

## MINUTES – FEBRUARY 19, 2009

The regular meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on February 19, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Center for Regional Excellence in Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

### Board Members

Sue Myers, Secretary  
Jerry Scott  
Ted Hopkins  
Brent Reynolds  
Robert Keis, Vice Chairman  
Joseph Eade  
Chuck Couture  
Crystal Abers  
Allan Hendrickson  
Greg Edwards  
Bill Daly

### Representing

Allegany County  
Allegany County  
Allegany County  
Allegany County  
Cattaraugus County  
Cattaraugus County  
Cattaraugus County  
Cattaraugus County  
Chautauqua County  
Chautauqua County  
Chautauqua County

### Others Attending

Robert Iszard  
Dave McCoy  
Donald Rychnowski  
John Buzzard  
Sarah Phearsdorf  
Ginger Malak  
Eileen Weishan  
Brian Paschen  
Richard Zink  
Daniel Reynolds  
Tom Barnes

### Representing

Empire State Development  
TVGA Engineering  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff  
Staff

In the absence of Chairman Cooper, Vice Chairman Keis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated.

### Minutes

Joe Eade made a motion to accept the December 11<sup>th</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup> minutes as distributed. Greg Edwards seconded the motion and it carried.

### Correspondence

Secretary Sue Myers read the following correspondence:

1. Letter from Village of Cuba Mayor Thomas Taylor and Trustee Michael Doyle, expressing their appreciation for John Buzzard's assistance in the development of a map for their sidewalks.
2. Resolution from Chautauqua County Legislature re-appointing William Daly. Greg Edwards and James Cooper for another three-year term expiring on 12/31/2001 on Southern Tier West's Board of Directors.

## Project Review Report

Chuck Couture moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report. Sue Myers seconded the motion and it carried.

## Executive Director's Report

Donald Rychnowski reported the following:

### News & Notes

#### 1. Economic Stimulus

An Economic Stimulus Bill called "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" will provide nearly \$800 billion for various activities in the nation. How much impact this will have on our localities is yet to be seen. NYS DOT Region 5 will be receiving approximately \$80 million for transportation projects that will affect two counties in our region that will only receive about 1/3. The State roads will be priority and extra funds will be given to local transportation and construction projects.

STERA is looking at stimulus funds for rehab, and broadband will receive stimulus funds through the US Department of Commerce. Staff is working on the "Fiber Build Project" that will take the fiber from Jamestown to Whitesville.

#### 2. Route 219 Association

The 219 Association is working closely with representatives from Continental 1 to promote the freeway alternative and inform our congressional representatives of the need for funding in the next transportation bill. A contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald has been executed in order to document the economic feasibility and safety benefits of the freeway alternative.

#### 3. EDA Project Priorities

A list of 2008's EDA project priorities was included in the Board packets. Southern Tier West asked Board members to review project priorities in their respective counties that will be adopted into the 2009 CEDs document.

#### 4. Regional Comprehensive Plan

Southern Tier West staff is initiating a process to develop a Regional Comprehensive Plan, which will update the Commission for the Future Project completed in 2000. Staff will work with Board members, economic development agencies, counties and local governments, workforce agencies, local, state, and federal representatives to hopefully finish this process in September 2009

### Action Needed

#### 1. Transportation Development

Authorization was needed to submit an application to NYS DOS/ARC for funding the Transportation Strategy Program within the 2009 Area Development Package. This funding would implement some measures developed in the initial project. Mr. Eade so moved, Mr. Reynolds seconded the motion and it carried.

## New Business

### 1. Broadband Development Initiative

Richard Zink distributed a map of the Fiber Build Project. Meetings have been held across the three counties regarding this project and letters of support and justification are needed. Southern Tier West is looking into partnering with Pennsylvania to run a lateral from Warren to Jamestown. The project will be approximately \$4.5 million and our partners will sustain it. The application is ready to be submitted to EDA in the end of March.

The Allegany County Broadband Project is in the final stages. Tower locations are currently being determined, and are expected to be finished in June. Southern Tier West will put forth another RFP for funding for similar projects in our region.

### 2. Transportation Program

Brian Paschen reported that Southern Tier West is working with NYS DOT in the final stages of collecting data in connection with the County DPWs to get assessment of their corridors. After these assessments are obtained, meetings will be set up among county planners to determine the next phase. Southern Tier West staff projected what the next steps may be and will meet with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in this regard.

## Old Business

There was no old business.

## Committee Reports

### Human Resource Development Committee

Vice Chairman Keis reported that minutes of the December 18, 2008 and February 12, 2009 Meetings were included in the Board packets.

### Transportation Committee

Sue Myers reported that minutes of the January 20, 2009 Meeting were included in the Board packets.

### Rail Authority

Tom Barnes reported that the February 10<sup>th</sup> Rail Authority Meeting has been rescheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the Center for Regional Excellence.

### Executive Committee

Brent Reynolds moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried. Back in regular session, Vice Chairman Keis reported the following:

#### 1. STERA Board

Chuck Couture moved to appoint James Cooper to the STERA Board. Greg Edwards seconded the motion and it carried.

#### 2. Todd Snyder Contract

Jerry Scott moved to table Southern Tier West's contract with Todd Snyder Consulting. Joe Eade seconded the motion and it carried.

#### 3. Board Special Committee

Board members want to plan a day in late spring to meet with Southern Tier West staff members to discuss the future direction of Southern Tier West.

**Audit Abstract**

Joe Eade made a motion to approve the December 2008 and January 2009 Audit Abstract. Sue Myers seconded the motion and it carried.

**Next Board Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board will be held on March 19, 2009 at 1:00 p.m., at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York.

**Adjournment**

Joe Eade moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

sjp