

January 2, 2026

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road, Small Conference Room for the regular scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, (via teleconference) Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, Chief Clerk Witchey, Jean Lapinski, Michele Frye, and Marcie Strachko. Via Zoom: Denise LaBuda, Jeremy Brown, Jenn Long, Kirsti Kritzer, and MJ Mahon.

Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked that we stand and pledge the flag, he then called for the approval of the minutes of the prior meeting.

Motion by Karschner, seconded by Kovach; all approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the 2026 SAVIN Contract

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

B. Approve the resignation of Jim Nemeth from the Columbia County Water Mitigation Authority and approve Dustin Fry as his replacement

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

C. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:

- Tobi Garrity, Caseworker 1, CYS, 6 month step, 12/2/25 (hold)
- Daren Leffler, FT CO, Jail Hire, 1/5/26
- Andrew Wolfe, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 1/5/26
- Jenna Knorr, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 1/5/26
- Liliana Valerio, PT CO, Jail, one (1) year step, 1/20/26
- Owen Rice, FT CO, Jail, one (1) year step, 1/20/26
- Kalista Wojciechowski, FT CO, Jail, one (1) year step, 1/20/26

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

D. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS and COURT EMPLOYEE HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:

- Brandon Batiuk, PT Sheriff Deputy, Sheriff, Rehire, 1/5/26
- James Dodge, PT Sheriff Deputy promoted to Full-time, 1/5/26
- Kevin Katch, Deputy for Sheriff, four (4) year step, 2/3/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; abstain by Brewer; motion passes

E. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS:

- Lynn Dixson, Tax Clerk, Retirement, 12/31/25
- Dina Melito, Secretary, AP, Resignation, 12/18/25

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- None

BILLS:

- Approve the bills for 12/31/25 for \$40,200.35

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:  
None

AJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Karschner and seconded by Brewerr. The motion passed.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk