

SCOHARIE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Ronald S. Filmer, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Chester Burton
Chairman

SCIDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 28, 2021

SCIDA Board Minutes

1. **Meeting** called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Chairman Chester Burton.
Members: Chairman/Chester Burton, V. Chair/Joseph Trapani, Treasurer/Wanda King, Member/Peter Johnson, Ben Oevering. **Staff:** Chief Exec. Officer/Ron Filmer Jr., Chief Financial Officer/ Jeff Haslun, Secretary/Sarah Nickle.
2. **Present:** IDA Board Members: Chester Burton, Joseph Trapani, Wanda King, Peter Johnson, Ben Oevering.
Staff: Ron Filmer Jr., Sarah Nickle, Jeff Haslun. **Guest:** Joe Scott, Don Airey, Patsy Nicosia
3. **Minutes** from the December 21, 2020 meeting were approved on motion by Peter Johnson and seconded by Joe Trapani, All in Favor.
4. **Committees of the Agency – Reports & Current Business -**
 - IDA Audit Committee** - (Chester Burton, Wanda King, Peter Johnson)
 - N/A
 - IDA Finance Committee** – (Joseph Trapani, Wanda King)
 - N/A
5. **Project Update and Review-**

Schoharie Eagle – This project is in the 10th year of the PILOT and the business has made the last 90% payment to the Town and County in January 2021. The school payment will be at 100% come September 2021. The project was expected to create 16 jobs by the end of the PILOT. Only 12 jobs have been reported at this time. The USDA and FSA have cut jobs and the target job number of 16 fell short. Overall, the project has been considered a success and no further action is recommended.

Sharon Springs, Inc. – The Company, through their local representative Sandy McKay is going to each jurisdiction to pursue approvals for the continued project throughout the next month. Once the jurisdictions vote on the proposed changes the SCIDA Board can take action. This would be part of a PILOT alteration. SSI is still working on financing.
6. **SCIDA Solar Policy** –

The SCIDA Board is discussing two possible policy options. A proposed policy will then be sent to the jurisdictions for comment. A 30 day comment period will ensue.

The two policy options are:

1. A fixed dollar amount per megawatt. The County Board has provided a resolution to the SCIDA Board recommending a fixed rate of 20K per megawatt. Don Airey a member of the

County Board of Supervisors and the Schoharie County Energy Committee came to speak about the fixed 20K recommendation.

2. A solar company can submit a proposal and the rate can be negotiated with each jurisdiction. Each township can move forward with whatever rate they preferred.

The SCIDA Board's discussion included the following:

The SCIDA has six stakeholders, including the residents of Schoharie County and the taxing jurisdictions, local businesses and businesses that intend to relocate in Schoharie County, not-for-profit organizations, local workforce, the County Board of Supervisors and the State of New York. A fixed number could restrict the other stakeholders from having a voice.

The SCIDA needs to be aware of the impacts this policy and its actions have outside the County and to all of the above stakeholders. The State/Governor's office and NYSERDA are watching and aware of how IDA's are handling projects. It was recommended by Joe Scott to have both NYSERDA meet with SCIDA and the County to understand their payment terms. The SCIDA's performance that is scored on the State level needs to be considered. The State Comptroller's Office presents a report annually where the amount of benefits granted are compared to the amount of jobs created. Therefore consideration needs to be given to the amount of jobs that may be created by the solar project and if this measurement will be a benefit to the area besides raw employment numbers on the State and National level.

If a fixed dollar amount per megawatt is the SCIDA policy, any dollar amount that deviates from that specific number would result in negotiation with the separate jurisdictions along with approval. There could be an amendment to the SCIDA policy to accommodate the jurisdiction's needs. The occurrence of deviations needs to be considered.

Consideration of the impact of the projects on local municipalities. For example, school, fire, roads, transportation, etc.

Other supplemental host community benefit agreements can be negotiated outside of the PILOT to compensate for costs.

The SCIDA Board put forth a motion to compose a resolution to direct council to prepare a draft policy based on the County Board of Supervisors resolution and other options as recommended by the SCIDA attorney and Board Chair. Put into motion by Peter Johnson and seconded by Ben Oevering. All in Favor.

Moving forward for the February meeting the SCIDA attorney will compose a draft policy for the SCIDA Board to review.

7. **SCIDA Resolution for COVID 19 Grant Program -**

All grant agreements have been signed and returned. Many thanks to the SCIDA Board from all of the awardees. Ron and Sarah will administer the funds to the awardees per program guidelines and requirements.

8. **Other – N/A**

9. **Set date for next meeting – To be announced**

10. **Adjournment – On motion duly made and seconded, (Peter Johnson, seconded by Joe Trapani) meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.**