

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – JANUARY 20, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on January 20, 2022 via Zoom.

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Chairman
Chuck Jessup
Craig Clark
Deb Root
Robert Keis, Secretary
Crystal Abers
Chuck Couture
Don McCord
Rebecca Wurster
Pierre Chagnon

Representing

Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County

Others Attending

Richard Zink
Sarah Phearsdorf
Tom Barnes
Fileve Palmer
Jon Mayr
Kimberly LaMendola

Representing

Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

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

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Chuck Jessup made a motion to accept the December 16, 2021, minutes as distributed. Secretary Keis seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

There were no new projects since the last Board meeting.

Executive Director's Report

1. Federal Funding

The House passed the bipartisan infrastructure package, sending it to the White House. White House aides say the President will sign it soon. The legislation contains several provisions affecting ARC, including the following:

- Provides \$1 billion over five years (\$200 million per year, starting in FY2022) for ARC generally, in addition to ARC's regular appropriation. There are no congressional directions on how the money is to be allocated. (The pending House and Senate FY22 regular appropriation bills both provide \$210 million for ARC, along with congressional direction.)

2. Continuing Resolution Goes to President's Desk for Signature

On December 2, 2021, Congress passed a continuing resolution to fund the government through February 18, 2022. The continuing resolution will go to President Biden's desk for signature, and when enacted, will avert a government shutdown as the current continuing resolution expires at 12 AM tonight.

3. Good Jobs Challenge

Southern Tier West was approached by Todd Trantum, MAST, to be the lead agency on an application to EDA for their Good Jobs Challenge. There are three components to this program, which will focus on the manufacturing sector.

Staff has been meeting and discussing the program and requirements of a solid application. We are looking at a 6-county partnership including Potter, Warren, and McKean counties from Pennsylvania. Authorization was needed to submit an application to EDA in the range of \$7-9 million over a three-year period by February 10, 2022. Chuck Couture so moved, Deb Root seconded the motion and it carried.

4. ARPA 101 Training Session

Thank you for registering for the ARPA 101 Training Sessions on January 25 and 27, 2022. The sessions will run from 10:00 – 11:00 AM.

Southern Tier West Program Reports

Richard Zink reported on the following STW Programs:

- a. **Local Government Program** – Training Webinars; Records Management Grant Work
- b. **ARC Projects 2023** – Advertise and recruit applicants; Zoom session scheduled for February 16, 2022, at 10:00 AM
- c. **NYSERDA** – Town of Humphrey successfully adopted the NY Stretch Energy Code; STW coordinated and hosted a Just Transition Site Rescue Program Meeting w/NYSERDA and the cities of Olean and Jamestown

Southern Tier West Affiliation Reports

Richard Zink reported on the following STW Affiliations:

- a. **STEDO** – Currently 28 outstanding loans in the amount of \$2,540,349; currently \$760,691 available for lending, \$145,000 of which is CARES act monies
- b. **STERA** – Next meeting will be in March 2022; moving forward with construction on 1) Front Street/Queen Street bridges in Olean and 2) Olean Rail Yard on Constitution Avenue
- c. **Southern Tier West Development Foundation** – There was no report
- d. **Southern Tier West Angel Fund** – There was no report
- e. **WRC** – There was no report
- f. **NYSAWG** – Zoom session on 1/13/22 was attended by nearly 30 people with almost 100% representation from the 3-county farmers markets. Surveying will continue throughout 2022 season. Pre-season meeting scheduled for late March

Southern Tier West Committee Reports

1. Program Development Committee

The Committee has not met.

2. Policy Committee

Don McCord reported the Committee is working on getting the STW By-Laws to the County Legislatures and getting the policy under one folder.

3. Economic Development/Entrepreneurship Committee

The Committee has not met.

4. Local Government Committee

Working on getting sessions completed for June 9, 2022, Local Government Conference at Houghton College.

5. EDA/ARC Project Committee

Committee will meet in mid-February 2022.

Public Comment

Pierre Chagnon reported that he is being replaced on the Southern Tier West Board of Directors by Thomas Harmon from Chautauqua County. He also expressed his appreciation for time he served on the Southern Tier West Board.

Rebecca Wurster reported that if there were any questions regarding the site reuse planning that has started in Dunkirk, please let her know. Dunkirk is the first municipality in western New York doing the transitioning to the new NYSERDA program.

Fileve Palmer reported that the ARC grant opening for FY23 funding was posted on the STW website, and a press release was sent out.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Audit Abstract

Chuck Couture moved to accept the December/January Audit Abstracts. Deb Root seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be held on March 17, 2022, at 1:00 PM via Zoom.

Adjournment

Chuck Jessup made a motion to adjourn, Chuck Couture seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 PM.

sjp