

Columbia County Industrial Development Agency

COLUMBIA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING NOTICE

Please take notice that there will be a regular meeting of the Columbia County Industrial Development Agency and its Committees held on February 1, 2022 at 8:30am. This meeting will be held to consider all appropriate business brought before it. The Columbia County IDA will be held in person at One Hudson City Centre, Suite 30, Hudson, NY 12534, as well as Zoom. The public will have an opportunity to hear the meeting live and provide comments. Comments can also be provided via email before and during the meeting to mtucker@columbiaedc.com. Please check the meeting agenda posted on the IDA's website on www.columbiaedc.com for updated information. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82737180055?pwd=cDRjc3JWL25pWWxwbklzeEVKYTZFQT09>
Meeting ID: 827 3718 0055, Passcode: 916775, Dial by your location 1 646 558 8656
Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82737180055?pwd=cDRjc3JWL25pWWxwbklzeEVKYTZFQT09>

Dated: January 25, 2022
Nina Fingar-Smith
Secretary, Columbia County Industrial Development Agency

IDA Audit Committee Agenda

Members:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Nina Fingar-Smith | Brian Keeler | Sarah Starling |
| Bob Galluscio | Carmine Pierro | |
| William Gerlach | Rick Rector | |

1. Draft Minutes, December 7, 2021*
2. Audit Committee Charter*
3. 2021 Internal Controls Statement*
4. 2021 Audit Committee Discharge of Duties*
5. Public Comments

Attachments:

Minutes, December 7, 2021
Audit Committee Charter
2021 Internal Controls Statement
2021 Audit Committee Discharge of Duties

* Requires Action

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DRAFT

**Columbia County
Industrial Development Agency**

**MINUTES
COLUMBIA COUNTY
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Audit Committee
Tuesday, December 7, 2021
Via Google Meet due to COVID-19 outbreak**

A regularly scheduled meeting of Columbia County Industrial Development Agency's Audit Committee held via Google Meet due to COVID-19 on Tuesday, December 7, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 8:41am by Carmine Pierro, Chair.

| Attendee Name | Title | Status | Arrived |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Nina Fingar-Smith | Secretary | Present via Meet | |
| Robert Galluscio | Treasurer | Present | |
| William Gerlach | Board Member | Excused | |
| Brian Keeler | Board Member | Present | |
| Carmine Pierro | Chair | Present | |
| Sarah Sterling | Vice-Chair | Present | |
| Andrew Howard | Counsel | Present | |
| F. Michael Tucker | President/CEO | Present | |
| Lauren Cranna | Business Development Partner | Present via Meet | |
| Lisa Drahushuk | Administrative Supervisor | Present | |
| Cat Lyden | Assistant Administrative/Bookkeeper | Present | |
| Martha Lane | Business Development Director | Present via Meet | |
| 518-***-**01 | Member of the Public | Present via Meet | |
| 518-***-**00 | Member of the Public | Present via Meet | |

Minutes March 15, 2021:

Ms. Sterling made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galluscio to approve the minutes from March 15, 2021. Carried.

2021 Audit Engagement Letter:

Mr. Galluscio made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keeler to approve the 2021 audit engagement letter as presented. Carried.

With no further business to discuss or public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Keeler and seconded by Ms. Sterling to adjourn the meeting. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:43am.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drahushuk

Columbia County Industrial Development Agency
AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

This Audit Committee Charter was adopted by the Board of Members of the Columbia County Industrial Development Agency, a public benefit corporation established under the laws of the State of New York, on this 7th day of February 2017.

Purpose:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Authority's bylaws, the purpose of the audit committee shall be to (1) assure that the authority's board fulfills its responsibilities for the authority's internal and external audit process, the financial reporting process and the system of risk assessment and internal controls over financial reporting; and (2) provide an avenue of communication between management, the independent auditors, the internal auditors, and the board of directors.

