

**Tompkins County Development Corp.  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2012  
Old Jail Conference Room  
125 E Court Street, Ithaca, NY**

**Present:** Martha Robertson, Jeff Furman, Larry Baum, Nathan Shinagawa, Jim Dennis, Svante Myrick, David Squires

**Staff Present:** Heather Filiberto, Mariette Geldenhuys, Ina Arthur (recording)

**Guests Present:** Leslie Spirgen, Andrea O'Hara (CDLM)

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** - NONE

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR** - No one requested to speak.

**BUSINESS**

TCDC 2011 Audit Acceptance

Mr. Furman asked if both the TCIDA and TCDC audits could be considered at this time as they are combined into one set of documents.

Leslie Spirgen of Ciaschi, Dietershage, Little, Mickelson & Company (CDLM) addressed the board. She is the lead auditor for the TCDC and TCIDA audit. Andrea O'Hara was also present. She is the managing auditor. Ms. Sprigen commented that this is her last year as lead auditor as the PAAA stipulates that the lead auditor must change every five years. Ms. O'Hara will remain as managing auditor and thus provide continuity for next year's audit.

The Communication letter to those charged with governance addresses basic audit practices. There were no problems or issues in preparing the audit and working with staff to gather information.

The Management Letter only had one discussion item. This is the PAAA Board Independence issue that has continued from year to year. The TCDC and TCIDA Boards are not in compliance due to the County Legislature appointing four legislators to the boards.

The Financial Statements have a separate column for TCIDA and TCDC. The question is: is the TCDC a component entity of the TCIDA or of Tompkins County? If of the IDA, then the audits can remain the same. If of the County, then it will be included in the County's audit as a separate column. The questions were asked: what do other LDCs do and do their IDA and LDC boards mirror each other?

Mr. Squires commented that he feels that the LDC is a component of the IDA. The bigger issue is that of board independence and that is a political issue.

Mr. Furman commented that from a political point of view having the LDC presented in this manner makes it look like it is subverting the state law that took away the bonding power of IDAs.

Mr. Dennis asked what the City of Ithaca's IURA does? The IURA is seen as a fund of the City.

Mr. Baum commented it is a state issue and how the numbers are reported does not really matter.

Ms. Spirgen continued with her discussion of the Financial Statement. 2010 income compared to 2011 is about the same. About \$113,000 came in that was interest from the Emerson Power Transmission recapture moneys. Also the administrative cost paid to TCAD is the largest expense.

2011 net assets total \$812,000 and 2010 net assets total \$797,000.

Mr. Furman stated that he would like to discuss what to do with the Emerson interest funds. He would like to see these paid back to the municipalities and school district. Mr. Squires commented that the original taxes abated that were recaptured were paid back.

Ms. Geldenhuys commented that the recapture policy provides for asking for interest but does not comment on what to do with the funds.

Ms. Filiberto commented that there was some thought to use the money to help with the costs of redeveloping the Emerson site.

**Jeff Furman moved to accept the 2011 TCDC Audit. Jim Dennis seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Jeff Furman moved to accept the 2011 TCIDA Audit. Larry Baum seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Squires commented that the fund balances of the TCDC and TCIDA are being drained and only have about two years left at the current rate of consumption. Mr. Furman stated that year one, 2012, has already been committed. This is something to think about.

## **STAFF REPORT**

None

## **MINUTES**

Ms. Filiberto corrected the action item on page two to indicate that Mr. Mazzarella will provide information on what rental units INHS will be using as collateral for the bond.

**Jim Dennis moved to approve the February 23, 2012 TCDC Board minutes as amended. Nathan Shinagawa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM