



## Association of Erie County Governments

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### Climate Smart Committee Minutes Association of Erie County Governments

Tuesday, April 5, 2022  
3:30pm via Zoom

#### Committee Members

Gary Dickson, Town of West Seneca  
Audrey Hamernik, Village of Depew  
Mary Hosler, Town of Evans  
Jason Keding, Town of Boston  
Brian Kulpa, Town of Amherst  
Lynne Ruda, Village of Lancaster

## I. Introductions and Mission

### Mission

The Erie County Government Association recognizes that there is a greater need for a collaborative effort to address Climate Smart initiatives in the Region. Often these initiatives cross municipal boundaries and require the cooperation of neighboring communities. The mission of the Erie County Government Association Climate Smart Committee is to understand the climate smart priorities and goals of the municipalities in Erie County and to work towards collaborative efforts and lobbying efforts to support climate smart initiatives in the region.

## II. Timeline for the Year

### Timeline for 2022

April -

- Fact finding- survey the Erie County Supervisors and Mayors to find out what initiatives are already being addressed in their communities. Find out what the needs and concerns are to determine a direction for this committee.

May -

- Provide information about the various grant opportunities that fall under the Climate Smart Program for the CFA.
- Work with UBRI to take the survey results and start compiling data and looking at trends and community needs.

June -

- Set up a form of communication and information distribution to Supervisors and Mayors.

July -

- Regional brainstorming on Climate Smart Initiatives – TBD
- Lobbying plan for Erie County and NYS regarding Climate Smart Initiatives and funding and timelines for these initiatives.

August - TBD

September - TBD

October - TBD

November - TBD

December -

### **III. Possible Partners**

#### **Partners**

- UBRI – Jason Kulaszewski
- GBNRTC
- Erie County Department of Environment and Planning - Bonnie Lawrence
- Environmental Management Council
- Director of Energy Development and Management – EC Department of Public Works– Reed Braman

### **IV. Next Steps**

#### **Next Steps**

- Create a survey to be sent out to each municipality
  - Collaboratively create the survey through a shared document and have it ready for the Association of Erie County Governments meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Leave the survey open for one month
  - The survey will be available on April 21<sup>st</sup> as a QR code at the table and will be emailed to the municipalities as well
- Follow up with municipalities
  - The goal is 100% participation and the committee members will work to encourage all 44 communities to respond
- Report for April Association meeting
  - Lynne will type the minutes and prepare the report which will be accessible through a QR code at the tables