

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – JULY 21, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on July 21, 2022, via Zoom and in person at the Southern Tier West Offices.

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Chairman
Craig Clark
Deb Root
Jerry Scott
Robert Keis, Secretary
Crystal Abers
Don Benson
Don McCord, Vice Chairman
Lucille White

Representing

Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County (via zoom)
Chautauqua County
Seneca Nation of Indians

Others Attending

Richard Zink
Sarah Phearsdorf
Fileve Palmer
Jon Mayr
Jason Eastman
Angela Fowler

Representing

Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff (via zoom)
Staff

Chairman Dirlam called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Attendance was recorded.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Crystal Abers made a motion to accept the June 16, 2022 minutes. Bob Keis seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

There were two new projects sent out. Jerry Scott moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Crystal Abers seconded the motion and it carried.

Executive Director's Report

1. ARC Funding

The House Appropriations Committee approved the FY23 Energy & Water Development Appropriations Act, which contains ARC's funding for the coming fiscal year. The bill provides \$220 million for ARC in FY23. This is \$25 million more than the FY22 funding level. The report

accompanying the legislation directs that a portion of the \$220 million be allocated in the following manner:

- \$65 million for POWER
- \$8 million for Local Development District
- \$10 million for high-speed broadband deployment in Central Appalachia
- \$15 million for the Northern Appalachian region
- \$16 million for basic infrastructure improvements in distressed counties in Central Appalachia

The \$220 million in the bill is in addition to the \$200 million for FY23 that is contained in the previously approved Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

2. **CEDS**

The top EDA project priorities to be included in the 2022 CEDS document are as follows: Allegany County – 1) Crossroads Development Infrastructure System Project; 2) Alfred-Almond Sewer Project; Cattaraugus County – 1) Great Lakes Cheese Infrastructure Project; 2) Allegany (Town) I-86 Interchange Wastewater Infrastructure Project; Chautauqua County – 1) Dunkirk Coal Power Plant Redevelopment (NRG Re-Use Phase II); 2) Site Acquisition and Infrastructure Development; Regional Projects – 1) Southern Tier West Good Jobs Challenge Project; 2) Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority Rehabilitation Project; 3) Site Development Planning Project Phase I.

Deb Root made a motion to approve a resolution accepting these project priorities, Jerry Scott seconded the motion and it carried.

3. **NYSAWG**

NYSAWG is preparing an application to the Moving Forward Together fund in the amount of \$1.76 million for administrative and operational funding for the next three years. This comes as the Western New York Ag Food System Initiative Final report has been submitted by SCALE to the Southern Tier West Development Foundation and the Western New York Foundation. Staff is scheduled to present “Moving Forward Together” to the Board on August 24, 2022.

4. **Staff Updates**

Richard Zink introduced Angela Fowler as STW’s newest employee. Angela will be working on the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Project and Water Source Protection Plan.

Tom Barnes, Southern Tier West’s EDA Program Manager/Sr. Regional Economic Development Coordinator will be retiring on July 31, 2022. Tom has been working at Southern Tier West for 36 years.

Southern Tier West Program Reports

There were no Program reports.

Southern Tier West Affiliation Reports

There were no Affiliation reports.

Southern Tier West Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Audit Abstract

Craig Clark moved to accept the June/July Audit Abstracts. Don McCord seconded the motion and it carried.

ARC Project Presentations

A motion was made by Deb Root to rank the ARC Projects as follows:

1. Alfred State College
2. Belfast Central School District
3. BOCES
4. Cattaraugus County
5. Tri County Arts Council
6. Genesee Valley Central School District
7. St. Stephens Church
8. Olean BDC
9. Southern Tier Healthcare
10. UPMC

Jerry Scott seconded the motion and it carried.

Nominating Committee

Chairman Dirlam appointed the following Nominating Committee for the STW Annual Meeting Election of Officers: Allegany County – Jerry Scott; Cattaraugus County – Chuck Couture; Chautauqua County – PJ Wendel.

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be the Annual Meeting held on September 15, 2022, 1:00 PM, at the Southern Tier West Offices

Adjournment

Bob Keis made a motion to adjourn, Craig Clark seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 PM.

sjp