



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510
May 11, 2017

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 2017
5. COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN
6. PUBLIC COMMENT
7. PRESENTATION
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - b. Regional Assets Committee
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Update from County Council
 - e. Update from County Executive's Office
9. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
10. SOLICITOR'S REPORT
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
13. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting and Finance Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, June 8, 2017
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie 16510





Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
April 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on April 13, 2017 in the Jordan Room; 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. Domino, Mr. Paris, Mr. Sample, and Mr. Yaple. Mr. Lee, Mr. Wachter, and Mr. Wood are also present.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

At the Strategic Planning Committee there was a consensus that we would keep the officers the same as they are now. Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve the existing officers. Mr. Yaple seconds the motion. Does anyone else want to propose any officers? Motion carries 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Yaple makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Domino seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 2017

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Domino seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

I would like to welcome Tammi Michali to us. We're sorry to see Diane go.

At the hearings, Mr. Wood hit it out of the park. I think everybody was very impressed. I think we all impressed upon the legislators the importance of these gaming funds to the County of Erie. I found it rather interesting that they didn't seem to understand, at one point, that the county had financed some of these bond issues with the concept that these monies were going to be forthcoming. I think that helped our situation. I personally got a little frustrated with some of the people, it seemed to be the ones that were getting the gas tax money, that were saying "We should be the ones

participating in it also." Some of them didn't actually seem to understand how we were doing some of our special events and things. It's all part of economic development. I think they got it by the end of it, and I hope that they got it, and I hope that we can get through this. The Chairman was pretty adamant that he would not be happy if he were in our situation and were not made whole, and that he thought that our State Representatives shouldn't settle for anything less. I congratulate Perry and everyone on everything and how well it went. Unfortunately, as Mr. Wachter has already voiced, Perry has set the bar very high.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PRESENTATIONS

No presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Peters is traveling so Mr. Wood will give us a run-down of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Wood: I would be more than happy to answer any questions about the reports that have been entered into the records. The March reports are important because they are the final report of the fiscal year. These will be going to the auditors. The new document, which you will see under the Resolutions, is the Draft Budget. It has been reviewed by the Board at the last Board Meeting. We have to answer questions about it. As you'll see there is about a 1% increase in the size of the budget. Most of that comes from the generous 3% increases that the Board has awarded to the employees of ECGRA. Thank you for that. As far as substantial changes, you can see that two categories went down: Expenses under Contracted Services went down a few thousand, as well as Facilities & Equipment while the Office & Administration went up about three and a half thousand and the Other Expenses going up about three thousand. Mainly this is coming from the stand point of adding a few thousand in communications and office supplies and copy expenses. Are there any specific questions about this Draft Budget? If the Treasurer was here he would ask you to vote on it during the Resolution section so we will have a budget for the next fiscal year.

Standard accounting reports: Profit & Loss, Balance, Budget vs. Actual, Schedule of Grant Reserves, and the Check Detail for your review. I can answer any questions you may have about those reports. We will be adding one type of income to our report in the new year and that will be interest payments from The Progress Fund, which we have been able to close on. That is a \$1M Mission-Related Investment that is closed. That leaves one Mission-Related Investment open and that is the Penn Venture Partnership and that has not been negotiated yet. However, we will revisit that at another time.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Wood, in respect to The Progress Fund – while it took five quarters to close on that mode with The Progress Fund, mainly because they didn't want to take the money, they still gave reports that sensed the Gaming Authority had reached out to them and introduced them to Erie County and they had made significant investments in various businesses in Erie - \$1M worth - prior to even taking our money. While five quarters to close the loan was excruciating, the impact was felt and a good result happened.

Mr. Wood: The impact happened and the rationale made sense.

Mr. Yapple makes a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

- b. Regional Assets Committee: Mr. Wood: Special Events went really well. All of the Special Events checks were presented to the applicants. Today we're going to ask you to vote on the Collaboration Projects so we can begin sending out applications. We are also going to ask you in the same Resolution to open up Community Assets funding, which won't be until July, but for expedient purposes we put it on the same Resolution. Those guidelines are attached. There are no significant changes to those guidelines. That is basically the same program we have been running for the past five years. This will be the sixth year of Community Assets and the fourth year of Municipal Collaboration. Same guidelines, same parameters.
- c. Strategic Planning Committee: Nothing to report.
- d. Update from County Council: None.
- e. Update from County Executive's Office: Mr. Lee: First of all, I would like to echo Mr. Sample's comments on the hearing at how well it was planned and the positive energy and synergy that was around the event. That goes to Perry and his team. You did an outstanding job at representing Erie County extremely well. It did set a high bar and it will be extremely difficult for other counties to surpass that. Great job to the team.

I'd like to spend a few minutes talking and giving an update in reference to the Summer Jobs Program. Everything is on target. As you know GECAC is in the process of being awarded the contract, not only for this year, but we're looking at it for two years, with an option of extending it two years, which would be a total of four years. The good thing about that, with the proposal they submitted, is each year does the program does not go up more than 1%. I'm excited about that; meaning the cost of the program each year does not exceed 1%. That is to be commended from the committee that we comprised, which consisted of Perry, George Espy from the Erie Community Foundation, Chuck Crane who is the Director of Procurement at the County, and myself.

The orientation will be kicking off next week out at Girard on Tuesday. Then they have the following week quite a few orientation sessions planned in the City of Erie, then they will be going out to the rest of the county the following week. The goal is, and it's always been this since it is a county program, is to try to get 50/50. It's going to take us a little bit of time to get there. Last year it was about 70 the city of Erie/30 outside of the city of Erie. A lot of that had to do with not only the employers, but in reference to transportation as well. We're working towards 50/50 but that is a goal that is going to have to be done in steps.

The total number of students that we're looking to have in the program is 175-200; it will not exceed 200. Last year, 173 students participated in the program; the year before was 142; the year before that was 123. We feel that the maximum number is 200 because we really want to make sure that it is a quality program. The last two years we've had a total of 42 employees involved in the program. The goal is to get to about 50 this year.

I am going to be speaking at the Manufacturer's Association the second week of May about the Summer Jobs Program. Hopefully we will be able to generate some enthusiasm from that particular group. We already have some companies participating in the program that belong to that organization, but we're looking to increase that. That will be really exciting.

One of the things that I wanted to bring up to the Board for consideration is in reference to where the funding will be as far as from a source. What I mean by that is, as you recall the first year when we did it with V-Tech, the County did a contract with V-Tech and ECGRA did a contract with V-Tech. The reason for that was because we didn't have time to put it all under one roof and we've been following that model for the last two years. Now we are going into our fourth year and one of the things the County administration is asking the Board to consider is that instead of having two separate contracts with GECAC, we would have one contract that

would be with the County, having all the funds come to the County. ECGRA would write the check to the County and the County would put it in with the rest of the funds. When I say the rest of the funds, we have the money from the County for \$150,000, we have the Erie Community Foundation. By the way, the Erie Community Foundation this year is projected to give \$50,000; the year before they gave \$60,000; the year before that they gave \$65,000. But each year they have written a check to the County so it was something to funnel through the County.

From a reporting, and from a monitoring and managing aspect, from our perspective, it would be more feasible to have one source where the funding is being distributed. It would make things flow more easily with GECAC and from an auditing standpoint it would be good because all of the money is under one umbrella.

That is what I would ask the Board to consider. We can have a discussion about it right now – as far as any type of concerns, maybe any pros and cons to what I'm recommending.

Mr. Sample: I don't see an issue with it personally. I just think we have to run it through legal to make sure that we're not in violation.

Mr. Wood: I think from an efficiency standpoint it makes sense. From a policy standpoint, though, every set of guidelines we've ever adopted here at ECGRA have a little statement that says that we're part of the settlement agreement of December 2010, you are not eligible to receive funds as a grant category. We purposely put that clause in as an established policy of ECGRA. This would be a reversal of this policy for that program and I don't know what the long-term effects would be of reversing the policy. We'd have to talk to Tim.

Mr. Wachter: Perry and I did discuss this at length the other day. The Board has established that policy through every grant guideline you have adopted; that said municipalities are not eligible to receive grants from the Gaming Authority. If you're going to start making exceptions to that, you need to do it in a very thoughtful and deliberate way so that you don't start running into situations where, let's say "XYZ Township" is a settlement municipality and they get a check from you every quarter by virtue of the settlement but they start applying for grants and gobbling up more than their "fair share" of the gaming funds. I would want to make sure you do it appropriately.

