CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brian Staples called to order a meeting of the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency at 8:02 AM at the Best Western, Canton.

ROLL CALL:
Blevins ...................... Present  Hall......................... Present
LaBaff ....................... Present  McMahon ............... Present
Peck........................... Present  Staples .................... Present
Weekes...................... Present


MINUTES: LaBaff/Weekes move to accept the minutes of the September 22 and September 30, 2010 meetings. Accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notifications sent October 15, 2010 to, at a minimum: St. Lawrence County’s newspapers designated for the publication of local laws and other matters required by law to be published; additional local media sources and websites.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Deb Christy, President of the St. Lawrence County Snowmobile Association spoke to the Agency. The Association does not want the railroad bed between Newton Falls and Harrisville torn up, but instead wants to assist the Agency by maintaining portions of the line and, in turn, asks that the Association be allowed to use the line in the winter months. The Association would work to clean up a small washout on the rail bed and provide other general maintenance. She provided a history/background of the Association, noting it currently has 2,036 members, 40 of whom regularly maintain the snowmobile trail. She notes that snowmobilers have a direct impact on the local economy (tourism, gasoline, meals, etc.). The Association has minimum standards for trail maintenance and has an insurance policy that covers everyone who touches the rail bed. She will provide the Agency with a copy of the policy. Mr. Hall notes that many are currently using the rail without the Agency’s permission, so the Agency already has liability. Mr. Weekes comments that this would be a great thing and would enhance business. In response to a question from Mr. Blevins, Ms. Christy notes that the trails would be posted and the Association would be able to make the Agency aware of issues that may be arising with the rail. Mr. Williams is assigned to coordinate with Ms. Christy on this project.

FINANCIAL REPORT: LaBaff/Peck move to accept the August 2010 and September 2010 financial reports. Accepted and filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORT: None
STAFF REPORT:

- **PAAA/Para Training:** Mrs. Sweatland provides an excerpt from an April 2010 PARA training session held in Albany. The excerpt is part of the Q&A portion of the training session, during which Ira Millstein answers a question posed to him regarding board members, the members’ appointing authorities, and members’ fiduciary responsibility to the authority board on which they serve. At the conclusion of the 15-minute excerpt, Agency members agreed that the excerpt reinforced the idea of their fiduciary duty to the Agency and addressed recent concerns about the Agency’s appointing authority’s attempts to influence the Agency’s direction and mission. Mr. Peck commented that he would like the County Legislative Board to see the excerpt. Mrs. Sweatland notes that this session should meet the Board members’ ongoing training requirement of PAAA for the IDA, IDALDC and IDACDC.

- **Rail Blockage:** Atty. Small reports he spoke with Stuart Carlisle at Benson Mines regarding the mine’s blocking of a portion of the Agency’s rail line near the mine. Citing a security issue, Benson Mines has blocked the portion of the rail in response to recent damage of mine property and to protect newly-stored equipment. Mr. Small notes that he advised Mr. Carlisle that the blockage has to be removed due to liability issues.

- **Kinney Drugs:** Mr. Fountain reports that Congressman Owens was in Gouverneur regarding the Northern Border Regional Commission’s award of $200,000 for the Kinney Drugs/Gouverneur waterline upgrade project. IDA staff have forwarded an application through the Economic Development Assistance program for $560,000 to help offset the cost of the waterline upgrade for Kinney Drugs. Mr. Staples directs staff to issue a press release regarding the award and application.

- **SLRVRA:** The joint meeting with the IDA and the SLRVRA needs to be scheduled for November.

- **Jason Clark:** Has requested a $20,000 ‘advance’ on a member item from Senator Griffio for the Northern Corridor Transportation Group. IDA Board members have questions regarding the need to secure an advance, the planned use and the status of the Senator’s commitment.

- **Halifax:** Mssrs. Kelly and Hall reported on their recent trip to Halifax to meet with Scotia Investments’ CEO. They discussed current industry conditions and ways that we can work together, and with our development partners, to continue to assist in finding ways to sustain and improve the mill’s operations. Mr. Hall notes that Scotia Investments and their secondary businesses were extremely impressed on the IDA’s effort to meet with them and it was well worth the effort for Mr. Kelly to go with him. Mssrs. Kelly and Hall also commented on the quality of the industrial and commerce park sites and buildings in Halifax and noted that to remain competitive in attracting firms from outside the area we have consider improving our own inventory of available sites and facilities.

- **IDA Planning/Separation Committee:** Mr. Staples advises Mr. Fountain that the committee will continue as originally instructed and address personnel issues, etc.

- **Fish Cap Project:** Mr. Fountain reports that Ms. McKeown and Mr. Meissner met with the SLRVRA to seek project funding, and they would also like to present information to the IDA. Mr. Staples notes he wants to hear from them; this project affects the entire County – it brings people in (tourism) and it is also a ‘green’ project. Mr. Kelly reports he is scheduled to meet with them this coming Thursday. Mr. McMahon is not opposed to the project, but notes his concern whether potential funding recipients should all come through the full board
or go through staff first. Mr. LaBaff agrees and recommends these types of projects go through a subcommittee/staff first. Mr. Staples notes he would like to see a presentation by the staff regarding the Fish Cap initiative by the end of the year.

- **NYS Workers’ Compensation Election:** Mrs. Gilbert reports that in order to have her and Mr. Fountain included under the Workers’ Compensation coverage, she is required to get the Agency Board’s approval. It is the consensus of the Agency Board members that the CFO and CEO be included under WC coverage.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Peck/Hall motion for an Executive Session at 8:50 AM to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation; and the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property. Unanimous.

Board Member Blevins is excused during the Executive Session.

Hall/McMahon motion to return to Regular Session. Unanimous.

The Agency returns to Regular Session at 9:22 AM.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Resolution: Authorizing a Purchase Option Agreement with Curran Renewable Energy – LaBaff/McMahon. No questions or comments. Resolution is approved (6 ‘aye’ votes and Mr. Blevins absent).

Resolution: Adopting 2011 Budget – Weekes/LaBaff. No questions or comments. Resolution is approved (6 ‘aye’ votes and Mr. Blevins absent).

Resolution: Authorizing a Commitment of funds to the drum Country Business Regional Marketing Initiative – Weekes/Peck. No questions or comments. Resolution is approved (6 ‘aye’ votes and Mr. Blevins absent).

**ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourned at 9:24 AM by unanimous consent.

/s/
(Mr.) Lynn Blevins, Secretary