



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Via Zoom/In Person
Knowledge Park
5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510
October 17, 2024

ZOOM Meeting Information:

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89214488136>

Password: not required

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 2024
5. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS
6. COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN
7. PUBLIC COMMENT
8. PRESENTATION
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Strategic Planning Committee
 - c. Update from County Council
 - d. Update from County Executive’s Office
10. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT

12. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Mercy Center for Women budget modification
- b. Foundant Invoice

13. NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2024
Time: 8:30 a.m. – BOARD Meeting
Location: 5240 Knowledge Parkway
ZOOM meeting – details to follow



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

September 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on September 19, 2024 in the Board Room; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:32 am.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Barney, Mr. Cleaver, Ms. Hess, Mr. Louis, Mr. Oberlander, and Mr. Winschel are present in person. Mr. Wachter and Dr. Wood are present in person. Mr. Sinnott is present via zoom (arrives late).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the agenda. Motion carries 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 2024

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Louis seconds the motion. There is no discussion on the minutes. Motion carries 6-0.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

There are no comments by the Board of Directors.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Cleaver has no comment at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There is no one from the public present.

PRESENTATIONS

There are no scheduled presentations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Treasurer's Report

Dr. Wood: Angie is not here so I will go over the finances with you. You can see on the Profit & Loss statement that the second quarter gaming revenue came in at \$1.15M. Also, we received the monthly interest on our savings account, and then the interest payment on the eCAT investment. So those are the three forms of revenue. There's a nice summary of the expenses; we'll go into more detail in the Budget vs Actual. You'll see the grants that were disbursed, and whenever revenue comes in from gaming, there's going to be a municipal disbursement line item. The first thing you're seeing there, that's the settlement disbursements. There was a Special Events grant, a Mission Main Street Grant - that was the Downtown North East one. And that's your summary of the finances.

Flipping over to the Balance Sheet. Let's take a look and zoom in on the CDs. I want to point out that the cash deposits are now on record under Other Current Assets.

Mr. Winschel: Can I ask a question on that?

Dr. Wood: Yeah, sure.

Mr. Winschel: So, Tammi, you posted it under Current Assets. You have, like, FNB CD-6.

Ms. Michali: Yes, that's the sixth month CD.

Mr. Winschel: Correct. Do you have more space on there to put any more information? For example, could you put the date of maturity so as we review these each month, we could see that it's coming up?

Dr. Wood: Yeah, we debated that. I was going to talk about that today.

Mr. Winschel: Okay, if that's later, that's fine.

Dr. Wood: This is the section right here. And as Gary pointed out, FNB CD-3, that's a three month; CD-6, CD-9, the Flagship CD, and Erie FCU. The Erie FCU is in August 2025, Flagship is February 2025 so if you want to put that on there as a reminder. Do we have enough room for the number?

Ms. Michali: Yeah, we can add that.

Mr. Winschel: Just like 8/25.

Mr. Barney: That would be beneficial.

Dr. Wood: We just didn't want to overdo it, but it's not a problem. We can do that.

Mr. Winschel: That way when we see they come due we can have a discussion. Just a further comment, you know you may have seen that the Federal Reserve cut rates yesterday 50 basis points. So even this morning, I was looking at when your CDs are like 4.6 now and you locked that one in at 5.4 or 5.3%. So good timing to lock that in anticipation that the rates would be cut. So, thanks. That would be great. That'd be beneficial.

Dr. Wood: I appreciate you guys staying on me for that. So, in the section above is the Erie Bank Money Market and that's the other new line item in that section at just over \$6 million. Okay, so that's how we're going to present those on the Balance Sheet; we'll take Gary's suggestion into account for the next time, and we'll have a maturity date. Are there any other questions about that? It's going to be the newest thing we've done financially. There is a second page of that report as well.

Moving to the Budget vs Actual - Accounting Fees, \$1,650 that's the final payment to Maher Dussel for our 2023-2024 audit, and it always bleeds into the next fiscal year, so that's why you're seeing that number there. Moving down to Books, Subscriptions, Dues, that number of \$549 is a little higher than usual because \$538 of it was an American Planning Association membership; we purchase that membership for Tom every year to stay current on his credentials. Scrolling down to Bank Fees, you might say, "Hey, I thought we took care of those bank fees with Erie Bank." We did. That \$30 fee is for a one-time wire transfer to Erie FCU. Scrolling down to Advertising at \$478 - \$300 of that was to sponsor the Navy band at the Soldiers and Sailors Home. Outreach shows \$45 for nameplate for Mark coming on board. Scrolling down to Phone/IT/Fax at \$5,074 - \$169 of that was for zoom which is a yearly cost, our Titan membership, which is our IT membership for technical services at \$1,156 every two years. And then Board Effect, which is \$3,700 every six months.

And I think I'm going to be following up with each individual board member and talking about the technology we use. I'm going to actually talk specifically about Board Effect because Tammi and I have been discussing it; it's expensive. It does a good job for us in putting together these board packets, but we used to use it as an archive for the board members, but now everything's online; everything's on our website. So, I don't know if it makes sense for us to continue. So, when I follow up and have individual conversations with you, we'll make that part of the discussion. Farther down you'll see Contracted Services under ARPA, \$4,900 of that is the Policy Map renewal, which is the technology we use to track to make sure that we're investing in underserved markets. If you remember for the Grow Erie fund, we hired a consultant to look at Grow Erie for us to get financial projections - that was \$1,500. So, those are both reflected that way. Any questions on budget expenditures?

Mr. Oberlander: Just one quick question. What line item would it be for the signage? For example, Union City, with their signs, where would that be? I was trying to scroll down but I didn't see anything. Because we do a lot of signage, right?

Ms. Michali: Signage is under the Outreach.

Mr. Oberlander: Outreach? Okay.

Dr. Wood: You can see there that line items almost fully expended at 97%. Any other questions on the Budget?

All right, flipping ahead to the Grant Reserve. You're going to see there the settlement municipalities were funded. So, every time gaming revenue comes in, every quarter, instantly the settlement checks go out; there's the amounts right there. Scrolling ahead to the next page, Downtown North East is the Main Street that was drawn down on. The next page is basically blank and then the final page is the Special Event that was drawn down, which was the Greek Fest at \$7,300.

Now the second part of this report is the amount remaining. So you can see there, Downtown North East that the August drawdown was \$87,500; that means they have zero left out of the original commitment of \$175,000. Let's scroll ahead to the Check Register. All the grants that I just mentioned are in here, all the payments from our budget are in here, the settlement checks, the employee's payroll, the bank fees. Are there any questions on the Check Register?

Let's scroll ahead to the Visa. This is pretty standard - office supplies, the Zoom renewal was paid on the Visa, water and newspaper subscription.

Mr. Winchel: Perry, quick question. You have a charge for \$5,000 for Policy Map; that's the software you were talking about.

Dr. Wood: Yeah, Policy Map is a software. I believe they're based out of Philadelphia, the group that developed it. The State of Pennsylvania actually uses it, too. Next, you'll see the planning membership and there's some office supplies. Next, we'll look at the Amazon charges – coffee, sticky notes, and disposable lids for coffee cups. Are there any questions about any of those charges? I don't mind going into detail. Of course, this is your chance to hold us accountable for what we spend the dollars on. Thank you very much.

Mr. Winschel makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. There is no further discussion on the Treasurer's Report. Motion carries 6-0.

b. Strategic Planning Committee

Dr. Wood: That committee met a few weeks ago and we reviewed the 10 applications for Anchor Building. The committee recommended six of the 10. Then we had an update on First Ascent and a memo was delivered answering some of the questions about First Ascent and the Gannon project. It's really a Gannon/ First Ascent/ Allegheny Health Network project. And you're going to see a resolution today for us to become a member of PLGIT. I want to remind you that it costs us nothing, but we do need to take action. We will formally be a member of PLGIT, like a Council of Governments, since that's how they're legally structured. Any questions about that committee?

Let the record reflect that Mr. Sinnott has joined the meeting via zoom.

c. Update from County Council

Chairman Scutella is not present to give a report.

d. Update from County Executive's Office

Mr. Sinnott: I'm having a little trouble with my Zoom this morning, if you'll bear with me. The Administration has nothing to report today. Thank you.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood: The first thing in the packet is the revised scope of the audit. So, this letter came in for the audit; this is great news because they revised the scope to include revenues as part of the audit. I think we announced that last month, but this is the official document. So now it's on record. And that is because we have some discrepancies with the County as to whether or not the appropriate amount of revenue is being received, because our records show that it is not. So, the Auditor General is going to take care of that as part of their audit. If you scroll ahead, you can see that the entire world got cc'd on that letter. Everyone in the State of Pennsylvania saw this. Let me stop there. Are there any questions about the audit that I didn't address?

Next you will see Kate & Co's list of what they have done for us this month. Then you'll see the Strategic Planning agenda. Next is an announcement that we did with the eCAT Construction Trades Pilot, which is going to be done by the BUILD and the Hamot Health Foundation. We awarded them funds and had a great announcement with Erie Insurance and the Community Foundation, in partnership, all three of us funded it - about a million-dollar project when it comes down to it. We were in for it for just over \$200,000. So, that was a great announcement, we did that down at a building in the Bayfront Eastside Taskforce neighborhood where it's going to be used as a model for the students to have actual practice.

Now to the packet in front of you. I handed this article out last time which is about the skills games and the issues around the casinos suing the State of Pennsylvania over skills games. Skills games are not taxed the same, but they basically function like a – well, there's some arguing over whether they function like a slot machine. That lawsuit is going out. The difference between last time there was a lawsuit over gaming is that the last time it was a casino suing the Commonwealth over the same clause over how they were taxed, but it was to open up the gaming law itself. This is different. This is being addressed with a separate law, so the skills games will be addressed separately.

There's an email from Dave Kozak, who is Senator Laughlin's Chief of Staff. I went and had a meeting with him when he was in town, and we kind of went over this legislation. And here's kind of his summarization. I asked if I could give this email to the Board where he kind of summarizes. Basically, it's a separate bill, it will not affect the current gaming bill which is fantastic news for us. It will, however, address to what level these machines are taxed. We have previously taken a position on what are called VGTs, or video game terminals. Tim tells me those are technically different from skills games, but I would say our position is probably the same, which is that anything that hurts the bricks and mortar casinos where our revenue comes from, needs to be either appropriately taxed or are not allowed to come into legislation. He did assure me that this bill is not going to be considered in the current session but could be considered next year as part of a revenue bill. So, we're going to follow it, Tim and I've had a couple discussions about it, we're going to follow it with Senator Laughlin's office and see where it goes. Senator Yaw is the one proposing it; Senator Yaw does not have a casino in his footprint. He does, however, have a manufacturer of skills games in his footprint.

There is one unaddressed issue in here, and that is whether or not it's appropriate for ECGRA to advocate to be part of the revenue stream if something like this passes. So, I think that is something we should consider moving forward and have some strategic discussions on. For example, the way the current legislation for online sports gaming is written, it favors us. So, it maintains the split between the county and ECGRA. This bill doesn't address that because this Senator doesn't know anything about Erie's special situation. So, we would have to address that moving forward. Any questions about that?

Here is a summary of the bill in case you're wondering. This is a summary of the bill that we're talking about and then here's page 25 and 26 of the bill. Tim and I went over this. This is how the revenue is currently split, 50% deposited into the State's general fund, 22% distributed to individual counties proportionally based on gross profits; it says nothing about gaming revenues, I mean local share gaming revenue. Tim has the language on what would make sense for us to propose at some point to make sure that we're a piece of that legislation.

That's it for that. That's why that packet is in front of you to take that with you and digest. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to follow up with me on it. I'm going to have a conversation with you before we do anything official on that. In the past, we had to hire a lobbyist. I don't think that's necessary in this particular circumstance. But we'll keep that door open.

Moving on, there's Asbury Woods recognizing some ECGRA funding, a nice email about Celebrate Erie, a Times News story on Grow Erie, a Corry Journal article on Renaissance Block, and there is an Infinite Erie article in there. Any questions for your executive director?

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: Perry allowed me to geek out a little bit on policy stuff and tax stuff and get into the legislation and that was fun. But when you're ready to discuss specific language or items that need to be addressed with that, we're ready to do that. I think Erie County is well positioned between having the Senate Policy Committee Chair and the House Policy Committee Chair being represented directly out of Erie County, that they are aware of our issues and we will make sure that they continue to be aware of our issues and as any skill gaming legislation does come up, the easy way to address the distribution of the funding is simply to reference that any funding that goes to the local entities be distributed in accordance with the same formula used for all of the other gaming and gaming related items. And so we've put that language together and we will start distributing it. So, I think we'll be in good shape as this comes about.

But as Perry noted, this session is going to expire December 31st. It is unlikely that this legislation is going to be pushed, but we need to be ready in the event that something does happen.

Mr. Cleaver: When you say push, what do you mean by it?

Mr. Wachter: Legislation was entered into committee in May; it hasn't moved since then. It hasn't been addressed; the committee hasn't addressed it. It does not seem poised to be passed prior to the end of the legislative session. And the way that it works in Pennsylvania is anything that is not passed during one legislative session needs to get reintroduced into the next in order for it to have another opportunity to be adopted.

