

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2021

### Board of Directors

#### **Mark Taylor – Chairman (Schuyler County)**

Mark retired from Corning at the end of 2009 as Director, Photovoltaic Technology Assessment. In this role he managed external collaborations and the intellectual property portfolio. He holds a BA in Chemistry from Carleton College, a PhD in Geology from Stanford University and a MS in Management of Technology from MIT. A 31-year employee of Corning, Mark is currently on a special project assignment to Corning. He volunteers as President of the Science and Discovery Center and as volunteer project manager for the Humane Society of Schuyler County. He also serves as a technician for the Schuyler County Board of Elections.

#### **Rochelle M Stein – Vice Chair (Genesee County)**

Shelley has guided Financial Management and Human Resources at Stein Farms LLC for 30+ years. She is a four term Genesee County Legislator representing the Town of LeRoy, the current President of the Western NY InterCounty organization and a Board Member of the County Soil & Water Conservation District. Shelley is a graduate of Alfred State College, LeadNY, Class VIII and NYSAC's Pelletier Institute. Her volunteer activities include Our Lady of Mercy Parish Trustee and a member of the LeRoy Historical Society.

#### **Crystal Abers – Secretary (Cattaraugus County)**

Crystal has been Director of the Economic Development, Planning & Tourism Department for Cattaraugus County since 2010. Previously, she had over 35 years' experience as an Insurance Broker and Realtor. She served on the Dayton Town Board as Councilman for 14 years and was a County Legislator for 10 years holding leadership offices including Majority Leader, Vice Chairman and Chairman. She is involved in many organizations and committees from the local to state level. A lifetime resident of the county, she graduated from SUNY Fredonia.

#### **Steve L. Hoover – (Chemung County) - Treasurer**

Steve has been a practicing Certified Public Accountant in New York State since 1986 and is Chemung County's Director of Finance, a position he has held since 1991, and is Vice President of the Chemung County Tobacco Securitization Corporation. He is a graduate of SUNY Fredonia with an MS in Community Service Administration from Alfred University. In addition to his County responsibilities, Steve is Treasurer of the Southern Tier Library System and Treasurer of the Southern Tier Figure Skating Club. He is also a Youth Soccer Coach in the Chemung Valley Soccer Association.

#### **Jack Wheeler (Steuben County)**

Jack serves as Steuben County's Deputy County Administrator, a position he has held since 2010. Prior to joining county government in 2008, he was a Security Consultant, IBM Global Business Services, Public Sector in Washington, DC. With degrees in Business Administration from SUNY Geneseo and an MPA from James Madison University, Jack has developed special competencies in security issues. Publications include papers on homeland security policy and challenges around transportation of hazardous materials. He and wife Jeannie welcomed triplets in 2013; he is also an avid golfer and is active in community youth activities.

#### **Mark Sachetti (Jefferson County)**

Mark has served as Purchasing Director for Jefferson County since 1995 with responsibility for all Purchasing, Central Printing, and the County's Fixed Assets. He is a past Corporate Treasurer and past President of the New York State Association of Municipal Purchasing Officials, currently serving on the Board of Directors as a member of the Executive Committee. Since 1996, Mark has served as a member of the NYSAC Employee Public Relations Committee. He and his wife Sue have one son and two grandchildren.

#### **Katie Borgella (Tompkins County)**

Katie Borgella serves as Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability for Tompkins County, overseeing the eleven-person department and all its activities. The Department primarily works to implement the Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan, which presents a long-term vision for the future of the community. Topics of focus in recent years have been in housing, energy, land conservation, tourism, and development. Katie has worked in various leadership roles in the Department since 1993. Prior to working as a planner, Katie designed and constructed a widevariety of projects as a civil engineer with the Federal government domestically and abroad.

**Mary Gates (Ontario County)**

Mary has worked for Ontario County since 1993. She was appointed the Director of Finance for Ontario County in March 2016. She served as Deputy County Administrator for Ontario County from November 2014 until that appointment. Prior to that position, Mary worked for the Finance Department as a Senior Fiscal Manager for the Health and Public Safety Departments and the Department of Economic Development. While working with the Department of Economic Development she was also the Chief Financial Officer for the Ontario County Industrial Development Agency, the Ontario County Local Development Corporation and the Ontario County Economic Development Corporation managing the financial aspects of the Canandaigua Airport, varied economic development agreements and an extensive loan portfolio. Mary was recognized as Rochester Business Journal's 2019 Financial Executive of the Year in the Large Non-Profit category. She has a Master's Degree in Public Administration with Not For Profit Certification through the College at Brockport, SUNY and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from SUNY Empire State. She has also received certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional.

