

**STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Wednesday, January 6, 2016*

*10:00 a.m.*

*Legislative Committee Room  
Steuben County Office Building  
Bath, New York*

**\*\*MINUTES\*\***

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Robin K. Lattimer, Chair John V. Malter	K. Michael Hanna, Vice Chair Robert V. Nichols	Dan C. Farrand
<b>STAFF:</b>	Jack K. Wheeler Eric Rose	Mitch Alger Andy Morse	Amy Dlugos Shawn Corey
<b>LEGISLATORS:</b>	Joseph J. Hauryski Randolph J. Weaver	Carol A. Ferratella	Hilda T. Lando
<b>OTHERS:</b>	Carrie Bartlett, Cornell Cooperative Extension Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation District Jamie Johnson, Executive Director, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency Jill Staats, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency Mary Perham Jeff Smith, <i>The Leader</i>		

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Lattimer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed the new members of the committee.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2015, MEETING MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. MALTER. MOTION CARRIES 4-0-1. (MR. HANNA ABSTAINED AS HE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THAT MEETING)**

**III. DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS**

A. Planning

1. **Coffee Cart Contract Renewal** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that we have not done an RFP for this in a number of years. The current contractor has only been in place for one year and has made a substantial commitment with the purchase of equipment. She requested the committee waive the RFP process and extend the contract for one year. Mr. Wheeler explained the coffee cart has changed hands a number of times in recent years. We will need to do an RFP next year.

**MOTION: WAIVING THE RFP PROCESS AND EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR THE COFFEE CART FOR ONE YEAR UNDER THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

2. **Agricultural Plan** – Mr. Hauryski asked what are the next steps? Mrs. Dlugos replied our plan was officially approved at the State level. She has met with the Finger Lakes Land Trust regarding farmland protection. We will continue working with our agricultural districts and will also continue our Farm-City Day activities. Additionally, we will be working with the municipalities to make sure zoning laws are agriculture friendly.

B. County Manager

1. **Old Hospital Lease** – Mr. Wheeler informed the committee that we lease the Old Hospital Building to ProAction. Their current lease expires December 31, 2017. ProAction is in the process of applying for a grant, however, one of the stipulations is that they need to have a lease through 2019. He requested authorization to extend their current lease through the end of 2019.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE LEASE OF THE OLD HOSPITAL BUILDING TO PROACTION THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019 MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. FARRAND. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.**

IV. OUTSIDE AGENCIES

A. Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program** – Mr. Parker informed the committee this is a new program created by the Governor and administered by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The purpose of this program is to assist farm operators with implementing an approved farm business or environmental plan that will increase farm production, enhance profitability and/or increase environmental compatibility of the farm operation. Projects may be awarded in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Steuben, Schuyler, Tompkins, Chemung, Tioga, Broome, Chenango and Delaware counties. Mr. Parker stated this will be a very intensive application process. Applications will be submitted to the Soil & Water Conservation District Office. We will accept the applications, review them for completeness and send to Agriculture and Markets.

Mr. Parker stated the first sign-up will begin January 19, 2016 and run through the end of March. There will be another sign-up period in June and another two sign-up periods next year. The Governor has made \$4.5 million available to Steuben County and Soil & Water will receive 10 percent of what is awarded for administrative costs. He stated that his office has already had 35 calls. Mr. Parker stated he will be submitting another article to the paper to advertise this program. There are a possible 380 farms that could meet the eligibility requirements to participate in this program.

2. **Activity Update** – Mr. Parker distributed his January report for review. They have completed 34 projects under the District Rock Program totaling \$205,916. The district submitted two agricultural grants; one for a manure storage facility and the other for cover barnyards/silage leachate and milkhouse waste systems. One grant was awarded total State funding of \$450,000 for a manure storage facility. Mr. Parker announced the Upper Susquehanna Coalition has received the Environmental Excellence Award for conducting Emergency Stream Intervention training to DOT, Army Corps of Engineers and other districts and municipalities.