Mr. Oberlander: Are they looking at a potential loss if they, you know, from this gaming situation, from these skill games?

Mr. Wachter: I think they have. I know that the Governor made a big push to have skill game taxes put into the last budget, and that was not able to be moved there. And I know that a lot of municipalities are struggling. A lot of my municipal clients, the number one question I've been getting from them for the last three to four months is, "What do we do with these skill game parlors?" they call them, that are basically convenience stores loaded up with skill games. There's no staff, you can walk in and spend all your money on them. And how is that impacting the downtowns and a lot of our smaller rural communities? And so, we're trying to address it via zoning and other issues, but we have very limited tools, as we have the best laws that 1950 wrote that we're trying to apply to 2024 technology and so we're hoping that the taxes do come about. The local municipalities are hoping that

they do that in order to kind of limit their growth. They have to be taking a look at it. And I know that the casinos are very concerned about it as well, because it's impacting their take.

I have nothing further.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no Old Business to address.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution Number 21, 2024 – Resolution to enter into agreements with six (6) entities that comprise the recipients of the 2024 Anchor Building Program

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Louis makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- b. Resolution Number 22, 2024 – Resolution to authorize the executive director and solicitor to enter into negotiations and execute a grant agreement with Gannon University for up to \$500,000 for the purpose of investment in the Institute for Health and Cybersecurity Knowledge (I-HACK)

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Oberlander: One question. When portions of this half a million dollars go out, do we vote on those specific portions or are we allowing one vote for the half million and you guys can decide on when it goes out?

Dr. Wood: I would say based on the way this is written it's a one-time vote.

Mr. Winschel: Perry, I know we had talked a lot about this at the Strategic Planning meeting – it's a half-million dollars. What are the conditions of that? Is that a match? Is that contingent on them raising so much? I know we had talked about a lot of different things, so when we you say negotiate and execute . . .

Dr. Wood: I would say it would be contingent upon them raising the \$6 million that they said that they would raise.

Mr. Winschel: Okay.

Dr. Wood: It would be contingent on – another Board member had asked about the Community Benefit results – quantifying those results as milestones. Sometimes in these resolutions we actually put the milestones right in the resolutions so it's clear as day. It would involve making sure that there is a timeline to report; and something like this where it's a multi-year we'll have interim reporting.

Mr. Winschel: So, the half a million you said will be based upon them raising the \$6 million; will that be set aside in an escrow account with us waiting for that and that triggers the event?

Dr. Wood: If you think about the Treasurer's Report, there is a Restricted Committed area for the funds so we would add \$500,000 to that line item. It might still physically be in the Money Market, but . . .

Mr. Winschel: I understand; it's just not disbursed.

Dr. Wood: Are there any other strong feelings about tenets to the contract?

Mr. Wachter: The only other thing I have thought of over the years and things that we need to be more clear about in our contracts is the time period in which this needs to occur so that if it doesn't occur within so many months or so many years that the award terminates on its own or is required to come back to the Board.

Dr. Wood: What's the feeling on that? One year? Two years? Eighteen months?

Mr. Wachter: I think it's project specific. I don't think any one policy could be called on that with this project; I don't know all the details, but it sounds like it will be a multi-year project to occur versus something else that could be done in six months.

Dr. Wood: They should be able to raise \$6 million in the next 18 months. So, we could put 18 months in the contract with the ability of the staff to extend it by six months.

Mr. Wachter: Raise within 18 months, six-month extension from staff for unforeseen circumstances, plus a full drawdown and spend within 24 months. I just want to be sure that whatever milestones are stated that it gets kicked back into your coffers.

Mr. Cleaver: Do we need a motion to add that to the resolution?

Mr. Wachter shakes his head no.

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the resolution with the updated timeframe language as discussed. Mr. Cleaver seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- c. Resolution Number 23, 2024 – Resolution of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority approving ECGRA Investments into the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT) pursuant to the ECGRA Investment Policy and prior Board authorization

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Dr. Wood: Once again, this just authorizes us to be a member of PLGIT so that in the future when CDs come mature, we can check PLGIT along with other institutions for the best investment.

Mr. Cleaver: When do we do that?

Dr. Wood: It's a ladder, so the next one would be up in two months. So, three months, six months, nine months, one year.

Mr. Winschel: And Whitey, if you will recall the discussion we had about the monthly financial reports, we will see those listed when they mature so that will give us time to talk about it. We can't go out and say hey, we can put this out another six months or year or something and take advantage of the opportunities.

Dr. Wood: I think it's worth noting too that PLGIT is a bank.

Mr. Winschel: Yes.

Dr. Wood: It's a municipal COG; it functions as a bank. They actually have banking services available to us as well so it's a possibility for us to look at in the future as we determine where we want to keep our primary banking.

Mr. Oberlander makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Winschel seconds the motion. There is no further discussion on the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Barney moves to adjourn. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 9:05am.

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit & Loss
September 2024**

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2024-25 Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44000 · ARPA Fund				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		1,437,558.98		
44801 · Interactive Gaming Revenue	1,998,846.01	1,998,846.01		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	3,357.09	196,004.58		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC - Erie Grow	7,666.67	15,250.00		
46424 · Interest Income - Progress Fund	5,000.00	10,000.00		
46424.5 · Interest Income - 1855 Capital				
46425 · Interest Income - EDF Restruct		6,500.00		
46426 · Interest Income - BWC - Inclusive	6,388.89	12,708.33		
46427 · Interest Income - Blue Highway		1,396.83		
46428 · Interest Income - eCAT		5,112.00		
46450 · Dividend Erie Bank MMKT	33,275.87	33,275.87		
46452 · Dividend Flagship CD	12,252.05	12,252.05		
46453 · Dividend FNB CD_3	6,898.72	6,898.72		
46454 · Dividend FNB CD_6	6,772.21	6,772.21		
46455 · Dividend FNB CD_9	6,645.57	6,645.57		
Total Income	<u>2,087,103.08</u>	<u>3,749,221.15</u>		
Expense				
62100 · Contracted Services	6,615.16	40,266.14	35,826.00	71,650.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	1,677.50	10,112.99	11,598.00	23,200.00
65000 · Office Administration	345.95	6,447.27	9,876.00	19,750.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	2,550.27	26,456.02	27,498.00	55,000.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	25,173.14	161,993.63	145,974.00	291,950.00
67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)	28,096.29	539,477.29	434,706.00	869,408.00
7000 · Provision for Uncollect Notes	(180.92)	(1,447.44)		
Total Expense	<u>64,277.39</u>	<u>783,305.90</u>	<u>665,478.00</u>	<u>1,330,958.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	2,022,825.69	2,965,915.25		

