

Economic Development Committee Minutes
April 2, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lawler; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, Johnson, Lewza, Richardson, Veitch, and Sausville; Jason Kemper, Planning; Bill Schwerd, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Ryan Moore, Deputy Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Todd Erling, HVADC; Craig Hayner, Shauna Sutton, County Clerk; Press.

Chairman Lawler called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Richardson the minutes of the March 5, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Erling, Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Agricultural Business Development Corporation, gave a brief overview of charge of the Corporation. He said the Corporation is a regional not for profit that focuses on agriculture as economic development and with economic development strategy tools and techniques. Currently, they have a multi-year relationship with Washington, Rensselaer, Columbia, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange and Sullivan counties, serving as a vehicle to economic development programs, assistance and financing through economic development programs, working for both communities and entrepreneurial businesses to help develop the food system environment and agricultural dependent businesses. There are four primary functions which include a strategic relationship with the regional councils, both in the capital region and mid-Hudson region; secondly, Incubators without Walls Program, identifying experts, technical assistance providers within the community or outside the community that can help businesses with challenges that they are experiencing in either development or startup; access to financing; and access to networking through the Hudson Valley Value Program, which is a farm to chef network that is part of the Pride of NY Program that currently has over 300 farms and 285 restaurants that work together selling, purchasing, and holding events.

Mr. Lawler asked Mr. Erling what the partnership with the county would look like. Mr. Erling said typically they have relationships with IDA's bringing business assistance. He said as they have grown with their business relationships, they look to what the appropriate avenue or entity in the county would that they are working in.

Mr. Lawler said that agriculture has been identified as a key component of the local economy, and one that the county wants to work with, expand and help be more successful. Conversations with people in the agricultural community have taken place to make sure that whatever is done is going to be relevant to the agricultural community.

Mr. Lawler requested that Mr. Erling prepare a list of deliverables that would be appropriate for Saratoga County, working in conjunction with Saratoga County Cooperative Extension, and

forward it on to the committee members for their review. A presentation to the committee will be made at a future committee meeting.

Mr. Lawler said last month the Board of Supervisors passed and adopted the Economic Development Plan. Within that plan it has called for the creation of a new Economic Development entity to be responsible for economic activities in Saratoga County and to implement the plan. After discussions the committee agreed on moving forward to create an LDC for Economic Development.

Mr. Lawler requested a resolution directing the County Administrator and County Attorney to create a Local Development Corporation for the purpose of implementing an Economic Development Plan and to be responsible for Economic Development Plans in Saratoga County.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to approve a resolution authorizing the County Administrator and County Attorney to create an LDC for the purpose of implementing an Economic Development Plan for Saratoga County. Unanimous.

Ms. Daly said the Capital Resource Corporation passed a resolution to approve refinancing with Skidmore College for approximately \$42.5 million.

Mr. Lawler asked how much money the CRC had generated thus far. Ms. Daly said approximately \$400,000.

On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Daly the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom