

**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MINUTES OF MEETING – December 21, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brian Staples called to order a meeting of the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency at 8:00 AM at the Best Western, Canton.

ROLL CALL:

Blevins	Present	Hall	Present
LaBaff	Present	McMahon	Absent
Peck	Present	Staples	Present
Weekes	Present		

Others: IDA Staff Ray Fountain, Patrick Kelly, Leigh Rodriguez, Brian Norton, Kimberly Gilbert, Richard Williams & Natalie Sweatland. Agency Counsel William R. Small.

MINUTES: LaBaff/Weekes move to accept the minutes of the November 16 26, 2010 meeting. Accepted.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notifications sent December 10, 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: Chairman Staples presents William R. Small with a token of appreciation from the Agency.

FINANCIAL REPORT: October 2010 and November 2010: Blevins/LaBaff motion to accept. No questions or comments. Unanimous. Filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORT: None

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Fountain reports on the following:

- **IDA Cost Recovery System:** The IDA received notice of the amount of its share of the State's Cost Recovery System (\$2.9MM to be recovered by NYS). (Unused) funds set aside last year by the Agency to pay NYSEDC toward the cost of fighting this tax will be put toward this year's litigation.
- **Rent on Human Services Center:** Rent will decrease from \$91,421 in 2010 to \$82,187 in 2011. Decreased cost due to removal of building security staff.
- **City of Ogdensburg** has requested a meeting with the IDA to present information on the City's goals, recent Summit and findings. Mr. Fountain has responded that the IDA would consider the request after the new year. Mr. Blevins notes that the Ogdensburg City Manager should be sent the 2011 meeting schedule and advised that all meetings are open to the public.
- **Newton Falls Rail:** Mr. Williams and Mrs. Rodriguez have drafted an informational brochure on the rail line, outlining goals, etc. to save the rail. A copy of the draft document is distributed for Board member review/comments.
- **Legislative Orientation:** Staff are working to create legislative orientation documents. He notes that the last time the IDA held one, only 3 members showed; he hopes that this new legislature will show more interest.
- **Temporary Position:** This person has been assisting by manning the front door and answering phones.
- **2011 Meeting Schedule:** After significant discussion, the Agency sets the 4th Thursday of each month at 8:30 AM as the Agency's meeting schedule for 2011. The November and December 2011 meetings, however, will be held the 4th Tuesday due to conflicts with holidays.
- **Board Evaluations** are due to Natalie by the end of January.
- **2011 Marketing Plan:** Mr. Kelly provides an overview of the Agency's marketing plan for 2011. Comments/suggestions from Board members include: i) make mention of the Adirondack Park; ii) utilize a free booth at the St. Lawrence County Fair.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution “Finding that Assisting with the Water Main Expansion in Gouverneur Will Not Have a Significant Effect on the Environment.” Peck/Weekes. Error on page 20 is noted (states MIP Lot 17, should be Gouverneur). The next round of applications for State funding is January. Mr. Peck notes that the Village of Gouverneur needs to be involved in this project. It cannot be put off – someone needs to sit down with the Village and let them know that the IDA can assist with the project but it cannot do the whole project. Mr. Peck goes on to note that he has heard rumors of similar problems with Price Chopper and the Hospital’s expansion project. He [Peck] suggests that a meeting be set up with Gouverneur officials and IDA representatives [Peck, Fountain]. The Agency will hold its next IDA meeting in Gouverneur. The resolution receives unanimous approval.

Resolution “Reauthorizing a Corporate Alliance with Electric Strategies, Inc.” LaBaff/Weekes. No questions or comments. The resolution receives unanimous approval.

Resolution “Authorizing Participation in the Adirondack Partnership,” Hall/LaBaff and Blevins. Mr. Hall explains that this partnership brings together numerous groups in the Adirondack Park to create a non-profit 501 (c)(3). The partnership would involve approximately 103 towns, villages, environmental groups, schools, economic development groups, etc. This will be a large group and the membership is expected to increase. No funds are requested and participation should be well worth it. The resolution receives unanimous approval.

Resolution “Authorizing Agreement with Blue Springs Energy.com,” LaBaff/Weekes. Mr. Kelly notes that the company is an aggregator of energy-related programs. The funds (\$4,000) will be used to provide a connection to our website. Programs on the site will be specific to St. Lawrence County residents, businesses, institutions, etc and will act as a single source of assistance – a portal to see what programs (State, Federal, local, etc) are available. The funds are a one-time set up fee. The company would sell IDA-approved ads on the site. The resolution receives unanimous approval.

Resolution “Extending the Agent Status of Dockside Village of the 1000 Islands LLC,” Blevins/Hall. Mr. Fountain notes that this resolution extends the agent status once more; however, now the Company must pay at least one-half of the bond counsel fees that have been incurred to date. The resolution receives unanimous approval.

Mr. Hall motions for a recess at 9:06 AM. Unanimous. The Agency returns from recess at 9:22 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: LaBaff/Peck motion for an Executive Session at 9:22 AM to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation; and the financial/credit history of a particular company. Unanimous.

LaBaff/Weekes motion to return to Regular Session. Unanimous. The Agency returns to Regular Session at 10:04 AM.

NEW BUSINESS (cont’d):

LaBaff/Hall motion to accept Underberg & Kessler’s proposal for General Counsel services for the remainder of the term left vacant by William R. Small, Esq. The Agency will retain Underberg & Kessler until the Agency’s 2011 Annual Meeting. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 10:07 AM by unanimous consent.

/s/
(Mr.) Lynn Blevins, Secretary