

STEBEN COUNTY AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

9:40 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Robin K. Lattimer, Chair K. Michael Hanna, Vice Chair John V. Malter
Robert V. Nichols Thomas J. Ryan

STAFF: Jack K. Wheeler Eric Rose Amy Dlugos
Emily Simms

LEGISLATORS: Joseph J. Hauryski Carol A. Ferratella Kelly H. Fitzpatrick
Hilda T. Lando Frederick G. Potter Randolph J. Weaver

OTHERS: Larkin Podsiedlik, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension
James Johnson, Executive Director, Steuben County Industrial Development Agency
Jeff Parker, District Manager, Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District
Ed Merry, President, Steuben County Farm Bureau
Ainslee Robbins
Dustin Rogers
Mary Perham

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lattimer called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and asked Mr. Wheeler to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2018, MEETING MADE BY MR. MALTER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

A. Planning

1. **Sub-Recipient Agreement Approval** – Mrs. Dlugos informed the committee that the Office of Community Renewal (OCR) was recently reviewed by Housing & Urban Development (HUD). As a result of that review, we had to review our past Community Development Block Grants back to the year 2000 to track the program income and found there is program income on hand at the Industrial Development Agency. In order to facilitate OCR-approved economic development projects using the funds, she requested authorization to enter into a sub-recipient agreement with the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency to do the necessary work to expend the funds.

Mr. Johnson explained this was a grant that was awarded to TTA for the Bombardier facility. This is coming back as program income in the form of loan payments. That money is in a different economic development account and has been utilized for other economic development projects. When the loan repayment amount exceeds \$35,000, then the requirement is that we need to track it as program income.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A SUB-RECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE STEUBEN COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRACKING PROGRAM INCOME RELATIVE TO A 2000 GRANT MADE BY MR. RYAN. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. **Transit Grant** – Mrs. Dlugos requested authorization to accept and appropriate the 2017 Accelerated Transit Capital Grant for Mass Transportation for \$5,000 for security cameras on First Transit buses. She commented this grant was awarded and the State never sent the contract.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE 2017 ACCELERATED TRANSIT CAPITAL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 FOR A MASS TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL PROJECT TO ENABLE FIRST TRANSIT TO INSTALL SECURITY CAMERAS ON THEIR BUSES MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

B. County Manager

1. **Old Health Care Facility Payment** – Mr. Wheeler informed the committee since we still have records and voting machines at the Old Health Care Facility, we pay Centers for the utilities and upkeep of the building. In addition, we also pay the property taxes and insurance. This year that payment is \$9,157.26 and he would recommend paying that. The insurance portion is \$500.00.

Ms. Lattimer asked is there any room for discussing a pro-rated amount? Mr. Wheeler stated no they had not discussed that. It will be past the summer before we are fully moved out and ready to hand the facility back to Centers.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO PAY \$9,157.26 TO CENTERS FOR THE USE OF THE OLD HEALTH CARE FACILITY BUILDING TO COVER UTILITIES, UPKEEP, PROPERTY TAXES AND INSURANCE THROUGH THE END OF 2018 MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. MALTER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

IV. **OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

A. Soil & Water Conservation District

1. **Program Update** – Mr. Parker provided his report to the committee. Of note, the District has been awarded two grants under the CAFO Waste Storage & Transfer System to assist two CAFO farms in implementation on manure storages totaling \$923,513.00 in State funding. The grant program is strictly for CAFO farms for installing six months of manure storage on a cost share basis of 75/25. The landowners will be contributing a combined total of \$2,211,305.00 towards their projects. He stated they have also submitted another two applications for manure storage under Round 2. These two applications total \$570,330.00 in State funding and the landowners will be contributing a combined total of \$173,825.00 towards their projects.

Mr. Parker informed the committee that the District was added to the Environmental Protection Fund by Senator O'Mara as a separate line item totaling \$85,000.00 for education and outreach. We will be utilizing these funds within the Senator's region for Emergency Stream Intervention (ESI) and demonstration projects, DEC 4-hour Contractors Training and additionally looking at possibly developing a handbook for municipal use on road ditch stabilization with demonstration projects.