Mr. Lee: In this particular case I would ask that the Board consider making an exception because of the Summer Jobs Program. By the way, we are going to put a disclosure or a statement in there sharing with GECAC that this is all predicated on funding so that they understand that, although it is a two-year contract with the possibility of an extension for two years, all of this would go away if we don't receive funding from ECGRA and it would be in jeopardy from the County as well. That would cover that particular aspect.

Again, the reason why we are requesting that it goes this way is that from the management and efficiency standpoint of the program, it just make sense to have all funding in one area, so then from a reporting standpoint, they just come to the County and we get the reports to them. We get audited each year. Then we have this information and ECGRA could receive this information, and anyone could, as far as how the program is being funded and where it is being funded from. One of the things we realized is, Perry, when your team was doing this Economic Impact Study and they had to get the information for the Summer Jobs Program, we had to go to different places to get that information. It would have just been more efficient to go to one place and say "Give us a report" and "Here you go."

Mr. Sample: I fully understand and I want to be very cognizant of the Pandora's Box we could potentially be opening. But what if both the County and ECGRA put their funds in one place, so that it still came from one source?

Mr. Wachter: What would be the repository of the funds?

Mr. Sample: I'm just trying to find some way to . . . We've been so good for so long at doing what we're doing and we've had to defend ourselves so many times that I wouldn't want that to come back and haunt us. But I totally understand the efficiency of it.

Mr. Wood: The way it has worked historically is similar to the relationship we have with The Community Foundation. Just like this RP process, we're part of the due diligence. We sit on the committee, we review it, we bring it to the Board for approval, but The Community Foundation has been contracted, the same way the County has been contracted. So we could set up basically that same relationship. The difference is that we stroke the check directly to Tech After Hours or Community Schools, whoever the recipient is. We could do the same thing here – one contract to the County with ECGRA stroking the check directly to GECAC, or, what I'm hearing Mr. Lee say is, "Stroke a check to us and we'll stroke the check to GECAC."

Mr. Lee: That is correct.

Mr. Wood: That's not technically what we do but if this affects our settlement agreement we should probably review it at the committee level because they are the ones responsible for making sure we are in compliance with the settlement agreement.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Lee, I think what you're hearing from the Board and Mr. Wood is they want to figure out how to do it. It's not a question of whether to do it but more a question of how this can be something that can be done. Is that an appropriate summary, Mr. Sample?

Mr. Sample: Yes. We would certainly like to do it and we're all about efficiency, but we don't want to get called on the carpet by someone saying, "Yeah, but you did it for them, why not us."

Mr. Lee: I can definitely appreciate that and I think that's fair. Again, what we are looking at, and when I say we I mean the County, we're just looking to make sure that everything is done efficiently and effectively. We're also trying to make sure that, by entering into a two-year with a possibility of two additional years, for a total of four years, that we don't have to come back to that table every year and ECGRA wouldn't have to come back to the table with GECAC or the County in that regard; unless of course there was no funding. Providing funding is there, everything can just run seamlessly. We all know that in dealing with the government there is so much red tape and there's so much to go through, this gives us an opportunity to get away from that and move away from that model and make it more efficient.

I would ask that you consider it and get back in touch. From a timing standpoint, we would like to have an agreement to GECAC toward the end of the month because they have already started this month as far as doing what they needed to do. Last year, we provided the contract or agreement based on April 1st and we're looking to do the same thing. We could talk with them and let them know what is happening.

From the aspect of when we actually give them the agreement, this would be one agreement as opposed to them having two separate agreements with the County and ECGRA like they have in the prior years.

Mr. Wachter: It's a very good point. We have on the agenda an approval for the funding. Is it specifically for GECAC?

Mr. Wood: The motion is specifically for GECAC.

Mr. Wachter: The question should be asked then is to whom. Maybe this is something that needs to be set down. We need to approve the funding and we need to approve to whom the check is going to be written.

Mr. Wood: Or to simply approve the cutting of the check from ECGRA to the Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Sample: And whoever takes management of that program. I'm probably not going to get this right but, why couldn't we still generate the check and then just enter into an agreement with the County to manage the process?

Mr. Wood: We, in essence, have done that because we have agreed to allow them to float the . . .

Mr. Sample: but that all income or whatever would be forthcoming from the County wouldn't require GECAC to . . . We're just generating the check and the results go to the County and the County just looks . . .

Mr. Wood: The way we deal with the Community Foundation is, let's say there is \$200,000 awarded to Tech After Hours. When they stroke their check for \$100,000, we also stroke our check for \$100,000 the same day.

Mr. Sample: Who is Tech After Hours accountable to?

Mr. Wood: Technically the Community Foundation.

Mr. Sample: I don't know why that wouldn't be the same thing here. Even if we generated the check, GECAC is still accountable to the County. They're not really accountable to us.

Mr. Wood: Because it is the County's Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Wachter: This is a question of it's an accounting function. We've been cutting the check to GECAC. Gary is saying it's better if all the money were to flow through a single contract in their account for the County but the County should be the single Payer.

Mr. Sample: Why don't we make GECAC and the County co-endorse it? Award them both. It has to have a double signature and the County can process it.

Mr. Lee: The biggest concern there is that we still want to hold GECAC accountable. They are working for us. Although we are in partnership with them to run the program, they answer to us. When I say they answer to us, I mean they answer to the County, ECGRA, and Erie Community Foundation. We still want to have that leverage. I should throw this out there, that based on the proposal and the deliveries, that's how we release the money. So they don't get all their money up front. That's where the County has done a really good job, our finance department which deals with thousands of various contracts. They do an excellent job of monitoring and delivering those to make sure that everything is lining up and is being dispersed properly and that the proper documentation is submitted to the County so that when an audit comes in, when they take a look at the program, they can just take a look at all the money that is flowing through there and have a back-up to see how it's being dispersed.

Mr. Wood: That's a great point. The way your finance department functions is the same way that the finance department of The Community Foundation functions. So they call us and say, "It's time to stroke this check for this amount," we receive the following reports and milestones. It really is a parallel analogy as to how it's currently functioning.

Mr. Sample: Obviously, there are lots of moving parts here. Why don't we see, and this is a very dangerous statement, if there is some ambiguous way we can approve the funding today, either to GECAC or to Erie County, depending on what we are able to discover so we don't have to have another meeting?

Mr. Wachter: Gary, can you accept the check to the Summer JAMS Program? If the PAYEE on the check says "Summer JAMS Program"?

Mr. Lee: Yes.

Mr. Barney: That way we get to circumvent the County, per say, being on there but you still get the money.

Mr. Wachter: Instead of writing the check to Erie County government, we do it to the Summer JAMS/Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Lee: To answer your question, yes. We have a separate fund, a separate line item, set up for the Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Wood: Just so I am clear, we're stroking a check to the Summer Jobs and More Program; Pay to the Order of: Summer Jobs and More Program.

Mr. Lee: We're fine with that. And the line item is set up where that money would flow into that particular line item.

Mr. Sample: That would clear us because we're not technically giving the money to the County, we're giving it to the Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Wachter: Technically, yes. We're stroking the check to Erie County,

Mr. Sample: but it's a specific program.

Mr. Barney: But it's a program within it.

Mr. Wachter: It seems to be a method that is... We're at the will of the Board here.

Mr. Lee: The bottom line is this money, if the check is mailed to the Summer Jobs Program or the County of Erie, it will go into that line item for the Summer Jobs Program.

Mr. Sample: There's no question of that. It's just the question of how do we avoid someone coming down the road later and saying, "You gave it to the County." No, we gave it to the Summer Jobs Program.

I think what we need to do is find some way, until we investigate it further, that we just say that for the 2017 year we are either going to fund Summer Jobs or we have to come up with a way, so that we can check and make sure. The last thing I want to do is open up a Pandora's Box.

Mr. Wachter: Gary, you don't need the money tomorrow, correct? So that we avoid a situation where we're doing an award that maybe there's some technicality with Sparber, who is going to say that he didn't write the check out right, maybe we just do an ambiguous award.

Mr. Sample: But we are going to fund the Summer Jobs Program, we just don't say to Where or How.

