

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on January 16, 2014 at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

Board Members

Jerry Scott
Sue Myers, Vice Chair
Kier Dirlam
Ted Hopkins
Bob Keis, Chairman
Crystal Abers
Jay Gould
Bill Daly
Joe Galati
Stephanie Kiyak
Vince Horrigan

Representing

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

Others Attending

Linda Edstrom
Carl Edwards
Chris Chapman
Jann Wiswall
Richard Zink
Ginger Malak
Nicole Nyznyk
Kim LaMendola
Max Easton
Tom Barnes
Courtney Waters
Sarah Phearsdorf

Representing

Cattaraugus County Legislator
Cattaraugus County
Buffalo News/JPJ
Ellicottville Times
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

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

Minutes

Jerry Scott made a motion to accept the December 19, 2013 minutes as distributed. Jay Gould seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

Sue Myers moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Crystal Abers seconded the motion and it carried.

Executive Director's Report

Richard Zink welcomed Vice Horrigan, the new Chautauqua County Executive who is replacing Greg Edwards on the Southern Tier West Board.

1. ARC

On Tuesday, House and Senate negotiators completed work on an omnibus appropriations bill to provide funding for government agencies for FY2014. The measure contains \$80.317 million for ARC's non-highway work. This is \$10 million more the House-passed bill. The FY13 post-sequester amount was \$64.9 million. The report accompanying the bill states that "To diversity and enhance regional business development, an additional \$10,000,000 is provided above the budget request for a program of high-speed broadband deployment in distressed counties within the Central Appalachian region that have been most negatively impacted by the downturn in the coal industry. This funding shall be in addition to the 30 percent directed to distressed counties."

The House is likely to take the bill up tomorrow and the Senate is expected to consider it later in the week. The current continuing resolution expires tomorrow and today the House will take up a 3-day extension of the continuing resolution to allow time to complete work on the omnibus bill.

2. EDA

\$246.5 million for EDA (up 11% from last year)
 \$96 million for Public Works (up 22% from last year)
 \$29 million for Planning (level funding from last year)
 \$42 million for Economic Adjustment Assistance (down 16% from last year)
 \$3 million for new coal job assistance (new funding)
 New funding for EDA manufacturing initiatives was not included

3. **Grants Workshop**

Southern Tier West currently has 33 registrants for the Essential Grant Skills Workshop – The Grantsmanship Center wants to keep the registration around 40; so with the 3 Southern Tier West employees that will be going, we have a full registration.

4. **February Local Government Training**

The Workplace Violence Prevention Program will be held on February 12th from 10am until noon – registration is \$10. The Training will cover the history of the law and rule, covered employers/exempt employers, what is required, how to proceed, and available assistance. OSHA will be presenting the program.

5. **Local Foods**

The Farmers Market Summit was held on December 18th – it was an all-day event with approximately 15 participants. Diane Eggert, Farmers Market Federation of NY led the group through activities that will develop a foundation for the network to develop. Discussion centered on how to better communicate and collaborate on resources that are available across the region.

The next Farmers Market Summit will be held on February 21, 2014 with discussion focused on actions farmers can take in developing a network.

6. **Computer Training**

Southern Tier West will continue to hold classes for the Highway Superintendents of the region.

7. **Broadband**

Southern Tier West continues to have discussions concerning the West Valley Demonstration Site as well as the WIMAX projects happening across the counties. Southern Tier West is looking to start a new project in 2015.

8. **STEDO**

As Southern Tier West continues to have discussions about the availability of funds for small business and small projects; we are pursuing ways to change the mission of STEDO to take a lead in pursuing and administering funds for utilization across the region. Jerry Scott made a motion for Southern Tier West to move forward with this, Ted Hopkins seconded the motion and it carried.

9. NYS DOT Announces Transportation Enhancement Awards

On January 15th Governor Cuomo released the names of the projects approved for the NYS DOT project reimbursement under TEP. Western New York (NYS DOT Region 5) had 11 projects approved with a total award amount of about \$7.5 million. Projects located within the Southern Tier West region include City of Olean Pedestrian/Bicycle trail, Seneca Nation of Indians Pennsy Trail, Mayville Pedestrian/Bicycle trail, and The Lucy Trail in Chautauqua County. The Southern Tier (NYS DOT Region 6) had 8 projects approved with a total amount of about \$3.5 million. The only project located within the Southern Tier West region in this category was the Village of Wellsville Village Enhancements Project.

10. DDAA Board Position

Richard has been asked by the nominating committee of the DDAA Board to take the Secretary position in March 2014. It is a 5-year commitment in the sense that the officers progress through the organization. Don was an officer of this Board during his tenure at STW.

New Business

1. Stormwater Program

Ginger Malak gave a presentation on the progress of the ARC funded Stormwater Management Education and Training program. She distributed a packet of information including: overview of the program, 10/17/13 Conference Program, flyer on the Stormwater Demonstration Training Site, Construction Cost Estimates of Training Site, Site Plan of the Training Site, and flyer on the Stormwater Web Page.

The focus of the program is to build the capacity of the region's municipal officials and others in the area of stormwater. The Regional Watershed Coalition has 26 members and 12 of those also serve on a Watershed Education Committee. The program established an Annual Stormwater Conference held for the first time on October 17, 2013 at Holiday Valley with 116 in attendance. According to the evaluation surveys received, the conference was very successful.

A major activity of the Program is to establish a stormwater demonstration training facility at the Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works campus in Little Valley. The site will demonstrate various best practices in stormwater management, erosion and sediment control and green infrastructure. The first demonstration day is scheduled for May 2014.

In addition to the Conference and Demonstration Site, the Program will provide an inventory and mapping of structural conditions of culverts crossing highway/streets within each municipality and develop a stormwater website that will include project progress and accomplishments, and stormwater/watershed information and resources.

Committee Reports

Future of STW Committee

The Committee discussed Southern Tier West becoming a location to assist local governments with grant writing. Bill Daly made a motion that the Board endorse this program, Kier Dirlam seconded the motion and it carried.

Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee will meet prior to the next Board Meeting on March 20, 2014 at the STW offices at 10:00 AM.

Public Comment

Stephanie Kiyak made an offer for Southern Tier West to make a presentation at SUNY Fredonia in regard to a community information show for the students. This would be a way for Southern Tier West to advertise what we do and show what our purpose is.

Vince Horrigan reported that a Waterpark Hotel Project is in the works in Irving area, which may possibly be called the "Gateway to Chautauqua County".

Kier Dirlam reported that Allegany County could use assistance under Southern Tier West's STEDO Program for small business loans/business development. The businesses could use education, counseling, and technical services.

Audit Abstract

Jay Gould made a motion to approve the December 2013 Audit Abstract. Sue Myers seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Southern Tier West Board will be held on March 20, 2014 at the Center for Regional Excellence starting at 11:30 a.m. to discuss the future of Southern Tier West, followed by lunch at noon and the Board Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Jerry Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.