



FULTON COUNTY CENTER FOR REGIONAL GROWTH

Fulton County Center for Regional Growth  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
Friday – February 24, 2023 – 8:30 a.m.  
34 W Fulton St & Zoom Conference  
Gloversville, New York

Directors Present: Timothy Beckett, Dr. Leslie Ford, Warren Greene, Kent Kirch, Grant Preston, Denis Wilson

Directors Absent: Terri Easterly, Geoffrey Peck

Staff Present: Ronald Peters, Ken Adamczyk, Jennifer Donovan, Desirée Perham

Other Attendees: Scott Horton – Chair, Fulton County Board of Supervisors; Susanne Collins – Vice Chair, Fulton County IDA Board; Joe Semione – Fulton County IDA Board; Harun Ovacik – Owner, Nova Cheese

***Public Session***

**Call to Order: 8:34 a.m.**

***I. Welcome and Call to Order***

- a. Grant Preston called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

***II. Roll Call***

- a. Roll call was taken by Desirée Perham. A quorum was present.

***III. Meeting Minutes***

- a. The Chair asked the Board to review the January 27, 2023, CRG Regular Board Meeting Minutes. It was noted that in the draft, one section on resolutions appeared in two places and one needed to be deleted. This correction was made prior to the meeting but after the draft was routed. Timothy Beckett moved a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, and Dr. Leslie Ford seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion passed.

**IV. Announcements**

- a. None.

**V. Reports**

**a. Chair Report – (Grant Preston)**

- 1. The Chair thanked everyone for attending and thanked the Board of Directors for being available for the Board Retreat.

Conclusion of Chair Report

**b. Committee Reports**

**1. Executive Committee**

- i. This committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

**2. Governance Committee**

- i. This committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

**3. Finance Committee – (Timothy Beckett)**

- i. CRG’s cash receipts are down, waiting to receive a check from the County for January bills submitted.
- ii. Expenses are in line.
- iii. Waiting to get feedback from West & Co.’s audit. An audit review is scheduled for March 16, 2023 with the Audit Committee and the results will be presented to the Board on March 24, 2023.

**4. Audit Committee**

- i. This committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

Conclusion of Committee Reports.

**c. Membership & Marketing Report**

**Ken Adamczyk:** (Report was deferred to March due to Board Retreat)

Conclusion of Marketing and Membership Report.

**d. Gloversville Downtown Development Specialist Report**

**Jenn Donovan:** (Report was deferred to March due to Board Retreat)

Conclusion of GDDS Report.

**e. Chamber Report**

1. No in person report this month.

Conclusion of Chamber Report.

**f. Fulton County – (Scott Horton/Warren Greene)**

1. Nothing specific to report this month.
2. It was noted that the County provided an additional \$99,000 to Park Hurst Field Foundation for the Baseball Museum. The construction is progressing well and the grandstand is nearly complete.

Conclusion of County Report.

**g. Fulton County IDA - (Joe Semione)**

1. The IDA noted that they appreciated CRG following up with answers to questions asked of the CRG director attending the IDA Board meetings when the director didn't have the answer. The information sharing between organizations has been helpful.
2. The IDA had hoped to sell the remaining Tryon property to Winstanley Enterprises project but now has a three-year option agreement with income each year. The option has an annual renewal. Winstanley will still be looking to attract businesses to the park.
3. The backup generator is nearly installed at Tryon for Sewer District #4. The IDA put up over \$100,000. The County staff is to be trained by the vendor once it is online and there is a two-year maintenance agreement with them.
4. The Benjamin Moore expansion is nearly complete. They have asked for a second increase in total sales tax exemptions. A public hearing is scheduled regarding this request.
5. Board Training sessions are ongoing. PILOT was discussed. Also, discussed goals that included collaboration meetings between boards and working with CRG and the County on shovel ready sites.
6. The IDA asked why Fulton County's IDA was not asked to sponsor the Brownfield Developers Summit? It was noticed in marketing materials that other IDA's are involved as sponsors.
  - i. CRG pointed out that other Mohawk Valley counties have IDA's involved with brownfields, and some are active in the event planning, and some are not.
  - ii. The Fulton County IDA members have been included in the event mailing list and additional information about sponsoring can be supplied. The IDA and the County can also staff a resource table if desired.