Mr. Wachter: I don't like snap decisions like this, as you can imagine, so why don't we investigate further how to cut the check but do the general award now. I don't want to have to come back and rescind a Resolution because we awarded it to the wrong entity or to an entity that can't accept the check or whatever that may be.

Mr. Sample: So we will award the amount, we're just not going to say who the Payee is going to be.

Mr. Wachter: Does that work?

Mr. Wood: So we're going to make a motion to award it to the Summer Jobs and More Program.

Mr. Sample: That way we can make sure everything is dotted and crossed.

Mr. Lee: I'm fine with that. The last thing we want to do is put ECGRA in any type of compromising position. It's just that as we move this program forward and at the level that we are, we are constantly trying to do things in an effective and efficient way and make sure that anyone who wants to come and see, they don't have to come the County and then ECGRA to see ECGRA books. They can just come to one place and say, "OK. I see the \$300,00 or \$350,000 you have for this program, this is how it was broken down." So that's our main position in this. Thank you, Tim.

Mr. Sample: I dare say we are all about efficiency, but the only thing that trumps efficiency is paranoia.

Mr. Lee: People are always going to be paranoid. The key from my aspect is having the documentation to show that you are in compliance, that everything is on the up-and-up, and anyone could take a look at the information. But thank you.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Wood: Under the Old Business, you will see we've updated the Impact Investment Policy to reflect a new asset class that we're calling "community facilities". The purpose of this new asset class is to make projects that are bricks & mortar intensive, show great economic development potential for job creation, and have a strong match factor, eligible for a mission-related investment (MRI).

In December 2014, ECGRA launched the Ignite Erie Initiative, which did three things. First, it created a funding stream for inner-city small business development. Second, a funding stream for industry to collaborate with universities in Erie County. Third, small business financing, which is designed to make investments in nonprofits that vet small business loans and seed funds. All three programs are running concurrently, and are expected to be in progress for the next 2 years.

Today, the strategic planning committee is asking you to expand the asset classes in the Impact Investment Policy to include a new category titled: "community facilities", which be targeted as 5% of our investments with a max of 20%. This is a pilot concept, so after accepting MRIs that are able to prequalify, we'll determine if it makes sense for us to continue to have it as part of the investment policy.

Under the executive Director's report on Sharepoint, you'll see a revised Impact Investment policy statement and MRI pre-qualification form reflecting these changes. Strategic planning is asking that you approve these items under Old Business.

Summer Jobs

Mr. Lee has discussed the summer jobs RFP with you on several occasions. I did participate in that process along with the Erie Community Foundation. We've discussed it at the board and committee level numerous times. Today, the Regional Asset Committee is asking you to approve ECGRA \$150,000 share of the 2017 summer jobs and more program to commence in May. You'll find this item under Old Business.

MMC & Community Assets

Under New Business you'll find a joint resolution enacting the 2017-2018 MMC funding and Community Asset funding. Both programs are slated to begin this year without revision to the guidelines. The respective committees request that you pass each resolution as is.

This is #Our Erie Video

ECGRA partnered with the Jefferson Educational Society and Epic Web Studios to produce a video in response to the CBS article that called Erie a 'Sinking Ship'. National outlets like CBS, New York Times, and others began traveling to Erie in the wake of Trump's historic win in Erie County. Their depictions of Erie as a forgotten, rundown place, battered by globalism was the theme of their reporting. The video response was designed to show the Erie with both challenges and assets, rugged and successful people, tacking blight and investing in the future. In short, a more balanced and hopeful story of reinvention. We had over 100,000 views in less than two days setting a record for a locally produced video. The talented team at Lyons Den Productions and Menagerie Studios were the talent behind the video. They shot footage at 70+ local business and locations in a two week period.

PA House Gaming Oversight Committee

Members of the PA House Gaming Oversight Committee came to Erie to hear testimony on the effects of local share gaming. Held at the Bayfront Convention Center on March 28th, ECGRA, Erie County, and Summit Township along with several ECGRA grantees testified on the record how their respective organizations use local share and what would happen if it went away. The slate of testifies referred to itself as Team Erie County. ECGRA's main objectives for the Committee were to:

1. Demonstrate that how Team Erie County uses gaming funds is unique

2. Communicate the ECGRA model to the committee as the best in the state
3. Communicate that any legislative fix to local share gaming must make Erie County whole, while maintaining local decision making controls

The results exceeded our expectations. The Committee Chairman went on record along with several other members stating that Team Erie County was the most accountable user of local share they had seen, that the economic impact report was a great piece of information going far beyond any region had in showing accountability, and finally calling ECGRA the model for the state.

I'd like to recognize the ECGRA staff, the ECGRA board, members of County Council & the County Executive, Supervisor Agostine, the grantees that performed at the reception of the House members, the EMTA for donating a trolley, and the Flagship Niagara League for hosting the House members. I'd also like to recognize Jeff Favre and Kevin O'Sullivan for working with ECGRA on the logistics of the trip and for sharing information on the potential effects of gambling expansion.

Finally, I'd like to enter my presentation and testimony at the hearing into the ECGRA records.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: I would like to remind you that you've all been invited to the April 25th symposium that my firm is putting on that is coming up here in 2 ½ weeks. I'd like to see you there. We're pretty excited about the line-up of speakers this year. Once again, Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission is coming to speak about the handling of local government records and records retention. We're going to have the regional director of the DEP, Mr. Jim Miller who I have to say it has been very refreshing doing business in a local government having him in that position. He has been very responsive and regularly hops on conference calls with me to try and find solutions for our clients, as opposed to throwing up road blocks. He's been very, very great. Thirdly, we're going to have a local FBI agent, who is a forensic accountant, who is going to be giving a discussion on how to set up municipal operations so as to avoid fraud and embezzlement of tax dollars. I found out prior to joining the FBI, he was a local government consultant with a large accounting firm so he knows how it all operates. So it should be interesting. We hope to see you there.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Wood: You have the Impact Investment Policy, which now includes a new asset class. We're asking you to update this Impact Investment Policy to include this new asset class, based upon the investment strategy and to open up the MRI Prequalification process for the next 90 days.

Mr. Yapple: I would like to make a motion to approve the changes to Mission-Related Investment policy as presented and begin to accept applications to commence today, Thursday, April 13, 2017 for a period of 90 days, ending close of business at 4:30pm on Wednesday, July 12, 2017. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

Mr. Barney: I would like to make a motion to direct the Executive Director and the Solicitor to enter an agreement for 2017 Summer Jobs and More in the amount not to exceed \$150,00. Mr. Yapple seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Resolution No.4: Resolution to Adopt the 2017-2018 ECGRA Regional Assets Guidelines for Community Asssets, and Multi-Municipal Collaboration Guidelines.

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve. Mr. Yapple seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

- B) Resolution No.5: Resolution to approve the 2017 – 2018 Budget.

Mr. Yapple makes a motion to approve. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

- C) Resolution No. 6: Resolution to adopt the 2016-2017 Annual Report.

Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve. Mr. Domino seconds the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Barney moves to adjourn. Mr. Paris seconds the motion.