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit & Loss
September 2024**

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2024-25 Budget</u>
Other Income/Expense				
70000 · Grants / Settlements / MRIs				
70030 · Community Assets		288,633.93		
70050 · Municipal Settlements	499,711.50	859,101.25		
70070 · Special Events		199,090.70		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration		100,000.00		
70100 · Mission Main Street		1,167,281.18		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program				
70125 · Neighborhoods & Communities MRI				
70130 · Small Business Financing				
70136 · Ignite Erie_Beehive				
70140 · Pilot Projects		75,000.00		
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow				
70170 · Renaissance Block		213,334.00		
70180 · Anchor Building		60,000.00		
70190 · COVID-19 Immediate Human Relief				
70300 · Transformational Grants		353,077.00		
Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements	<u>499,711.50</u>	<u>3,315,518.06</u>		
Net Other Income	<u>(499,711.50)</u>	<u>(2,815,806.56)</u>		
Net Income	<u><u>1,523,114.19</u></u>	<u><u>150,108.69</u></u>		

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2024

	September
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings/Money Market	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	35,883.63
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10101 · Committed Funds	1,133,235.51
10102 · Restricted Funds	4,565,273.82
10104 · ARPA Fund	334,929.70
10100 · ErieBank - Savings - Other	-3,731,962.46
Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings	2,301,476.57
10110 · Erie Bank Money Market 12/12/24	6,082,261.87
Total Checking/Savings/Money Market	8,419,622.07
Other Current Assets	
10300 · Erie FCU CD 8/28/25	5,000,284.93
10400 · Flagship CD 2/21/25	2,012,252.05
10500 · FNB CD_3 11/21/24	1,006,898.72
10510 · FNB CD_6 2/21/25	1,006,772.21
10520 · FNB CD_9 5/21/25	1,006,645.57
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12004 · NR - BWC - Erie Growth	1,000,000.00
12005 · NR - Progress Fund	1,000,000.00
12010 · NR - 1855 Capital	500,000.00
12050 · NR - EDF Restructured	1,300,000.00
12060 · NR - BWC - Inclusive Erie	2,500,000.00
12070 · NR - Blue Highway	250,000.00
12080 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Sm Bus	520,000.00
12085 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Nnprofit	100,000.00
12090 · NR - eCAT	500,000.00
12500 · NR - Youth Leadership Institute	102,124.40
12900 · Reserve for Uncollectable Notes	(1,554,605.80)
Total 12000 · Notes Receivable	6,217,518.60
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	8,221.83
Total Other Current Assets	16,258,593.91
Total Current Assets	24,678,215.98
TOTAL ASSETS	24,678,215.98

(con't.)

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2024

	<u>September</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
20100* - Deferred Revenue	(4,000,000.00)
20300 - Unearned Revenue	4,869,407.88
Total Current Liabilities	<u>869,407.88</u>
Total Liabilities	869,407.88
Equity	
30000 - Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 - Unrestricted Net Assets	21,231,061.80
Net Income	(349,317.88)
Total Equity	<u>23,808,808.10</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>24,678,215.98</u></u>

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Budget vs. Actual
September 2024

Expense	September	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
62100 - Contracted Services					
62110 - Accounting Fees	0.00	8,150.00	8,150.00	0.00	100.00%
62130 - Professional Services	3,000.00	18,000.00	40,000.00	(22,000.00)	45.00%
62140 - Legal Services	3,522.00	11,838.00	20,000.00	(8,162.00)	59.19%
62145 - Website Design	0.00	1,682.56	2,000.00	(317.44)	84.13%
62150 - Payroll Services	93.16	595.58	1,500.00	(904.42)	39.71%
Total 62100 - Contracted Services	6,615.16	40,266.14	71,650.00	(31,383.86)	56.20%
62800 - Facilities & Equipment					
62840 - Office Equipment	0.00	47.99	3,000.00	(2,952.01)	1.60%
62890 - Rent	1,677.50	10,065.00	20,200.00	(10,135.00)	49.83%
Total 62800 - Facilities & Equipment	1,677.50	10,112.99	23,200.00	(13,087.01)	43.59%
65000 - Office Administration					
65010 - Books, Subscriptions, Dues	0.00	958.96	3,000.00	(2,041.04)	31.97%
65020 - Postage	0.00	31.66	100.00	(68.34)	31.66%
65040 - Office Supplies	0.00	885.90	2,000.00	(1,114.10)	44.30%
65050 - Cell Phone	0.00	1,195.01	3,000.00	(1,804.99)	39.83%
65060 - Copier Lease	345.95	2,075.70	4,200.00	(2,124.30)	49.42%
65070 - Copier Printing Costs	0.00	32.07	200.00	(167.93)	16.04%
65080 - Bank Fees	0.00	135.00	500.00	(365.00)	27.00%
65085 - Professional Development	0.00	400.00	3,000.00	(2,600.00)	13.33%
65090 - Meeting Expenses	0.00	732.97	3,500.00	(2,767.03)	20.94%
65095 - Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
Total 65000 - Office Administration	345.95	6,447.27	19,750.00	(13,302.73)	32.64%
65100 - Other Types of Expenses					
65105 - Outreach	0.00	4,878.50	5,000.00	(121.50)	97.57%
65110 - Advertising	0.00	3,718.00	4,000.00	(282.00)	92.95%
65115 - Phone/IT/Fax	1,156.72	10,007.89	18,000.00	(7,992.11)	55.60%
65120 - Insurance	1,393.55	7,186.53	18,000.00	(10,813.47)	39.93%
65130 - Grant Management Software	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)	0.00%
65150 - Travel	0.00	665.10	4,000.00	(3,334.90)	16.63%
Total 65100 - Other Types of Expenses	2,550.27	26,456.02	55,000.00	(28,543.98)	48.10%
66000 - Payroll Expenses					
66005 - Salaries & Wages	22,204.69	143,442.46	250,000.00	(106,557.54)	57.38%
66010 - FITW Tax	1,452.74	9,439.46	20,000.00	(10,560.54)	47.20%
66015 - FUTA Tax	0.00	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	0.00%
66020 - PASUI Tax	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
66700 - PMRS	1,515.71	9,111.71	19,800.00	(10,688.29)	46.02%
Total 66000 - Payroll Expenses	25,173.14	161,993.63	291,950.00	(129,956.37)	55.49%
67000 - Building a Better Future (ARPA)					
67005 - Contracted Services - ARPA	0.00	11,999.00	11,000.00	999.00	109.08%
67010 - Subawards - ARPA	28,096.29	527,478.29	858,408.00	(330,929.71)	61.45%
67025 - Indirect Costs - ARPA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
67030 - Salaries & Wages - ARPA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Total 67000 - Building a Better Future (ARPA)	28,096.29	539,477.29	869,408.00	(329,930.71)	170.53%
7000 - Provision for Uncollect Notes	(180.92)	(1,447.44)			
Total Expense	64,277.39	783,305.90	1,330,958.00	(547,652.10)	58.85%

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Schedule of Grant Reserve

as of

September 30, 2024

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Restricted Uncommitted Funds	4,565,273.82		
Committed Funds	1,133,235.51		
ARPA Funds	334,929.70		
2024 Restricted Funds: (75% - after settlement payments)			
First Quarter Gaming Revenue		277,740.51	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue		1,159,818.47	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue			
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue			1,437,558.98
2024 Interactive Gaming Revenue			
FY 2023-2024	1,998,846.01	1,998,846.01	1,998,846.01
FY Disbursements:			
First Quarter Disbursements		2,202,281.44	
Second Quarter Disbursements	527,807.79	1,465,714.91	
Third Quarter Disbursements			
Fourth Quarter Disbursements			3,667,996.35

Disbursements Detail

Grants/Settlements/MRIs

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
MUNICIPALITIES			
Settlements			
Summit Township	224,870.20	161,725.40	
Greene Township	54,968.26	39,532.87	
McKean Township	54,968.26	39,532.87	
Millcreek Township	54,968.26	39,532.87	
Waterford Township	54,968.26	39,532.87	
Erie County	54,968.26	39,532.87	
			359,389.75
Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
Jefferson Educational Society		100,000.00	
			100,000.00
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT			
Community Facilities			
Harvest 912		10,050.00	
Union Township		33,500.00	
			43,550.00
Erie County Investment Playbook			
Nonprofit Partnership	28,096.29	32,043.47	
			32,043.47

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
September 30, 2024

NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES

	September	YTD	Subtotal
Anchor Building			
2019 Impact Corry		60,000.00	
2022 East Side Renaissance		50,000.00	
		110,000.00	110,000.00

Mission Main Street			
2019 Borough of Union City		125,000.00	
Borough of North East		125,000.00	
City of Erie		205,000.00	
Downtown Girard		125,000.00	
Fairview Township		175,000.00	
Impact Corry		125,000.00	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		100,000.00	
2022 Downtown North East		87,500.00	
		1,067,500.00	1,067,500.00

Renaissance Block			
Bayfront Eastside Taskforce		100,000.00	
Borough of Edinboro		80,000.00	
Borough of North East		80,000.00	
Borough of Union City		100,000.00	
Downtown Girard		80,000.00	
Impact Corry		100,000.00	
		540,000.00	540,000.00

PILOT PROJECT

Erie City Moms		75,000.00	
		75,000.00	75,000.00

QUALITY OF PLACE

Community Assets

Arts, Culture, & Heritage

Albion Area Fair, Inc.	7,000.00
AmeriMasala	10,000.00
Community Resources for Independence	3,138.93
Dafmark Dance Theater	10,000.00
Downtown North East, Inc.	12,000.00
Edinboro University Foundation	5,500.00
Edinboro Arts & Music Fest	13,000.00
Erie Art Company	5,000.00
Erie Arts & Music Festival	12,000.00
Erie Yesterday	14,000.00
Erie's Black Wall Street	12,000.00
Film Society of Northwestern PA	10,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
September 30, 2024

Arts, Culture, & Heritage (con.t)

	September	YTD	Subtotal
Heberle's Heartstrings		1,500.00	
Hornby School Restoration Society		6,300.00	
Impact Corry		11,000.00	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.		12,000.00	
Messiah Lutheran Church		5,000.00	
Springfield Township		1,445.00	
Triangle DAR		10,000.00	
Veterans Miracle Center Erie		15,000.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association		13,500.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		11,000.00	
WQLN Public Media		13,000.00	
YMCA of Corry		7,000.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		15,000.00	
			235,383.93

Community Centers

Harvest 912		4,950.00	
Union Township		16,500.00	
			21,450.00

Parks, Fields, Trails

Borough of Union City		25,000.00	
Headwaters Natural Resource Center Trust		9,500.00	
			34,500.00

Special Events

Albion Area Fair, Inc.		13,700.25	
Americans for Competitive Enterprise Sys		2,700.00	
AmeriMasala		1,683.00	
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.		3,363.73	
Barber National Institute		12,516.08	
Borough of Edinboro		1,507.50	
Borough of Girard		572.93	
Borough of Wesleyville		869.40	
Borough of Union City		207.00	
CAFE		15,000.00	
Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.		3,313.85	
Downtown North East, Inc.		3,044.70	
Edinboro University Foundation		2,553.75	
Edinboro Arts & Music Fest		3,420.00	
Erie Art & Music Festival		5,130.00	
Erie County Bar Association		2,250.00	
Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc		3,288.60	
Erie Latino Leadership Association		1,391.18	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
September 30, 2024

Special Events (con't)

	September	YTD	Subtotal
Erie Lions Club Save an Eye Game		1,125.00	
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.		4,500.00	
Erie Roller Derby		364.14	
Erie United Methodist Alliance		3,150.00	
Erie-Western PA Port Authority		5,652.90	
Film Society of Northwestern PA		5,458.50	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		2,947.50	
Harborcreek Community Engagement Team		936.00	
Harborcreek Township		1,350.00	
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church		7,065.00	
Humane Society of NWPA		7,074.00	
Impact Corry		3,472.79	
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie		15,000.00	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.		2,245.50	
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society		7,375.50	
Mercy Center for Women		4,059.00	
Orthodox Church of the Nativity		2,700.00	
Presque Isle Light Station		1,011.15	
Presque Isle Partnership		4,990.50	
Saint Patrick Church		7,389.66	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		5,031.16	
Union City Pride		946.13	
Waterford Community Fair Association		8,685.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		12,651.75	
YMCA of Greater Erie		330.75	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		4,366.80	
		196,390.70	196,390.70

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING

TRANSFORMATIONAL GRANTS

Enterprise Development Fund		250,000.00	
Erie Center for Arts & Technology		103,077.00	
		353,077.00	353,077.00

YOUTH & EDUCATION

Summer Jobs & More

0.00

Total Funds Disbursements	527,807.79	3,168,284.85	3,168,284.85
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Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
September 30, 2024

