

South Jersey Economic Development District, Inc.
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2022

The Regular April 4 meeting of the SJEDD was held at CCIA Training Room, 745 Lebanon Road, Millville, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chairman Risley. Mr. Risley read the OPMA notice and led the Flag salute.

Roll call:

Cape May County

Commissioner Will Morey
Leslie Gimeno

Atlantic County

Commissioner John Risley
Max Slusher

Salem County

Commissioner Edward Ramsay
Carey Italiano
John Bobbitt

Cumberland County

Sandra Forosisky
Anthony Stanzione
Jerry Velazquez

Christy DiLeonardo (C/S/CM WDB)

Francis Kuhn (AC WDB)

Absent: Charles Hassler, (family medical), Commissioner Donna Pearson

Staff: Louis C. Joyce, Executive Director, Francine Springer, CFO, John Carr, Counsel

Public participant: Nancy Ridgway

Approval of Minutes: January 10, 2022 Regular Meeting
 March 3, 2022 Special Meeting

Motion was made by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2nd by Ms. Italiano to approve both meeting minutes and approved unanimously with abstention by Mr. Bobbitt.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Risley complimented Mr. Morey for his service as chairman and expressed appreciation to the Board for the vote of confidence. He opined that the District may have arrived at a time to consider hiring outside counsel. The history of county counsels serving to assist the District was discussed and he acknowledged the advantage of that system but also the advantage of a private firm serving the District legal needs. He suggested a measured approach to the topic for further consideration.

Executive Director Report:

Mr. Joyce provided some details on the resolutions on the agenda. He indicated that his March report is current without any additional information to report. He indicated he has received and OPRA request from Commissioner Ramsay related to the Salem County work and will be providing a timely response. He also indicated he has been in recent contact with USED A regarding approval of the CARES Act Grant amendment and the FY22 Public Works and Local

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Technical Assistance Grant (Planning Partnership) and has received positive feedback but no official word. He will be preparing the upcoming semi-annual grant reports on both grants and a final report on the FY21 Planning grant.

Treasurer Report

- **Treasurer's Report -**

CFO Springer presented the March report. The beginning balance in Operating on March 1 was \$257,135.45, receipts for the month from grants and technical assistance were \$ 73,707.63. Disbursements totaled \$65,794.65 with a resulting balance of \$265,048.4. The balance in the ACIA account was \$10,637.64 reflecting the assessment payment receive from Cumberland County. Discussion on prepaying the final balance of the ACIA loan using an interfund transfer was held with consensus received to enable the payment.

- **Authorization to pay bills: January, Feb, March, 2022 Bills**

Approval to pay the bills was on a motion by Ms. Italiano, 2nd by Ms. Gimeno and approval was unanimous.

Public Comment on Forthcoming Resolutions:

No comment received.

Resolutions:

01 – 22 ADOPTING FY2022 BUDGET

Moved by Mr. Stanzone, 2nd by Ms. Italiano and approved by unanimous vote.

02 – 22 ADOPTING 2022-27 DRAFT SOUTH JERSEY CEDS REPORT

Moved by Mr. Velazquez, 2nd by Ms. Forosisky and approved by unanimous vote.

03 – 22 ACCEPTING FY2022 USED A PLANNING GRANT

Moved by Ms. Forosisky, 2nd by Ms. Italiano and approved by unanimous vote.

**04 – 22 AUTHORIZING FORD SCOTT & ASSOCIATES TO PERFORM THE ANNUAL
AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2022**

Moved by Mr. Velazquez, 2nd by Ms. Forosisky and approved by unanimous vote.

05 – 22 CARES ACT SUB AWARD TO SALEM COUNTY

Moved by commissioner Ramsay, 2nd by Mr. Kuhn and approve with 9 in favor and 3 opposed.

South Jersey Economic Development District, Inc.
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2022

06 – 22 AUTHORIZING CARES ACT CONTRACTS BY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Moved by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2nd by Commissioner Morey and approved by unanimous vote.

07 – 22 BY LAWS AMENDMENT

Moved by Ms. Italiano, 2nd by Mr. Velazquez and approved by unanimous vote.

08 – 22 ECONSULT SOLUTIONS INCORPORATED CHANGE ORDER

Moved by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2nd by Ms. Forosisky and approved by unanimous vote.

09 - 22 AUTHORIZING GRANT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH TRIAD ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED

Moved by Ms. Forosisky, 2nd by Ms. DiLeonardo and approved by unanimous vote.

10 – 22 EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Moved by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2nd by Mr. Kuhn, and unanimously approved at 8:03 P.M. The Board voted to go into Executive Session and there is a discussion as to its only executive matter; the renewal and salary adjustment for the SJEDD Executive Director. At 8:10 PM on Motion of Ed Ramsey and seconded by Tony Stanzione the Board votes to end its executive session and all action is taken in public.

11 – 22 ANNUAL RENEWAL OF CONTRACT AND SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Moved by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2nd by Ms. Gimeno and approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Purchase of Gazelle AI business development research tool subscription. Mr. Slusher described the trial session he accessed and the attributes of the program. Cost proposal was offered by vendor at \$6,000 for one year of Pro level. After discussion and on motion by Mr. Slusher, with 2nd by Ms. DiLeonardo the Board approve expenditure of \$6,000 for the single use license for one year with Gazelle, A.I. Vote was unanimous.

New Business:

No new business.

Public Comment:

Ms. Ridgway offered no formal comment.

Mr. Bobbitt commented on the power in the room and asked the Board for it support of Salem County's movement to economic progress.

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Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2022 at the CCIA Training room.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:26PM on motion by Ms. Italiano, 2nd by Mr. Stanzone and was unanimously approved.

Edward Ramsay
Secretary

APPROVED: August 1, 2022