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit Loss
April 2017

	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2017-18 Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		5,412,123.33		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	3,800.52	3,800.52		
46420 · Interest Income - EDF #1	3,750.00	3,750.00		
46421 · Interest Income - EDF #2	6,000.00	6,000.00		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC				
46423 · Interest Income - CIBA				
46429 · Endowment Transfer - Lead Assets				
Total Income	<u>13,550.52</u>	<u>5,425,673.85</u>		
Expense				
62100 · Contracted Services	6,209.90	6,209.90	7,091.67	85,100.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	2,049.09	2,049.09	2,429.17	29,150.00
65000 · Office Administration	7,907.94	7,907.94	3,866.67	46,400.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	17,581.08	17,581.08	22,083.33	265,000.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	22,225.90	22,225.90	17,554.16	210,650.00
Total Expense	<u>55,973.91</u>	<u>55,973.91</u>	<u>53,025.00</u>	<u>636,300.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(42,423.39)	5,369,699.94		
Other Income/Expense				
70000 · Grants / Settlements				
70020 · Lead Assets Endowment				
70030 · Community Assets				
70040 · Lead Assets				
70050 · Municipal Settlements				
70060 · Human Services	19,500.00	19,500.00		
70070 · Special Events	166,046.65	166,046.65		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration				
70100 · Mission Main Street				
70120 · Summer Jobs Program				
70130 · Small Business Financing				
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow				
70160 · The Challenge				
Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements	<u>185,546.65</u>	<u>185,546.65</u>		
Net Other Income	<u>(185,546.65)</u>	<u>(185,546.65)</u>		
Net Income	<u>(227,970.04)</u>	<u>5,184,153.29</u>		



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of April 30, 2017

	April
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	9,098.43
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10100 · Uncommitted Funds	8,171,209.67
10101 · Committed Funds	4,113,883.00
10102 · Restricted Funds	0.00
Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings	12,285,092.67
Total Checking/Savings	12,294,191.10
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12001 · Note Receivable - EDF #1	500,000.00
12002 · Note Receivable - EDF #2	800,000.00
12003 · Note Receivable - CIBA	18,846.25
12004 · Note Receivable - BWC	1,000,000.00
12005 · Note Receivable - Progress	1,000,000.00
Total 12000 · Notes Receivable	3,318,846.25
13000 · Lead Assets Endowment II	2,927,064.18
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	7,313.93
Total Other Current Assets	6,253,224.36
Total Current Assets	18,547,415.46
TOTAL ASSETS	18,547,415.46
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	15,848,321.32
Net Income	-227,970.04
Total Equity	18,547,415.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	18,547,415.46



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Statement of Cash Flows
April 2017

	<u>April</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	(227,970.04)
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income	
to net cash provided by operations:	
12005 - Note Receivable - Progress	(1,000,000.00)
14500 - Prepaid Insurance	812.66
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>(1,227,157.38)</u>
Net cash increase for period	(1,227,157.38)
Cash at beginning of period	13,521,348.48
Cash at end of period	<u><u>12,294,191.10</u></u>



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Budget vs. Actual
April 2017

Expense	April	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
62100 · Contracted Services					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)	0.00%
62130 · Professional Services	6,091.20	6,091.20	45,000.00	(38,908.80)	13.54%
62140 · Legal Services	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	(30,000.00)	0.00%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00%
62150 · Payroll Services	118.70	118.70	1,100.00	(981.30)	10.79%
Total 62100 · Contracted Services	6,209.90	6,209.90	85,100.00	(78,890.10)	7.30%
62800 · Facilities & Equipment					
62840 · Office Equipment & Furniture	72.00	72.00	7,000.00	(6,928.00)	1.03%
62850 · Janitorial Services	590.20	590.20	2,400.00	(1,809.80)	24.59%
62880 · CAM	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	(1,750.00)	0.00%
62890 · Rent	1,386.89	1,386.89	18,000.00	(16,613.11)	7.70%
Total 62800 · Facilities & Equipment	2,049.09	2,049.09	29,150.00	(27,100.91)	7.03%
65000 · Office Administration					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	1,013.00	1,013.00	7,000.00	(5,987.00)	14.47%
65020 · Postage	50.00	50.00	600.00	(550.00)	8.33%
65030 · Printing	695.00	695.00	2,500.00	(1,805.00)	27.80%
65040 · Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0.00%
65050 · Cell Phone	0.00	0.00	2,200.00	(2,200.00)	0.00%
65060 · Copier Lease	182.00	182.00	2,300.00	(2,118.00)	7.91%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	211.89	211.89	4,500.00	(4,288.11)	4.71%
65080 · Bank Fees	28.49	28.49	50.00	(21.51)	56.98%
65085 · Training & Education	5,527.00	5,527.00	16,000.00	(10,473.00)	34.54%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	200.56	200.56	6,000.00	(5,799.44)	3.34%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
Total 65000 · Office Administration	7,907.94	7,907.94	46,400.00	(38,492.06)	17.04%
65100 · Other Types of Expenses					
65105 · Communications	0.00	0.00	17,000.00	(17,000.00)	0.00%
65110 · Advertising	3,196.80	3,196.80	15,000.00	(11,803.20)	21.31%
65115 · Data Processing	1,403.75	1,403.75	17,000.00	(15,596.25)	8.26%
65120 · Insurance	812.66	812.66	9,000.00	(8,187.34)	9.03%
65150 · Travel	104.78	104.78	7,000.00	(6,895.22)	1.50%
65160 · Special Projects	12,063.09	12,063.09	200,000.00	(187,936.91)	6.03%
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	17,581.08	17,581.08	265,000.00	(247,418.92)	6.63%
66000 · Payroll Expenses					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	20,406.16	20,406.16	188,100.00	(167,693.84)	10.85%
66010 · FITW Tax	1,367.40	1,367.40	14,500.00	(13,132.60)	9.43%
66015 · FUTA Tax	0.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	0.00%
66020 · PASUI Tax	53.87	53.87	2,200.00	(2,146.13)	2.45%
66500 · Retirement	398.47	398.47	5,650.00	(5,251.53)	7.05%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	22,225.90	22,225.90	210,650.00	(188,424.10)	10.55%
Total Expense	55,973.91	111,947.82	636,300.00	(524,352.18)	17.59%



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of April 30, 2017

	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Uncommitted Funds	8,171,209.67		
Committed Funds	4,113,883.00		
2017 Restricted Funds:			
First Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		0.00	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		0.00	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		0.00	
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue (less 25%)		0.00	0.00
Disbursements:			
First Quarter Disbursements	185,546.65	185,546.65	
Second Quarter Disbursements		0.00	
Third Quarter Disbursements		0.00	
Fourth Quarter Disbursements		0.00	185,546.65

Disbursements Detail

Quality of Place

Community Assets		0.00	0.00
Human Services			
All God's Children Ministries	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Community Resources for Independence	7,500.00	7,500.00	
Mission Empower	3,500.00	3,500.00	
Sisters of Mercy	2,500.00	2,500.00	16,000.00
Lead Assets		0.00	0.00
Lead Assets Endowment		0.00	0.00
Special Events			
Albion Area Fair, Inc.	1,397.40	1,397.40	
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	923.10	923.10	
Bayfront NATO, Inc.	3,697.50	3,697.50	
Borough of Union City	1,804.55	1,804.55	
Borough of Wesleyville	4,307.80	4,307.80	
CAFÉ	487.90	487.90	
Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.	5,959.35	5,959.35	
Downtown North East	2,696.20	2,696.20	
Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundations	11,290.55	11,290.55	
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival	536.35	536.35	
Edinboro Highland Games	14,875.00	14,875.00	
Erie Art & Music Festival	13,110.40	13,110.40	
Erie Asian Pacific American Association	2,489.65	2,489.65	
Erie Downtown Partnership	765.00	765.00	
Erie Drum Corps Association	871.25	871.25	
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership	4,165.00	4,165.00	
Film Society of NW PA	908.65	908.65	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	5,363.50	5,363.50	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of April 30, 2017
(continued)