Conclusion of IDA Report.

**h. City Reports**

1. Gloversville
  - i. No in person report this month.
2. Johnstown
  - i. No in person report this month.

Conclusion of City Reports.

## **VI. President and CEO Report**

### **Ronald Peters:**

#### a. Business Update

##### 1. Resolutions

- i. None.

##### 2. Grant Requests

- i. The MEG program is going very well. The CARES Act micro grant is ready to payout after which there will be \$123,000 remaining to disperse to close out the grant. A meeting has been setup to complete the allocation. The State was contacted to see if there is any MEG CARES Act funding left to request and they stated that there may be some and CRG would be eligible to request additional money if so. The regular Microenterprise grant has \$16,000 left plus program delivery money. A committee meeting is set to allocate these funds as well. Once allocated and closed out, CRG will apply for another grant.

- Later today, Royal Mountain Ski Resort will have a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of their trolley system to lift tubes on the bunny hill. The trolley and two snow making machines were purchased using MEG awards.

##### ii. CRG countywide EPA brownfield grant update:

- A meeting is being held with the grant team, County attorney and outside environmental attorneys to walkthrough the process of getting site access for investigations while minimizing potential environmental liability.
- There are 47 sites identified to date and six are priority sites. Three of the priority sites have been selected as good candidates for a Phase II, hopefully by the second quarter.
- Once 70% of the grant funds are spent, another grant application can be submitted.
- The goal is to get the brownfield sites back on the County tax rolls.
- A public outreach meeting will be scheduled in the near future to share progress with the grant program. The EPA program manager is invited to attend these meetings via Zoom conference. Public participation in these meetings is expected to increase as specific sites are identified.

##### 3. Business Marketing

- i. Countywide Loan Fund had one loan closing.
- ii. The JDA Loan Fund closed on one \$200,000 loan. Looking at one more next month. Seven counties are eligible for this loan fund, the State approved the addition of a seventh county.
- iii. The City of Johnstown Loan Fund is held their first CJLF Committee meeting and a contract for CRG to administer the loan fund is in place. A loan was approved for \$100,000 and a letter of intent is complete. This is the first loan approved for the CJLF since 2011.

CRG currently administers four loan pools.

4. Business Inquiries/Business Leads

- i. There are two new tenants at 34 W Fulton St. Samco Manufacturing is leasing two first-floor rooms and T&M Manufacturing is leasing a room on the second floor. Samco's owners will be in town next week to look into options for expanding in to other areas of the building. CRG will be assisting with financial options for them.
- ii. Two new RFPs came in since the last meeting. One was sent to the IDA and Winstanley submitted a response to the State proposing Tryon.
- iii. The fourth Fulton County Site Assessment Initiative meeting was held this week.
- iv. The monthly CRG presentation to the ED&E Committee will be made by Ken Adamczyk on March 1<sup>st</sup> and Tim Beckett will be in attendance as well.

Conclusion of the President and CEO Report.

**VII. Adjournment to Executive Session**

None needed.

**VIII. Wrap Up**

Ron Peters met with Sue Collins recently to get a better understanding of National Grid's programs and power supply and availability in general.

The GEDC, the loan program run by the Chamber, is being brought back online again and they are working to refresh the program. Jennifer Donovan attended a meeting with them and CRG will work with the Chamber on marketing the program.

**IX. Adjourn Meeting**

At 9:02 a.m., Timothy Beckett moved a **motion to adjourn** the meeting which was seconded by Kent Kirch and passed by all present.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Leslie Ford, Board Secretary

3/24/23

Date