

**ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES - January 13, 2009**

***Call to Order:***

A meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on January 13, 2009, in the Erie County Council Caucus Room at 11:35 a.m. Legal notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times News on December 28, 2008. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ronald Cleaver.

***Roll Call:***

***ECGRA Voting Members Present:*** Kathleen A. DeSante; David S. Sample; Jennifer Dobbs Woods; Stephanie B. Freeman. (Pasquale Bruno, III attended by telephone).

***ECGRA Non-Voting Members Present:*** Ronald Cleaver, Chairman; Robert R. Spaulding, Director of Economic Development

***Others Present included:*** Carolyn E. Gold, Esq., Gaming Revenue Manager; Thomas S. Talarico, Esq., Solicitor for Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

***Quorum present:*** Yes

***Members of Public Present Included:*** Nick Rodriguez-Cayro, Esq. (Presque Isle Downs, Inc.); Jerry Hanas (Waterford Township); John Dombrowski (McKean Township Supervisor); Bill Steff (Summit Township Sewer Authority); Marlin Coon (Summit Township); Joseph Giles (Erie County Council); Ritchie Marsh, Esq. (McKean, Waterford, Greene Township); and Daniel Pastore, Esq. (Summit Township/STIEDA).

***Approval of Minutes:***

A motion to approve minutes for meetings of December 18, 2008, was made by David S. Sample and seconded by Jennifer Dobbs Woods. All were in favor.

***Hearing of the Public:*** Representatives from Waterford and McKean Township were introduced by their legal counsel, Ritch Marsh, Esq. and gave brief presentations about applications for Municipal Grants from the townships they represented.

***New Business:***

The first orders of new business, items 5A and 5B from Agenda – The introduction of newly appointed ECGRA member, Arthur L. Smaltz, and introduction of possible replacement for former ECGRA member Joseph S. Kujawa, Mike Paris. Both individuals were introduced and were provided with photocopies of the narrative statements from the pending municipal grant applications. Also, Mike Paris was supplied with a photocopy of the grant application.

The next order of new business, item 5C from Agenda – The approval of minutes of ECGRA meeting of December 18, 2008. As noted above, these minutes were approved.

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The next order of new business, item 5D from Agenda - The mention of the ‘Amicus Brief’ filed on behalf of Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership – favors reversal of Opinion and Order of Judge Dunlavey. The fact of the filing of this brief was mentioned as an update to ECGRA members on the status of the STEIDA lawsuit.

The next order of new business, item 5E from Agenda - The proposed increase in the allocation of Restricted Funds for administrative expenses (from 3% to 5%). This was discussed as well and upon motion duly seconded; this increase was approved by ECGRA.

The next order of new business, item 5F from Agenda – Discussion of the current draft of ECGRA’s written Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications for Municipal Grants of Restricted Funds. Discussion of the current circulated draft occurred and upon motion duly seconded, the current draft as revised during the meeting was adopted.

The next order of new business, item 5G from Agenda – Discussion of the draft of written procedures for ECGRA in evaluating Applications for Municipal Grants of Restricted Funds. Discussion of the circulated draft occurred. A general procedure was agreed upon in that Authority members decided that the applications should be assigned to teams for review. It was also decided that there would be a ranking process employed and a funding process employed.

The next order of new business, item 5H from Agenda - Discussion regarding use of “Score Sheet” and Assessment Handbook Tools. The concepts of a sheet for ECGRA members to use in “scoring” applications, and an “assessment handbook” (like the ones developed by the Regional Assets Funding Committee) were discussed. The goal is that drafts of these documents would be presented at the January 22, 2009 ECGRA meeting.

The last order of new business, item 5I from Agenda - Meetings were scheduled (to finalize evaluation procedures and to review the municipal grant applications) for January 29, 2009; February 5, 2009; February 10, 2009; February 12, 2009; February 17, 2009; February 19, 2009 and February 24, 2009 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on each of those days.

***Old Business:***

Continued Discussion – Proposed change(s) to organization of ECGRA. Chairman Ronald Cleaver updated the Authority on the proposed amendment to the Administrative Code removing the provision concerning the automatic appointment of the Chairperson of County Council as Chairperson of ECGRA.

***Time Meeting Adjourned: 1:15 p.m.***

***Next Meeting: January 29, 2009***

***NOTE: These minutes were approved at the July 9, 2009, meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. s/Carolyn E. Gold, Esquire; October 16, 2009.***