Harborcreek Township	1,909.10	1,909.10	
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church	18,494.30	18,494.30	
Jefferson Educational Society	1,916.75	1,916.75	
Lake Erie Arboretum At Frontier	5,057.50	5,057.50	
Lake Erie Ballet	566.10	566.10	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	7,092.40	7,092.40	
Mercy Center for Women	20,839.45	20,839.45	
The Nonprofit Partnership	1,375.30	1,375.30	
North East Community Fair Association	3,202.80	3,202.80	
Presque Isle Partnership	3,791.00	3,791.00	
Roar on the Shore	4,817.80	4,817.80	
SafeNet	2,550.00	2,550.00	
Saint Patrick's Church	2,135.20	2,135.20	
Sister's of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network	4,037.50	4,037.50	
WQLN Public Media	2,454.80	2,454.80	
Waterford Community Fair Association	4,274.45	4,274.45	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society	2,310.30	2,310.30	
YMCA of Greater Erie	2,125.00	2,125.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	854.25	854.25	
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie	620.50	620.50	166,073.65
<u>Municipalities</u>			
Multi-Municipal Collaboration		0.00	0.00
Municipal Settlements		0.00	0.00
<u>Neighborhoods & Communities</u>		0.00	0.00
<u>Small Business Financing</u>		0.00	0.00
<u>Youth & Education</u>		0.00	0.00
Total Funds Disbursements	<u>182,073.65</u>	<u>182,073.65</u>	<u>182,073.65</u>
Committed Funds:			
Enterprise Development Fund		500,000.00	
Shaping Tomorrow			
Empower Erie		385,000.00	
Erie's Public Schools - Tech After Hours/Community Schools		208,333.00	
Gannon University - Go College/East-West Bayfront Plan		45,550.00	
Primary Health Network		100,000.00	
Mercyhurst University - Innovation District		375,000.00	
Penn State, The Behrend College		500,000.00	
PennVenture Partners		2,000,000.00	
Progress Fund, The	(1,000,000.00)	0.00	
Total Committed Funds	<u>(1,000,000.00)</u>	<u>4,113,883.00</u>	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Check Detail Report
April 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
04/04/2017	2079	Albion Area Fair, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-5,959.35
04/04/2017	2081	Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,696.20
04/04/2017	2082	Barber National Institute	2017 Special Events Grant	-13,110.40
04/04/2017	2083	Borough of Union City	2017 Special Events Grant	-536.35
04/04/2017	2084	Borough of Westleyville	2017 Special Events Grant	-487.90
04/04/2017	2085	CAFE	2017 Special Events Grant	-14,875.00
04/04/2017	2086	Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-1,804.55
04/04/2017	2087	Downtown North East, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-3,697.50
04/04/2017	2088	Edinboro Arts & Music Fest	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,125.00
04/04/2017	2089	Edinboro Highland Games	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,489.65
04/04/2017	2090	Erie Art & Music Festival	2017 Special Events Grant	-4,037.50
04/04/2017	2091	Erie Asian Pacific American Association	2017 Special Events Grant	-765.00
04/04/2017	2093	Erie Downtown Partnership	2017 Special Events Grant	-1,375.30
04/04/2017	2094	Erie Drum Corps Association	VOID: 2017 Special Event Grant	0.00
04/04/2017	2095	Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.	2017 Special Events Grant	-4,165.00
04/04/2017	2096	Film Society of Northwestern PA	2017 Special Events Grant	-1,397.40
04/04/2017	2097	Goodell Gardens & Homestead	2017 Special Events Grant	-908.65
04/04/2017	2098	GreatAmerica Financial Services	03/24/2017 Invoice	-332.00
04/04/2017	2099	Harborcreek Township	2017 Special Events Grant	-1,909.10
04/04/2017	2100	Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church	2017 Special Events Grant	-5,363.50
04/04/2017	2101	Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	2017 Special Events Grant	-18,494.30
04/04/2017	2102	Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier	2017 Special Events Grant	-1,916.75
04/04/2017	2103	Lake Erie Ballet	2017 Special Events Grant	-4,247.45
04/04/2017	2104	Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-5,057.50
04/04/2017	2105	Mercy Center for Women	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,310.30
04/04/2017	2106	North East Community Fair Association	2017 Special Events Grant	-566.10
04/04/2017	2107	Presque Isle Partnership	2017 Special Events Grant	-7,092.40
04/04/2017	2108	Roar on the Shore Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-20,839.45
04/04/2017	2109	SafeNet	2017 Special Events Grant	-3,202.80
04/04/2017	2110	Saint Patrick Church	2017 Special Events Grant	-4,307.80
04/04/2017	2111	SSJ Neighborhood Network	2017 Special Events Grant	-3,791.00
04/04/2017	2112	The Nonprofit Partnership	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,454.80
04/04/2017	2113	Velocity Network, Inc.	May Internet/IT, March Copy Overage, March ph	-871.65
04/04/2017	2114	Waterford Community Fair Association	2017 Special Events Grant	-4,817.80
04/04/2017	2115	Wattsburg Agricultural Society	2017 Special Events Grant	-11,290.55
04/04/2017	2116	WQLN Public Media	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,550.00
04/04/2017	2117	YMCA of Greater Erie	2017 Special Events Grant	-923.10
04/04/2017	2118	Young Artists Debut Orchestra	2017 Special Events Grant	-2,135.20
04/04/2017	2119	Erie Drum Corps Association	2017 Special Events Grant Application	-871.25
04/07/2017	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	03/18/2017 to 03/31/2017 Payroll	-10,013.68
04/07/2017	EFT	Fidelity Investments	03/18/2017 to 03/31/2017 Payroll Retirement	-408.47
04/07/2017	2120	Bayfront NATO, Inc.	2017 Special Events Grant	-620.50
04/07/2017	2121	Community Resources for Independence	Human Services Grant	-7,500.00
04/07/2017	2122	Flagship Multimedia, Inc	Erie Reader Advertisements	-2,200.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority Check Detail Report

April 2017

04/07/2017	2123	Mike Paris	Jan-Mar 2017 Travel Reimbursement	-78.78
04/07/2017	2124	Sisters of Mercy	Human Services Grant	-6,000.00
04/07/2017	2125	Velocity Network, Inc.	New Sonic Wall Device	-647.99
04/07/2017	2126	Youth Leadership Institute of Erie	2017 Special Events Grant	-854.25
04/10/2017	2128	Courier Express/Democrat/Leader-Vindicato	Advertising	-497.00
04/10/2017	2129	Ridge Policy Group	3/27 - 3/28 Mark Campbell	-6,693.42
04/10/2017	2130	The Progress Fund, Inc.	MRI	-1,000,000.00
04/18/2017	2131	Adecco	Customer #2414150	-943.88
04/18/2017	2132	Amanda Burlingham	Media & PR	-6,091.20
04/18/2017	2133	Graham Upkeep Service	Jan - Mar 2017 cleaning	-590.20
04/18/2017	2134	Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	Mayor Books	-318.00
04/18/2017	2135	Penn State University	Rent	-1,386.89
04/18/2017	2136	All God's Children Ministries	Human Services Grant	-2,500.00
04/18/2017	2137	Mission Empower	Human Services Grant	-3,500.00
04/20/2017			Service Charge	-28.49
04/21/2017	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	04/01/2017 TO 04/14/2017 Payroll	-6,801.97
04/21/2017	eft	ECCA, Inc.	04/01/2017 to 04/14/2017 PTO Diane	-2,156.45
04/24/2017	2138	Perry Wood	2017 Spring Tuition	-5,527.00
04/25/2017	EFT	Fidelity Investments	04/01/2017 - 04/21/2017 Payroll Retirement	-438.40
04/25/2017	2139	KimKopy Printing	office supplies	-72.00
04/25/2017	2140	The Nonprofit Partnership	Annual Dues	-675.00
04/25/2017	2141	Presque Isle Designs, LLC	4/17/2017 services	-450.00
04/28/2017	EFT	VISA	04/03/17 Visa Statement - Diane	-5,278.06
04/28/2017	EFT	VISA	04/03/17 Visa Statement - Perry	-383.97
04/28/2017	2142	Adecco	customer #2414150	-1,581.75
04/28/2017	2143	Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	2017 Leadership Blight Reports	-695.00



E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT
FOR
MAY 2017**





All God's Children Ministries

Executive Director Rev. Debbie Hills
PO Box 65
West Springfield, PA 16443
(440) 812-4624 Fax (814) 922-7586
Email deacon.dhills@gmail.com

May 1, 2017

Dear Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and Mr. Wood,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of All God's Children Ministries/ Ramps of Hope, I would like to thank you for your very generous matching donation of \$2,500.00 to our ministry. Your gift allows us to continue the work that we do to improve the accessibility of our recipients. May God bless you!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Debbie Hills

Rev. Debbie Hills
Executive Director



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

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April 17, 2017

Mr. Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Mr. Wood,

On behalf of Mayor Sinnott's office and CAFÉ, thank you for your support of CelebrateErie! Your generous contribution will help bring our street festival to downtown Erie and expose young and old alike to exciting local and national music concerts, visual and performance artists, and a wide array of family activities all at no charge.

Mark your calendar as CelebrateErie will take place **August 17 – 20, 2017**. We hope you will join us for an exciting weekend of activities. Thursday night we launch the event with the Taste of Erie and the Artist Colony. Friday through Sunday, the KidsZone will be alive with activity, dance, music and information. ChalkWalk will celebrate our dedicated and gifted artists throughout the weekend.

Bringing this kind of family entertainment to Erie is not possible without the help and generosity of sponsors like Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority! Thank you for making this celebration of art, music and family fun possible!

Sincerely,

Jill Chiccarino Beck
Assistant to Mayor Sinnott

Many thanks for your continued support!

