rose, Cantella

Staff: Legislative Clerk Haskell, County Administrator Bailey, County Attorney DeWind, Treasurer Roberts, Deputy Treasurer Chandler, Safety Officer Holbrook

Guest(s): N/A

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Chair Monell asked for a motion to approve December 09, 2025, minutes. Legislator Brown made the motion seconded by Legislator Ciotoli and was unanimously carried.

FINANCIAL: Safety's and Legal's budgets are tracking well. Legal does have outstanding litigation invoices from 2025 that will still need to be processed upon receipt. Safety is exploring the costs of updating expiring AED units in county buildings

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Litigation and Claims:** Notice of Claims from the 2025 In Rem auction have started being served on the County for the return of surplus funds.
- **Annual Compliance Training:** There are approximately fifteen employees who still need to complete their annual trainings for 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Soil and Water Conservation Lease:** Soil and Water would like to continue their lease with the County. Legal has submitted a resolution to extend said lease for an additional ten-year period.
- **Proposed MOU with Sub-Municipalities for CDL Drug Screening:** Ms. Holbrook would like to enter into an MOU with sub-municipalities to clearly set the expectations of the program to avoid any issues that may arise from sub-municipalities incorrectly administering their CDL drug screening program.

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- Remote Work Agreements: Attorneys DeWind and Lanouette and Ms. Holbrook will be submitting requests for remote work for 2026. They will work remotely only as needed.
- Ethics Board Appointments: There are three Ethics Board sets that expire on March 31, 2026. Two of the board members are eligible for re-appointment for a second term but the third board member has served two terms and will need to be replaced. When the Ethics Board was originally set up there was not a breakdown of who appointed which members. Legislator Rose stated she would like to see the board diversified with the appointment of board members from the No Party Affiliation (NPA) along with the democratic and republican members. Legislator Aronstam stated he would like Attorney DeWind to determine which seats belong to which appointing party.
- Open Meeting Law: The New York Association of Counties (NYSAC) has requested comments and/or recommendations regarding the current Open Meeting Law. Reasons for entering into an Executive Session were discussed along with live-streaming county meetings.
- Family Court Litigation: Juvenile delinquent cases and administrative hearing continue to rise at an unprecedented rate.

PERSONNEL:

- 3rd Assistant County Attorney Vacancy: There continues to be no interest in these positions.

RESOLUTIONS: EXECUTE LEASE AND EASEMENT AGREEMENT OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT CANDOR HILL ROAD, CANDOR, NEW YORK TO INSTALL POWER LINES FOR THE RADIO TOWER PROJECT; AUTHORIZING LEGISLATIVE CHAIR SIGNATURE ON NEW ENERGY EQUITY, LLC AS AGENT FOR PROJECT OWNER, TIOGA CSG1, LLC PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAX (PILOT) AGREEMENT; EXTEND TERM OF LEASE WITH THE TIOGA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT; ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH EVOLUTION CONSULTING, LLC FOR CDL DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING were moved into full Legislative session without further questions.

PROCLAMATIONS: N/A

EXECUTIVE SESSION: N/A

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Monell adjourned the Finance, Legal and Safety Committee meeting at 11:32 A.M.

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Respectfully submitted,

Christine Freyvogel

Paralegal to the County Attorney