

**MINUTES** 

May 26, 2020

STAFF

JOHN J. PISECK, JR.

STACEY J. HOLLERAN Office Manager

VICTORIA L. ADAMS

VINCENT J. BONO Chairman

DAVID M. CHLUS Vice Chairman

JOHN SCARANO Secretary

MICHAEL WERENCZAK

CORY ALBRECHT

CATHERINE RICCI

ANN GAWORECKI Director

Because of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Emergency and State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 220.1 issued on March 12, 2020 suspending the Open Meetings Law, the Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency Board Meeting was held Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 8:00 AM electronically via conference call instead of a public meeting open for the public to attend in person. Members of the public were invited to listen to the meeting by calling (605) 313-6315 and entering access code 827250.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Vincent (Jim) Bono called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM.

The following members answered the roll call: Vincent (Jim) Bono, Cory Albrecht, John Scarano, Ann Gaworecki, Michael Werenczak, and Catherine (Cate) Ricci. Quorum present.

Members Absent: David Chlus

**Staff Present:** John Piseck, Stacey Holleran, Victoria Adams

Also Present: James Wallace, Anthony Hallak, Bob Hollum

Minutes: The minutes of the April 28, 2020 regular meeting were offered for review. John Scarano moved, seconded by Cate Ricci to approve presented minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: The following financial reports were offered for review and approval: 2020 April Financial Report, Balance Sheet, Check Register, RLF/Lease Balance with payment status. Mr. Piseck stated that all loans are up to date. The Agency has adequate funds for the remainder of the year. Cate Ricci moved, seconded by John Scarano, to approve all financial reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

RLF 2-2-2 Loan/Grant Application – PK's Pub: PK's Pub submitted an application for a loan/grant through the Agency's 2-2-2 program. The project includes upgrading the hood system, fixing the walk-in freezer, replacing some flooring, and re-insulating walls. Michael Werenczak moved, seconded by Ann Gaworecki to approve a loan in the amount of \$2,000, a grant in the amount of \$2,000, with proof of owner injection of \$2,000. The funds will come from the Seward account. The loan terms will be 2% for 24 months. Motion carried unanimously.

Small Business RLF Butler Fund: Mr. Piseck briefly discussed the Butler fund and his recommendation of granting the remaining funds to Casestry, LLC. Casestry is a growing tech business that the Agency has dealt with previously. Mr. Piseck feels they could greatly benefit from the grant by adding additional equipment and possibly adding employee(s). He will have the company complete an application and forward to the RLF committee for review.

## **Project Updates/Other Business:**

Duofold: Mr. Piseck discussed the sign he had constructed pro-bono for the Duofold building. He asked board members to drive by and look at the sign. He also provided an update on the site's potential for State Historic Preservation. The State Historic Preservation Office has requested the building adjacent to the site, formerly a train depot, be included. Mr. Piseck has reached out, without success.

Newport Solar Project: There is the potential for a new solar project in Newport. Public hearings are underway, and updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Herkimer County Solar Project: Mr. Piseck stated that there is a potential solar project for Herkimer County that would provide energy to Herkimer College; however, the college has not signed an agreement to date.

Herkimer County Microenterprise Grant: Mr. Piseck stated that the Agency will send out a press release by the end of the week to inform the community of the Herkimer County Microenterprise Grant and begin accepting applications.

Schuyler Business Park Packet: Mr. Piseck spoke about the Schuyler Business Park packet that was mailed out to county ambassadors. The Agency will send the packet to potential developers.

State Grants: Mr. Piseck is concerned with state grant funding. He is unsure if grants awarded will still be received. Any updates will be provided as they become available.

Being no other business, Ann Gaworecki moved, seconded by John Scarano to adjourn at 8:25 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria Adams

Administrative Assistant