

**COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**BOARD MEETING**

**February 5, 2009**

**CCIDA OFFICES**

**3 East Washington Street**

**Ellicottville, NY**

**11:15 a.m.**

**Roll Call**

**Members**

**Present**

Thomas Buffamante - Chairman

Joseph Higgins - 1st Vice Chairman

James Stitt - 1st Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Crystal Abers - Member

Gregory Fitzpatrick - Member

**Members**

**Excused**

Joseph Eade - Secretary

Salvatore Marranca - Second Vice Chairman

**Staff**

Corey R. Wiktor - Executive Director

George Cregg, Jr. - Legal Council

**Guests**

Kathy Kellogg - Buffalo News

Chairman, Thomas Buffamante called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m..

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A Motion was made by James Stitt, with a second by Crystal Abers to accept the minutes from the December 16, 2008 Board Meeting as prepared. Motion Carried.

### **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

A Motion was made by James Stitt, with a second by Greg Fitzpatrick to accept the operating statement for December 2008. Motion Carried

A Motion was made by James Stitt, with a second by Greg Fitzpatrick to accept the operating statement for January 2009. Motion Carried

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Wiktor advised the Board that the CCIDA staff is working with the auditors, RA Mercer to correct the balance sheet under the heading of liability/capitals portion in regards to payroll entries - payroll taxes are showing as a negative balance.

Mr. Wiktor also discussed with the CCIDA Board that RA Mercer auditing firm would be here the last week of February 2009 to conduct the 2008 Audit.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Wiktor reviewed with the Board his attendance at the NYSEDC annual conference held in Albany. Brian McMahon the Executive Director of the NYSEDC formed a committee relating to IDA Best Practices and asked Mr. Wiktor to be a part of this committee and deliver a presentation at this Conference regarding Wind Farms and the approach that is being taken within Cattaraugus County.

Mr. Wiktor next discussed several groups that he has been meeting with and taking part in various discussions, a few examples are Business Development Corp, Work Force Investment Board, Empire Zone, and the Salamanca IDA. Mr. Wiktor stated that he plans to continue to be active with these groups within Cattaraugus County to develop open communications between the CCIDA and the Economic engines within the County to help and assist each other when we can.

Mr. Wiktor advised the CCIDA Board that on February 24, 2009 the NYSEDC is holding an IDA Education Day in Albany with legislatures and senior staff. This Education Day is tied specifically to Civic Facility legislation which expired on January 31, 2008. Mr. Wiktor stated that he has been working with Brian McMahon from the NYSEDC in regards to contacting past

project heads with a request to send a letter to their representative in Albany - letter campaign explaining the great importance of the Civic Facility legislation to assist in the economic growth within Cattaraugus County.

The CCIDA Board unanimously agreed that Corey Wiktor should attend the NYSEDC sponsored IDA Education Day in Albany.

Mr. Wiktor also discussed an endeavor that has been presented to the CCIDA by the Southern Tier West . Southern Tier West is presently facilitating a grant application for a proposed fiber optic line to run through Cattaraugus County. This fiber optic line would assist small businesses, home owners located within the County that do not have the capability of high-speed internet. Mr. Wiktor stressed the importance of this endeavor in Cattaraugus County and will keep the CCIDA Board informed of the progress.

Mr. Wiktor review with the CCIDA Board his attendance at a meeting held in the Town of Allegany Senior Center. Gary Abraham invited in Charles Evans from New York to conduct a presentation/demonstration in the potential adverse noise effects of Wind Farms that maybe sighted in Allegany, New York. Mr. Wiktor noted that some of the meeting and attention was focused on more personal opinions rather than factual. The meeting was very well attended approximately 75-85 people lasting 2 hrs.

Mr. Wiktor next reviewed the Associated Press article: Wind Power hits economic storm, the enormous amount of money needed to complete a wind farm project is being effected by the credit crunch.

Mr. Wiktor and Mr. George Cregg, Jr. discussed with the CCIDA Board the civic facility legislation needed to pass which would allow IDA's to issue Tax Exempt Bonds to assist not-for profit agencies. Hodgson/Russ is currently working on a legal mechanism that would allow IDA's to continue to assist not for profit agencies even if the legislation is rescinded or does not pass.

## **MEMBER ITEMS**

A Motion was made by Crystal Abers seconded by Joseph Higgins to go into Executive Session to discuss a matter of personnel.

A Motion was made by Joseph Higgins seconded by James Stitt to return from Executive Session

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Higgins seconded by James Stitt. Motion Carried.

The next scheduled CCIDA Board Meeting will be March 10 2009 at 11:15 a.m. in the CCIDA Offices.