

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

# MINUTES – JUNE 16, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on June 16, 2016 at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

**Board Members**

Kier Dirlam, Vice Chairman  
Jerry Scott  
Charles Jessup  
Craig Clark  
Debra Root  
Robert Keis, Chairman  
Crystal Abers  
Chuck Couture  
Donna Vickman  
Norm Marsh  
Jay Gould, Secretary  
Joe Galati  
Vince Horrigan  
Kevin Sanvidge

**Representing**

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

**Others Attending**

Jill Koski  
John Thomas  
Richard Zink  
Sarah Phearsdorf  
Kimberly LaMendola  
Susan Avery  
Jonathan Mayr  
Halley Kottwitz

**Representing**

Congressman Tom Reed's Office  
The Villager  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff

Chairman 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**

Jay Gould made a motion to accept the April 21, 2016 minutes as distributed. Vince Horrigan seconded the motion and it carried.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **Project Review Report**

Kier Dirlam moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Executive Director's Report**

#### **1. Federal Funding**

The House of Representatives failed to pass the FY17 Energy and Water Development Appropriation Bill, which contains ARC's non-highway funding for the next fiscal year. The Bill provides \$146 million for ARC, of which \$10 million is provided to continue the program of high-speed broadband deployment in distressed counties within Central Appalachia that have been most negatively impacted by the downturn in the coal industry. There were no amendments affecting ARC during the general consideration of the Bill. The measure was defeated in part because of concerns about an LGBT amendment that was adopted. The Bill's future at this point is uncertain.

#### **2. New York State Agriculture Working Group (NYSAWG)**

Staff initiated the final process of assuming the leadership of NYSAWG. Steps are being taken to add Board members (Chuck Couture, Kimberly LaMendola, and Margaret Bruegel) to represent our region.

#### **3. Staff Updates**

Richard introduced STW's newest staff member, Halley Kottwitz, Economic Development Associate, who will be working on STEDO and Economic and Community Development.

Jonathan Mayr accepted the position as the Clean Community Program Coordinator and STW will advertise for a GIS staff person.

### **Southern Tier West Program Report**

Executive Director Richard Zink reported on the following STW programs: Local Government Program (Local Government Conference at Houghton College), Local Foods (USDA SNAP Program, SNAP Consumer Support Intern), Broadband, ARC Process, ARC and EDA Technical Assistance (Jamestown National Comedy Center), STERA, and STEDO.

Under the EDA Program Report, a motion was made by Kier Dirlam to designate the county's top two EDA project priorities: 1 – Crossroads Waterline Project and 2 – Bio-Refinery Development and Commercialization Center. Norm Marsh seconded the motion and it carried.

Chautauqua County's top two EDA project priorities: 1 – National Comedy Center and 2 – Northern Chautauqua Regional Water System. Vince Horrigan reported to keep the priorities and listed.

Richard Zink also reported on visions for the following programs: Food System Development; ARC Area Development Program and Regional Economic Development Coordination; and Community GIS

### **Committee Reports**

There were no Committee Reports.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Audit Abstract**

The April - May 2016 Audit Abstracts were approved by Chuck Couture, seconded by Deb Root. Vince Horrigan made a motion to approve staff salaries as recommended by the Executive Director. Norm Marsh 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 July 21, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at the Center for Regional Excellence, 4039 Route 219, Suite 200, Salamanca, New York.

### **Adjournment**

Kier Dirlam made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chuck Couture seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM

### **ARC Project Review**

After the projects were presented to the Board by the applicants, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Chuck Couture to invite and rank the applications as follows:

- 1 – Bio-Refinery Development and Commercialization Center, Alfred State College
- 2 – Commercial Bio-Refinery Resource Assessment, Seneca Trail Resource Conservation & Development 3
- Findley Lake Dam Repairs, Findley Lake Watershed Foundation
- 4 – Hispanic Success Center, Jamestown Community College
- 5 – Community Development Initiative, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development
- 6 – Envisioning Center, Portville Central School, and
- 7- Making It Real: Girls & Manufacturing, Dream It Do It WNY

Jerry Scott seconded the motion and it carried.

Sjp