

GOVERNMENT OPERATION COMMITTEE

February 6, 2023

Committee members: Ed Bronson, Bonnie Percy, Rick Willson, Dick Harper, Carlie Chilson, Mark Morris (Zoom)

Others present: Bill Holgate, Jesse Jayne (left at 1:40 p.m.), Terry Button, Dan Banach, Doug Paddock, Tim Cutler, Patrick Killen, Leslie Church, Nonie Flynn (Zoom), Emilee Miller, Rob Schwarting, Bob Brechko, Colby Petersen, Arlene Wilson, Lois Hall, Kerry Brennan, L

Chairwoman Church made the following opening statements:

Hello, everyone, and welcome. Thank you, for coming and sharing this event with us today.

I would like to welcome our guests, we have representatives for state and local offices. We have the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Jason Cook, we have the Economic Development Office here with us today, The Chamber of Commerce, Keuka College, and our local press. Inviting you to help us with our kick off of our yearlong celebration of our two hundredth year.

I would like to also thank all of our Bicentennial committee; Leonard Kataskas, Tricia Noel, Jessica Batchner, Ron Spike, Carlie Chilson, Alex Andrasik, Kristen Birch, and Kathy Way for the work that they have done to organize our parades, historical, educational, artistic, and joyful events in all areas of our county throughout this year, to celebrate this important anniversary. Throughout the year, I also would encourage all of you to join in and be a part of the activities will be countywide.

So, again, thank you, for coming.

Len Kataskas, Yates County Historian, read the following proclamation:

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN
THAT ON THIS DAY, THE FIFTH
OF FEBRUARY, IN THE YEAR
OF OUR LORD, EIGHTEEN
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE
THE STATE OF NEW YORK HAS
ACCEPTED THE PETITION OF
FIVE TOWNS OF ONTARIO COUNTY.
FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, THE
TOWNS OF BENTON, ITALY,
JERUSALEM, MIDDLESEX AND MILIO
ARE HEREBY FREE TO ESTABLISH
THEIR OWN COUNTY. FURTHER,
LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THIS
NEW COUNTY BE NAMED FOR
THE GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK
STATE, JOSEPH C. YATES.
HAIL YATES COUNTY!

Rick Willson read the following Resolution:

**STATE OF NEW YORK
YATES COUNTY LEGISLATURE
CLERK'S OFFICE**

Penn Yan, N.Y. January 9, 2023

I Hereby Certify, That I have compared the preceding with the original thereof, on file in the office of the Clerk of the County Legislature at Penn Yan, New York, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original; and that said original was duly adopted at a meeting of the County Legislature of Yates County held at Penn Yan, New York on the 9th day of January 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-23

DECLARATION FOR 2023 TO BE THE YATES COUNTY BICENTENNIAL YEAR

WHEREAS, the County of Yates was created in 1823 and 2023 is the county's 200th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the full year be commemorated with historical, educational, artistic, joyful events, and parades in all areas of the County in keeping with this rare and important County of Yates anniversary; and

WHEREAS, this year-long event should reach out to and connect with the people, places, towns and villages of the county's diverse population and geography, including parts of three of the Finger Lakes Regions; and

WHEREAS, the Bicentennial Committee has established events throughout the County and has created a 200th logo, and therefore, organizations and groups from all sectors should be encouraged to join in and be a part of this two hundred year celebration by incorporating the bicentennial 200th anniversary celebration into their activities and events throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Yates County Legislature has authorized via the Yates County Historian a Bicentennial Committee to advise it about activities, expense, and prepare for the upcoming celebration of calendar dates for this unique 200th anniversary event;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Yates County Historian, the Yates County Historical Society Director, and the members of the Bicentennial Committee, that the County of Yates Legislature hereby declares 2023 to be the "Yates County Bicentennial Year"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that during 2023, municipal governments, educational institutions, businesses, groups, community clubs, and individuals be encouraged to shape their activities to help celebrate our bicentennial celebration by looking behind us to our history, by looking at the present, and by looking to the future for that which we will be able to accomplish for all our people in the years ahead; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Historian, the County Budget Officer, each town and or village Historian, and to the members of the Yates County Bicentennial Committee.

