

# FY-2024 2<sup>nd</sup> (Jan-Mar) Quarter Report

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## Oneida Land Commission

Approved by official entity action on: April 22, 2024

Submitted by: Sherrole Benton

OBC Liaison: Tehassi Hill

OBC Liaison: Jennifer Webster

### **PURPOSE**

The Commission was established for the purpose of managing the Nation's land resources.

### **AUTHORITY**

The Commission has the authority to carry out all the powers and duties as delegated under the following laws of the Nation:

- (a) The Real Property law;
- (b) The Leasing law;
- (c) The Building Code;
- (d) The Condominium Ordinance;
- (e) The Zoning and Shoreland Protection law;
- (f) The Eviction and Termination law;
- (g) The Landlord-Tenant law;
- (h) The Mortgage and Foreclosure law;
- (i) The Cemetery Law; and
- (j) All any other delegating law, policy, rule and/or resolution of the Nation.

## **BCC MEMBERS**

John Danforth  
Chair  
07/31/2025

Sid White  
Vice Chair  
07/31/2026

Sherrole Benton  
Secretary  
07/31/2024

Jennifer Hill  
Commissioner  
07/31/2025

Patricia Cornelius  
Commissioner  
07/31/2026

Don McLester  
Commissioner  
07/31/2024

Fred Muscavitch  
Commissioner  
07/31/2024

## **MEETINGS**

Held every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month.

5:00 p.m.

Little Bear Conference Room and Microsoft Teams

Emergency Meetings: No emergency meetings were held this quarter

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

CONTACT: Brooke Doxtator

TITLE: Boards, Committees, and Commissions Supervisor

PHONE NUMBER: (920) 869-4452

E-MAIL: Land\_Commission@oneidanation.org

MAIN WEBSITE: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/boards-committees-and-commissions/elected/#Oneida-Land-Commission>

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **ACCOMPLISHMENT #1**

Summary:

The Land Management team has been collaborating with the agricultural department, land leasing office, and the legal team. Together, they have proposed a completely new system for leasing agricultural lands. This proposal is very different from how agricultural land leasing currently works. Before investing a lot of time into drafting the complete rules and regulations, the group wants approval from the Oneida Land Commission on the core concepts of this proposal.

Impact:

Once the concepts are approved, the Environmental, Health, Safety, Land, and Agriculture (EHSLA) Division will prepare a draft of the new rules. They will then present it to the Land Commission for consideration to move forward with a public meeting, as required by the Administrative Rulemaking law. Until the new rules are finalized, and amendments are made following the Administrative Rulemaking law, the EHSLA Division will continue to operate under the existing Agricultural Leasing Rule.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENT #2**

Summary:

The Land Commission is working with the Environmental, Health, Safety, Land, and Agriculture (EHSLA) Director and the Oneida Law Office on proposing a new system to evaluate and acquire properties referred to as the "Acquisition Data Sheet."

Impact:

This new system is a work in progress and aims to standardize the process of evaluating properties for acquisition. It uses a points-based approach to determine the value of each property and the level of authority required for its purchase. It also streamlines data collection and tracking throughout the acquisition process. The new data sheet will allow everyone to easily see and track all the offers that were made, properties that were purchased, and the acquisition budget balance.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENT #3**

#### Summary:

Since January of 2024, the Land Commission approved the purchase of 74.649 acres of land with many closing dates scheduled for later this year. Currently, Oneida Nation's total land ownership: 29,006.73 acres which is 44% of the reservation.

#### Impact:

The Land Commission goal is to acquire land, use land appropriately, and exercise the Oneida Nation's sovereignty. The Land Commission is actively pursuing land acquisitions and following the guidance in the 2033 Land Acquisition Plan as approved by GTC.

### **GOALS**

#### LONG-TERM GOAL #1

##### Provide Open Communication

The Land Commission strives to be open and transparent regarding actions and decisions. Our goal is for regular communication with membership via General Tribal Council meetings and other communication outlets. We want the membership to be informed and engaged with land acquisition, zoning, and land use as it pertains to our Nation.

#### Update on Goal:

The Land Commission updated our presentation for the Annual GTC Meeting.

#### LONG-TERM GOAL #2

##### Exercise Sovereignty

Re-establish roles & responsibilities to fully implement the 2033 Land Acquisition Plan approved by GTC. The 2033 Plan provides an allocation of funds to reacquire land within the Oneida Reservation.

#### Update on Goal:

We continue to purchase land following the guidance in the 2033 Land Acquisition Plan. In addition we are working with EHSL&A to develop tools to help us make better data driven decisions.

QUARTERLY GOAL #1

Promoting Positive Community Relations

Develop an improved leasing policy for Agricultural Lands to better serve the needs of the membership. Focus on programs to serve tribal members, individual farmers, entrepreneurs, and community organizations.

Update on Goal:

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**STIPENDS**

Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution 04-13-22-B sets the stipend amounts.

	Total dollar amount paid	Number of stipend type		
		Regular Mtg	Emergency Mtg	Hearings/Other
January 2024	\$700	2	0	1
February 2024	\$1,600	2	0	1
March 2024	\$1,000	2	0	0

**BUDGET**

FY-2024 BUDGET: \$16,000

FY-2024 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: \$8,250

Our budget is used for meeting and hearing stipends.

**REQUESTS**

None

**OTHER**

None