Mr. Malter asked for any of these improvement projects, do you have any numbers on what the additional assessment amounts are? Ms. Lattimer clarified these would be the projects awarded under the Southern Tier Ag Industry Enhance Program (STAIEP). Mr. Parker replied most of those projects probably qualified for the 10-year property tax exemption. Mr. Malter stated he just wondered what the assessments would be.

Mr. Parker introduced Ainslee Robbins who is a senior at Cobleskill and is their summer intern.

B. Steuben County Farm Bureau

1. **Activities Update** – Ed Merry introduced himself as the President of the Steuben County Farm Bureau. He and his brother own and operate Lismore Dairy Farm in Arkport. A portion of their farm is also located in Allegany County. He would like to take this opportunity to thank the Legislature for their support of the Soil & Water Conservation District as they had been a recipient of the STAIEP grant five years ago and were able to install a water storage system. Soil & Water did a great job. Mr. Merry stated he would also like to thank the Legislature for helping to keep the Campbell milk plant (Upstate Niagara) going. Currently New York dairy production has exceeded processing capacities.

Mr. Merry announced that in conjunction with Cornell Cooperative Extension, they will be holding a chicken barbeque on July 22, 2018 to celebrate their 100th Anniversary. Ms. Podsiedlik commented dinners will be \$1.50, which is the same price as the 40th Anniversary back in 1958.

Mr. Ryan asked is there a strategy between the Farm Bureau and Cornell Cooperative Extension to address the issues of market share for dairy? It seems like the dairy industry should have a long-range marketing plan. Mr. Merry explained all milk is marketed through a co-op. He stated he has no control over where his milk gets sold. Our farm may be forced to become a processor. Ms. Podsiedlik stated we support the dairy farms and try to promote their products.

Mr. Merry announced the Farm Bureau's annual meeting will be held in October and he would like to invite the Legislators to attend. We are trying to get more involvement.

C. Steuben County Industrial Development Agency

1. **Comptroller's Report** – Mr. Johnson informed the committee that last Friday the State Comptroller released his annual reports on Industrial Development Agencies. The report was positive and talked about the positive impacts the IDA's are having. The Steuben County IDA has 48 active projects. The impact of that is we have the highest job creation; over 4,000 jobs, of any other IDA's in the region. With regard to cost per impact, Steuben County granted \$2,600 in property tax exemptions per job created, which is the lowest of any of the IDA's in the region. On a performance basis, we are doing very well.

Mr. Wheeler stated that he would like to congratulate Mr. Johnson on his Economic Developer of the Year award which he received in May. Mr. Johnson stated it was a nice honor and I have a great community to work for.

2. **Workforce Development Study** – Mr. Johnson stated last month he presented a preview of the results of the study that was done. Steuben County was the first to support the first phase of this study. This is getting traction throughout the State. In addition to Steuben County and the IDA, our funding partners include Chemung and Schuyler Counties, Three Rivers Development, and Southern Tier Economic Growth. He stated that CAEL and Avalanche were the consulting team that conducted the study.

Mr. Johnson stated three reports came about as a result of this study. Report 1 is a talent supply and demand analysis. Report 2 is an education and training asset inventory and Report 3 is the integrated workforce development strategy. The reports outline concerns regarding talent supply and demand such as aging workforce, challenges with drug use and the perceived lack of work, and the barriers to retaining and attracting a workforce to this area. It also outlines industry concerns as well as critical shortages. The consultants came up with five strategic goals.

Mr. Johnson stated the first goal focuses on workforce and economic development stakeholder engagement and efforts in the I-86 corridor are results-oriented, consistent, aligned, and coordinated by a central entity. As part of that, they will need to create and support an administrative entity to coordinate efforts and drive the strategy implementation. He has talked with Three Rivers Development about continuing the engagement of Susan Payne and they are working on a proposal for how to do that. The charge from the I-86 Steering Committee to the Workforce Work Group is to recommend an organizational structure. Then the Workgroup will form subcommittees to recommend an organizational structure; a description of core activities, strategic initiatives,

reporting requirements and annual deliverables; leadership composition; partnerships; administrative resources and a business plan.

