

**Jefferson County Local Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2026**

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation held its board meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2026, in the board room at 800 Starbuck Avenue, Watertown, NY.

Present: William Johnson, David Converse, W. Edward Walldroff, Lisa L’Huillier, John Condino, Dr. Dawn M. Robinson
Zoom: Paul Warneck, Charles Capone, Rob Aiken

Excused: Robert E. Aliasso, Jr.

Absent: None

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

Staff Present: Marshall Weir, Jay Matteson, Dorena Kimball, Peggy Sampson

- I. Call to Order:** Board Member Johnson 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 June 4, 2026 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Dr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Condino. All in favor. Carried.
- V. Treasurer’s Report:** Mr. Warneck reviewed the Dashboard prepared by Ms. Kimball for the period ending June 30, 2026. The Dashboard includes Key Performance Indicators, Capital Resources, Operating Statement and Budget. A motion was made by Mr. Condino to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Dr. Robinson. All in favor. Carried.
- VI. Committee Reports:** None.
- VII. Council Reports:**
 - a. Ag –** Mr. Matteson updated the board on the following items:
 - **Poultry** – assisting an interested party to locate a site in southern Jefferson County with specifications for 10 acres, municipal water, and natural gas to bring in broiler houses.
 - **Dairy industry** – attended and spoke at a meeting at Old McDonald’s Farm regarding where the dairy industry is at and where it is heading. Commissioner Richard Ball also attended and spoke.
 - **Milk supply** – looking to see if we need a study to look at the milk supply and what it means for projects. There is an impact from the Chobani expansion.
 - **Dairy processors** – have been meeting with local dairy processors to talk about growth and to determine if we can assist them.

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- b. Manufacturing** – Mr. Weir reported that Roth Industries has been approved by the planning board for a variance for additional paving at their site.
- c. Marketing** – Mr. Weir said the board will consider a Memorandum of Understanding later in the meeting for a MarketNY grant.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

- 1. Strategic Action Plan** – Mr. Matteson indicated that Chairman Aliasso asked for the action plan to be included on the agenda. He said it identifies areas that came out of the spring strategic meeting to improve processes administratively. A motion was made by Mr. Condino to put the action plan on the monthly agenda in order to track progress, seconded by Mr. Walldroff. All in favor. Carried.

IX. Counsel: None.

X. New Business:

- 1. Resolution No. 07.09.2026.01 Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Thousand Islands International Tourism Council for an Empire State Development MarketNY Grant** – Mr. Weir said this grant will help market from a tourism perspective; the total project amount is \$100,000 (\$50,000-ESD grant, \$25,000-JCLDC, and \$25,000-TIITC) for digital and print ads that will be strategically placed throughout the state (i.e. Central NY, Western NY, etc.). He said the county has expressed their support for the project. A motion was made by Mr. Converse to approve the resolution, seconded by Dr. Robinson. All in favor. Carried.

XI. Adjournment: With no further business before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Condino, seconded by Mr. Walldroff. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Sampson