



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

November 17, 2022

Meetings for the Board of Directors of ECGRA can begin meeting in a physical location per Governor Wolf's proclamation of June 11, 2021. However, each member and ex-officio has the option to attend in person or virtually. Members of the public can now speak at the physical location of 5240 Knowledge Parkway.

** The recording for the November Board meeting was compromised, therefore the following minutes are a summary of the discussions held at the meeting. **

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on November 17, 2022 at 5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Barney, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. DiPaolo, Ms. Hess, Ms. Loll, and Mr. Winschel are present via Zoom. Mr. Oberlander is present in person. Mr. Wachter and Dr. Wood are present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Winschel seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the agenda. Motion carries 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2022

Mr. DiPaolo makes a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ms. Hess seconds the motion. There is no discussion on the minutes. Motion carries 7-0.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

There are no comments by any Board member at this time.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Barney has no comments at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There are two members of the public present – Mr. Art Leopold and Ms. Jenny Tompkins.

Mr. Leopold informs the Board that he has been watching the news and the activity of County Council regarding the ARPA funds that are in question about being reallocated from the Transformative Grants line item. He states that he has been going to County Council meetings to make a plea for the funds to remain with ECGRA so we can continue to do the job that we are doing. Mr. Leopold is attending the meeting to hear what ECGRA's activities are so he can pass that information along to County Council and let them know the things that may not get funded if the ARPA monies are reallocated.

Ms. Tompkins introduces herself as the Campaign Manager for Clean Water Advocacy for PennFuture, a statewide environmental advocacy organization. She states that she is attending the meeting for reasons of staying up to date on the activities of ECGRA.

There are no questions or comments from the Board to the public.

PRESENTATIONS

There are no presentations at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Cleaver states he has reviewed the Treasurer's Report with Dr. Wood and it appears that everything is fine. He states that we are underspent in every line item except one. He asks if anybody has any questions.

Mr. DiPaolo and Ms. Loll are both curious as to which line item ECGRA is overspent in and by how much. Mr. Cleaver answers that we are overspent in the area of Accounting (auditors). Dr. Wood explains that should not happen in the future as we are now moving from quarterly reporting with them to just the yearly audit. The Budget vs. Actual report is displayed on the screen so all Board members can see that the line item is overspent by \$1,450.00

Ms. Loll makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Cleaver seconds the motion. There are no further questions or discussion of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carries 7-0.

- b. Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Wood reminds everyone of the meeting we held the previous week where we had presentations from Bridgeway Capital, GECAC, the International Institute, and Paramount Pursuits. The results of that meeting are in resolution form to be voted on during the meeting. Dr. Wood also reminds the Board that we will be holding another Strategic Planning meeting on Monday, December 5th where we will discuss Anchor Building, Multi-Municipal Collaboration, Parks, Fields, Trails, and Renaissance Block grants. Following that discussion, we will have four more presentations for the Small Business Ecosystem grants.
- c. Update from County Council: Mr. Shank is not present to give a report.
- d. Update from County Executive's Office: Mr. Smith is not present to give a report.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood goes through his report that has been made available to all Board members. He makes note of the fact that ECGRA received 3rd Quarter gaming funds, which will appear on next month's financial statements. He lists of the other items included in his report such as the activity report of Parker Philips, a press conference held with Erie Area Council of Governments for the funding they received for a broadband feasibility study, the agenda of our strategic planning meeting, and several media articles highlighting the ongoing conversation with the County Executive and County Council regarding the ARPA funds. There are no questions of Dr. Woods report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter states that the attachment to Resolution Number 13 needs some legal language added to it, so if the Board approves the Resolution, they will approve the addition of the language as directed by himself.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business to discuss at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution Number 13, 2022 – Resolution to extend a contract with Roth Marz Partnership to provide building inspections as described in the Erie County Community Facility Assessment Request for Proposal

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. DiPaolo makes a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Winschel seconds the motion. There is no further discussion on the resolution. Motion carries 7-0.

- b. Resolution Number 14, 2022 – Resolution to enter into agreement with two (2) recipients of Small Business Ecosystem grant program totaling \$350,000 for the purpose of strengthening the small business community in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the resolution. Ms. Hess seconds the motion. There is no further discussion on the resolution. Motion carries 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cleaver moves to adjourn. Mr. DiPaolo seconds the motion.