ATTEST



Clerk of the Yates County Legislature

Michael Stadelmaler, Representative for the Honorable Congresswoman Claudia Tenney, presented the following:

Proclamation

WHEREAS, it is indeed proper to honor momentous occasions in this Nation's great history; and,

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK is to be honored on February 5th, 2023, for the bicentennial celebration of their founding; and;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK was first settled in 1788 by a religious group of settlers who were followers of Jemima Wilkinson, the first American-born woman to establish a religious movement; and;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK was officially brought into existence by an act of the New York State Legislature on February 5th, 1823, formed for "the convenience of the majority of the people"; and;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK boasts a prosperous and proud wine industry, it is one of the largest wine grape growing counties in the United States and home to more wineries than any other county in New York State; and;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK is the embodiment of rural America, from its friendly people to its pristine landscapes, it attracts visitors from all over the world to take in its beauty; and;

WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK is commended for its effort to grow and educate its community, uphold their guiding principles, and preserve its history; and;

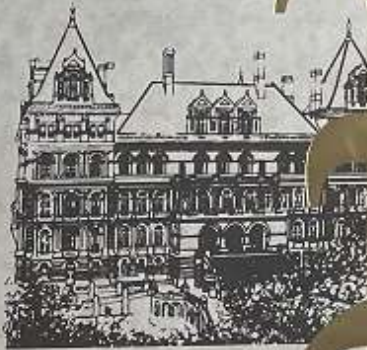
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I and the Congress of the United States recognize THE COUNTY OF YATES, NEW YORK for its bicentennial celebration and wish the best in its bright future.

Proclaimed this 6th day of February 2023



Claudia Tenney
Claudia Tenney
United State House of Representatives

Sperry Navone, Representative for Honorable Assemblyman Phil Palmesano, and Sara Lattin, Representative for Honorable Senator Thomas O'Mara, presented the following:



The Assembly State of New York



Proclamation



Honoring
Yates County
Commemorating their
200th Anniversary of Founding

- Whereas,** *The State of New York takes great pride in honoring and recognizing and celebrating important milestones in the history of communities which comprise the noble body of this Empire State; and*
- Whereas,** *Yates County in New York is celebrating the 200th anniversary of its founding. Yates County was named in honor of New York State Governor Joseph C. Yates and was officially incorporated on February 5, 1823; and*
- Whereas,** *Long before Yates became its own county, the area was home to many Native peoples, namely the Seneca Nation which was thought to have originated at Bare Hill in the Town of Middlesex; and*
- Whereas,** *In the mid-18th century, a woman by the name of Lemima Wilkinson was born in Cumberland, Rhode Island in 1776, she was stricken with a life-threatening illness characterized by a high fever, and upon her recovery, she claimed to have literally died and was reborn as 'The Publick Universal Friend'; and*
- Whereas,** *The Friend began preaching in a new way that differed from her Quaker upbringing and traveled throughout the Northeast seeking new converts; after some time in Philadelphia, she sent some of her followers to scout out the current Yates County area; and*
- Whereas,** *The Friend moved to this area eventually and developed a following of like minded pioneers who initially settled in an area in the Town of Torrey, calling it City Hill, later, she and her pioneers moved farther to the west, and built a home in a town that they named Jerusalem, which is still in existence today; and*
- Whereas,** *As the community grew and more businesses were established, the community grew weary of traveling to Canandaigua to transact all legal business, and thereby, in answer to a petition, a legislative act was passed which formed the new county of Yates; and*
- Whereas,** *Today, Yates County encompasses nine towns and four villages, and as of the 2020 Census, it has a population of 24,774 people, remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, Yates County continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its citizens, ensuring a positive business, institutional and educational climate, and providing all essential services; now, therefore, be it*
- Proclaimed,** *That Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano and Senator Thomas F. O'Mara, offer praise and congratulations to Yates County as it celebrates the 200th anniversary of its founding at the Centennial Celebration*

Dated: February 6, 2023
In Witness Whereof, We Have Hereunto
Set Our Hand and Signature

