

**Jefferson County Local Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2025**

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation held its board meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2025 in the board room at 800 Starbuck Avenue, Watertown, NY.

Present: Robert E. Aliasso, Jr., W. Edward Walldroff, David Converse, Paul Warneck, John Condino, William Johnson, Dawn Robinson, Charles Capone, Rob Aiken, Dr. Gregory A. Gardner
Zoom: Lisa L'Huillier

Excused: None

Absent: None

Also Present: Ryan Piche (Jefferson County Administrator)
Zoom: Justin Miller, Esq. (Harris Beach), Craig Fox (Watertown Daily Times)

Staff Present: Marshall Weir, Jay Matteson, Lyle Eaton, Peggy Sampson, Robin Stephenson

- I. Call to Order:** Chairman Aliasso called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Privilege of the Floor:** No one spoke.
- IV. Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on February 6, 2025 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Ms. Robinson. All in favor. Carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Warneck reviewed the financials for the period ending February 28, 2025. He reported that all programs are in line and identified the \$48,000 miscellaneous income, which is money received from Jefferson County for the Strategic Development Specialist consulting agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Warneck to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Mr. Capone. All in favor. Carried.
- VI. Committee Reports:** None.
- VII. Council Reports:**
 - a. Manufacturing** – Mr. Weir mentioned the upcoming Jeff-Lewis Manufacturers Alliance meeting that will be held on April 17th. He said that they continue to align the workforce development programs for middle and high school students.
 - b. Marketing** – Mr. Weir said that the most recent newsletter was sent out yesterday.

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- c. **Ag** – Mr. Matteson said that he is planning for the upcoming Ag Development Conference that will be held on April 4, 2025 at JCC. He said it will be a daytime program and will include three speakers: Daniel Munch (International Economist), Daniel Freund (Manufacturers Association of Central NY), and Devon Fuhrman (Nationwide Insurance). Registration materials will be sent out next week. Mr. Matteson said that he is partnering with NY Farm Bureau, which will cover the costs of the speakers so there will be a \$1 entrance fee. Board members instructed Mr. Matteson to have the LDC cover the entrance fee.

Mr. Matteson encouraged board members to listen to his most recent podcast where he interviewed Michael Torrey, a lobbyist in Washington D.C. He said he was surprised by Mr. Torrey's tremendous concern over avian influenza and its potential to cross over to humans.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

- 1. **ARPA Fund Reports (Round One and Two)** – Updated spreadsheets showing the grant fund activities were provided in the board packet.

IX. Counsel: None.

X. New Business: None.

XI. Adjournment: With no further business before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Condino, seconded by Mr. Warneck. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Sampson