



**MINUTES  
COLUMBIA COUNTY  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
Tuesday, September 8, 2015  
4303 Route 9  
Hudson, New York**

A special meeting of Columbia County Industrial Development Agency held at their offices located at 4303 Route 9, Hudson, NY 12534 on September 8, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM by Sid Richter, Acting Chairman.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Benson	Board Member	Excused	
Bob Galluscio	Secretary/Treasurer	Present	
Brian Keeler	Board Member	Present	
Jim Mackerer	Board Member	Present	
Sid Richter	Vice-Chairman	Present	
Sarah Sterling	Board Member	Present	
Theodore Guterman II	Counsel	Present	
F. Michael Tucker	Interim Director	Excused	
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Present	
Erin McNary	Bookkeeper	Present	
Carol Wilber	Marketing Director	Present	
Katie Kocijanski	Register Star	Present	
Chad Wexler	Public	Present	
Bill Gustafson	Assemblyperson Didi Barrett Chief of Staff	Present	
Ian Nitschke	Public	Present	
Don Moore	City of Hudson Common Council President	Present	

**Upstate Revitalization Initiative Contribution Request:**

Mr. Richter stated the request for \$25,000 would be used to fund Columbia County's contribution to the Capital Region Economic Development Council's (CREDC)'s regional economic transformational plan which would compete for NYS funding under Governor Cuomo's Upstate Revitalization Initiative. Ms. Sterling asked if the IDA had received the fee from the Ginsberg's project. Mr. Guterman stated it had been received.

Mr. Guterman referenced his opinion letter in support of the contribution, under General Municipal Law Section 858. He noted the ABO indicated the contribution was allowed under certain circumstances. He noted the requirement for specific deliverables to the IDA, benefiting from the

deliverables, the availability of the product to the IDA and the product meeting the mission and purpose of the IDA. He noted all the requirements had been met.

Mr. Guterman stated CEDC was contributing \$25,000, making the County's total contribution \$50,000. Mr. Mackerer noted that Supervisor John Reilly was on the URI Workgroup, Todd Erling from HVADC sat on the CREDC and the URI Workgroup. Ms. Sterling noted that Michael Tucker was also served on the CREDC. Mr. Guterman noted the SunStream project had been recently approved which supported the goals of the region. The Members agreed Columbia County maintained a strong position in the Capital Region.

Mr. Richter asked for other comments from the Members. Mr. Mackerer felt a more regional outlook was needed, for Columbia County as well as for the Capital District. Don Moore stated it was a great idea. Mr. Nitschke noted the forum at the college had produced wonderful small ideas, but he felt more work needed to be done with the public to unify the small ideas into a great large idea.

Mr. Richter quoted from an article written by Assemblyperson Barrett referencing the fact that Hudson was left out of the Council's decisions and discussions, with all the decisions being made for it by the Capital District. Mr. Moore suggested holding a roundtable with the County and the City of Hudson and including HDC, noting they were a mature local development corporation in town.

Bill Gustafson, Chief of Staff to Assemblyperson Barrett, stated he appreciated Mr. Richter quoting from the article and introduced himself to the Members. *A motion was made by Mr. Galluscio, and seconded by Ms. Sterling to approve the \$25,000 contribution for the McKinsey & Company study. Carried unanimously.*

#### **Current Project Review:**

Mr. Guterman stated the SunStream project planned on having a closing within the next 2-3 weeks. He noted the Ginsberg project had closed and the IDA fee had been received. He noted all litigation had been settled and building permits issued.

Mr. Richter asked the status of the Catamount project. Mr. Guterman stated he had no further word regarding the ongoing litigation. Mr. Guterman stated there were no applications pending.

Mr. Richter asked if the Members had any further comments or questions. Ms. Sterling stated talks had begun to merge the Columbia County IDA with the City of Hudson IDA. Mr. Mackerer pointed out that the County IDA can do projects in the City of Hudson regardless of the legal standing of the City of Hudson IDA.

Mr. Guterman reminded the Members that the election of the Chairman would take place at the next regular meeting, October 6. Ms. Sterling noted that she had misstated the fact that the Secretary and the Treasurer's positions must be held by different people. She stated the Chairman and the Secretary were unable to be held by the same person.

#### **Public Comments:**

Mr. Moore stated the merger with the City of Hudson IDA wouldn't happen until next year after the election. He stated he felt it was an excellent idea. Mr. Mackerer noted the largest cost to the IDA is generally the annual audit.

Ms. Sterling stated that CEDC was in the process of redoing their by-laws and stated the IDA by-laws would be done after. She stated they would be written to fit the requirements of the IDA.

*With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Mackerer and seconded by Mr. Galluscio. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:55am*

*Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drahushuk*