Philip A. Palmesano
New York State Assembly
132nd Assembly District

Thomas F. O'Mara
New York State Senate
58th Senate District

State of New York Legislative Resolution



Senate No. 9

Assembly No. 15

BY: Senator O'Mara

BY: M. of A. Palmesano

COMMEMORATING the 200th Anniversary of Yates County,
New York

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of Yates County, New York; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious event will be celebrated on Monday, February 6, 2023, at a meeting of the Yates County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Named for then New York State Governor Joseph C. Yates, and officially proclaimed on February 5, 1823, Yates County was formed mainly from existing Towns in Ontario County, with two additional Towns later added from Steuben County; and

WHEREAS, Long before Yates became its own county, the area was home to many Native peoples, namely the Seneca Nation which was thought to have originated at Bare Hill in the Town of Middlesex; and

WHEREAS, In the mid-18th Century, a woman by the name of Jemima Wilkinson was born in Cumberland, Rhode Island; in 1776, she was stricken with a life threatening illness characterized by a high fever, and upon her recovery, she claimed to have died and was reborn as "The Publick Universal Friend"; and

WHEREAS, The Friend began preaching in a new way that differed from her Quaker upbringing, and she traveled throughout the Northeast seeking new converts; after some time in Philadelphia, she sent followers to scout out the current Yates County area; and

WHEREAS, Eventually, the Friend moved to this area and developed a following of like-minded pioneers who initially settled in an area in the Town of Torrey, and called it City Hill; later, she and her pioneers moved farther to the west, and built a home in a town that they named Jerusalem, which is in existence today, beginning a rich tradition of this practice which shaped the history of Yates County; and

WHEREAS, In 1790, the group erected the Friends' log meeting house, the first house of worship, in the Town of Torrey and the first teacher was Sarah Richards; by 1793, a regular school was formed and taught by Benjamin Andrews, and

WHEREAS, The first Justice of the Peace was James Harper, who, with others, built the first grist mill west of Seneca Lake, in 1790; a sawmill was later constructed, also in Torrey, and the first road in the area was built to connect the two; and

WHEREAS, As the community grew and more businesses were established, the community grew weary of travelling to Canandaigua to transact all legal business, and thereby, in answer to a petition, a legislative act was passed which formed the new county of Yates; and

WHEREAS, Today, Yates County encompasses nine towns and four villages, and as of the 2020 Census, it had a population of 24,774 people; and

WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, Yates County continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its citizens, ensuring a positive business, institutional and educational climate, and providing all essential services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of Yates County, New York, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Yates County Legislature.

