

**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
**Meeting of May 8, 2019**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairman LaBaff called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM at the IDA office, Ernest J. LaBaff Industrial Building, Canton.

**ROLL CALL:**

Blevins .....	Present	Reagen .....	Present
Hall.....	Present	LaBaff.....	Present
McMahon .....	Present	Staples.....	Absent
Morrill .....	Present		

SLCIDA Vice-Chairman Mr. LaBaff announces there is a quorum.

Others: Staff (Patrick Kelly, Kimberly Gilbert, Tom Plastino and Lori Sibley).

**PUBLIC NOTICE:** Public notifications sent May 3, 2019 to, at a minimum: 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:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to accept the minutes of the March 26, 2019 meeting by Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. McMahon. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Motion to accept the January, February, and March 2019 financial reports by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Morrill. Mrs. Gilbert notes that application fees were received from Community Preservation Partners, Corning Property Management Corporation and From The Heart Cabinetry. Additional highlights include receipt of the first quarter administrative fee from the County in February. She also notes that the interest income will have some upcoming modifications to account for earned and unearned gain/loss on the US Treasury notes accounts that were created during the audit process. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** *Economic Development Services Contract:* Messrs. Hall, LaBaff and Reagen recently met to discuss the IDA’s interest in requesting an extension of the Economic Development Services Contract with the County which is set to expire at the end of this year. Mr. LaBaff speaks for the Committee and emphasizes the need to submit a request in order to continue the caliber of economic development activities needed for the County.

**STAFF REPORT:** Patrick Kelly reports the following:

**Community Preservation Partners:** A public hearing was held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Company is requesting an \$18 million bond allocation. However, the initial amount of Private Activity Bond (“PAB”) allocation that is available for the IDA for 2019 is \$3.8 million. The IDA has submitted a request for an increase in the PAB allocation from New York State.

**Empire State Mines:** As part of the IDA orientation process for new County Legislators, a tour was held on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the mines. The tour included a visit to the 3,000-foot level below ground as well as the above-ground processing facility. Mr. Reagen, one of the attendees, mentions that the Company anticipates spending approximately \$2 million on exploration this year. Discussion ensues about the state of operations at the Mine. Mr. Hall adds that even after the recent layoffs, there are still over 80 jobs at the mine.

NBRC Federal Grant Program: After reviewing our pre-application, the Northern Border Regional Commission has invited us to apply for \$800,000 in grant funding to assist in the acquisition of \$1,070,000 in equipment for North American Forest Group's new Ogdensburg facility as part of the Regional Forest Economy Partnership program. The balance of \$270,000 would be an acquisition expense of the IDA's that would be returned through the course of 20-year lease with North American Forest Group as part of the total \$1,070,000 project. If the final application is approved, the IDA will acquire the equipment and lease it to NAFG through a long-term, low-rate lease/purchase agreement. The grant will help to acquire a ring debarker machine, planer, kiln and pallet-making machine which will all be integrated into the new facility. The application is due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Former Newell Manufacturing Facility: A meeting is scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup> with Brooks Washburn as he assists with the design bid specs to bid out repair work needed for the roof and building shell at the former Newell Manufacturing facility.

Marketing: *Expand to US Workshop* – In partnership with the US Embassy in Canada and the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority, the IDA hosted a business information and recruitment event for Canadian companies yesterday in Ogdensburg. The agenda from the event is distributed to each of the board members. Mr. Kelly notes there were approximately 30 people from 20 different Canadian Companies that attended the event. Staff will begin to outreach those businesses in attendance and begin scheduling company visits. *Website* – As we continue to move along with plans to modernize our website with assistance from the New York Power Authority (“NYPA”), Attorney Silver continues to review the agreement with NYPA's legal team.

New York State Economic Development Council: The annual meeting is scheduled for May 21 – 24 in Cooperstown. Four people from the St. Lawrence County IDA are scheduled to attend this year's event.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution IDA-19-05-16: Authorizing the Corning, Inc. Canton Plant Expansion Project: A public hearing was held on April 18<sup>th</sup>, the results of which have been provided to the board. General comments referenced the caliber of the Company and the fact that they are continuing to make significant investment in their St. Lawrence County facility. It was mentioned that projects like this help to ensure a stable future for our communities even though the project requirements do not reflect additional jobs, it's just as important to secure the jobs already there. Mr. Kelly notes there are approximately 260 employees at the facility. Mr. Blevins motions to approve Resolution IDA-19-05-16, seconded by Mr. McMahon. The motion is approved by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn is made by Mr. Reagen, seconded by Mr. Morrill. The meeting adjourns at 9:00 AM by unanimous vote.

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(Mr.) Lynn Blevins, Secretary