

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cayuga Economic Development Agency Inc., (“CEDA”) was brought to order at the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce at 2 State Street, Auburn, NY at 8:00 am, Thursday March 1, 2018. The following Board Members were in attendance:

Present	Absent/Excused	Proxy Voting	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Miles, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sue Edinger, Vice-Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cynthia Aikman, Treasurer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kelley Gridley, Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ray Lockwood, At Large Executive Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Dacey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Dygert
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Herbert
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Higgins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Kyle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Lewis
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patrick Mahunick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Minicucci
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monika Salvage

Other Attendees:

- Tracy Verrier, CEDA

Guests:

- Justin Woods, Steve Lynch, Charlie Ripley, Jennie Hayes; Cayuga County; Jason Chiesa, NYS DOL

1. Quorum Call:

Mr. Miles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. noting that there was a quorum present.

2. Consent Items:

Mr. Lockwood made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as distributed. Ms. Aikman seconded. All present voted in favor motion carried.

3. Discussion Item:

Mr. Chiesa of the New York State Department of Labor attended the meeting to speak about Governor Cuomo’s programs and initiatives. Many of the Governor’s programs were discussed such as:

- Regional Economic Development Councils and related economic development funding
- Excelsior Scholarship program – currently taking applications for the spring semester
- \$100 billion in funding for infrastructure projects, including improvements to Syracuse airport
- Another round of Downtown Revitalization
- A Women’s Agenda
- Ethics Reform

Mr. Chiesa then asked if there were any questions. Ms. Verrier asked about the money for the algae blooms and stated that this was something that was needed now and not in 2-3 years as is rumored. Mr. Minicucci added the importance of the lakes to this community. Ms. Aikman stated that some businesses might be forced to close down due to the water quality if something was not done soon. Mr. Lynch further commented on the impact that this situation could have for Cayuga County. Mr. Kyle asked if the property taxes and the high water levels in the northern part of the county are being looked into and addressed. Ms. Higgins explained that her business had been impacted by these issues.

4. Activities Update:

Ms. Verrier reported that there were two new hires starting today. Ms. Verrier and Ms. Riestler were currently handling the responsibilities of the Economic Development Specialist position vacated by Mr. Sherman. The economic development positions were rewritten and one will be posted soon. Ms. Verrier had distributed a copy of the changes to the Board prior to today's meeting. Mr. Lynch inquired as to the timeline for hiring. Ms. Verrier stated that she would be posting on Friday or Monday and planned to leave the ad open for three to four weeks. She would use such job posting sites as Indeed.com, NYS Job Bank, Planning Association and NYS EDC. Mr. Woods suggested a number of sites to consider.

Ms. Verrier explained that the activities report looked different due to some changes to how the county is requesting reporting. Mr. Woods explained that the changes separate out the administrative and the legislative functions. Ms. Gridley asked if our reporting met his needs and he stated that it did.

5. Policy Updates:

Ms. Verrier reviewed the proposed changes to the by-laws per conversation at the January meeting. She noted the changes to the attendance policy and the language to allow the County Chair to designate the County Administrator rather than serving him/herself. This designation would be for the life his/her term as chair. Ms. Aikman made a motion to approve the bylaws as distributed. Mr. Lockwood seconded. All present voted in favor motion carried. The other policy for discussion today was the check signing procedures. The current policy requires any checks in the amount of \$1000 or more to have one signature by the Executive Director and one signature from a Board member. The proposed change would allow for any checks over \$1000 for routine budgeted expenses to be signed by the Executive Director only. All other checks over \$1000 would continue to need a Board member as a second signature. Mr. Lockwood made a motion to approve the new check signing policy as distributed. Mr. Kyle seconded. All present voted in favor motion carried.

6. Board Updates:

Ms. Gridley feels that we need to take Mr. Chiesa's offer to get us in front of someone in Governor Cuomo's office regarding the algae blooms and the water quality. Mr. Woods explained that the Governor's office is and has been very actively engaged and involved in this issue. Mr. Lynch further reported on the activities that the Governor's office has coming up regarding this matter, and a number of efforts the county is already participating in to address these issues. He noted the nine elements plan, Owasco Flats projects, ongoing watershed inspection, and progress on an update to watershed rules and regulations. Mr. Woods reported that a grant had been received to assist in helping low-income families to replace their septic systems.

Mr. Grant informed the Board that he had been asked to serve on the Centerstate CEO's Talent Task Force. Mr. Lockwood reported that the farms would have a large expense if water system upgrades were needed.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 am by Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Grant. All present voted in favor, motion passed.

The next CEDA meeting will take place on March 29, 2018 at 8:00 am at 2 State Street.