CULTURE, ARTS, FESTIVALS AND EVENTS OF ERIE

JOSEPH E. SINNOTT, MAYOR
626 State Street • Room 500 • Erie, PA 16501
(814) 870-1269 • Fax: (814) 870-1208





Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation

Making dreams come true.

April 28, 2017

Mr. Perry Wood
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

Thank you for Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority's continued support of the Barber National Institute Art Show held April 7th through the 10th, Barber Beast on the Bay to be held September 9th, and the Barber Christmas Ball to be held December 9th, 2017! E.C.G.R.A.'s very special Sponsorship totaling \$13,110.40 was processed on April 14, 2017, and will help make these first-class events for the Erie Region. We appreciate your friendship and the difference you are making in the lives of the children and adults with disabilities we serve.

The Barber National Institute directly supports more than 4,300 individuals with special needs in Erie, Girard, Corry, Warren, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. Your dedication to our organization helps us continue the special work that we do, whether it's helping a child with autism learn to communicate, finding a rewarding career in the community for an adult with intellectual challenges, or providing assistance to a family through our vast array of support services. Our individuals and their families rely on the Barber National Institute every day for the programs and services they need to reach their fullest potential, and we are proud to be there when they need us the most.

Perry, thanks to E.C.G.R.A., dreams really do come true for the children, adults and families who rely on the programs and services the Barber National Institute provides.

Sincerely,

Laura R. Schaaf
Director of Giving

LRS/bak



"2016 Locally Managed Event of the Year Award Winner"
For more information about our events, please visit our website
<https://www.barberinstitute.org/events>





April 11, 2017

Perry Wood
ECGRA
5240 Knowledge Pkwy Ste A
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

Our Silver Celebration of Women Making History was a huge success! We honored twelve phenomenal women. Each honoree shared her inspiring story. We were touched by Alumna of the Year 2016, Mary McCutcheon. Mary captured our hearts in telling her story and the trials and tribulations she faced throughout her journey.

We are grateful to you as a Women Making History sponsor. Your kindness and generosity makes a difference to our women and children. The 12 women recognized on that evening give our Mercy Center for Women hope.

Again, thank you for your generosity, and for helping us to change lives with a touch of mercy!

Blessings,

Jennie

Jennie L. Hagerty
Executive Director

Dear Perry,

*We appreciate ECGRA recognizing
Mercy Center for Women as a
non-profit receiving special
event money.*

*Thank you for all you do
for our community.*

Jennie

MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY



April 24, 2017

Ignite Erie
c/o ECGRA
5340 Fryling Rd. Ste. 201
Erie PA 16510

Dear Perry,

On behalf of the entire Mercyhurst community, thank you for your gift of \$6,803.00 to the In-Kind Gifts Fund. Your gift was received and processed on April 24, 2017.

Today Mercyhurst continues the incredible mission that the Sisters of Mercy founded back in 1926, by providing high-quality Catholic education rooted in the liberal arts. With your gift to the In-Kind Gifts Fund, you're helping to continue the incredible legacy that has educated thousands of students in this tradition. Your support will help enable the next generation of Mercyhurst Lakers to succeed on our campuses.

Thank you once again for your generosity. Your gift is deeply appreciated and we promise to use it with great care. I look forward to counting you among the Mercyhurst family of donors for many years to come. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (814) 824-2241.

Carpe Diem!

Ryan J. Palm '07
Associate Vice President for Advancement

Perry-

Thanks for the continued support!

This document serves as your official tax receipt. Please retain this document with your tax records. Federal tax law requires us to state that, unless otherwise indicated, no goods, services, or benefits of value were exchanged in consideration of this gift.

FUND 9019 - CO
RJP 0625455





April 28, 2017

Thank you Perry!!

Mr. Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry:

On behalf of the Roar on the Shore[®] Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for the Special Events Grant benefiting Roar on the Shore 11th annual bike week.

Every dollar counts toward the ongoing success of the event and our 2017 charity, the Mercy Center for Women. In order to provide recognition of this generous award, ECGRA will be provided with the following:

- Included in all media promotion
- Organization may display banners in The Hub (banners provided by sponsor)
- (2) Gold Level Parade passes (both rider and passenger must be wearing a gold wristband to gain access to the upper level VIP parade section and VIP reception)
- (12) VIP Tent passes (four per night – Thursday, Friday, Saturday)
- Logo and link on official Roar[®] website

Please let me know if you have any questions. You will receive the tickets closer to the event.

Once again, we look forward to working with you this year and value your partnership!

Sincerely,

Ellie Cullen

Ellie Cullen
Sponsorship Coordinator
Roar on the Shore[®] Motorcycle Rally
Phone: 814/833-3200
Email: sponsorships@roarontheshore.com
Website: www.roarontheshore.com



April 19, 2017



Providing Shelter, Counseling,
Advocacy, Legal Representation,
Education & Transitional Housing for
Survivors of Domestic Violence

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
ATTN: Perry Wood
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510-4672

Dear Mr. Wood,

Thank you for your generosity in remembering SafeNet with your grant award of \$3,202.80 dated 4/4/2017. SafeNet was founded 43 years ago by a group of interfaith women who wanted to make a difference. We are continuing their hard work today to attempt to break the vicious cycle of abuse. We could not do it without the support of friends like you.

One of the hardest things to do is to identify that you are in an abusive relationship. And it's even harder to then remove yourself from that situation – especially when there are children involved. SafeNet empowers individuals by providing the tools – support, counseling, legal assistance and secure shelter – to help the abused take the difficult first step in stopping the cycle of physical violence or emotional abuse.

Thank you again for this generous grant award.

Warmest regards,

Linda Lyons King
Executive Director



Deadline looms for gaming legislation

\$11 million at stake for Erie County

By Nico Salvatore
nico.salvatori@timesnews.com

State Rep. Patrick Harkins is not taking any chances.

The Democratic legislator, who represents Erie's east side, is about to introduce a stand-alone bill that would amend Pennsylvania's gambling law by a May 26 deadline imposed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

At issue is the law's local share assessment, which determines how much gambling revenue is distributed to counties and municipalities that host casinos. The state Supreme Court ruled in September that the local share formula of the existing gaming law is unconstitutional, and gave lawmakers several months to come up with a fix.

But legislators have been slow to address the issue, putting at risk crucial revenue Erie County has relied on to fund essential services as well as a variety of community and economic development programs and projects.

The county gets roughly \$11 million annually from Presque Isle Downs & Casino in Summit Township.

Lawmakers are said to be developing omnibus legislation to expand gambling in Pennsylvania and fix the local share assessment. But Harkins wants a stand-alone bill available in case a majority of lawmakers are unable to agree on the other proposals, which could include legalizing internet gambling in the state, and the use of video gaming terminals in bars, restaurants and some airports.

"I wanted to make sure to have something ready to

See GAMBLING, A10

GAMBLING

Continued from A1

just in case any issues arise," Harkins said.

He hopes it doesn't come to that. He said state senators are now putting gaming legislation together. The House recently sent a bill, HB 271, to the Senate that, among other things, would authorize airport gaming. Harkins said the Senate has a chance to amend the bill to include a fix for the local share assessment.

"While nothing is set in stone, I would expect that the Senate would likely have something back to the House within the next couple of weeks," Harkins said on Thursday.

Any bill would have to pass through the House Gaming Oversight Committee, of which Harkins is minority chairman.

Last month the committee held a public hearing in Erie to gather feedback from local officials about how casino money has benefited the region. More hearings throughout the state are scheduled over the next two weeks.

"We are staying quite active as we continue to take an in-depth look at all the options that exist," Harkins said.

The state's gaming law, which took effect in 2004, mandates that host municipalities/counties annually receive 2 percent of gross slot machine revenues or \$10 million, whichever is greater. But a lawsuit filed by Mount Airy Casino in the Pocono Mountains argued the assessment violates the state constitution by imposing a heavier tax burden on lower-performing casinos. And the Supreme Court agreed, ruling the local share assessment is unconstitutional because it treats the state's 12 casinos unequally.

Harkins' bill would require Category 1 casinos, like Presque Isle Downs, and Category 2 casinos to distribute a flat fee of \$10 million to their host communities.

In Erie County, casino funds have been split between Erie County government and the grant-making Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. Summit Township gets its own share.

