

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 13, 2020

Via Zoom / Conference CALL  
1:28pm – 1:35pm

PRESENT: Edward Diana, Michael Gaydos, James DiSalvo

ALSO PRESENT: Laurie Villasuso – Chief Executive Officer  
Kevin Dowd – IDA Attorney  
Vincent Cozzolino – Managing Director  
Melanie Schouten – Chief Operating Officer  
Ed Januszkiewicz - Chief Financial Officer  
Kelly Reilly  
Dean Brady

**Orange County Industrial Development Agency**

**HVADC (Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corporation) IDA Agent Status**

Ms. Villasuso started the meeting stating that they are following up on the HVADC. Historically they have been an agent of the IDA at the cost of \$25,000.00 a year. HVADC has been an agricultural arm for the IDA. She said that when the IDA was working on developing the CBD Accelerator, they were helping us rally the farmers. They also assisted the IDA when the IDA was working with dairy farmers about the tire removal issue with mosquitos on farms throughout the County. She stated that the IDA has worked with HVADC a lot in the past, and that every year the IDA looks at all its Agents who have been approved and what the IDA gets for their dollars.

Ms. Villasuso stated that last month the Governance Committee Members asked the IDA to reach out to other Counties to see what they contribute to HVADC. Ms. Villasuso stated that HVADC collects \$25,000.00 a year from Columbia County, Dutchess County, Orange County, Sullivan County and Ulster County. From Columbia County and Ulster County the money comes from the Economic Development Office, from Dutchess County, Sullivan County and Orange County the money comes from their IDA's. Putman County, Rockland County and Westchester County do not contribute as they don't have robust an agricultural community especially in Rockland and Westchester County. Ms. Villasuso, Mr. Cozzolino, and Ms. Schouten had a call with HVADC to see what the outlook for 2021 would be. They asked HVADC to submit a plan that's more in tune with a project with specific deliverables. Ms. Villasuso asked Ms. Schouten if she received the application from HVADC and she stated yes. Ms. Schouten stated that she read it and it is good. Ms. Schouten said that she spoke to them about their narrative being changed and how they handle work force development. Ms. Villasuso asked what their deliverable looks like for 2021, more workforce related or less? Ms. Schouten stated that they still cover the other basics, but their actions are more workforce specific and how their direct actions lead toward workforce development and retention. Ms. Villasuso stated that the HVADC application will be included in the budget discussion but the full application to the Governance Committee review prior to it going to the Full Board. Ms. Villasuso asked if the Committee is comfortable moving forward with this application. The Committee agreed they are comfortable with the application.

Motion is made by Mr. Diana seconded by Mr. Gaydos to adjourn the Governance Committee Meeting.  
All voted in favor. Motion is carried.

Governance Committee Meeting ended at 1:35pm.