Mr. Nichols commented one of the biggest issues is workers being able to pass drug tests. Until the mindset changes that you will go nowhere if you are involved in drugs, it will continue to be a problem. Mr. Johnson stated most of the issues are not unique to the nation; however, the one unique thing that came out of this was the labor participation rate. Mr. Wheeler stated CSS Workforce has already started talking about initiatives. There is a benefits gap for single parents that want a full-time job, but if they take that job they will lose their benefits. That is something that we continue to work on.

Mr. Wheeler explained we already contract with Three Rivers Development for the products of this plan. We paid \$60,000 for two years. The proposal is to expand the current contract for them to sub-contract with Susan Payne to lead the effort to create the organizational structure for the implementation of Strategic Goal #1. This would be a six-month engagement. You do have money in the Workforce Development line item. The cost of the expanded contract would be \$8,500.00.

Mr. Nichols said this is an investment in the future and it is an investment that we need. Mr. Johnson stated the study results are very defined and we have actionable items. He stated the IDA is also contributing \$2,000 toward this. Chemung will be asked to contribute the same as Steuben, and Schuyler will be half of that.

Ms. Lattimer asked after six months when we have an organization, will we be able to draw any workforce dollars from the Governor? Mr. Johnson replied workforce development was one of the Governor's initiatives this year. We are setting ourselves up to access a good portion of that money. We don't know what the implementation will be. This is not new money and there are very specific rules attached. Most of that funding will be a direct benefit toward training. Ms. Lattimer asked the money from the Governor will have to go to actual worker training? Mr. Johnson replied yes. Having said that, there is a CFA application for a major workforce development project. We hope they can access some of that \$715 million for the implementation of programs.

Mr. Hauryski asked is the \$8,500 going to the development of the organization? Mr. Johnson replied yes. Mr. Hauryski stated we already have a product out of this study and this will keep that going. Mr. Johnson commented his biggest fear is that we will not have the political will to finish this. The administrative hub/organization is imperative to the success of this.

Mr. Malter stated last month you had mentioned the cost for this administrative hub would be \$150,000. Mr. Johnson replied yes, he anticipates the cost will be between \$150,000 - \$200,000 if you are talking about salaries, office space, staff, etc. The question of whether there could be a model that doesn't have all of that in place is maybe. Mr. Malter asked if we budgeted for this, what would be the return factor, if any, down the line? Mr. Johnson replied his hope is that the return factor is more on partner income basis and buy in and that the partners would help supplement this. There could also be direct resource revenue. Mr. Malter commented we have to do this as it is important. Somewhere along the way the educational system has gone awry and we need to bring that back into focus. Mr. Wheeler stated BOCES and the schools have been very engaged in this process and this is the direction they want to go.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO EXPAND THE CONTRACT WITH THREE RIVERS DEVELOPMENT TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF SUSAN PAYNE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CREATION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE HUB RELATIVE TO THE WORKFORCE STUDY FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$8,500.00 CONTRIBUTION BY STEUBEN COUNTY TO BE TAKEN OUT OF THE WORKFORCE BUDGET LINE ITEM MADE BY MR. MALTER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. *Berry Creek* – Mr. Wheeler informed the committee they have received a request from an individual in Pine City to rename a portion of an unnamed creek partially located in Steuben County in the Town of Caton. The

individual has requested naming that portion of the creek, Berry Creek due to the number of wild berry plants growing on the banks.

MOTION: PROPOSING THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SERVICE RENAME A PORTION OF AN UNNAMED CREEK PARTIALLY LOCATED IN STEUBEN COUNTY, NY, IN THE TOWN OF CATON, TO BERRY CREEK MADE BY MR. MALTER. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. *Changing Date of July Meeting* – Due to the 4th of July holiday, the committee was in agreement to change the date of the July AIP Committee meeting to Monday, July 9, 2018, at 9:30 a.m.

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

MOTION: PRESENTATION OF NAMES OF PERSONS SELECTED FOR INDUCTION INTO THE STEUBEN COUNTY HALL OF FAME AND CONFIRMATION BY THE STEUBEN COUNTY LEGISLATURE MADE BY MR. MALTER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

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

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. MALTER. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. 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** Monday, July 9, 2018 **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**
Legislative Committee Room
9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, June 27, 2018.**