

**Jefferson County Local Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2025**

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation held its board meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2025, in the board room at 800 Starbuck Avenue, Watertown, NY.

Present: Robert E. Aliasso, Jr., W. Edward Walldroff, Paul Warneck, William Johnson, Lisa L’Huillier, Charles Capone, John Condino, David Converse, Rob Aiken, Dr. Dawn M. Robinson, Dr. Gregory A. Gardner

Excused: None

Absent: None

Also Present: Ryan Piche (Jefferson County Administrator)
Zoom: Justin Miller, Esq. (Harris Beach), Craig Fox (Watertown Daily Times)

Staff Present: Marshall Weir, Jay Matteson, Lyle Eaton, Peggy Sampson, Robin Stephenson

- I. Call to Order:** Chairman Aliasso called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Privilege of the Floor:** No one spoke.
- IV. Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on August 7, 2025 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Converse, seconded by Dr. Robinson. All in favor. Carried.
- V. Treasurer’s Report:** Mr. Warneck reviewed the financials for the period ending August 31, 2025. A motion was made by Mr. Aiken to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.
- VI. Committee Reports:** None.
- VII. Council Reports:**

a. Ag –

Mr. Matteson congratulated Mr. Walldroff and his family on receiving the centennial farm award from the NYS Agricultural Society.

Mr. Matteson reported on the following:

- Dairy day at the state fair
- Southern Dairy – they are active in their pursuit of a site and are looking at other locations in various states as well.
- Dairy Workforce Focus Group – held their second meeting and noted that it is catching the attention of others around the state.

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- b. Manufacturing** – Mr. Weir reported that he and Ms. Stephenson are working with Naturally Lewis for the upcoming Manufacturing Day for 9th and 10th graders. He said they have reached out to manufacturers to schedule tours.

Mr. Weir said he would like to have the manufacturers focus on showing the students the pathway to getting a job (i.e. prerequisites, resume, summer jobs, etc.).

Mr. Matteson said we could focus on social media forums and non-traditional marketing to reach students directly for Ag and manufacturing as well as through their guidance counselors.

- c. Marketing** – Mr. Weir reported on the following:
- Marketing campaigns - ongoing
 - Micron – continue to work with Strategic Development Specialists to plan for possible events this fall and to stay updated on the project.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

- 1. ARPA Fund Reports (Round One and Two)** – Updated spreadsheets showing the grant fund activities were provided in the board packet. Ms. Stephenson continues to reach out to grant recipients regarding their projects and noted that \$254,507.53 has not been allocated. Mr. Weir said the leveraged funds show how beneficial this program has been.

IX. Counsel: None.

X. New Business: None.

XI. Adjournment: With no further business before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Gardner. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Sampson