



STAFF

JOHN J. PISECK, JR.  
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Administrative Office  
Assistant

SAMANTHA F. CANARELLI  
Marketing & Communications  
Specialist

MINUTES

February 19, 2026

**Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency Board of Directors Meeting**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VINCENT J. BONO  
Chairman

CORY ALBRECHT  
Vice Chairman

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Treasurer

ROBERT DAVENPORT  
Secretary

ANN GAWORECKI  
Director

FRANK MENDEL  
Director

DR. TERRI GRATES DAY  
Director

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

GREGORY MALTA, SR.—District 1  
Herkimer County Legislator

COUNSEL

ANTHONY G. HALLAK, Esq.  
Felt Evans, LLP

Special:  
CHARLES MALCOLM, Esq.  
SHANNON WAGNER, Esq.  
Hodgson Russ, LLP

The Herkimer County Industrial Development held an audit, governance, and finance meeting of the Board of Directors, on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 8:00 AM. The meeting was held electronically via zoom conference as well as a public meeting open for the public to attend in person. Members of the public were invited to join the meeting virtually by going to [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) or by dialing (929) 205-6099 and entering ID: 875-6466-4800 and passcode: 402411. Members of the public were invited to attend the meeting in person in the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce conference room at 420 E. German Street, Herkimer, NY 13350.

Chairman Vincent (Jim) Bono lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and called the Audit/Governance/Finance meeting to order at 8AM

**The following members were present in person and answered the roll call: Vincent (Jim) Bono, Ann Gaworecki, Frank Mendl, and Dr. Terri Grates Day Quorum Present (4)**

**The Board had a moment of silence for John Scarano.**

**Members Absent:** Robert Davenport, Tim Day, and Cory Albrecht.

**Agency Staff Present:** John Piseck, Victoria Adams, Nicole Farber, and Samantha Canarelli.

**Also Present in Person:** Herkimer County Legislator Anthony J. Lucenti, Herkimer County Legislator Greg Malta Sr., Herkimer County Legislator Peter Campione, and Executive Director of Workforce and Economic Development for Herkimer County Community College, Scott Scheible.

**Also Present Virtually:** Shannon Wagner, Hodgson Russ LLP, Elaine Sperbeck, Herkimer County Resident, Elizabeth (Liz) Bush and Amy Gardener of Bowers and Company.

**2025 Audited Financial Statements:**

**Bowers and Company Presentation:** Elizabeth (Liz) Bush and Amy Gardener of Bowers and Company were present via Zoom during the Herkimer County IDA board meeting to review the 2025 annual audit for the IDA and LDC. Elizabeth provided an overview of key pieces of the audit. A copy was provided to the board members in advance of the meeting.

**Board Members:** After the presentation by Bowers and Company, board members were provided an opportunity to ask questions regarding the audit. Questions that were brought forward were answered by Elizabeth during the meeting. Elizabeth (Liz) Bush and Amy Gardener of Bowers and Company exited at 8:31AM. Following discussion, **Dr. Terri Grates Day, seconded by Frank Mendl to approve all financial reports as presented. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves. Resolution: 21926-01**

**Mission Statement:** Samantha Canarelli read the Agency's mission statement.

**Minutes:** The meeting minutes of the board meeting on January 27, 2026 were offered for review. **Frank Mendl moved, seconded by Vincent (Jim) Bono to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves.**

**Financial Reports: January Financial Reports:** The January 2026 Financial Report, Balance Sheet, Check Register, and PILOT Report were reviewed. After discussion. **Dr. Terri Grates Day moved, seconded by Vincent (Jim) Bono to approve all financial reports as presented. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves.**

**Annual PARIS Report:** In preparation for the Agency's annual PARIS report, board members were provided the following reports and documents for their review and approval: Annual Investment Report, Deposit & Investment of Funds Policy, Procurement Policy, Operations & Accomplishments, Assessment of Internal Controls, Performance Measurement Report & Board Performance Evaluations. **Vincent (Jim) Bono moved, seconded by Dr. Terri Grates Day to approve all reports as presented. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves. Resolution: 21926-02**

**Marketing Update:** Samantha Canarelli reported ongoing progress in advancing the Agency's marketing, outreach, and community engagement initiatives. Key accomplishments included refreshing social media platforms to boost visibility and engagement, implementing strategic website enhancements, and preparing for the upcoming Brownfield Summit on April 21–22. The Agency hosted a commercial real estate session to support the development of its online real estate page, fostering stronger connections between agents and property owners while enhancing community engagement. Additionally, participation in the New York State Economic Development Council Economic Development Conference at the Albany Capital Center provided valuable industry insights and strengthened statewide partnerships. The week also

featured municipal meetings for the County Wide BOA Pre-Planning initiative in collaboration with LaBella Associates and Windsor Turner, as well as participation in the Legislative Breakfast hosted by the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce. **This item was for discussion only.**

**Microenterprise Grant:** Victoria Adams provided an update on the Herkimer County Microenterprise Grant Program. Since the last meeting, the Agency has requested the remaining funds awarded to SurePrint and expects to receive them shortly. A draw request for Timeless Salon is currently being processed, with assurances that funds will be delivered this week. Victoria noted that the program is approaching finalization, with an anticipated remaining balance of approximately \$53,048.56, all of which has already been fully awarded. The Agency has received proof of payment for additional inventory and equipment for Melfe's to complete their final drawdown. Once all anticipated drawdowns are completed, program funds are expected to be fully expended, keeping the Agency on track to meet the established program deadline. **This item was for discussion only.**

**Strategic Plan:** The item was moved to March. The Agency will reach out to Brittany Davis, founder of Focus, a consulting practice that supports leaders, organizations, businesses, teams, and communities in gaining clarity. The Board requested a meeting to further discuss available options and next steps. **This item was for discussion only.**

**EPR Water Final Authorizing Resolution:** The Final Authorization Resolution was removed from the agenda pending receipt of the required documentation. The taxable status of property changes March 1<sup>st</sup>. This information has been provided and details outlined. **This item was for discussion only.**

**Feldmeier Equipment & Expansion Financial Assistance:** Riverside applications and CBAs, Feldmeier has indicated a desire to move forward with both projects, contingent upon completion of all required applications. **79 Riverside location**, the necessary applications are pending, and although a public hearing was scheduled, it was canceled; the site is otherwise ready to proceed. **245 Riverside location**, applications are also pending, and while a public hearing was scheduled and subsequently canceled, the site's existing transformer may present a potential issue that is currently being addressed. **This item was for discussion only.**

**Water Transmission Line:** Any further discussion or detailed information will be addressed in executive session.

**Comments Welcome from Elected Officials- None**

**Project Updates:**

- Attended 2026 EDC Conference – February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
- Attended County Wide BOA update – Site tour February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>
- Attended Legislative Breakfast – February 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30am 2026
- Brownfield Developers Summit – April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Schuyler Business Park Update
- Russell Farm Update
- Turin Update

**Frank Mendl moved, seconded by Dr. Terri Grates Day to enter into executive session at 9:20am to discuss matters of litigation.** All board members, John Piseck, Victoria Adams, Nicole Farber, Samantha Canarelli, Anthony J. Lucenti, Pete Campione, Greg Malta Sr. were invited to stay. Shannon Wagner was invited to stay virtually.

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**Vincent (Jim) Bono moved, seconded by Frank Mendl to end executive session at 9:30am. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves.**

**Being no other business, Dr. Terri Grates Day moved, seconded by Frank Mendl to adjourn at 9:31am. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 naves.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Nicole Farber  
Administrative Assistant