

Loring Development Authority of Maine  
Special Board Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2023  
154 Development Drive, Suite F  
Loring Commerce Centre, Limestone, Maine

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Fischer at 2:00 p.m.

LDA Board Members participating by online conference: Jeremy Fischer, Patrick Paradis, Ben Shaw, Lee Umphrey, Joe Sleeper, Kris Doody, Galen Weibley Denise Garland, and Lynn Bromley.

LDA Board Members absent: Grace O’Neal, Suzie Paradis, Kristine Logan, and Timothy Crowley.

Others participating by online conference: Steve Levesque, SHL Enterprise Solutions; Wayne Coleman, C3 Associates, LLC; Barbra Hayslette, Congressman Golden’s Office; Paul Towle, Aroostook Partnership; Ashley Judkins, DFAS; Roger Felix, Loring Job Corps; Sean Eldridge, Air Force Civil Engineering Center; Ryan Gahagan, Loring Energy; Corey Bouchard and Melissa Lizotte.

LDA staff participating by online conference: Carl Flora, Neal Haines and Donna Sturzl.

2. Identification of board members and others

Board member attendance was taken.

3. Resolution authorizing an application for a foreign trade zone and port of entry

Mr. Flora said that the Resolution, if approved, would authorize him to sign the Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) application, which has been in process for a few months. An initial draft was submitted today.

Mr. Coleman said that the FTZ works with customs, allowing raw material for manufacturing in a FTZ to be brought into the US without duty; then the finished product is essentially processed by customs and duty is assessed on the finished product. The purpose is to encourage manufacturing in the US. A FTZ designation at Loring will support convenience of commerce in this area; the closest FTZ is in Bangor.

MOTION: Motion was made by Lee Umphrey and seconded by Kris Doody to approve the following Resolution:

Whereas, the Loring Development Authority of Maine (hereinafter, the “Authority”), deems it desirable to make application to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board for a New Foreign-Trade Zone under the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board Alternative Site Framework;

Now, Therefore

Be It Resolved By the Board of Trustees of the Authority:

THAT the Board of Trustees of the Authority does hereby ratify and approve the application for a New Foreign-Trade Zone under the Alternative Site Framework (ASF); and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Carl W. Flora in his capacity as President & CEO of the Authority be, and hereby is authorized and directed on behalf of the Authority, to do and perform all acts and to execute and deliver all instruments and documents necessary or convenient for the submission of the New Foreign-Trade Zone application on behalf of the Authority to the Executive Secretary of the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. and take such further action as deemed appropriate to securing the approval by the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones Board with respect to said New Foreign-Trade Zone application.

Mr. Coleman responded to questions, stating that the former FTZ in Madawaska is non-operational; LDA does meet the criteria for FTZ application; LDA will need to consider how it will operate the FTZ; and he anticipates receiving a letter of support from Governor Mills.

Mr. Levesque said that there are letters of support from the Congressional Delegation for the FTZ and he is working to obtain letters of support from neighboring communities.

VOTE: Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

#### 4. Public Comment and Media Question and Answer Period

Mr. Flora replied to an inquiry on the status of road repairs at Loring, stating that contractors are now working on making repairs. The road rehabilitation project is not ready to go out to bid; tentatively some work may be completed this construction season.

#### 5. Other.

Mr. Flora said that Senator Jackson has introduced two pieces of legislation, one would impact the aviation complex and is problematic for LDA’s aviation development efforts. Mr. Fischer said that the other piece of legislation would extend and modify the LJIFF and would be advantageous. Senator Jackson has been an ally; Board members would be happy to speak with him.

6. Executive Session: Confidential discussions concerning personnel, economic development and real estate matters pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405 Subparagraphs 6.A. and 6.C.

No executive session.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kris Doody  
Secretary