Harkins' bill would add the City of Erie into the mix.

The city would receive \$100,000 of the slots revenue allocated to the county, as well as 10 percent of the table



Anita Gillett, of Franklin, high-fives husband Paul Gillett at Presque Isle Downs and Casino in February. The casino has generated millions of dollars in revenues for Erie County, local municipalities and local projects. (DAVE MUNCH/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)

games revenue allocated to the Gaming Revenue Authority. Earlier this year, City Council passed a resolution asking state lawmakers to support such an arrangement. Council said it would split the money with the financially-strapped Erie School District.

Harkins' bill would also allocate funds for Lebanon County, which shares a casino with Dauphin County but doesn't receive any gaming revenue.

"I wanted to be reasonable and not ruffle too many feathers while still trying to be fair to the taxpayers of Lebanon County and the City of Erie, respectively," Harkins said.

State Sen. Dan Laughlin, of Millcreek Township, R-49th district, recently expressed confidence that Erie County's share of gaming revenue will be preserved in full, even as lawmakers from districts without casinos look for a share of the money.

"The local share, I believe fully, will be fixed and we will be made whole here," Laughlin said early this month before a crowd of local business leaders. "We should get every bit that we were getting and maybe a little bit more."

Still, he could not provide specifics when asked for a more recent update on legislative progress in the Senate.

"We are still hashing out the details," he said.

Perry Wood, executive director of the Gaming Revenue Authority, said he has heard directly from Republican state Sen. Mario Scavello, who chairs the Senate's Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee, where HB 271 awaits action.

Wood said Scavello, whose district includes the Mount Airy Casino,

told him no consensus has emerged on how to address the local share issue, but that he was well aware of Erie County's situation and would take it into account.

Scavello represents the state's 40th Senate District, which includes parts of Monroe and Northampton counties.

Scavello told the Erie Times-News on Friday

that he was confident the legislature will meet the May 26 deadline and preserve Erie County's funding. He said he is working closely with Laughlin to make that happen.

"Once you get something and are accustomed to using it for the right reasons, you can't take that away," Scavello said. "The goal is to make your

community whole."

Wood said Erie County made a positive impression on the House committee in March.

"I guarantee they'll have Erie in the back of their minds," Wood said.

"They know a good thing is happening here with gaming funds and they are not going to want to screw that up."

In Summit Township,



CITY & REGION

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Community college wins endorsement

By Jim Martin
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Empower Erie's plan for a community college picked up a new endorsement Thursday — several of them, actually, representing thousands of unionized workers. The Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, Great Lakes Building Trades and

AFSCME Local 13 were among those to endorse the plan during an event at the Lawrence Park union hall of Local 506 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America at GE Transportation. Scott Stawson, president of Local 506, said he's been working to help bring new employers to Erie that can

provide jobs for 1,500 GE Transportation workers held off over the past year. Right now, he said, the supply of skilled workers is strong. But that won't always be the case, he said, explaining that a community college is needed to train the next generation of workers at an affordable cost. "The beauty of a

community college is that it has the ability to customize its offerings to the needs of a community," he said. Ron Dinicola, chairman and co-founder of Empower Erie, which is conducting a state-required feasibility study on the need for a community college, continued to make the point Thursday that Erie is the largest community in Pennsylvania without access to a community college. **See LABOR, B2**

LABOR

Continued from B1

"A community college is necessary to retrain midcareer workers ready for the next chapter and to train the workforce supporting Erie's Community's ongoing revitalization and economic development efforts," he said. The ongoing development of the Regional Rural College of Northern Pennsylvania, which will offer associate degrees and job training programs, doesn't change that need, he said. "I am a big supporter of the rural college."

Dinicola said, adding that he has been working with that organization. "But in Erie, we have different needs we need to address." He predicted that the feasibility study "will bear out that need." The Empower Erie effort, which also has won the endorsement of the Erie School Board, is funded by the Erie Community Foundation, the Erie County Gaming Reserve Authority and the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy.

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Inside the U.E. Local 506 hall in Lawrence Park, Empower Erie Chair Ron Dinicola, center, speaks in support of a community college for Erie County during a news conference. Thursday, Dinicola is flanked by Erie County Council member Andre Heron, left, and Erie County Gaming Reserve Authority Executive Director Perry Wood. Organized labor leaders from the area also voiced their support for the Empower Erie effort. (GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)

Erie nonprofits, projects get nearly \$3.8 million

By Gerry Weiss
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The Erie Community Foundation and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority on Wednesday awarded some of the region's nonprofit agencies and projects collectively with nearly \$3.8 million. The foundation and ECGRA distributed the money at a reception at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. The grants will help pay for, among other things, a mentoring project at Penn State Behrend.

Specialized transportation for wheelchair-bound clients of Community Resources for Independence, and creating collaborative work space in the recently-revamped Performing Artists Collective Alliance building at 1505 State St. The money, \$3,797,102, according to foundation officials, will be awarded through 442 grants, 424 of which are donor-activated amounts totaling \$3,434,554 that are already established at the foundation, 459 W. Sixth St. **See GRANTS, B2**

GRANTS

Continued from B1

The foundation has been linking charitable endowments from donors to serious needs in the Erie region for the past 81 years. Four times a year, the organization grants awards to groups seeking financial assistance in education, community development, arts and health.

Eighteen Erie-area nonprofits and related projects received more than \$300,000 combined on Wednesday, officials said. The grants also included seven scholarships totaling nearly \$13,000. The largest grant went to Erie Homes for Children and Adults, which received \$100,000 for its capital campaign, according to the foundation. The Erie Summer Jobs and More program was awarded \$50,000, launched in 2014,

the initiative provides part-time summer employment at local businesses and organizations for low-income youths throughout the region. Other local nonprofit agencies receiving grants included the Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Saint Patrick's Center, Sarah Reed Children's Center and Community Shelter Services. Gerry Weiss can be reached at 870-1884 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at www.com/ETJWeiss.



Opinion
read it in the News-Journal

County Connection

County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper

Gaming revenue vital to Erie County

A couple of weeks ago, my administration launched this year's Summer Jobs and More program.

That announcement, however, was more than an exciting start to a fourth year of the successful program for Erie County. It also was an important reminder for me, and for Erie County's partners in the Summer Jobs and More program, on how vital gaming funds are to our residents.

Summer JAM gets \$100,000 directly from Erie County, which taken from the county's roughly \$5.5 million annual share of gaming revenue from Summit Township's Presque Isle Downs & Casino. That funding for Summer JAM is supplemented by funds from community partners, including 100,000 from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (EGGRA) - which is tasked with administering an additional \$5.5 million in gaming revenue > credits in the county.

As I'm sure you have heard, gaming revenue - so vital to our community - is the primary annual source of \$11 million in state aid, split evenly between the county and October, when the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the local share provision in the 2004 state gaming law unconstitutional.

Thankfully, that's not the end of the story. The state legislature was given four months to fix the law, before Erie County had to reduce revenues who depend

meaning that they now have until late May to find a legislative compromise that will reimburse the local share provision.

This month, members of the Pennsylvania House Gaming Oversight Committee - which includes minority chair and state Rep. Pat Hatkins, who represents the city of Erie, and state Rep. Brad Rose, who represents a swath of western Erie County - will be in Erie for hearings about the impact of the gaming revenue on our county.

And that impact is significant. According to an economic impact study recently prepared by EGGRA, the authority's investment of local share gaming funds has resulted in a cumulative economic impact of \$69 million for our community. That comes in the form of support for all manner of programs and activities, including small business development, historical societies, veterans groups, arts and entertainment programs, charitable organizations and more.

It is imperative that our state lawmakers ensure that any new gaming provision keeps Erie County whole in terms of a local share of gaming funds.

In Erie County, for example, a large part of county government's \$55.5 million annual share is used for debt service. We have to pay our bills for large-scale projects like the Erie International Airport runway extension and Erie Insurance Arena renovations, and we use about \$3.8 million of gaming revenue to do so. About \$1.1 million is used to

CITY & REGION

Summer jobs program aims for growth

Program aligns young adults with employers in the area

By Nico Salvatore
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Erie County's Summer Jobs and More program continues to grow. Each year since the program began in 2014 more

participants have been placed with an employer, and officials hope for an even higher number during this year's seven-week program.