		<u>September</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
Committed Funds:				
N&C	Renaissance Block 2018			
	1 Academy Neighborhood Association		11,250.00	22,500.00
	SSJ Neighborhood Network		7,000.00	70,000.00
	2 Bayfront Eastside Taskforce		25,000.00	50,000.00
	ServErie		29,000.00	58,000.00
	Renaissance Block 2022			
	Borough of Edinboro		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Renaissance Block 2023			
	Borough of Edinboro		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Borough of Union City		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Anchor Building			
	20 Borough of Union City		15,000.00	64,375.00
	Mission Main Street 2022			
	Edinboro Community & Economic Development		62,500.00	125,000.00
	Our West Bayfront		125,000.00	125,000.00
MUN	Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
	21 Borough of North East		50,000.00	100,000.00
SB	Beehive Network			
	Community Enterprise Financing Loan			
	Small Business Ecosystem			
	Impact Corry		87,500.00	175,000.00
QP	Transformational Grants			
	Erie Center for Arts & Technology		125,983.00	229,060.00
PP	Pilot Program			
Y&E	Shaping Tomorrow			
	Summer Jobs 2023		25,002.51	150,000.00
	Summer Jobs 2024		200,000.00	200,000.00
	Empower Erie - Community College		220,000.00	400,000.00
Total Committed Funds		0.00	1,133,235.51	2,068,935.00
 ARPA Transformative Funds				
	Subawards	28,096.29	330,929.70	3,622,025.00
	Contracted Services	0.00	4,000.00	273,274.00
	Salaries & Wages	0.00	0.00	93,406.00
	Indirect Costs	0.00	0.00	11,295.00
Total ARPA Funds		28,096.29	334,929.70	4,000,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Transaction List Detail
September 2024

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
09/06/2024	EFT	Altair Real Estate	2024 September Rent	-1,677.50
09/06/2024	EFT	The Hartford	2024 September Disability Insurance	-109.39
09/06/2024	EFT	Highmark Health Insurance	2024 September Health Insurance	-3,214.53
09/06/2024	EFT	Kate & Co., Inc	2024 September Professional Services	-3,000.00
09/06/2024	EFT	Velocity Network, Inc.	2024 September Phone/IT	-1,156.72
09/13/2024	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	08/24/24 to 09/06/24 Payroll	-9,768.03
09/13/2024	EFT	Fidelity Investments	08/24/24 to 09/06/24 Simple IRA	-500.00
09/13/2024	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 09/06/2024	-759.60
09/13/2024	EFT	The Nonprofit Partnership	ARPA Subaward	-28,096.29
09/19/2024	EFT	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2024 September Copier Lease	-345.95
09/25/2024	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	09/07/2024 to 09/20/2024 Payroll	-9,768.03
09/25/2024	EFT	Fidelity Investments	09/07/2024 to 09/20/2024 Simple IRA	-500.00
09/25/2024	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 9/20/24	-756.11
09/25/2024	EFT	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2024 September Legal	-3,522.00
09/26/2024	EFT	Summit Township	2024 IG Payment	-224,870.20
09/26/2024	EFT	Greene Township	2024 IG Payment	-54,968.26
09/26/2024	EFT	McKean Township	2024 IG Payment	-54,968.26
09/26/2024	EFT	Millcreek Township	2024 IG Payment	-54,968.26
09/26/2024	EFT	Waterford Township	2024 IG Payment	-54,968.26
09/26/2024	EFT	Erie County	2024 IG Payment	-54,968.26



E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT
FOR
OCTOBER
2024**



Board of Managers Meeting

Thursday, September 26, 2024

1:30-2:30 p.m.

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 223 223 369 065

Passcode: ZHo4A4

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Action items**
 - a. Election of Officers
3. **Review**
 - a. Bylaws & Operating Agreement (approved by ERCGP Board)
 - b. Financial Commitments to Date
4. **Breeze Update**
 - a. Expanded service opportunities
5. **Legacy Carrier Status Update**
 - a. American
 - b. United
6. **Other Business**
7. **Adjournment**

▶ 1128 State Street
Suite 300
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

▶ 814-454-7191
814-240-6207 (fax)

▶ www.EriePa.com



ECGRA Communications Services Report

September 2024

Meeting with Executive Director

Ongoing Social Media Management

Ongoing Consulting

Sep Comms

IMPLEMENTED

September social media posts
2 new graphics created in September
Infinite Eric x ECGRA House Event Photography
Strategic Marketing Planning meeting for fall with Executive Director

IN PROGRESS | 2024 Grant Releases and Graphics

2023–2024 Annual Report graphics

Harborcreek HERT-237 MMA – grant awards

Media advisory and pitching
Press Event
Press release and distribution

Parks Fields and Trails – grant awards

Media advisory and pitching
Press Event
Press release and distribution
Grant recipient graphics

Anchor Building – grant awards

Media advisory and pitching
Press Event
Press release and distribution
Grant recipient graphics

Holiday Graphics

#ECGRAworks content from grant recipients

1





ECGRA Communications Services Report

IN PLANNING

Fall event planning /scheduling (First Assent, Lead Assets, Redevelopment Authority)





ECGRA AWARDS MULTI-MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION GRANT FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE IN EAST ERIE COUNTY

**GRANTS DESIGNED TO CATALYZE FUNCTIONAL COOPERATION ACROSS ERIE'S 38
MUNICIPALITIES**

NEWS*NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS**

For Immediate Release: October 8, 2024

CONTACT: Sam Peterson

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814.403.0907 | mobile

ERIE, PA (October 8, 2024) – Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) announced \$34,000 of funding to support the purchase of a new ambulance for Harborcreek Township Emergency Response Team Program (HTERT), a multi-municipal collaboration between Brookside Fire Company, Fairfield Hose Company and Harborcreek Fire Department.

“ECGRA’s multi-municipal collaborations grants were designed to support this type of outside-the-box problem solving by local leaders across Erie County,” said ECGRA Executive Director Perry Wood. “The HTERT-237 collaboration is remarkable example of how municipalities can work together to solve challenges across geographic and political barriers to benefit their citizens. This investment is fundamental to providing emergency response capabilities for thousands of residents across the east-county.”

ECGRA initially invested \$23,000 to support the purchase of the HTERT-237 ambulance in 2015. Since then, the crew has used the ambulance to respond to more than 2,200 calls.

“ECGRA funding has continuously been invested directly to our communities to help us make the major investments necessary to manage EMS needs of our citizens,” said Dean Peppicello. “By working together, the HTERT has created a proven model to tackle the EMS crisis facing

communities across Pennsylvania. ECGRA funding helps us to continue supporting local volunteer fire departments by assisting in answering emergency calls when department volunteers are unavailable."

The HTERT team has responded to calls in Harborcreek Township and neighboring municipalities including Wesleyville Borough, Lawrence Park, North East and Greenfield Townships. The team responds to a variety of locations including single-family homes, apartment complexes, nursing homes and businesses. They are equipped to respond to structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, advanced life support situations, fall victims and basic patient assistance.

The Multi-Municipal Collaboration Grants were launched in 2012 to catalyze functional cooperation among Erie County's 38 municipalities and to support economic growth and vibrancy in the community. For more information about applying for a multi-municipal grant, visit www.ecgra.org.

An impact investing organization, ECGRA's mission is to empower the nonprofit sector, municipal governments, and economic development agencies to revitalize Erie County. ECGRA is endowed with local share gaming revenue from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania via the Horse Race Gaming Act. Local share gaming revenue is an assessment of the licensed gambling industry in Pennsylvania. ECGRA administers Local Share Gaming Revenue Authority on behalf of Erie County government.

MARKING 50 YEARS OF PRESENCE

Emmaus looking Forward

Granting Hope
Jacqueline Sanchez-Small, OSB, Staff Writer

Children out on boats in Lake Erie, on their first fishing trip, a narrow alleyway transformed into a garden, a walk-in freezer filled with donated food, light streaming through the windows of an art studio: in recent months, Emmaus Ministries brought each of these everyday miracles to life through the help of grants from several organizations.

Jane Wagner, Coordinator of Sister Gus' Kids Cafe, wanted to make this summer especially memorable for the dozens of children participating in the program throughout June and July. The Erie Community Foundation, specifically the William and Ethel Hovis Fund and the Hear Erie's Youth (H.E.Y.) initiative, provided funding for field trips around the city, and for a special gardening project.

The field trips included a matinee at AMC Tinseltown, a day at the Erie Zoo, and an outing to Presque Isle with the SONS of Lake Erie, where the children went fishing and then spent the afternoon at the beach. "For a lot of the kids, those were brand-new experiences. They had never ridden the train at the Zoo, several had never seen a movie in the theater, and most had never been fishing. Even though the Peninsula is so close, it's difficult to get to, so several had never spent time at the beach before. They spent the whole time in the water and never wanted to come out," Jane said.

Meanwhile, at the Kids Cafe's home base on East 10th Street, the children were tending a new garden beside the building. Funded by a grant from H.E.Y!, aimed at bullying prevention, the children planted and tended lettuce, tomatoes, beans, peppers, herbs, and broccoli. "If we can learn how to take care of plants, we can learn to take care of each other and encourage each others' growth," Jane said. They marked the end of the summer program by sharing a salad made with some of the garden's early produce.



Upstairs from the Kids Cafe, Saint Mary's Space to Create, a former Catholic grade school converted into artist studios several years ago, recently benefited from a major grant from Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA), which went toward renovating the facade and glass doors, and installing energy-efficient windows. "It's a beautiful building, and it's important to keep it up, especially since it is full of kids and artists, who really appreciate beauty. Plus, the new windows reduced our energy usage by thirty percent," explained Emmaus Administrative Associate, Margaret Kloecker, who wrote the grant. She added that ECGRA "has done a fantastic job of developing personal relationships in the community and working with us to make sure all our needs are met, not just for day-to-day operations, but for this kind of large scale improvement." (continued on next page)

The Corry Journal

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Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Union City, county officials launch French Creek Trailhead



Maryann Mook/The Corry Journal

Erie County and Union City officials gather around as Merv Troyer of Union City, center, cuts the ribbon on the French Creek Trailhead at Devereaux Park in Union City on Friday.

BY MARYANN MOOK
Correspondent

Outdoor enthusiasts in Union City are now seeing a three-year plan for a trail extension become a reality.

On Friday, officials from the Erie County Department of Planning and Community Development, along with

Erie County Executive Brenton Davis and officials from Union City Borough, the Oil Region Alliance and the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail joined together for a trailhead launch and groundbreaking at Cafilisch/Devereaux parks at Bridge and Willow streets in Union City. The event included a ribbon cutting by Union

City's Merv Troyer and Davis.

This groundbreaking will celebrate the trailhead installation and park improvements at Cafilisch/Devereaux Park partially funded by a \$73,000 grant from the Erie County Greenways Program.

◀ See Trailhead, P.3

Trailhead

(Continued from front page)

Davis said Erie County gave \$73,000 to its Parks Plan for infrastructure.

"The community development is every bit as important as economic development; they have to go hand-in-hand in order to attract good competition and good employees here and have a good quality of life," Davis said. "Parks and recreation play a vital role in choice communities."

The trailhead will serve Union City residents and begin to implement the Erie to Corry Trail Feasibility Study, published in 2023. The Erie to Corry Trail Feasibility Study was produced to extend the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail through Erie County, and this will be the first purpose-built trailhead for this extension. It will also serve the French Creek Trail as outlined in Union City's French Creek Trail Plan, published in 2022.

The trailhead launch was the next step in the development of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail and French Creek Trail, which is a critical regional project to develop the outdoor economy in Erie County.

Jessica Horan, director of Erie County Planning and Community Development, said this trailhead really is the catalyst for two things — the French Creek Trail, and, in a broader sense, a plan to develop the Corry to Erie segment of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail.

"This serves as a trailhead to begin building 39 miles of trail," Horan said. "This will create an opportunity for those going to the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail to go on the Erie to Corry Trail."

"We developed the plan about a year ago and this is the first step in that development."

Union City Borough Manager Cindy Wells said it was an exciting day for Union City. She wanted to

thank the county, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

"I'm excited to see the project completed," Wells said. "It's been in the works a couple of years and it should be complete by mid-October."

"This is the completion of another phase of our Parks Comprehensive Plan and French Creek Trail Plan."

Union City's French Creek Trail Plan was published in 2022.

The French Creek Trailhead at Cafilisch/Devereaux parks is marked with a custom bike rack designed with chairs to showcase Union City as a historic town of furniture production.

The proposed Erie to Corry Trail will connect Union City to a growing network of trails in northwest Pennsylvania and beyond. The Erie to Corry Trail Feasibility Study & Tourism Analysis (from 2023) identifies a 39.5-mile trail route that traverses eight townships, two boroughs and two cities in Erie County.

Kim Harris, secretary for the Erie to Pittsburgh trail Alliance and outdoor program manager for the Oil Region Alliance, gave a history of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail.

The Erie to Corry Trail creates a direct connection to the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail, a 270-mile trail that is nearly 70 percent complete. In addition to the Erie to Corry Trail, the Corry junction Greenway Trail north of Corry is the other section of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail that is in Erie County.

Mile zero of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail is at Dobbin's Landing in Erie.

Also, the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail is a major corridor included in the Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition (IHTC), a vision to provide a 1,500 miles-plus multiuse trail network experience across 51 counties in four states — Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and New York.

The Corry Journal

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Local buildings to see improvements thanks to Mission Main Street



Carol Fielding/The Corry Journal

Winger Suites and Williams Place on North Center Street is a recent recipient of the 2024 round of ECGRA Mission Main Street Grants for facade renovation.

BY CAROL FIELDING
carol@thecorryjournal.com

Various parts of downtown Corry will once again be receiving a facelift, thanks to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority's (ECGRA) Mission Main Street Grants.

