

**Redevelopment Authority of the County of Erie (ECRDA)  
Minutes of Public Meeting (Zoom meeting)  
May 5, 2020**

The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Erie's public meeting of May 5, 2020, 8:00 am via Zoom conference call. This meeting is pursuant to a legal ad published in the Erie Times on April 26, 2020.

**Members Present via zoom call:** John Laird, Kate Philips, Harry Eighmy, Bill DeLuca, and Tim McCormick.

**Others via zoom call:** Jenna Bickford, Esq., Tina Mengine, Karen Spilko, Linda Robbins and County Executive, Kathy Dahlkemper.

**Call to Order:** Bill DeLuca, Chairman called the public zoom meeting to order at 8:01 am.

**Hearing of the Public:** Bill DeLuca asked for public comment. No members of the public dialed in.

**Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2020\*:**

Bill DeLuca asked for comments. As there were none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. **On a motion** by Harry Eighmy, and seconded by Tim McCormick, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2020\*:**

Bill DeLuca asked for comments. As there were none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. **On a motion** by Kate Philips, and seconded by Harry Eighmy, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**Financial Report\*: ECRDA\***

Linda Robbins reported on the March financials, noting that \$1.2M of the \$2.7M Municipal funds were allocated for the Emergency COVID-19 loan program. Board discussion ensued regarding old receivables, the two oldest are related to PIDA enhancement fees; Truckman Services and Emkey Gas Processing. Truckman will be removed from ECRDA books and placed on EDCEC books. Linda further noted that she anticipates the audit by October. At this time, Bill DeLuca called for a motion to approve the financials as presented. **On a motion** by Harry Eighmy and seconded by Kate Philips, the financials were unanimously approved as presented.

**Loans in Discussion:**

Tina Mengine reviewed the current and pre-COVID pipeline spreadsheet. She and Jenna recently had a conference call with Emkey/Mid-American to discuss re-capitalizing their current loan. Jenna noted per her discussion with Jim Toohey, Esq. their interest remains, and they are working out details and anticipates we will hear back soon. The Bay House, a restaurant planned for atop the Convention Center parking garage is on hold indefinitely. No movement on the EDDC project either. Two new inquiries are Advanced Finishing for an equipment purchase and Veteran's Solutions, a real estate purchase. Board discussion ensued.

Bill DeLuca asked if all the emergency loan money has been allocated to date. Tina noted we have approximately \$100,000 that remains. **On a motion** by Tim McCormick and seconded by John Laird, the loans in discussion were unanimously approved as presented.

**New Business:****LeBeouf Township \$125,000 Loan approval\*:**

Tina Mengine announced that Betsy Bort has joined our team. LeBeouf Township is Betsy's first loan. She noted that LeBeouf is requesting up to \$125,000 to tar & chip several miles of roadway. The loan comes recommended by Loan committee for a 60-month term with an APR of 2.5%. Board discussion ensued. **On a motion** by John Laird, seconded by Kate Philips, the loan was unanimously approved as presented for the term of 60 months at a rate of 2.5%.

**Marquette Banking Signatory change request:**

Tina Mengine indicated that we currently still have Rick Novotny and Katrina Vincent as signers on this account. She presented a resolution today, adding herself as a signer in addition to Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary positions. Board discussion ensued. **On a motion** by Kate Philips, seconded by Harry Eighmy, the Board unanimously approved the signatory resolution as presented.

**2020 Statement of Financial Interest forms:**

Bill DeLuca explained that Board members need to fill out these forms and return to Karen by next meeting. County Executive Dahlkemper noted these forms can easily be found and filled out online. Karen will forward link to members.

**Tina Mengine – CEO Updates:**

Tina thanked the Board for their continued support during this difficult time. She added that she has made great progress within the last few weeks with building a staff. Betsy Bort has joined as the new Loan Officer and Sherri Geary, former Executive Director of the McKean Township Economic Development Association has agreed to join the team as Project Development Director and Larry Bossolt has agreed to come out of retirement and assist with special projects. A Press Release will be sent announcing the new staff additions.

She anticipates that the restaurant loans may need further repayment extension. Updates to follow. She met with Bob Guthrie, Berry Plastics recently. Bob has expressed interest in moving forward with the Myrtle Street expansion, Larry Bossolt will act as the project manager on this. She has a call scheduled with In-City Farms this morning regarding the Better's property and the plan to move forward. Updates to follow.

MCIC, the Minority Business Coalition, who purchased Savocchio Business Park, is looking to work with us to manage the Park. Jenna Bickford is in the process of preparing an agreement. She has had discussions with Mr. Katen regarding parcels at the Fairview Business Park as he is interested in partnering with us to secure development there. She will be sitting on the Chamber's Capital needs Taskforce Restart program. She will be a presenter for the Thomas B Hagan Fellowship course for Erie Insurance employees. ECRDA's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 8am. We plan to continue to use the Zoom calling until further notice.

**Comments from the Board Chairman:**

Bill DeLuca thanked the Board for their continued commitment to the Erie County Redevelopment Authority. He thanked Tina and her team for pulling together during this difficult time to process the COVID-19 loans in a timely fashion. He acknowledged the County Executive for her tremendous work and selfless dedication to the Community. In turn, the County Executive thanked all involved at ECRDA for their stellar work!

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to discuss, Bill DeLuca moved to adjourn. **On a motion** by Tim McCormick, seconded by John Laird, the meeting formally adjourned at 8:37am.