

**Jefferson County Local Development Corporation  
Board Meeting Minutes  
March 3, 2022**

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation held their board meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2022 in the board room at 800 Starbuck Avenue, Watertown, NY.

**Present:** Robert E. Aliasso, Jr., W. Edward Walldroff, Rob Aiken, William Johnson

**Zoom:** Kent Burto, Paul Warneck, Lisa LøHuillier

**Excused:** David Converse, Gregory Gardner, Christine Powers, John Jennings

**Absent:** None

**Also Present (Zoom):** Stephen Maier, Esq., Craig Fox (Watertown Daily Times), John McDonough

**Staff Present:** David Zembiec, Marshall Weir, Lyle Eaton, Peggy Sampson, Jay Matteson, Joy Nuffer

- 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:** Chairman Aliasso invited guests to speak. No one spoke.
- IV. Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held February 3, 2022 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Aliasso said that Mr. Warneck provided a written report for the financials for the period ending February 28, 2022. It provided the following information:
  - Mr. Eaton is working on the conversion to a calendar year.
  - Revenues and expenses are in line with budgeted projections.
  - The Ag and Business development programs are in line with budget projections.
  - Total liabilities and capital are \$3,804,291 up from \$3,771,605 for the previous month.
  - All loans are current except LCO Destiny which is 30 days behind. A reminder that we have been told that a sale is expected in the near future and the balance will be paid at that time. Ms. Nuffer reported that the account is now current.

A motion was made by Mr. Aiken to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor. Carried.
- VI. Committee Reports:** None.

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**VII. Council Reports:**

**a. Ag** – Mr. Matteson updated the board on the following topics:

- Ag conference ó Mr. Matteson said the conference will be held on April 8, 2022 at the Hilton Garden Inn. He said that he is looking to replace one of the speakers that had to drop out.
- Dairy Parade ó Mr. Matteson said the dairy parade will be held on June 3, 2022.
- JCC Ag Workforce Development ó Mr. Matteson said that he was contacted to see if there are any opportunities for residence hall students to do occasional work. He said that he spoke to a dairy processor who is interested any may be able to help.
- CWT Farms International ó Mr. Matteson said that the company should hear from Empire State Development soon regarding possible funding for their proposed project.
- Food resiliency grants ó Mr. Matteson said that the program launched two weeks ago and noted that six applications have been received so far.
- Farmworker wage commission ó Mr. Matteson said that the NYS Farm Labor Commission issued a ruling reducing the overtime hours from 60 to 40 over the next ten years. He said that he is concerned and noted that farms can't increase their product prices.
- Jay Matteson's Rural America podcast ó Mr. Matteson said that the podcast is up and running and encouraged board members to listen. He said it can be found at [www.agricultureevents.com](http://www.agricultureevents.com) and on all major podcast platforms. He said that he will start an educational program for protecting farm animals.

Mr. Walldroff said that USDA has announced funding for improving food security. Mr. Matteson said that he is aware and will be looking into it.

**b. Manufacturing** – Mr. Zembiec said that 20 people have signed up so far for the Jefferson-Lewis manufacturing forum that will be held in Carthage at Zero Dock Street on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Zembiec noted that New York Air Brake will be moving a new production line to Watertown to service the North American market.

**c. Marketing** – Mr. Weir said that he, Dave and Jay attended the NYSEDC meeting in Albany on Monday. He said that they attended some great sessions and heard the governor speak.

Mr. Weir noted that EZ Stak, Inc. is lined up to speak on Jay's podcast.

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- VIII. Unfinished Business:** Mr. Zembiec said that we are expecting the agreement with Jefferson County for the ARPA funds and indicated that we will also have an agreement with CAPC for the childcare program.
- IX. Counsel:** None.
- X. New Business:** None.
- XI. Adjournment:** With no further business before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Johnson. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peggy Sampson*