3. **Funding** – Mr. Parker distributed a handout showing the funding that is brought into Steuben County. For every \$1 that the County allocates to us, we are bringing in \$4 - \$6. In 2015, a total of \$1.139 million in funding was brought into the County.

4. **Environmental Protection Fund** – Mr. Parker requested the County's support in seeking to restore FL-LOPWA (Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Water Protection Alliance) funding within the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) from \$1.75 million to \$2.3 million. This would bring us back to our past funded level of fiscal year 2008-2009. He stated that Steuben County receives \$67,000 annually and that is used for lake monitoring, streambank/road ditch stabilization and critical area seeding or hydro-seeding.

**MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE GOVERNOR AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO RESTORING FL-LOWPA (FINGER LAKES-LAKE ONTARIO WATER PROTECTION ALLIANCE) FUNDING BACK TO \$2.3 MILLION MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.**

5. **Award** – Mr. Parker announced that the Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District received the New York State Soil & Water Conservation Diversity Award. Mr. Farrand commented we will be

sending this to the National Soil & Water Conservation Association for their recommendation for national recognition.

B. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program** – Mr. Johnson stated the Industrial Development Agency can definitely play a role in this. He would encourage farmers with any projects that get approved to come to us and we could help them structure business plans and look into funding opportunities.

2. **Agricultural Plan** – Mr. Johnson informed the committee that they continue to work on the economic development portion of that plan. We are meeting with prospective developers for a food enterprise center.

3. **Annual Report** – Mr. Johnson distributed his 2015 annual report.

4. **Upstate Revitalization Initiative** – Mr. Johnson announced our region won \$117 million this year and there will be an additional \$100 million allocated each of the next four years. This year 100 projects were awarded funding. In Steuben County, this includes \$3.5 million for the Corning Hospital site, \$400,000 for Ice Energy, \$350,000 to rebuild the pier in Urbana and \$150,000 for TTA to develop a wheel press shop.

Mr. Johnson commented of the total award allocation, \$70 million is unallocated for the region for this year. We will know by the end of the month how the State will accept applications and how we can take advantage of that unallocated funding. We are looking to see if we can apply for that funding to increase the allocations we have already received.

5. **Phillips** – Mr. Johnson informed the committee that work is ongoing behind Phillips for the environmental cleanup. Once that is completed and signed off by the Department of Environmental Conservation, that facility will go on the market. They hope to have it on the market by June, and we will continue to monitor this.

6. **Kraft-Heinz** – Mr. Johnson reported that they continue to be engaged with corporate and they are putting together a due diligence package which should be ready by the middle of January. This will contain detailed information regarding the workforce, needs of the facility, etc.

7. **Corning Hotel** – Mr. Johnson stated they are working with Department of Environmental Conservation. If construction starts next year, then they will still be able to secure their funding.

Mr. Weaver asked will the Urbana Waterfront project be at a standstill if you do not receive additional funding? Mr. Johnson replied there has been debate on whether a new pier needs to be built or if they can just reconstruct around the steel infrastructure. The original cost estimate of \$800,000 was based on the demolition of the old pier and construction of a new pier. We are waiting for a determination from the engineers. If it is determined that we can rebuild, then that would reduce the cost of the project substantially.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. *Setting 2016 Meeting Schedule* – The committee agreed to continue to hold monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

B. *Changing the Date of the February Meeting* - Due to the NYSAC Conference, the committee agreed to change the date of the February meeting to Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

C. *Goals* – Ms. Lattimer stated that with regard to goals for the committee, we will be looking at economic development. We will need to set some more concrete goals to pursue. Mr. Wheeler stated his office would work with the committee as some of the goals for his office address that as well.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS' LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR CORPORATION MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. MALTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. FARRAND. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. MALTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman  
Deputy Clerk  
Steuben County Legislature

**\*\*NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR\*\***

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\***Wednesday, January 10, 2016**\*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE\*\***  
10:00 a.m.

**Please send your agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
NO LATER THAN NOON  
Wednesday, January 27, 2016.**