



**MONTGOMERY**  
**COUNTY**<sub>NY</sub>  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
*Made of Something Stronger*

## **Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency & Montgomery County Capital Resource Corporation Board Members and Background**

### **Matthew Beck, Chairman (11/25/14-Present)**

Mr. Matthew Beck has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2014, and currently serves as the Agency's Chairman. Mr. Beck is also a member of the Montgomery County Office for Aging Foundation Board. Mr. Beck's past experience has included being a member of the Amsterdam Industrial Development Agency, City of Amsterdam Golf Commission and the Fulton-Montgomery-Schoharie Counties Workforce Development Board. Mr. Beck is employed as the Commissioner of Health and Human Services for Montgomery County.

### **Mark Kowalczyk, Member (3/28/17-Present)**

Mr. Mark Kowalczyk has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2017. He is a Global Sales Growth Leader for GE Vernova, and also President and CEO of Mohawk Machine Works, LLC which he founded as a local tech startup manufacturing company. Mr. Kowalczyk previously worked for several regional manufacturing companies over the past 30 years. Mr. Kowalczyk holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has previously served as Councilman in the Town of Perth, City of Amsterdam's Planning Commission member, and Greater Amsterdam School District Board member.

### **Amanda Auricchio, Member (5/22/18-Present)**

Ms. Amanda Auricchio has been a member on the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2018. Ms. Auricchio's activities and memberships include, Albany Law Review, Executive Editor for Coordinating & Operation, Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Moot Court Competition, Chair Honors Teaching Fellowship, Contracts I and Contracts II, Sponsler Fellow, Italian-American Law Student Association, Vice President. Awards Ms. Auricchio has received: Presidential Scholarship, Italian American Bar Association Scholarship, The Order of Barristers. Ms. Auricchio is a member of the Albany County Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association and the Montgomery County Bar Association.

**Laurie Weingart, Member (4/23/19-Present)**

Ms. Weingart has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2019. Ms. Weingart has lived in western Montgomery County for most of her life, after moving upstate, as a child. Ms. Weingart is a licensed real estate broker and, since 2007, she has been the owner of Krutz Properties. The business is located in Canajoharie, but has recently opened offices in St. Johnsville and Mayfield. Ms. Weingart graduated from Canajoharie High School and then earned a Bachelor's Degree in Healthcare Administration and Nursing Sciences. Ms. Weingart is a former board member of the Canajoharie-Palatine Chamber of Commerce and is a current board member for Music on Main Street.

**Cheryl Reese, Member (10/23/19-Present)**

Ms. Cheryl Reese has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2019. She has lived in western Montgomery County all of her life. Ms. Reese is the Town of Minden Supervisor. In 2023, Ms. Reese retired from Montgomery County, following a successful career of 37 years, her final position being Clerk of the Montgomery County Legislature. Ms. Reese serves as the President of the Fort Plain Senior Center, in Fort Plain, and sits on various other boards in the community.

**Brent Phetteplace, Member (12/21/21-Present)**

Mr. Brent Phetteplace has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2021. He has been a real estate agent with Judith-Ann Realty, Inc., for nearly three decades. He is a multi-million dollar producer annually in listing and sales of residential, commercial, vacant land and farms in Montgomery and Fulton counties and the surrounding areas. Mr. Phetteplace has a distinguished list of community service, including serving as a Rotarian, serving on the St. Mary's Healthcare Board of Directors, and volunteering with the Boy Scouts. He serves as the Town of Amsterdam's Planning Board Chairman and is a volunteer firefighter with the Tribes Hill Fire Department.

**Edward Watt, Member (1/1/24-Present)**

Edward Watt has been a member of the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency since 2024. He is a teacher at Canajoharie Central School District, from which he also graduated. He obtained a degree in Political Science from SUNY Geneseo and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Clarkson University. He currently serves as a board member for the Village of Canajoharie as well as clerk of the Village of Nelliston. His background also includes grant writing and administration.

# **Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency & Montgomery County Capital Resource Corporation Executive Team Background**

## **Kenneth F. Rose, Director, Montgomery County Business Development Center**

Mr. Rose is currently and has been the Director of the Montgomery County Business Development Center as well as the Chief Executive Officer for the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency (MCIDA) for the for the past 18 years. In addition Mr. Rose is also the Chief Executive Officer for the Montgomery County Capital Resource Corporation (MCCRC). Mr. Rose received a B.A. from the State University of New York at Albany. Mr. Rose currently serves and has past served on several boards in a variety of capacities: Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council; Fulton Montgomery Community College, Board of Trustees; Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Board of Directors; Fulton-Montgomery-Schoharie Workforce Investment Board, Board Member; Montgomery County Youth Bureau, Board Member.

As Director of the County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism, Mr. Rose's responsibilities include administering the operations of the Montgomery County Business Development Center, and the department's Economic Development and Planning Programs. The intent of the Business Development Center is to provide the business community a "one stop shop" for business development questions and assistance. The department's current responsibilities include; the administration of the MCIDA and MCCRC, the administration and marketing of the Florida Business Park and Park Extension (which is home to the 1.9 million sq. foot Target Distribution Center, 600,000 sq. ft. Beech Nut Headquarters and Food Processing Facility, 125,000 sq. ft. Hill and Markes, Inc. Distribution Center and a 750,000 sq. ft. Dollar General Distribution Center), Glen Canal View Business Park, administration of the \$3.5 million Montgomery County Revolving Loan Fund and administration of the County's Community Development Program. Over Mr. Rose's tenure, the Business Development Center has secured numerous projects accounting for over \$700 Million in new Capital Investment within the County along with the leveraging over \$30 million in grants for a variety of community and economic development projects.

## **Sheila M. Snell, Deputy Director, Economic Development/CFO MCIDA**

Ms. Snell is currently Deputy Director of the Montgomery County Economic Development department as well as the Chief Financial Officer for the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency (MCIDA) for the for the past 15 years. In addition Ms. Snell is also the Chief Financial Officer for the Montgomery County Capital Resource Corporation (MCCRC). Ms. Snell received an A.A.S. degree from Herkimer County Community College, a General Banking Diploma from the Institute of Banking, and certification for the Accountant and Economic Development Specialist civil service examinations.

As Deputy Director of the County Department of Economic Development, Ms. Snell's responsibilities include assisting with the administering of the operations of the Montgomery County Economic Development Programs and assists in the development and administration of programs to attract business and industries to locate within Montgomery County and to promote expansion of existing businesses and industries. The work involves contact with public and private organizations involved in compiling data on community resources. The Deputy Director maintains personal contact with business and industrial representatives to explain detailed information pertaining to decisions to be made on locational and economic development program advantages. The work calls for a high level of discretion in dealing with highly sensitive and confidential information. The Deputy Director- Economic Development/CFO functions also include, program planning, budgeting and financial management; reporting and program evaluation and participating in the identification and application of State and Federal grants for the County's economic development program. The work involves providing CFO responsibilities to the Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency (MCIDA). The work is performed in exercise of independent judgment. Supervision is exercised over the work of subordinate clerical staff.