

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

October 13, 2009 – 3:45 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Daly; Supervisors Jenkins, Lawler, Richardson, Sausville, Veitch, Wright; Grattidge; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jason Kemper, Planning; George Hodgson, EMC; Dennis Brobston, Jim Angus, Shelby Schneider, SEDC; Julie Stokes, P.L.A.N.; Mike Russo, GlobalFoundries; LWV Rep.; Press

Chairman Daly called the meeting to order.

Mr. Sausville moved to approve the minutes of the September 1st and 9th meetings. Mr. Jenkins seconded. Unanimous.

In giving an update on the Saratoga County water project, Mr. Lawler stated the project is relatively on time. We will officially be producing water on December 22, he said. Our operations are running out of the construction trailers at the water plant itself, he stated. He said they are finishing up with a few last minute items in the administration office. He said the project is on budget. We can continue with our distinction that we can build something on time and on budget, he said. He said they have three water contracts – Ballston, Wilton, and LFTC which is a combined 4.2 million gallon demand. We have on-going negotiations with the Town of Clifton Park, he said. It is just a matter of attorneys finalizing language in the agreements, he stated. We are actively interviewing for employees for the water plant and will be hiring by the end of the year, he said. He mentioned all of the permits are in order. He mentioned it is the complicated wiring and cabling that is running a little behind. All in all, we have a little bit of work left to do, but we feel confident we will be done by the 4th quarter, he said.

Mr. Lawler stated for the water tank in LFTC, that project is 100% funded by them, but they felt it would be better if we did the bidding on that and oversaw the construction because at the end of the day, that tank will be an integral part of the system. The County will be taking ownership of that, he said. He stated it has a 5 million gallon holding capacity.

Mr. Sausville asked if the water was connected to Saratoga County Water Services. Mr. Lawler said no, they are connected to the park. Mr. Sausville asked if there were plans to connect with them, and Mr. Lawler said there is no reason for the Water Authority to connect because there is no need, and that would be an expensive undertaking. Mr. Mackay has adequate water for what they serve, he said. He stated Wilton plans on taking water in December. Mr. Jenkins asked what the total plant capacity is, and Mr. Lawler said they can produce as much as 7 million gallons.

Chairman Daly thanked Mr. Lawler for his leadership on that project. She said she is very proud to have served with him on that committee. Mr. Lawler mentioned Chairman Daly will be planning a celebration event. Chairman Daly said this is a moment in history, and Saratoga County should not go unrecognized. Mr. Lawler pointed out that

the Board committed financial resources to keep this project going (\$6 million), and that has been paid back. Everybody on this Board who supported this project deserves a lot of credit, he said.

Mr. Brobston gave a report on his trip to Dresden, Germany. He said they met with 35 representatives in the supply chain at the show in Dresden, and they met with a lot of GlobalFoundries employees who will probably come here for about a year to a year and a half. He said an easy 75 people went to their booth. He distributed copies of a sheet on Silicon Saxony – Fields of Competence. In the State of Saxony, 1994 is when the first Infinium went on line with 4,000 employees. Today, there are over 44,000 working in the industry, he said. There is an amazing amount of people with technology degrees, he said. We are trying to find out what their needs are and what the cost of doing business in New York will be for them. They will be putting together a matrix for us to fill in the blanks, he said. In Dresden, they lead the charge with the European Union for economic issues.

Mr. Brobston distributed copies of a communication from the Commission of the of the European Communities “Preparing for our future: Developing a common strategy for key enabling technologies in the EU.” He stated our State is not focusing on the continuation of a project. We have to continue. We all have a lot invested, he stated. Mr. Lawler asked what organization is in charge, i.e., what is our European Parliament? Who pulls all of this together, he asked. Mr. Brobston said Empire State Development has a hand in that. We are also utilizing the Center for Economic Growth’s contacts. He stated the politicians of the State of New York are struggling to figure out what to do next and what their focus should be. They are struggling to put together a budget. Mr. Lawler said he does not see a cohesive policy where we are leveraging GlobalFoundries’ people to come here. Mr. Brobston said the education process has slowed down because of the budget process in the State of New York. The State is struggling with the leadership of where do we go from here. Mr. Lawler said we have invested so much money and have been successful, but there is such a small window of opportunity of courting people, so who is making anything happen? Chairman Daly said there are independent efforts on SEDC’s part and Luther Forest’s part. There is no coordination from this Board’s point back to the ESD. I asked Mr. Brobston to reach out to ESD to come to a meeting with Mike Relyea to discuss what their efforts are, what we know, and what our efforts should be, she said. She said our trip to Austin, TX taught us many things, and we need to collaborate. There is a whole initiative being set up from an education perspective, but we need a strong marketing plan, she added. Mr. Lawler said we do not have a policy statement like the one passed out today. I am concerned companies might look at the State and say we do not have our act together. Mr. Brobston said we need to get the State to acknowledge the fact this is an investment they have made, and we have to continue. Mr. Sausville said has anybody sat down with GlobalFoundries to ask them what they need for suppliers? Mr. Brobston said they are out there looking at who they will be buying from. Chairman Daly said there is a global marketing plan with GlobalFoundries. We need to get feedback from the State. We will arrange another meeting of this Committee, and I will be back in touch, she said.

