



November 17, 2011 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Joseph Hauryski called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM in the STC Conference Room.

ATTENDANCE:

Chemung County: Ted Bennett; Thomas Tranter

Schuyler County: Dennis Fagan; Stewart Field; Thomas Gifford; Timothy O’Hearn

Steuben County: Mark Alger; Donald Creath; Amy Dlugos; Joseph Hauryski; Mark Ryckman

STC Staff: Marcia Weber; Susan Cratsley; Victoria Ehlen; Chelsea Robertson; Dan Wilhelm

WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS – Chair Joe Hauryski welcomed everyone to the meeting. New board member Stewart Field, Schuyler County Legislator, was introduced, and everyone introduced him/herself.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – On a motion duly made (Mark Alger/Thomas Gifford) and carried, the minutes of the October 20, 2011 meeting were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Audit Committee**

- a) **Abstract of Claims** – Don Creath reported that the committee reviewed abstracts totaling \$29,818.35. On a motion duly made (Don Creath/Dennis Fagan) and carried, the abstracts were approved.
- b) **Budget and Personnel** – Marcia Weber reported that the Budget and Personnel Committee met earlier in the month and recommended approval of the proposed STC 2012 budget totaling \$899,081. Board members received for discussion the 2011 approved and projected budgets; the 2012 recommended budget; fund balance history; and 2012 funding sources.

Marcia stated that grant applications for 2012 are still being reviewed, and the STC budget is subject to change based on the funding awards. The budget will be reconsidered as funding changes. On a motion duly made (Dennis Fagan/Mark Alger) and carried, the 2012 budget was approved as proposed in the amount of \$899,081.

- i) Susquehanna Chemung Action Plan – Southern Tier East Regional Planning Development Board was under subcontract with STC for work on the Susquehanna Chemung Action Plan. It was decided by both parties that STE would allocate its funding for the fourth quarter of 2011 to STC. The funding must be used by the end of 2011.
- ii) Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) –ARC and the New York State Department of State say they recognize STC's contribution to the region and intend to continue the ARC funding at \$218,000 for 2012. However, because an award has not yet been made, the STC budget proposal contains a lower amount.

REGIONAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

1. **Brownfields Opportunity Area (BOA) Program** – Victoria Ehlen reported that the Erwin/Painted Post/Riverside BOA had its kickoff meeting. She believes that the biggest benefit from this project will be a feasibility study for an access bridge to the West Water Street (formally the Foundry) site in the Village of Painted Post. This bridge would eliminate heavy traffic through the Village. A real estate analysis and a traffic and transportation analysis will be done.
2. **STC's Response to Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (dSGEIS)** (emailed) -STC expanded on a letter it had sent previously in response to the dSGEIS, now including additional information. Dennis Fagan noted a few changes to be made. After further discussion, on a motion duly made (Mark Ryckman/Dennis Fagan) and carried, the letter will be sent as amended.
3. **EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Grant Application** – Chelsea Robertson proposed applying for the above grant to provide training to municipalities. 12 to 13 training programs are available; STC is considering master planning and parking audits.

Mark Ryckman, Dennis Fagan, and Amy Dlugos each agreed to do one of the three letters of support required for this application.

4. **Intergovernmental Review**

11-27 Center at Horseheads Access Road Project

Project Applicant: Chemung County Planning Department

Description: 2 lane roadway and bridge linking the Center at Horseheads Industrial park in the Village of Horseheads to NYS State Route 13, and construct necessary improvements to the Newtown Creek Flood Control Levee in the Town of Horseheads.

Federal Agency: USDOT

Cost: Federal: \$10,500,160 Local \$2,625,040 Total: \$13,125,200

After the project was described, on a motion duly made (Tim O'Hearn/Mark Alger) and carried, the intergovernmental review was approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. **Audit by the Appalachian Regional Commission** –ARC finished the audit of STC with no significant findings. The auditor seemed pleased with the results. A report will be sent to the board in several weeks.

2. **Economic Development Administration (EDA) Funding Status** –Representative Mike Pompeo of Kansas has introduced a bill (H.R. 3090) in the House to eliminate EDA. Marcia said that the information he is using misleading; some is from the Government Accountability Office from the early1980s, and the EDA operations have substantially changed since then. The legislation is not expected to be passed during the current year, but the proposal makes it harder for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to maintain level funding for EDA in the future. The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) asked NADO members to identify House Republicans who will support EDA by circulating a dear colleague letter in the House. Marcia will ask Representative Thomas Reed, who has supported EDA in the past.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **STC Board Meeting Schedule for 2012** – the 2012 board meeting schedule will be emailed to the Board. Election of officers will be in February, and the Annual Dinner will be in April.
2. **Board Appointments** –All board appointments will expire at the end of this year, and Marcia encouraged county representatives to reappoint current members and appoint new members, since there are several vacancies in Chemung and Schuyler counties.
3. **New Business**
 - a) This is Don Creath’s last meeting, and Marcia thanked Don for his time and support of STC during his tenure with the board.
 - b) **Census** – Victoria Ehlen reported that STC and NYS Empire State Development created two new geographies in the STC region: the “urban Elmira-Corning area” and the “remaining rural areas.” These new, local PUMS (Public Use Microdata Sample) areas will be finalized within the next 2 to 3 years. Access to American Community Survey (ACS) data will be available annually for these two areas. This is a significant improvement; typically rural area data is available only every 5 years. The STC region will be the only area in the state to have this rural/urban breakdown every year. The American Community Survey is the only census data that includes unemployment rate, household income, education, commute times, family types, and other information.
4. **Next Board Meeting** – the December meeting will be cancelled. The next board meeting will be January 19, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Cratsley
Recording Secretary