

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE
ERIE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

- MEETING:** February 8, 2021, at Erie County Industrial Development Agency (the “ECIDA” or “Agency”), meeting held via phone conference. Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1, as amended from time to time, issued in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, suspended Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to the extent necessary to permit any public body to take actions without permitting in public in-person access to such meetings and authorized such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or other similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceedings and that the meeting is recorded and transcribed.
- LIVE STREAMED:** This meeting is being live-audio streamed and made accessible on the Agency’s website at www.ecidany.com.
- PRESENT:** Hon. April Baskin; Rev. Mark E. Blue; Johanna Coleman; Colleen DiPirro; Hon. William Krebs; Richard Lipsitz; Glenn R. Nellis; Laura Smith; David State; Lavon Stephens and Maria Whyte
- EXCUSED:** Denise Abbott; Hon. Bryon W. Brown; Richard Cummings; and Brenda W. McDuffie
- OTHERS PRESENT:** John Cappellino, President & CEO; Atiqa Abidi, Assistant Treasurer; Karen M. Fiala, Vice President/Secretary; Grant Lesswing, Business Development Officer; Brian Krygier, Systems Analyst; Carrie Hocieniec, Administrative Coordinator; Jamee Lanthier, Compliance Officer; Robbie Ann McPherson, Director, Marketing & Communications; and Robert G. Murray, Esq., General Counsel/Harris Beach PLLC
- GUESTS:** Andrew Federick, Erie County Senior Economic Development Specialist; Scott Piccirillo; H. Todd Bullard, Esq. of Harris Beach PLLC; Brendan Kelleher of Harris Beach PLLC; and Lisa Hicks on behalf of the City of Buffalo

There being a quorum present at 10:03 a.m., the Meeting of the Special Policy Committee was called to order by Mr. Lipsitz.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Mr. Bullard of Harris Beach gave a presentation to members on New York State Diversity and Compliance law and regulations, history of and status of current applicable disparity studies and ability to establish New York State minority and women owned business hiring goals, based on a study of historical discrimination.

At this point in time Mr. Stephens and Mr. Blue joined the meeting.

Mr. Kelleher of Harris Beach presented on New York State employment and Labor law issues related to asking private employers to provide private company data as to race of employees, and role of voluntary disclosure of same to obtain compliance with policies related to the provision of ECIDA Financial Assistance.

At this point in time, Ms. Baskin joined the meeting.

General discussion ensued.

DRAFT ECIDA MWBE D&I POLICY

Mr. Cappellino reviewed the current draft document and concepts related to potential ECIDA considerations with respect to encouraging use of MWBE businesses with respect to obtaining ECIDA Financial Assistance.

General discussion ensued.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Lipsitz adjourned the meeting at 11:26 p.m.

Dated: February 8, 2021



Karen M. Fiala, Secretary