

**Jefferson County Local Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2026**

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation held its board meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2026, in the board room at 800 Starbuck Avenue, Watertown, NY.

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

Excused: None

Absent: None

Also Present:

Zoom: Justin Miller, Esq. (Harris Beach), Craig Fox (Watertown Daily Times), Zach Jackson (7 News)

Staff Present: Marshall Weir, Jay Matteson, Peggy Sampson

- 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 6, 2026, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Converse, seconded by Mr. Walldroff. All in favor. Carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Warneck reviewed the Dashboard prepared by Ms. Kimball for the period ending August 31, 2026. He noted that Busted Grapes COVID loan is the only delinquency. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Mr. Walldroff. Mr. Converse asked if a portion of the Busted Grapes COVID balance will be a grant. Ms. Sampson said \$2,500 will be the grant amount when they are caught up paying the loan portion. All in favor. Carried.
- VI. Committee Reports:** None.
- VII. Council Reports:**
 - a. Ag** – Mr. Matteson handed out his monthly report. Topics discussed as follows:
 - **Budget Development** – the entire team did a tremendous amount of work developing the budget.
 - **County Board of Legislators Presentation** - we are working on a presentation for the County Board of Legislators scheduled for September 8th regarding the budget request.
 - **Electrical Infrastructure/National Grid** – had a great meeting to discussing electrical upgrades/development in the county.
 - **Infrastructure** – there has been discussion across the county for ag related and other manufacturing related. The focus on infrastructure development is increasing and needs to increase even more in order for us to grow Jefferson County.

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- **Project Meadow** – he and Mr. Weir worked on a response to Empire State Development’s RFI for a manufacturing operation looking for a site.
 - **Chobani/Dairy Processing Intelligence** – announced another plant that will be built in Allentown, Pennsylvania. It will be a second major development in the dairy industry and will impact all of NYS.
- b. Manufacturing** – Mr. Weir announced that Manufacturing Day will be held on October 16th. He said students will tour manufacturing sites such as New York Air Brake for a day in the life experience.

Zach Jackson joined the meeting via zoom at 8:12 a.m.

Mr. Warneck mentioned a video that Metalcraft Marine has out on social media and suggested we put it on our website. Mr. Weir agreed and indicated that he is quoted in the video.

- c. Marketing** – No report.

VIII. Unfinished Business: None.

IX. Counsel: None.

X. New Business: None.

XI. Adjournment: With no further business before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Converse. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Sampson