Mark R. Alger born and raised in Hornell, graduating from Hornell High School in 1972 and earning a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from SUNY Geneseo in 1976, as well as a Master of Arts in Geography from Western Illinois University. After beginning his career in public service as a Research Assistant, he returned to Steuben County and became the Senior Planner in the Steuben County Planning Department. He served in this position until 1981 when he was appointed Planning director, a position he held until 1984. In September of that year he was appointed as the first Steuben County Administrator. In that position, Mr. Alger was responsible for the daily oversight of county operations on behalf of the Steuben County Legislature. Mark also served as Deputy Commissioner for Administration for the New York State Department of Agriculture. In 1999, he returned to Steuben County to serve as the Commissioner of Social services before again being appointed Steuben County Administrator in 2000. With a change in the form of government resulting from the adoption of Steuben County Charter, Mr. Alger was named the first County Manager in January of 2014.