

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – MAY 18, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on May 18, 2023, at 1:00 PM at the Southern Tier West Offices.

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Chairman
Jerry Scott
Deb Root
Carissa Knapp
Crystal Abers
Chuck Couture
Norm Marsh
Robert Keis, Secretary
Don McCord, Vice Chairman
PJ Wendel

Representing

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

Others Attending

Richard Zink
Fileve Palmer
Kimberly LaMendola
Sarah Swinko

Representing

Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

Chairman Dirlam called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made, and a sign-in sheet was circulated.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Chuck Couture made a motion to accept the March 16, 2023, minutes. Norm Marsh seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

Robert Keis made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Deb Root seconded the motion and it carried.

Executive Director’s Report

FY2024 Appropriations Update

Once the debt ceiling issue is dealt with the funding bills will start to be dealt with by congress. Though there is a strong feeling that the budget specifics may be difficult to resolve this year, the key emphasis by LDD’s is to increase the proportion of dollars available for administration. Levels

have been stagnant for over 13 years. There is also a push to decrease matching requirements or percentages associated with this funding.

IIJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) Funding

STW has been allotted \$1,185,000 for 2022 and again for 2023. Over the entire 5-year period, that equals about \$5,925,000 for IIJA designated projects through FFY 2026. Here’s how the allocation between LDDs stacks up given the LDD projects to date:

LDD	Target % Share of Allocation	Expected IIJA (2022-26) Total \$/LDD	IIJA Req. \$ Now in Queue	Remaining \$ thru FFY26	Expected % IIJA \$ available thru FFY26
ST8	40%	\$7,900,000	\$3,111,050	\$4,788,950	61%
STC	30%	\$5,925,000	\$2,413,500	\$3,511,500	59%
STW	30%	\$5,925,000	\$0	\$5,925,000	100%
All 3 LDDs	100%	\$19,750,000	\$5,524,550	\$14,225,450	72%

I would like to focus this money on a common theme over the next few years. Some considerations are site readiness and workforce. Please, remember that 3 county projects require a 63.33% federal share to a 36.67% local share.

The Local Government Efficiency (LGE) Grant program

This program is intended to incentivize new actions between local governments that will reduce the cost of municipal operations and modernize the delivery of local services, thereby limiting growth in property taxes. Applicants must illustrate significant commitment to project completion and clearly demonstrate, through financial estimates and performance measures, the long-term benefit to New York taxpayers.

Comprehensive Planning/Zoning

The Town of Portville has reached out for advice on Comprehensive Planning and Zoning within their community.

Meeting locations

The board decided to offer two additional locations for board meetings for around 4 meetings per year. This would decrease the travel time for members for those months. There are several meetings that would not be at multiple locations. These include the July, September, and December meetings. Southern Tier West would keep the number of meetings at multiple locations to no more than 4 per year.

ARC project presentations

The ARC in-person presentations will be Tuesday July 18th. The meeting will start at 9 am and end at approximately 1:30 pm.

County Allocation

After discussion on redefining the county allocation formula a motion was made Robert Keis and seconded by PJ Wendel to table any further discussion until more research could be completed.

Southern Tier West Program Reports

1. Local Government Program
2023 28th Annual Local Government Conference;
2. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)
The next meeting of the committee will be held June 18th at 10 am. This will be an in-person review of the progress to date.
3. Career Academy
CCCA assisted with a career day at the Salamanca High School with about 25 vendors.
4. NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities
Interested communities include Olean, Jamestown, Allegany, Portville, Sherman, and Westfield.
5. NYS DEC Baseline
Staff is working with Portville to complete the Village of Portville's DWSP2 Plan by August 2023.
6. Community GIS
GIS Training; 45 municipalities with active GIS license; teaching municipalities the software; great response to the program

Southern Tier West Affiliation Reports

1. NYSAWG
NYSAWG is currently interviewing for a CEO, it is hoped this position will be filled by June 1, 2023.
2. STEDO
STEDO is currently working with two applicants to review their applications. One is from Allegany County and one from Chautauqua County. The board is next scheduled to meet May 26th.
3. STERA
The next meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2023.

Southern Tier West Committee Reports

The Committees have not met.

Public Comment

Chuck Couture reported farmers and agriculture; Crystal discussed a potential ARC ARISE grant application; PJ Wendel discussed the influx of immigrants into our area.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Audit Abstract

Chuck Couture moved to accept the March/April Audit Abstracts. PJ Wendel seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be held on June 15th, 2023, at 1:00 PM, at the Southern Tier West Offices as well as other locations.

Adjournment

Norm Marsh made a motion to adjourn at 2:24, Carissa Knapp seconded the motion and it carried.

rtz