

**SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES – JULY 18, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on July 18, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Southern Tier West Offices.

**Board Members**

Deb Root  
Carissa Knapp  
Robert Keis, Secretary  
Crystal Abers  
Chuck Couture  
Norm Marsh  
Don Benson  
Don McCord, Vice Chairman  
Tom Harmon  
Rebecca Wurster

**Representing**

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

**Others Attending**

Richard Zink  
Fileve Palmer  
Kimberly LaMendola  
Sarah Phearsdorf  
Kristin Tim  
Sarah Swinko  
Stephanie Beneng

**Representing**

Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff

Secretary Keis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions were made, and a sign-in sheet was circulated.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Chuck Couture made a motion to accept the June 15, 2023, minutes as distributed. Don Benson seconded the motion and it carried.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**Project Review Report**

There were no new projects.

## **Executive Director's Report**

### **1. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Funding**

Southern Tier West has been allotted \$1,185,000 for 2022 and for 2023. Over the five-year period, that equals \$5,925,000 for IIJA designated projects through FFY 2026.

### **2. CEDS**

Each year, the counties are asked to provide their top development projects to be included in the CEDs document. Projects to be included in the 2023 CEDS document include: Allegany County – 1) Crossroads Development Infrastructure System, 2) County-wide 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-Sue Phase II), and 2) Site Acquisition and Infrastructure Development; and Regional Projects – 1) Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority Rehabilitation Project, and 2) Regional Brownfield Inventory.

A motion was needed to approve the prioritized projects as listed above to be included in the 2023 CEDS Document. Crystal Abers so moved, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

### **3. ARC Visit – July 12, 2023**

- Karen Fabiano and Bradley Roebke visited the region on July 11<sup>th</sup>. They and staff visited the following ARC projects: SNI Museum and Galleries, Artist in Residency program in Salamanca, NY; the Cuba Library, STLS technology project.

### **4. STW Budget 2023-2024**

A motion was needed to approve the Southern Tier West FY2023/2024 Budget as presented. Deb Root so moved, Rebecca Wurster seconded the motion and it carried.

### **5. Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee will nominate Officers of the Southern Tier West Board at the Annual Board Meeting in September. Richard Zink appointed the following Board Members to the Nominating Committee: Allegany County – Jerry Scott, Chairman; Cattaraugus County – Chuck Couture; and Chautauqua County – Rebecca Wurster.

## **Southern Tier West Program Reports**

### **1. Local Government Program**

2023 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference; Fall Training

### **2. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)**

Discussed in the Executive Director's Report.

### **3. NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities**

Staff is working with the Village of Portville on a climate action plan and will be reaching out to the Town of Franklinville regarding a transportation plan.

### **4. NYS DEC Baseline**

The Village of Portville completed their DWSP2 Plan. Staff will be reaching out to the Town of Cherry Creek about their drinking water source water protection plan.

## **Southern Tier West Affiliation Reports**

### **1. NYSAWG**

A virtual info session for the full front-facing launch of Food Future WNY took place on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. This was a brief general session geared to build engagement and motivate commitments for participants of the Regional Leadership Team and the five issue-specific Working Groups. Individual Work Group sessions launched the week of July 10<sup>th</sup> with all five groups holding individual convenings. The work groups will continue to meet on varying schedules to create action plans related to the local food system.

### **2. STEDO**

STEDO will be meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Just over \$700,000 is currently available for lending. STEDO is working with one application in the amount of \$250,000.

### **3. STERA**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023.

Norfolk Southern contacted STERA about selling a parcel located in Olean, to a developer. There is also interest in a parcel being sold in Salamanca, NY

## **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **Audit Abstract**

Norm Marsh moved to accept the June/July Audit Abstracts. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

Don Benson moved to accept the Project & Loss Report, Deb Root seconded the motion and it carried.

**ARC Project Presentations**

After presentations of grant applicants, the Board ranked the projects into the following categories.

| Prioritization<br>HIGH MEDIUM<br>LOW | Applicant                            | Project                                                                     | Counties Served | Amount Requested |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| High                                 | Allegany County Office of Planning,  | Allegany Co. - Wide Trails Master Plan                                      | Allegany        | \$70,000         |
| High                                 | CHQ YMCA                             | YMCA Camp Onyahsa Youth Leadership and Future Workforce Development Center: | Chautauqua      | \$250,000        |
| High                                 | OGH                                  | New Care for Orthopedics and PTs                                            | Cattaraugus     | \$250,000        |
| Medium -1                            | Alfred State College                 | Alfred State Electric Vehicle Laboratory project ("EV Lab")                 | Allegany,       | \$128,779        |
| Medium -2                            | Cuba Library                         | Cuba Library Children's Area Renovation                                     | Allegany        | \$209,275        |
| Low                                  | Olean Farmers Market                 | "Olean Farm Fresh" Grocery & Farm-to-Table Foods                            | Cattaraugus     | \$128,450        |
| Low                                  | Seneca-Salamanca Chamber of Commerce | Painting with Purpose                                                       | Cattaraugus     | \$149,370        |
| Low                                  | STW                                  | CCCA                                                                        | Cattaraugus     | \$169,000        |

**Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be the Annual Meeting held on September 21, 2023, at 1:00 PM at the Southern Tier West Offices.

**Adjournment**

Chuck Couture made a motion to adjourn, Norm Marsh seconded the motion and it carried.

sjp