ADOPTED IN SENATE ON
January 18, 2023

By order of the Senate,

Alejandra N. Paulino, Secretary

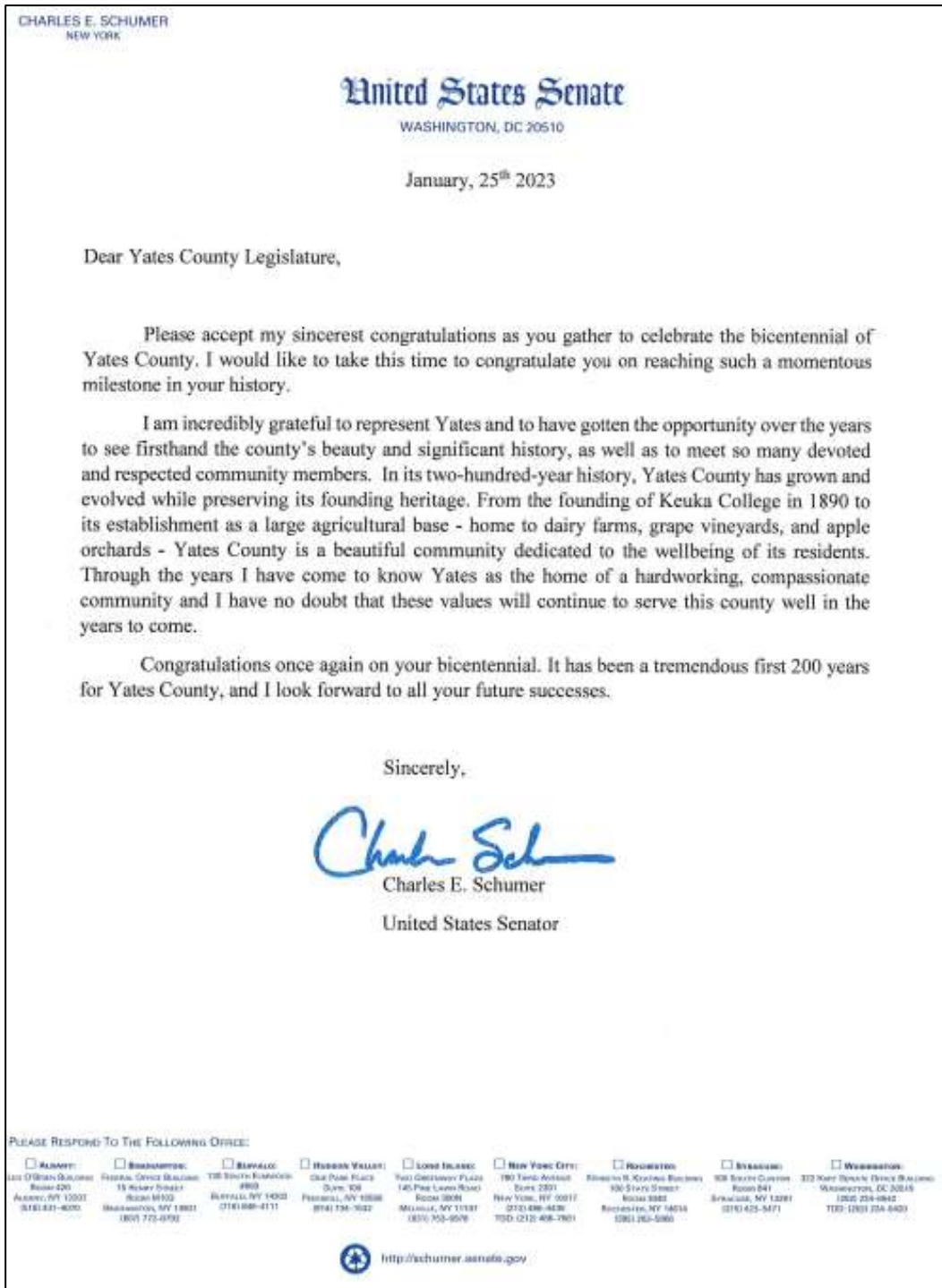
ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON
January 17, 2023

By order of the Assembly,

Mary-Anne E. Dandles, Clerk



Letter from Honorable US Senator Charles Schumer, read by Terry Button:



Vice Chairman Ed Bronson read a brief history of how Yates became a county, which was put together by our historian with some excerpts from *Changes in Returns*, which was written by Frances Dumas.

Ed continued to read the following list of activities that are scheduled for this year, encourage participation:

- Wednesday this week, business after hours at the County building.
- April, a tree planting ceremony at the County Building, the dates yet to be decided, depending on the weather.

- July 5th, there will be a parade in Dresden with a celebration.
- July 20th, Dundee will have a parade in celebration.
- August 12th, the Penn Yan parade and celebration, burying a time Capsule, and having fireworks.
- August 26th, Rushville will have a parade celebration and fireworks.
- October 7th, there will be authentic 1823 dinner being held.
- October 13th, there will be eerie stories along the Outlet trail.
- November 11th, there will be a Veterans recognition in a gala.

