

To: **EDC Board Members**

Re: **Minutes of September 15, 2020 Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Present:** Matt Fuller, Esq. – Chair  
Chris Barden – Vice Chair  
Laura Ladu - Director  
John Strough – Representative, TOQ  
Matt Simpson – Representative, Warren County  
Dr. Kristine Duffy – Representative SUNY Adirondack – Chair of Governance  
Mike Pratt – Director  
Mitch Amado – Treasurer & Chair of Audit & Finance Committee

**Phone:** Judy Calogero – Secretary  
Alex Rotolo - Director

**Guests:** Kristy Alexander – WorkSmart  
David Dammerman – WorkSmart

**Staff:** Jim Siplon, Interim President  
John Wheatley, Vice President  
Lisa Daly, Interim Bookkeeper  
Linda Oldenburg, Office Assistant

On September 15, 2020, the Board of Directors for the Economic Development Corporation met in person 333 Glens Street – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room for a Board of Directors Meeting at 8:00 a.m. The following items of business were discussed:

- I.** **Welcome & Call to Order:** Chair, Matt Fuller welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:10a.m. The room’s Wi-Fi and background noise lead to some technical difficulties with the phone and call-in participants.
- II.** **Approval:** Approval of Special Board Meeting held September 1, 2020. All minutes were forwarded to the board for review and approval prior to meeting. A motion is made by Matt Fuller, seconded by Laura Ladu and unanimously approved.
- III.** **Financial Update :** Treasurer Mitch Amado stated EDC still has a strong cash position. Budget 20/21 is in process working on the reporting structure align with goals for up going year. Lisa Daly Interim Bookkeeper discussed whether some very old A/R could be written off. If for some reason they are paid, they will be added back in. Treasurer Mitch asked Lisa to give a list and they would discuss. A motion was made to approve August Financials by Chair Fuller, seconded by Mike Pratt and unanimously approved by all.
- IV.** **Reports & Committees:** Audit & Finance discussion were included in the Financial update. Governance Committee Chair Dr. Duffy reported Alex Rotolo be appointed to replace Jim Siplon on the Finance/Audit Committee. Resolution to temporary replace Jim Siplon on Audit & Finance committee with Alex Rotolo motioned Dr. Kris Duffy seconded by Chair Fuller and unanimously passed.

**V.** **President/CEO Report:** Interim President Jim Siplon provided brief comment on the budget and planning discussions with Warren County, City of Glens Falls and Town of Queensbury. Interim President Siplon then spoke to the priority and efforts in supporting greater broadband access as strategic issue for the EDC and region and indicated that EDC Vice President John Wheatley would be providing more detail on the topic and seeking feedback on the level of detail. Vice-President Wheatley then laid out the 3 separate phases of the broadband project underway to prepare for an anticipated next round of funding and /or grants around broadband initiatives expected in 2021. Phase I is underway to complete inventory updates to existing maps for fiber access. Phase II will be a focus on including a survey component which will also consist of a portal for geo code mapping. Phase III will be analyzing the data so a grant can be proposed for funding subsequent grant or 2021 funding cycle. Vice President Wheatley shared ongoing progress on previously funded broadband efforts in the county with SLIC (one of the competitive last-mile carriers) alone leading a handful of projects in Warren County including rural efforts in Stony Creek, Johnsburg and Thurman. Several questions were asked, and Dr. Duffy suggested we should get a dialogue going with the school districts. Next meeting a recommendation for Phase II will be proposed. Interim President Siplon then shared efforts underway to better organize and consolidate solar proposals in the regions and suggested we many take the same philosophy of working across the various entities with the solar projects as we are with broadband. Supervisor Simpson suggested briefing the county leaders before undertaking and formal effort while Director ad Treasurer Amato suggested we insider an independent third-party study on the best options for solar development in our area. Finally, Interim President Siplon spoke about working with Mark Behan to develop our updated communications plan including where to start either Facebook or LinkedIn were suggested as logical starting points and the decision of using resources in house or outsourcing it. More will be shared on all three topics as they progress.

**VI.** **Approved Resolutions:** None needed

**VII.** **Other Business:** No other business

**VIII.** **Executive Session:** Chair Fuller motioned, and Vice Chair Barden seconded to enter an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Approved unanimously. No Action taken. John Strough motion and Laura Ladu seconded to come out of Executive Session.

**IX:** **Adjournment:** Upon no further business to come before the board, a motion is made by Chris Barden seconded by Kris Duffy, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m.