Powers of the Audit Committee

It shall be the responsibility of the audit committee to:

- Appoint, compensate, and oversee the work of any public accounting firm employed by the authority.
- Conduct or authorize investigations into any matters within its scope of responsibility.
- Seek any information it requires from authority employees, all of whom should be directed by the board to cooperate with committee requests.
- Meet with authority staff, independent auditors or outside counsel, as necessary.
- Retain, at the authority's expense, such outside counsel, experts and other advisors as the audit committee may deem appropriate. The Columbia County Industrial Development Agency board will ensure that the audit committee has sufficient resources to carry out its duties.

Composition of Committee and Selection of Members

The audit committee shall be established as set forth in and pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Authority's bylaws. The audit committee shall consist of at least three members of the board of directors who are independent of authority operations. The Authority's board will appoint the audit committee members and the audit committee chair. Audit committee members shall be prohibited from being an employee of the authority or an immediate family member of an employee of the authority.

In addition, audit committee members shall not engage in any private business transactions with the authority or receive compensation from any private entity that has material business relationships with the authority, or be an immediate family member of an engages in private business transactions with the authority or receives compensation from an entity that has material business relationships with the authority. Ideally, all members on the audit committee shall possess or obtain a basic understanding of governmental financial reporting and auditing. The audit committee shall have access to the services of at least one financial expert; whose name shall be disclosed in the annual report of the authority.

The audit committee's financial expert should have 1) an understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements; 2) experience in preparing or auditing financial statements of comparable entities; 3) experience in applying such principles in connection with

the accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves; 4) experience with internal accounting controls and, 5) an understanding of audit committee functions.

Meetings

The audit committee will meet a minimum of twice a year, with the expectation that additional meetings may be required to adequately fulfill all the obligations and duties outlined in the charter. Members of the audit committee are expected to attend each committee meeting, in person. The audit committee may invite other individuals, such as members of management, auditors or other technical experts to attend meetings and provide pertinent information, as necessary. The audit committee will meet with the authority's independent auditor at least annually to discuss the financial statements of the authority.

Meeting agendas will be prepared for every meeting and provided to the audit committee members along with briefing materials 5 business days before the scheduled audit committee meeting. The audit committee will act only on the affirmative vote of a majority of the members at a meeting or by unanimous consent. Minutes of these meetings will be recorded.

Responsibilities

The audit committee shall have responsibilities related to: (a) the independent auditor and annual financial statements; (b) the Authority's internal auditors; (c) oversight of management's internal controls, compliance and risk assessment practices; (d) special investigations and whistleblower policies; and (e) miscellaneous issues related to the financial practices of the Authority.

A. Independent Auditors and Financial Statements

The audit committee shall:

- Appoint, compensate and oversee independent auditors retained by the authority and pre-approve all audit services provided by the independent auditor.
- Establish procedures for the engagement of the independent auditor to provide permitted audit services. The authority's independent auditor shall be prohibited from providing non-audit services unless having received previous written approval from the audit committee. Non-audit services include tasks that directly support the authority's operations, such as bookkeeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements of the authority, financial information systems design and implementation, appraisal or valuation services, actuarial services, investment banking services, and other tasks that may involve performing management functions or making management decisions.
- Review and approve the authority's audited financial statements, associated management letter, report on internal controls and all other auditor communications.
- Review significant accounting and reporting issues, including complex or unusual transactions and management decisions, and recent professional and regulatory pronouncements, and understand their impact on the financial statements.
- Meet with the independent audit firm on a regular basis to discuss any significant issues that may have surfaced during the course of the audit.
- Review and discuss any significant risks reported in the independent audit findings and recommendations and assess the responsiveness and timeliness of management's follow-up activities pertaining to the same.

B. Internal Auditors

The audit committee shall:

- Review with management and the internal audit director, the charter, activities, staffing and organizational structure of the internal audit function. The audit committee shall have authority over the appointment, dismissal, compensation and performance reviews of the internal audit director.
- Ensure that the internal audit function is organizationally independent from authority operations.
- Review the reports of internal auditors, and have authority to review and approve the annual internal audit plan.
- Review the results of internal audits and approve procedures for implementing accepted recommendations of the internal auditor.