The goal is to place 175 people, ages 16 to 21, in jobs this summer, up from 173 a year ago. There were 142 in 2015 and 123 in 2014. So far about 100 people have applied, said Gary Lee,

the county's director of administration.

"We feel that 175 is a good capacity for now," Lee said, adding that leftover funding from 2016 will help program administrators reach that goal.

The program aligns young adults with more than 40 participating businesses, and is again being run by

the Greater Erie Community Action Committee and funded largely by Erie County, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and the Erie Community Foundation, with smaller investments from other sponsors.

It is open to Erie County residents whose family income is within 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

The program will begin in earnest once school is out, but already the county has held five orientation sessions, and has more planned in the coming weeks. Students learn soft skills in the first phase of

See JOBS, B2

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JOBS

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the program before being matched with an employer, for whom they work full-time, earning a wage for six weeks.

Lee said some changes will be implemented this year. Program administrators will spend more time improving participants' interview skills.

"From past programs, we have seen that there is an area that continually needs more attention as far as improving students' confidence and how to conduct themselves more professionally during the interviewing process," Lee said. New also is a component to get the students involved in community service, including

Jobs and More

Here's a look at the first three years of the Summer Jobs and More program.

- 2014
 - 121 participants placed with employers, and 117 completed
 - 66 percent of participants were from the city of Erie, 34 percent from around the county
 - 92 percent of participants were still in high school; 8 percent were out of high school
 - 2015
 - 142 participants placed with employers, and 135 completed
 - 69 percent of participants were from the city of Erie, 21 percent from around the county
 - 79 percent of participants were still in high school; 21 percent were out of high school
 - 2016
 - 173 participants placed with employers, and 165 completed
 - 70 percent of participants were from the city of Erie, 30 percent from around the county
 - 79 percent of participants were still in high school; 21 percent were out of high school
- SOURCES:** Erie County
- The deadline to apply is May 15, although Lee said an extension is possible in the event of high demand.
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VIEWPOINT

OUR VIEW

State must protect Erie casino fees

The issue: Deadline for gaming fix approaches
Our view: Region's money too important to lose

Time is running out. Lawmakers have just 30 days to amend the state's gaming law by the May 26 deadline set by the state Supreme Court.

In Erie County, roughly \$11 million a year hangs in the balance. That is the amount the county had been receiving as a casino host fee under legislation deemed unconstitutional by the court in September. The money has been used to support basic municipal services and fund far-reaching economic and community development projects.

Now with the law back on the drawing board, other counties see a chance to claim a piece of the state's gaming action. This would undermine important work in Erie and betray a promise made when Erie County agreed to host gaming and all the burdens, especially traffic and emergency services, it entails.

A key lawmaker, Republican state Sen. Maria Scavello, chairwoman of the Senate's Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee, told Erie Times-News reporter Nico Salvatori that he is confident the May 26 deadline will be met and that Erie County's share of gaming revenue will be protected. Erie County state Sen. Dan Laughlin, R-49th Dist., expressed similar confidence without providing any detail.

State Rep. Pat Harkins, who represents Erie's east side, is hoping for the best but also, wisely we think, preparing for the worst. He said he was preparing to introduce a stand-alone bill in the event the reform legislation, which is being mingled with other initiatives, including the legalization of internet gaming, stalls. Harkins' version would tweak the formula to steer some of the revenues to the city of Erie.

Erie County has created a smart, effective and responsible process to distribute the community's share of Presque Isle Downs & Casino revenues, which now go to county government, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and Summit Township. Since 2009, \$43 million has been invested in important regional projects, supporting job creation, education and community events.

Members of the House Gaming Oversight Committee, who held a public hearing in Erie in March, praised Erie's model as worth emulating statewide.

ECGRA Executive Director Perry Wood predicts those lawmakers will "have Erie in the back of their minds" as they deliberate. "They know a good thing is happening here with gaming funds and they are not going to want to screw that up," Wood said.

Wood and area lawmakers are to be commended for their strong, clear advocacy for the Erie region. The gaming revenues are critical to efforts, large and small, to turn Erie and the region around. The Legislature must not, as Wood said, screw that up.

Erie is on the map



Nico Salvatori

"Erie is on the map." Well, I would hope so. It is, after all, the fourth most populous city in Pennsylvania, and I would also hope that any cartographer who omits it is placed on administrative leave, or, at the very least, reprimanded for the error.

But that's not what local stakeholders and politicians really mean when they utter this overused phrase, doing their best to reassure a young reporter — who's only been in Erie about a year — and the public, that the people controlling the purse strings in Harrisburg and in Washington are taking the Flagship City into account.

I actually encounter this quite a lot, and I am conditioned, God knows why, to mistrust anything I hear more than three times, especially when it is verbalized in the exact same way. As soon as I begin to sense that someone is reading from a script, I almost immediately tune out.

However, I am beginning to feel like maybe there is some truth to the old cliché.

Certainly Erie County was on the map on election night. First it was blue. Then it was red.

It was on the map again, for what many considered all the wrong reasons, when CBS came to town. Erie is a sinking ship, the news report said, mixing the metaphors — evoking sonar instead of a map.

Now we're on the map for a third time, as state legislators, by order of the state Supreme Court, figure out how to fix part of Pennsylvania's gambling law so that Erie County, and other counties and municipalities that host casinos, don't lose a crucial source of revenue.

Casino funds have gone to good use here, and elsewhere, and it would be a shame if they disappeared, or were diminished, considering the economically vulnerable position in which Erie now finds itself. The deadline to fix the local share assessment — the formula for how much casino revenue goes to host communities, which use the money in a variety of ways — is May 26.

I am assured by local lawmakers, and others in Harrisburg, that Erie is going to make out just fine on the casino issue. I called up a key player — a state senator with influence on this matter — just last week, and he anticipated my questions before I could finish asking them.

Continued from B1

He seemed to have a pretty good idea of what is at stake here for a senator from the northeastern part of Pennsylvania, due in large part to local efforts to get the word out. Erie told its story, and told it well, someone close to the issue said to me recently.

He couldn't help but add, and I guess neither can I: "Erie is on the map."

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See SALVATORI, B2



VIEWPOINT

OUR VIEW

Summer jobs program helps fight poverty

The issue: Summer Jobs and More returns
Our view: Program imparts vital skills

A paycheck is a sure cure for poverty. But gaining entry to the workforce is a competitive process, not a given. Applicants must know how to fill out an application or polish a resume, dress appropriately, and competently navigate a job interview. Not everyone, especially young people in Erie's most impoverished neighborhoods, possess those skills. Many, moreover, have no one to whom to look for guidance.

Three years ago, as the city's gun violence began ratcheting up and claiming young lives, community activists, including Erie County Councilman Andre Horton, Bishop Dwane Brock, Mothers Against Teen Violence, Gary Horton of the Urban Erie Community Development Corp, and others, marched on the Erie Community Foundation and lobbied others, including Erie County and city of Erie government, to fund a program to help idle teens work during the summer months and gain the skills and experience needed to earn a living.

Erie County, the Community Foundation, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and others came through, funding the Summer Jobs and More program in 2014 for 123 participants.

One of them, Markisha Reid, 16, who worked at Perseus House Charter School painting and doing other chores, called it life-changing. She reported that she learned to make and save money, and earned enough to buy school clothes and books and even help her mom with some expenses.

We welcome news that Summer Jobs and More, which has grown every year, is returning for a third session this summer. Gary Lee, the county's director of administration, said they have resources to place 875 young people at 40 participating businesses.

The program, administered by the Greater Erie Community Action Committee, starts with soft skills instruction by Young Entrepreneur Society Inc.'s Kevin Arrington. Then participants are placed with an employer for six weeks, working full time and earning a wage.

The program is offered to Erie County residents whose family income is within 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. While the city of Erie has rates of poverty that rank highest in the state, rural areas also suffer. We credit organizers for their vigorous outreach. In recent weeks, they have gone to all corners of the county to hold informational sessions about the program and recruit participants.

There is still time to apply. The deadline is May 15. Information can be found at www.gecac.org/summer-jam.

It is disappointing that City Hall still does not support this initiative, especially when youth here are contending with chronic violence and a schools crisis. Some candidates who have entered the mayoral primary race say that, if elected, they would support city funding for Summer Jobs and More.

That would be a wise and welcome change.

