



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Board Members Present	Board Members Excused
Robert Solenne, Chair	Supervisor Fred Wille
Erica Wright, Vice Chair	Supervisor Peter Ingalsbe
Karen Parkhurst	Lynn Freid
Carla Sieling	
Kevin Hill, Treasurer	
Supervisor Fred Lightfoote	
Walt Matyjas	
David Linger	Guests
	Bob Coyne, RTMA
Non-Board Members Present	
Ryan Davis, Executive Director	Contract Staff
Suzanne Vary, Staff	Ed Russell, Underberg & Kessler
Brigitte Larson, Secretary	
Bob Mincer, Staff	
Jessica Kazmark, Staff	
Michael Wojcik, CFO	

CALL TO ORDER: Rob Solenne called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. A quorum was present.

NEW BUSINESS:

RTMA Presentation:

Bob Coyne introduced himself as the Executive Director of the Rochester Technology and Manufacturing Association (RTMA). Bob stated that Lynn Freid recommended a presentation to the EDC to inform the Board of their programs. RTMA was founded in 1945 and became a non-profit entity in 1974. In 1984 the Company signed an articulation agreement with MCC and in 2016 became a group sponsor for the NYS Registered Apprenticeship Program along with MCC. More recently, the Company created the Finger Lakes Youth Apprenticeship Program and the Roc with Your Hands career event. Bob also shared that the Company covers a large footprint over the nine counties.

Bob spoke of the five strategic pillars of service to include workforce development, strategic growth, innovation, political advocacy and access to markets. He clarified that by political advocacy, it means that the Company educates and advocates for employers as effecting bills are introduced. Bob stated that about 70% of their time is spent on workforce development, such as

the apprentice competition and apprenticeship programs, summer camps for city youth, available scholarships and more. Bob outlined the registered apprenticeship program, highlighting that the requirements are indicated by NYS Department of Labor Trade; as well as the Youth Apprenticeship. The Youth Apprenticeship represents more than 100 manufacturing companies in the region and has proven successful, even during the pandemic. In 2019, 64 students were placed with over 35 manufacturing companies, in 2022 there were 168 students to over 100 employers and numbers continue to improve. Bob explained that RTMA works with some schools in the area along with the teachers in order to find the best placement for the apprenticeship program.

It was discussed that some connections will be made, with other schools and smaller organizations to educate groups on the offered programs.

Bob exited the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION:

May 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Rob Sollenne presented the May 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes for approval.

Kevin Hill made a motion to approve the May 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented. Karen Parkhurst seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Invoices for Payment:

Rob Sollenne reviewed and submitted the invoices for payment for approval, which included 7 invoices totaling \$41,162.00.

Supervisor Fred Lightfoote made a motion to authorize and approve the above-mentioned invoices for payment. Erica Wright seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Informational Reports:

Financial Statements and Investment Report:

Michael Wojcik presented the updated Financial Statements and Investment Report. There were no questions on the reports.

Kevin Hill made a motion to approve the Financial Statements and Investment Report as presented. Erica Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Visit Ontario Safely grants:

Suzanne Vary indicated that a final draw will be submitted, then closeouts will begin.

Open Discussion:

Suzanne Vary informed the Board that the Chamber of Commerce is planning to sell its building on Main Street next week according to a news article. The Chamber requested a deferred payment note of \$40,000 with specific milestones regarding the cowork space. Ryan has a meeting with Ethan Fogg next week and will clarify if the construction and expansion originally discussed was in fact begin or not.

County ARPA funds were briefly discussed. It was mentioned that electricity needs should be considered when it comes to infrastructure.

Ryan shared that there is a possible casino to be opened in Rochester. This leads to concern for Ontario County's Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack, one of the County's top employers. Development of a casino in Rochester could carry significant impact. Ryan would like to write a letter of support to echo the concern of the local Assembly members and officials.

ADJOURNMENT:

Karen Parkhurst made a motion to adjourn at 9:53 a.m. Erica Wright seconded the motion. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brigitte Larson, Staff