**Robert Wood (Town Official)**

Bob is serving in his sixth term as Town of Oneonta Supervisor following service to the City of Oneonta as an Alderman and the Town of Oneonta Fire District as Commissioner negotiating contracts and budgeting in his 6 years as Chairman. Bob also owned and operated a successful neighborhood grocery store for 17 years. He has a degree in construction technology and worked as a finish carpenter building custom cabinetry and furniture. He and his wife recently completed designing and building their own energy efficient home.

**Allen Olsen (NYS Association of School Business Officials (NYSASBO) - Treasurer**

Allen is the Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources & Business for the Kingston City School District, representing NYSASBO on the MEGA Board. His experience covers all aspects of institutional management in addition to finance and budget with responsibilities for human resources, IT, facilities and operations, and the list goes on. Before joining the Kingston Schools in 2012, he was with the Saugerties District, The Brearley School, and Oakwood Friends School. He was an undergraduate at Cornell and has an M.Ed. from UNH and an MBA from Cornell.

**Mary Pat Hancock (Emeritus Board Member)**

Mary Pat served Genesee County as Chair of the Legislature from 2001-2013. She is Vice-President of the Rochester Regional Transportation Board and has represented Genesee County on the Board of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, the Workforce/Economic Development Governing Board, and the Board of the NYS Association of Counties. A graduate of SUNY Brockport, the University of Buffalo and Northwestern University, she had a distinguished career in education as a Counselor at Batavia Senior High School and continues to be active in organizations focused on pre-school and early intervention.

**Michael Stamm (Emeritus Board Member)**

Michael is the former President of Tompkins County Area Development, the organization responsible for management of the County's Industrial Development Agency plus conception and implementation of many local economic development initiatives. He is a graduate of Syracuse University and holds an MA in Economics from the University of Buffalo. He serves on the County Workforce Investment Board, the NYS Economic Development Council, Cornell's Center for Technology, Enterprise & Commercialization, the Council of Development Finance Agencies and the International Economic Development Council.

**Richard Blythe (Rick) (Emeritus Board Member)**

Rick has served as the Broome County Clerk since 2005. First appointed by Gov. Pataki he was subsequently elected in 2005 and re-elected in 2009 and 2013. Rick has serviced County Government since 1975. He has served as a County Legislator; Deputy Commissioner - Board of Elections; Legislative Clerk; and the County's first Director of Purchasing. As Director of Purchasing he was an early advocate for MEGA. Broome County joined as a participating County in 2000 and Rick has served on the Board of Directors on several occasions: 2000-2007; 2012-2013; and currently 2017-2018. Rick is a graduate of Windsor HS, SUNY @ Alfred & SUNY @ Cortland. His private sector experience includes time at Frito Lay, Windsor Hardware & Home Center and the C.Y. Cushman Construction Company. He's been involved with several local organizations including the Windsor Medical Center; the Windsor/Kirkwood Dollars for Scholars Program; and the Voice of Democracy Program for his VFW Post. He served with the US Army in Vietnam in 1969-1970. He & his wife Michele reside in Windsor, NY.

**Robert Edwards (Emeritus Board Member)**

Robert is a former member of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors and the Supervisor of the Town of Hope. He has served on the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board and is a representative to the Office for the Aging Advisory Council and the Adirondack Inter-County Group. Robert is a graduate of Ithaca College with a master's from the University of Rochester. After a long career in public education as a teacher and principal, Robert and his wife Linda established a small manufacturing business, *The Audio Specialist Group, Inc.* Robert and Linda have 2 sons, 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**Karen Sullivan (Emeritus Board Member)**

Karen combines a long relationship with government from her early years with Delaware County Planning to her current position as Director of Otsego County Planning and Solid Waste. Her many years of experience working with local municipal governments and various committees blend well with her knowledge of land use planning, solid waste management, public transportation, grant administration, and solar initiatives. Karen is a member of the Mohawk Valley Economic Development Board and Catholic Charities and serves as treasurer of the Calvary Retreat Center in Oneonta. She graduated with a BS in Geography from SUNY.