Six local businesses and one church were recently notified by Impact Corry that they are this year's recipients. Cindy's Mane Event (4 E. Main St.), Creative Edge (6 E. Main St.), Equitable Advisors (16 S. Center St.), Winger Suites and Williams Place (115-117 N. Center St.), Al Xander Co. (36 E. South St.), the former Mierhoff's building (40 N. Center St.) and Relevant Church (100 W. South St.) will each receive \$12,400 in matching funds for building facade renovations.

Main Street in 2013 following studies which demonstrated that improving main streets can drive job creation and promote tourism — two critical economic growth components. With Mission Main Street Grants, ECGRA targets revitalization along county-wide commercial corridors that are home to small businesses, historic structures and special events.

"Facade grants are essential," Gray noted. "They change the perception of what the downtown is. They welcome people to walk into the stores, and once they stop in Corry stores, they come back."

"The building owners come up with \$12,400 themselves, and the other \$12,400 comes from the grant," said Chuck Gray, executive director of Impact Corry.

The program started in 2019 as administered through Impact Corry, but faced delays due to Covid. Eighteen properties received matching funds from 2019 through 2023. While seven properties are funded in this round, there are still 26 more on the waiting list.

"There have been two rounds of funding, but Covid pushed everything back," Gray said. "And some of the businesses that were approved didn't even know if they'd make it through Covid."

ECGRA launched Mission

Brenda Kirik of Williams Place is excited to get started on the renovations to the Winger Suites and Williams Place building.

"This is such an exciting adventure," Kirik said. "I am trying to learn all I can to make good choices. Of course my mind is racing with ideas and possibilities."

Kirik added she is looking forward to deciding on a color scheme and possibly replacing windows and fake stones and removing a ledge left over from the previously removed covered walkways.

Josh Dyne, owner of Dynasty Construction and some of the buildings in this year's grant funding, is also grateful for the grant.

◀ See Street, P2

Street

(Continued from front page)

"The Mission Main Street facade grants have been extremely helpful for us to improve our buildings, and have been a great tool to encourage small businesses to rent our spaces," Dyne said.

The lone church in the bunch — Relevant Church — is looking to make the front of its building more inviting.

"The grant funding will go toward painting the building and making the front door approach more handicap accessible," said Jennifer Utteg of Relevant Church. Utteg said the church also has plans to resurface the parking lot, paint the sign pole and redo the sidewalks, although those projects will not fall under the grant guidelines.

Municipalities and non-profit organizations with

plans to renew historic commercial corridors can apply for Mission Main Street grants. A 1:1 cash match is required for all applicants. Projects may include overhauled streetscapes, revamped landscapes and restored facades.

Gray added Impact Corry is also exploring other grant-giving agencies, including Keystone Communities and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). She admits those avenues are "very competitive."

"The trend for funding is limited for facade renovation, so it takes a while," Gray said. "But we are not giving up, and we are not slowing down. We continue to apply for those 26 on the waiting list. And, there's a six-month turnaround from when we apply to when we hear anything. We appreciate everyone's patience just as much as we appreciate the generous grants from Mission Main Street."



Jennie Hagerty
Mercy Center for Women
1039 E. 27th Street
Erie, PA 16504
October 7, 2024

Perry Wood
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road Ste 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

On September 21, 2023, Mercy Center for Women was awarded \$100,000 from ECGRA for renovations to the Mercy Center for Women's offices and residential facility.

The original scope of work was to upgrade an HVAC system, re-point the masonry, replace windows, and repair a parking lot. The total amount for that proposal was \$223,436 which was based on a grant of \$150,000.

As we prepared to reduce the scope of work from the original grant proposal to be inline with the grant award of \$100,000, our contractor discovered that the floor tiles in the area that housed our clients contained asbestos. For the long term safety of our employees, clients, and contractors, we arranged for the removal of the tiles immediately. The cost as completed was \$38,485. The parking lot repair was also completed in the amount of \$105,136.51. The total amount of work completed for this phase is \$143,621. The match for this phase was \$43,621 which is 30% of the project total.

The remaining work form the original scope of work will be completed between the end of 2024 and next spring.

We are requesting the addition of the asbestos removal for the current grant scope of work so we can closeout the grant.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennie Hagerty", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennie Hagerty
Executive Director



INVOICE

INVOICE #: C-INV34615
DATE: 09/13/2024
DUE DATE: 10/13/2024
TERMS: Net 30

Foundant Technologies Inc.

149 Willow Peak Drive
 Bozeman, MT 59718

NOTE: Please do not send checks to this address as they will not be received.

CUSTOMER #: C000311
REFERENCE #:

Email: INVOICES@FOUNDANT.COM

BILL TO: Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA)
 5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
 Erie, PA 16510

****All prices are in US Dollars**
 Please remit in US Dollars**

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
GLM2STD	Includes 5 GLM Grant Processes, hosting, maintenance and support with no limitations on the number of users or incoming requests. 11/13/2024 - 10/12/2025	\$5,562.00
Subtotal		\$5,562.00
Sales Tax		\$0.00
1) PENNSYLVANIA PA STATE TAX (6)		\$0.00
Total		\$5,562.00

Quote Description:

We encourage you to consider the following options to improve accuracy and timeliness of payment posting:

- ACH or Credit Card payments through the link provided with your invoicing email and our Customer Payment Portal.**
- Find us on Bill.com using our Network: ID 0140807514287343 or email address invoices@foundant.com**
- ACH payments directly through your bank with remittance information emailed to invoices@foundant.com**

WIRING AND REMITTANCE INFORMATION:

Bank Name: Wells Fargo Bank, 420 Montgomery Street, San Francisco CA 94104 USA
 Routing Number: 121000248 Account Number: 4545755613 SWIFT CODE: WFBIUS6S
 REMITTANCE ADDRESS: Foundant Technologies Inc. PO BOX 913474 DENVER CO 80291-3474

*To receive an adjustment if sales tax is included on your invoice and you are exempt:
 Within 15 days of receipt of this invoice please*

- Email the sales tax exemption information that you received from your State Department of Revenue to invoices@foundant.com. Forms and information are available on your State Department of Revenue website.*
- Do not send your IRS Federal Determination (501c3) letter - it does not grant state sales tax exemption.*
- You are responsible for paying the sales tax if the exemption is not emailed to invoices@foundant.com within 15 days of the invoice date.**

INVOICE HISTORY: Total due: 5,562.00 Total paid: 0.00

A W-9 has been provided for your convenience.

DATE: 9-12-24
 APPROVAL: PAN
 ACCOUNT: GRANT MNGMT SOFTWARE

AMOUNT: 5,562
 Invoice Date: 09/13/2024 Terms: Net 30 Due Date: 10/13/2024 Customer ID: C000311