

**South Jersey Economic Development District, Inc.**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1, 2024**

The April 1, 2024 regular meeting of the SJEDD was called to order at 6:32 PM by Chairman Risley. Commissioner Risley led the Flag salute. Mr. Joyce indicated the meeting was properly advertised as required in by laws.

**Roll call:**

**Cape May County**

Commissioner Bobby Barr

**Atlantic County**

Commissioner John Risley  
Max Slusher (via telephone)

**Salem County**

Commissioner Edward Ramsay  
M. Jay Einstein  
Carey Italiano

**Cumberland County**

Commissioner Joseph Sileo  
Anthony Stanzione (via telephone)  
Gerard Velazquez  
Commissioner James Sauro (alt)

Christy DiLeonardo, C/S/CM WDB

Absent: Sandra Forosisky, Leslie Gimeno, Francis Kuhn

**Staff:** Louis C. Joyce, Executive Director, John Carr, Esq, Counsel

Public participant: Nancy Ridgway

**Approval of Minutes:** January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting

Motion by Ms. Italiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stanzione to approve minutes passed unanimously.  
Abstention by Commissioner Barr and Ms. DiLeonardo.

**Chairman's Report:**

Chairman Risley reported the Executive Committee held a call on Friday and have decided to interview the two candidates for Executive Director at this meeting.

**Executive Director Report:**

Mr. Joyce reported that he the 2023 CEDS update with the meeting packet. The update will be the subject of a series of meetings being planned with county and municipal officials. He highlighted items in the proposed budget that are different from the past year's budget. Areas that will increase include rent, IT/phone, liability insurance and a new item for project support.

He indicated that District insurance agent, Gallagher sent a questionnaire to shop the liability policy and others for competitive pricing.

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**Treasurer's Report:** Due to the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month meeting date the report will be sent after receipt of the bank statements.

Authorization to pay bills: January (\$2,499.58), February (\$4,435.61) and March bill list to be delayed and approved by the Executive Committee were presented.

Motion to ratify the payment of bills made by Commissioner Ramsay, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Italiano and approved unanimously.

**Public Comment on Forthcoming Resolutions:** No comments.

**Resolutions:**

Motion to approve Resolutions 01-24 through 08-24 in bulk was made by Ms. Italiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Stanzione. Members indicated that they had received and reviewed the resolutions and there was no further discussion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**01-24 RESOLUTION ADOPTING FY2024 BUDGET**

**02-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FORD SCOTT & ASSOCIATES TO PERFORM THE ANNUAL AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2024**

**03-24 RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM NO. 1 WITH TRIAD ASSOCIATES FOR GRANT WRITING, ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**

**04-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF USED A FY2024 PARTNERSHIP PLANNING GRANT .**

**05-24 RESOLUTION APPOINTING FRANCINE SPRINGER, CMFO, CCFO AS CFO FOR SJEDD FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2025**

**06-24 RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MARCH 2024 UPDATE TO THE 2020-2025 CEDS REPORT**

**07-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH LOUIS C. JOYCE, PP, AICP**

**08-24 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD TO PROCEED INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND CONTRACT MATTERS**

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

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Resolution to support the Cumberland County Nabb Avenue project was presented. Resolution 09-24 was approved on motion by Ms. DiLeonardo 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Soleo and with a unanimous vote.

**09-24 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY NABB AVENUE EXTENSION PROJECT**

**Executive Session:** Board entered Executive Session for personnel at 6:48 PM. The Board re-entered public session at 8:32 PM on motion by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Soleo and by unanimous vote with Ms. Italiano abstaining.

On motion By Commissioner Ramsay, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Barr to enter into an employment agreement with Carey Italiano for the position of Executive Director of the South Jersey Economic Development District at a salary of \$55,000 for a probationary term of six months conditioned on taking continuing education for grant writing, and thereafter for term of 1 year per year, as enumerated in an agreement satisfactory to the Chairman.

Roll call vote was unanimous with abstention by Ms. Italiano.

**Public Comment:**  
No public comments.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2024 in the CCIA location unless otherwise announced.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM on motion by Commissioner Ramsay, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Barr, unanimously approved.

Bobby Barr  
Secretary

APPROVED: July 1, 2024

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**Executive Session Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1, 2024**

Board entered Executive Session for personnel at 6:48 PM.

The Board conducted interviews for the position of Executive Director with two candidates, Steven Bruner and Carey Italiano. After discussion of qualifications and experience and results of the in-person interview the Board concurred to offer the position to Carey Italiano, subject to a six month probation period.

The Board re-entered public session at 8:32 PM on motion by Ms. DiLeonardo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Sileo and by unanimous vote.

Bobby Barr  
Secretary

APPROVED: July 1, 2024