C. Internal Controls, Compliance and Risk Assessment

The audit committee shall:

- Review management's assessment of the effectiveness of the authority's internal controls and review the report on internal controls by the independent auditor as a part of the financial audit engagement.

D. Special Investigations

The audit committee shall:

- Ensure that the authority has an appropriate confidential mechanism for individuals to report suspected fraudulent activities, allegations of corruption, fraud, criminal activity, conflicts of interest or abuse by the directors, officers, or employees of the authority or any persons having business dealings with the authority or breaches of internal control.
- Develop procedures for the receipt, retention, investigation and/or referral of complaints concerning accounting, internal controls and auditing to the appropriate body.
- Request and oversee special investigations as needed and/or refer specific issues to the appropriate body for further investigation (for example, issues may be referred to the State Inspector General or, other investigatory organization.)
- Review all reports delivered to it by the Inspector General and serve as a point of contact with the Inspector General.

E. Other Responsibilities of the Audit Committee

The audit committee shall:

- Present annually to the authority's board a written report of how it has discharged its duties and met its responsibilities as outlined in the charter.
- Obtain any information and training needed to enhance the committee members' understanding of the role of internal audits and the independent auditor, the risk management process, internal controls and a certain level of familiarity in financial reporting standards and processes.

- Review the committee's charter annually, reassess its adequacy, and recommend any proposed changes to the board of the authority. The audit committee charter will be updated as applicable laws, regulations, accounting and auditing standards change.

- Conduct an annual self-evaluation of its performance, including its effectiveness and compliance with the charter and request the board approval for proposed changes.

Reviewed and re-affirmed February 7, 2017

Statement of the Effectiveness of Internal Control

This Statement of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls was adopted by the Board of Directors of the Columbia County Industrial Development Agency, (the "Agency"), a public benefit corporation established under the laws of the State of New York, on this 1st day of February, 2022.

Purpose

To satisfy the requirement of Section 2800 (1)(a)(9) and Section 2800 (2)(a)(9) of Public Authorities Law, the Agency has prepared the following statement:

Statement of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls

This statement certifies that the Columbia County Industrial Development Agency followed a process that assessed and documented the adequacy of its internal control structure and policies for the year ending December 31, 2021.

To the extent that deficiencies were identified, the Agency has developed corrective action plans to reduce any corresponding risk.

Columbia County Industrial Development Agency 2021 Discharged Duties

Audit Committee:

- Reviewed and approved 2020 internal control statement.
- Reviewed and approved committee charter, committee evaluation and 2020 discharge of duties.
- Reviewed and recommended to the full board the 2020 audited financials.

Finance Committee:

- Reviewed and recommended to the full board: quarterly treasurer's reports, 2022 budget.
- Reviewed and approved: committee charter, committee evaluation, 2020 discharge of duties and the 2020 Investment Report

Governance Committee:

- Reviewed and recommended to the full board: slate of directors, 2021 compliance calendar.
- Reviewed and approved committee charter, 2020 discharged duties and committee evaluation.

Full Board:

- Appointed: corporate officers, corporate attorney, corporate accountant, administrative officer and staff, committee members, ethics and procurement officers.
- Reviewed and approved 2021 meeting schedule, corporate policies and procedures, banks and accounts, 2021 compliance calendar, 2020 committee discharges duties, 2020 internal controls statement, 2020 performance goals report, 2021 mission and measurements statement, 2020 operations and accomplishments, 2021 CEDC contract with the IDA, confidential board evaluation, 2022 budget.
- Heard update on Limz Machinery and Hudson Valley Real Estate Holding Company projects.
- Reviewed and discussed and heard project updates on the Klocke Estate project, approved an inducement Resolution for the project financing and sales tax benefit.
- Reviewed the 178 Healy Associates project application , approved a resolution allowing the scheduling of a Public Hearing.