



Economic Affairs Committee  
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January 15, 2015  
3:30 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
January 15, 2015**

The Economic Affairs Committee convened at 1:03 p.m.

**Economic Affairs Committee Members Present:** Arthur Lussi (Economic Affairs Committee Chair), Bradley Austin (DED), Karen Feldman, Dan Wilt, and Robert Stegemann (DEC).

**Other Members or Designees Present:** Leilani Ulrich (Agency Chairwoman,) Sherman Craig, Bill Thomas, and Dede Scozzafava.

**Agency Staff Present:** Terry Martino, (Executive Director), Sarah Reynolds, (Associate Counsel), Dan Kelleher, (Special Assistant-Economic Affairs), Kathy Regan, (Deputy Director, Planning Division), Keith McKeever, (Public Information Director), Patrick Connally, (Environmental Program Specialist), Emily O'Mahoney (Environmental Program Specialist), and Annemarie Peer (Keyboard Specialist).

**Others Present:** Gerald Delaney, (Chairman, Local Government Review Board)

Committee Chair Lussi opened the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Stegemann, the Board unanimously approved the November 13, 2014 minutes.

Special Assistant for Economic Affairs Dan Kelleher provided the following update:

Mr. Kelleher reported on his attendance at the first annual Lake Placid-Saranac Lake Winter Job Fair in December 2014. He met with recruiters from over 20 local and regional businesses to learn about their workforce needs and the local employment market. The majority of employers were in the health and hospitality fields.

Mr. Kelleher highlighted that in December, 2014 he attended the Advantage Adirondacks implementation conference in Lake George. Over seventy stakeholders attended in order to develop implementation agendas for the Advantage Adirondacks economic development plan. The plan identified four key goals: "inspire a culture of entrepreneurship with a globally competitive workforce and diverse business base," "promote a sustainable and connected rural life with quality infrastructure and

community amenities,” and “advance the Park as a whole class destination.” Attendees at the meeting were asked how they could help advance those four goals.

Mr. Kelleher also reported that staff represented the Agency at a meeting of the Champlain Hudson Power Express Trust Governance Committee. The Trust is responsible for managing \$117 million in Champlain Hudson Power Express project funds over the next 35 years. The first \$2.5 million is expected to be dispersed to the Trust in the first quarter of 2016.

Finally, Mr. Kelleher noted that in November, in collaboration with the Agency, the Village of Northville and the Town of Northampton held a public workshop to gain input into the economic plan for the Hamlet areas of those municipalities. Final presentations to the Village and Town boards are expected in late January.

Presentation by Jamie Rogers of the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) and Jennifer Monroe, owner of Adirondack Efficiency.

Mr. Rogers provided an overview of ANCA’s programs regarding energy efficiency audits and alternative energy programs. Mr. Rogers highlighted that ANCA administers the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority’s (NYSERDA) Green Jobs Green NY (GJGNY) program for 10 northern New York counties. He noted that in 2013 ANCA entered into a two year contract with NYSERDA to promote the GJGNY energy efficiency programs, educate the public regarding energy efficiency, assist program participants in energy audits and retrofits, and to help train contractors in performing retrofits. Mr. Rogers highlighted that as a result of this work ANCA administered 72 energy upgrades, GJGNY administered an additional 222 upgrades, and another 515 of non-GJGNY energy upgrades were performed in 2014.

Ms. Monroe highlighted her company’s work in collaboration with ANCA in performing home energy audits and assisting homeowners and renters with accessing incentives and financing for energy efficiency projects. She noted that her company serves as a liaison between customers, contractors, and NYSERDA. Ms. Monroe discussed the process of energy audits highlighting that it takes about two to three hours for a full audit including comprehensive home assessment, visual inspection, a combustive equipment test, and air leakage analysis. Ms. Monroe noted that Adirondack Efficiency also works with three local Building Performance Institute (BPI) Accredited Companies to implement energy efficiency improvements through NYSERDA’s EmPower NY and Home Performance with Energy Star Programs. She noted that a lack of accredited local contractors reduces the amount of buildings that can be retrofitted each year.

Mr. Rogers and Ms. Monroe were presented with a certificate of appreciation by Chairwoman Ulrich, Executive Director Martino, Committee Chair Lussi, and Special Assistant Kelleher.

Chairwoman Ulrich closed the meeting at 1:55 p.m.