Chairwoman Church made the following closing statements:

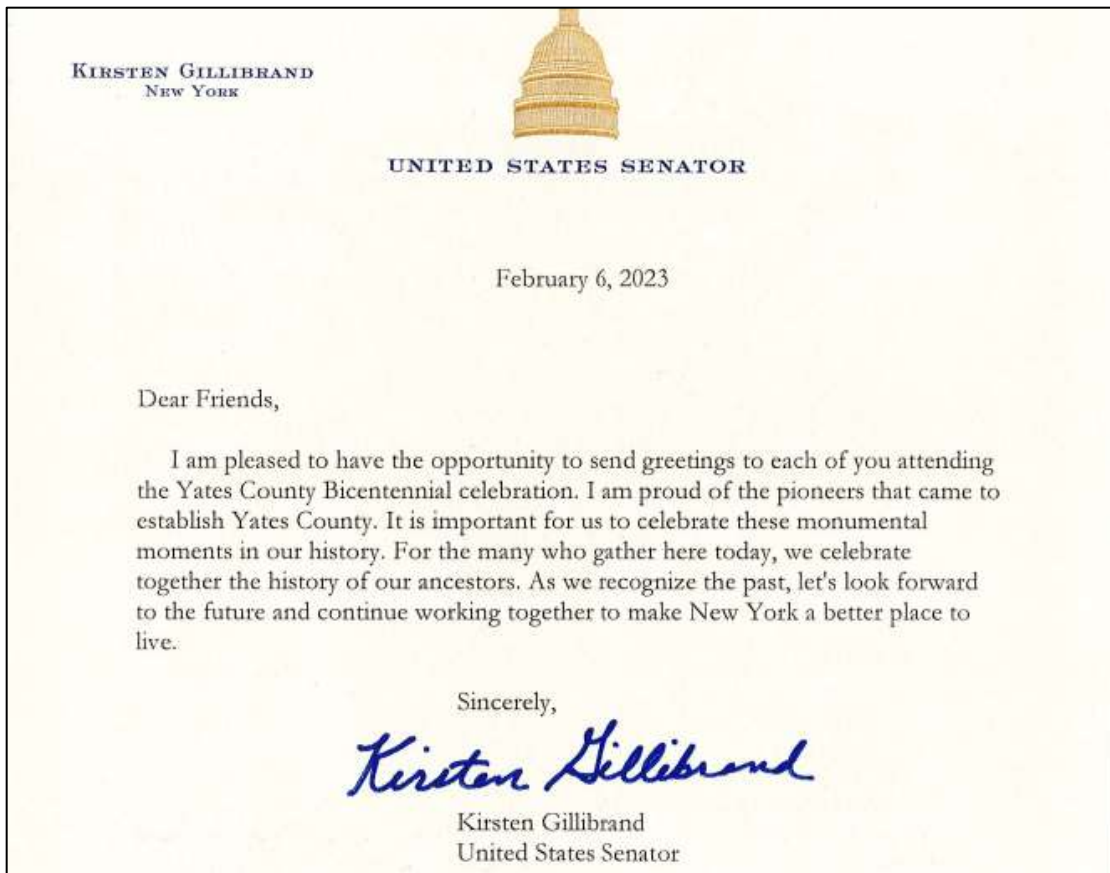
Okay, again, I would like to thank you all for coming to sharing this kickoff event that we have, and the outfits are all driven by Carlie Chilson, she was the organizer, thank you.

With that said, we have refreshments in the hallway here for everyone. We would like to invite you to share those with us. And again, it's a community-wide celebration, and we want to invite you all to share those things with us moving forward.

Thank you to the committee, and with that you're welcome to enjoy in the refreshments.

There was a short recess at 1:29 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 1:47 p.m.

Ms. Robinson, Representative for Honorable US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, presented the following:



Ed and Rick will do the audit this month.

Elections: Robert Brechko and Robert Schwarting

Rob and Bob reported that the Senate has introduced, reported out of committee, and passed a batch of 18 bills left over from 2022. Several are being read in the Assembly's Committee on Elections.

Rob and Bob reported that many Boards of Elections have invited the SBOE to address several issues with "automatic" enrollment without signature on "registrations" coming from DMV. Formerly, they held them as Purged Voters with incomplete forms and mailed them a new registration form. Often these reports that the state wants registered as voters are 15 or 16 year olds getting an ID or learner's permit or non-citizens who want an ID and a license. Several other issues affecting the BOE were raised and discussed at the Winter Election's Commissioners Association Conference

Rob and Bob reviewed the January objectives achieved.

Rob and Bob reviewed the proposed February objectives.

Soil & Water: Colby Petersen

Colby reported that FLOWPA funds were used to complete the installation of 170' of streambank restoration utilizing a toewood structure on Sugar Creek behind the Branchport / Keuka Park Fire Department. This was the first phase of the project, a riparian buffer will be installed this spring under CCE's guidance and funding.

Colby reported that the closeout for 2020-21 is nearing completion and will be submitted next week. The contract for 2022-23 is in process, they expect to receive the initial 75% before the State blackout period. FLOWPA is lobbying for an increase in our Environmental Protection Fund line item from \$2.5 mil to \$3.0 mil.

Colby reported the following in regards to AEM-Agricultural Environmental Management:

2022 Agricultural grants report:

\$263,534.47 in projects implemented

\$144,031.07 in state funds

\$119,503.40 in landowner match and funds

Projects implemented on

- 2 farms in the Seneca Lake Watershed
- 9 farms in the Keuka Lake Watershed

Types of projects implemented

- Underground Outlet (transfer of surface water underground)
- Diversion Ditches
- Heavy Use Area protection (vineyard stabilization)
- Vineyard roadway stabilization
- Water and Sediment Control Basins
- Mulching
- Cover Crop

- Nutrient Management
- Pesticide Sprayer projects
- Grass Waterway

Current projects total \$2.19 million:

- \$1.1 million in the Keuka Lake Watershed
- \$900k in the Seneca Lake Watershed
- \$173k in the Canandaigua Lake Watershed

The 2023 Soil Health Workshop is scheduled for March 1st.

Colby reported that the Farmland Protection Board recommends the adoption of the resolutions regarding solar projects on agricultural lands with prime soils.

Colby reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion/edits the Committee approved.

- Supporting New York State Sharing Agricultural Mitigation Fees with Counties to Support County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Initiative
- Encouraging Yates County Land Owners to Use Marginal Lands and to Utilize the Advice of the Soil & Water Conservation District Prior to the Sale of Lands or when Signing Leases for Large-Scale Solar Arrays

Cornell Cooperative Extension: Arlene Wilson

Arlene provided program updates.

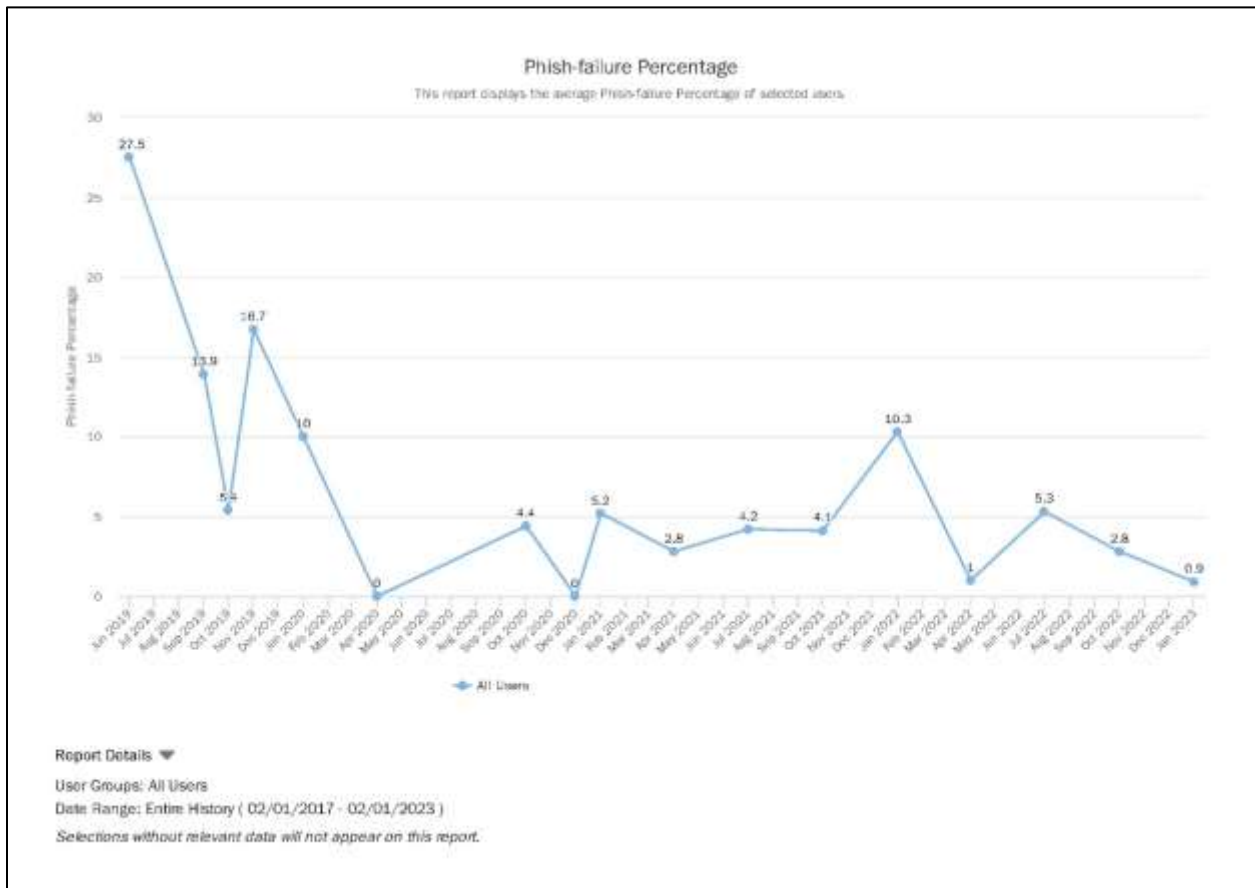
IT: Tim Groth

Tim reviewed the 2022 Summary of Help Desk Tickets by Department:

	2022												Count
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Board of Elections	7	16	7	7	5	7	10	12	22	16	8	7	124
Buildings and Grounds	0	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	0	0	13
Community Services	2	6	4	1	2	0	1	1	4	1	0	1	23
Cornell Cooperative Ext.	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
County Administrator	4	4	0	6	5	1	3	10	1	3	4	2	43
County Attorney's Office	1	0	2	1	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	10
County Clerk's Office	13	10	8	2	7	8	9	11	4	4	4	6	86
District Attorney's Office	7	8	6	3	7	14	9	4	7	6	2	1	74
DMV	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	7	1	13
Highway Department	6	2	5	7	1	5	2	11	19	2	7	8	75
Historian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Information Technology	25	12	28	35	45	53	93	50	51	41	29	33	495
Legislative	20	14	18	11	8	13	10	10	6	9	14	11	144
NYS Courts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office of the Aging	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
Personnel Department	31	11	17	18	23	17	9	19	17	9	20	18	209
Planning	3	3	8	3	1	6	2	8	2	1	2	9	48
Probation Department	0	4	3	6	1	3	5	5	4	1	3	1	36
Public Defender	5	2	7	8	2	4	5	2	2	6	5	5	53
Public Health	6	18	15	10	17	4	6	11	21	14	15	12	149

Public Safety - Administration	21	26	18	7	13	11	14	7	14	17	18	8	174
Public Safety - CID	6	4	12	7	4	8	7	5	2	13	4	3	75
Public Safety - Communications	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Public Safety - Corrections	16	9	16	13	8	17	9	3	10	6	5	9	121
Public Safety - Court Security	3	1	3	2	0	1	2	4	2	8	1	2	29
Public Safety - Dispatch	15	14	13	8	15	7	10	3	10	18	3	13	129
Public Safety - Marine Patrol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Safety - OEM	1	4	7	9	8	4	6	4	7	8	9	3	70
Public Safety - Road Patrol	16	14	11	6	10	3	9	4	2	2	6	7	90
Real Property	8	6	6	4	1	5	6	7	3	3	3	4	56
Records Management	1	3	0	1	2	5	3	1	3	2	2	4	27
Social Services	55	46	70	47	47	48	39	41	43	30	42	25	533
Soil and Water	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	1	8
Treasurer's Department	18	7	7	12	11	13	5	10	8	6	3	5	105
Veteran Services	6	6	10	15	13	6	15	9	3	1	10	9	103
Weights and Measures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Count	300	254	304	253	257	269	298	254	269	232	229	208	3127

Tim reviewed the Phish-failure Percentage:



Tim reviewed project updates:

- MUNIS Upgrade
- NYS Cyber Security Initiative
- Web Filtering Solution
- Firewall internal hardware failure

- Dark Fiber Strands to Highway
- Information Technology Intern

Tim reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion/edits the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairwoman to Sign Contract (Layer 3 Technologies-Rochester, NY)

County Clerk: Lois Hall

Lois reviewed the following Statistical Report:

DMV transactions, 1838 with fees for retention collected for December 2022 \$16,706.27 with \$56,195.87 sales tax collected. COPRS Internet fees collected year to date \$12,391.90 Transactions processed on the interne 759 in the amount of \$55,909.75 with a year to date total of \$551,876.50.

They are now \$381,289.25 over the threshold for shared revenue.

County Clerk transactions 3122 and fees collected \$283,694.52.

Total fees collected County Clerk December 2022 \$360,852.47.

Total fees collected DMV for retention December 2022 \$15,993.47.

Lois reviewed the DMV updates.

Lois reviewed the Clerk updates, highlighting changes of notary regulations.

Lois reviewed the financial reports.

Personnel: Kerry Brennan

Kerry reported that the collection for February is money for Toys for Kids Christmas Program and Foster Kids summer picnic and Christmas program.

Kerry reported that for the January Soup(er) Bowl Collection, they collected 692 non-perishable items that were donated to the Living Well.

Kerry asked for Health Insurance Consortium Feedback.

Kerry presented her findings in regards to the 360 Assessment. The consensus of the Committee was to go ahead with the 360 Assessment for the Department Heads and the Deputy's.

Kerry reported that notification was sent out to all employees regarding the Mandatory Training.

Kerry reviewed the vacancy report.

Kerry reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairwoman to Sign Memorandum of Understanding (CSEA)
- Appoint Director of Public Health
- Amend 2023 Non-Union Exempt Employee Salary Schedule
- Adopt 2023 Non-Union Exempt Employee Wage Schedule

Historic Markers: Doug Paddock

Doug provided an update in regards to the Historic Markers. The Committee agreed that they should move forward with the Report.

County Administrator: Nonie Flynn

Nonie reported that they are still waiting on the results of the NYS audit on the sexual harassment prevention training.

Nonie reported that the County will be hosting the February 8th meeting at 5:00 p.m., Lisa Harper is taking the lead, and the photographic exhibit will be on display depicting the County's history.

Records Management: Lisa Harper

Emilee reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved. Emilee would go back to Lisa to get answers to questions.

- Adopt Yates County Electronic Records Retention and Disposal Schedule

Legislative Operations:

Leslie reported that in regards to the County Administrator Recruitment Progress the 15th, 16th, and 17th hopefully, they'd be available, at least at the time where all the interviews take place and the presentation takes place.

Leslie and Carlie spoke in regards to donations for hotdogs, buns, ice cream cones, and ice cream, etc. They requested approval for Carlie to reach out for these donations and that the County match funds earned up to \$2,000 that will come from the \$10,000 Bicentennial Budget.

Legislative Operations: Emilee Miller

Emilee asked what the Committee would like in regards to the July Committee Meetings Schedule on the 5th.

Emilee provided an update on the Insurance RFP along with a loose timeline.

Emilee and the Committee discussed agenda due dates and meeting minutes.

Emilee reported that she would like to bring forward a resolution at the Legislative Meeting appointing the Landowner Representative to the Region 8 Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

Emilee reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairwoman to Sign Letter of Support for the Keuka College Center for Health Innovation

Mr. Harper moved to enter into executive session to discuss:

1. The Collective Bargaining Negotiations involving CSEA, attendees being Committee Members, other Legislators present, the Labor Attorney, the County Administrator, and the Personnel Officer.

Seconded by Ms. Chilson.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.