Mr. Russo said Chairman Daly has been active in making sure we are tight at the hip. We need to understand what our mutual needs and goals are, he said. He said Austin, TX is not Malta, and they can absorb things there that we cannot. He said the project is on time and under budget. We do have several more jobs, and we are on a path to have 150 people here within a year. We have had on going discussions with Malta. Mr. Sausville said GlobalFoundries is everything they promised to be – good neighbors and cooperative. He stated construction of the sound barrier satisfied concerns of the residents. He asked if the suppliers were preparing themselves to move closer to LFTC. Mr. Russo said that is the suppliers' decision where they locate. He pointed out that GlobalFoundries is only one project. It is not this huge save all, end all, he said. People need to put this into perspective, he said. The companies are carefully watching whether they do move closer, he stated. Everything is looking good right now, he said. Chairman Daly asked if there was a time frame for announcing who vendors will be. Mr. Russo said right now, it is more contractors. It is all project related, he said. He stated we are a good two years out before we are up and running. You start to line up vendors the end of 2010 into 2011, he said. Mr. Sausville asked Mr. Russo how we can help them be more successful. Mr. Russo stated by making sure we can absorb the children into the education system if we are already reaching capacity in the school districts. We have to make sure the education system is ready, he said. He said if there is a concern not getting addressed, everyone can get in touch with him.

Chairman Daly said we need to find the strengths in our own region. It will be a risk of time and energy. The bigger risk is not taking a risk here, she said. Mr. Russo thanked the Committee, and he said he looks forward to working with everyone.

Chairman Daly said GlobalFoundries is the largest capital investment this year. We have an onus to do everything we can to help drive them. By 2012, they will be in full production, and in anticipation of that production, she said she would like a resolution memorializing this County's policy and encourage all counties in Upstate New York to implement a similar plan to purchase computers with AMD chips in them. **Mr. Jenkins moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Richardson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Hodgson said in September, Jason Kemper attended a Federation of Fish and Game Clubs meeting along with the BOCES instructor. They supported closing the Perry and Calibus lots to hunters during the time when the BOCES students were on the lots for forestry training, etc. Chairman Daly said our biggest concern was altering the times being used on this property for recreation and hunting purposes. **Mr. Sausville moved to authorize continuing with the forestry agreement with BOCES to allow the use of County-owned property in Northumberland and Wilton for the training of students in forestry, water conservation, wildlife and nature studies and requiring BOCES to submit an annual report to the County. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Kemper stated the Board passed a resolution last month on the MS4 Stormwater Management, but DEC needs their language in this resolution. **Mr. Jenkins moved to accept a NYS Stormwater Management Grant in the amount of \$400,000 to be**

matched by in-kind services at no additional cost to the County or municipalities. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper stated a negative declaration will be needed for SEQR for the trails on Bullard/Edie Road in Wilton. This is in an adjacent area of DEC wetland, he said. **Mr. Veitch moved to declare Saratoga County as lead agency under SEQR for the Bullard/Edie Road property and making a determination of no negative impact. Mr. Richardson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Kemper said last year was their first year going with a major contract for the Planning Conference at Saratoga Hilton at a cost of \$25,000. He said the numbers were down due to the snow storm. He requested **approval to enter into an agreement with the Saratoga Hilton for the January 2010 Planning Conference at a cost not to exceed \$30,000. Mr. Lawler moved to approve entering into this agreement. Mr. Sausville seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Kemper stated bids were opened on October 6th for the Zim Smith Trail construction in the Town of Ballston. The low bidder was HMA Contracting Corp, and they were considerably lower than the seconded bidder, he said. He said we have both the Federal and County share, and we are considerably under budget. **Mr. Richardson moved to authorize an agreement with HMA Contracting Corp for the construction of the Zim Smith Trail in the Town of Ballston at a cost not to exceed \$659,107.61. Mr. Sausville seconded. Unanimous.**

Chairman Daly said she has received correspondence from Supervisors Wormuth, Veitch and Richardson regarding an extension of the Zim Smith Trail from Coons Crossing to Mechanicville. Halfmoon is interested in putting a trail in that particular area, but there will be gaps, and they have reached out to this Committee, she said. She stated she would like Mr. Kemper and his department to look into how much of that land is privately owned. Mr. Kemper stated we have the piece from Norfolk Southern contingent on their approval, and we have to reach out to five to six property owners. Mrs. Stokes said Norfolk has offered 5.7 acres to Saratoga P.L.A.N. or to our designee. We are not allowed to start construction on trail sites until we acquire all signatures. There is no way that P.L.A.N. can undertake this by themselves, she said. Mr. Richardson mentioned that Mrs. Wormuth did an outstanding job working with the Railroad.

Chairman Daly said she would be back in touch with another meeting before the next regular meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann