MINUTES
Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority
October 6, 2005

Note: the following is a draft copy of minutes of a meeting of the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority ("ECFSA"), which was held October 6, 2005. These minutes will not become final until approved at a subsequent meeting of ECFSA directors, and may be amended before approval.)

Chairman Edward V. Regan called a meeting of the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority ("ECFSA") to order at 8:39 a.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2005 in Room 106 of the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. Notice of the meeting had previously been distributed to all Directors by courier and announced to the public and press.

Directors Present: *Anthony J. Baynes, P. David Campbell, John Johnson, Sheila K. Kee, Stanley J. Keysa, Janet Penksa, and Edward V. Regan*

Others Present:
Scott Quehl of Public Financial Management, Inc.
Greg Stamm, Esq., Special Counsel
Lee Van Riper, Executive Director

Opening Remarks:

Chairman Ned Regan welcomed all attendees and welcomed Director Baynes, who replaces Carole Stone. The Chair then recognized Vice-Chair Campbell to discuss his efforts in pushing initiatives.

New Initiatives for FY-2006 Budget and Financial Plan

Vice-Chair Campbell stated that we have been assigned a responsibility to come up with new initiatives to look out for the best interests of the citizens of Erie County. The restructuring of government is a primary foundational piece of the Plan. We need to take a more assertive position on cost reduction items. In discussions we have had between the County Legislature, County Executive's Office, and PFM, we have identified opportunities that have not been put in the Plan. PFM has located new items and they should be incorporated immediately. Decisions that we make looking at the revenue source for the plan are directly impacted by the amount of initiatives included in the Plan. We need to look at these first and try to get an agreement that those are what we want the Legislature to be looking at and incorporated into the Plan because it drives the revenue source. Based on what we have seen so far, there are $75-100 million more additional dollars in savings on a cumulative basis.

Director Johnson stated he is elated that we are going into the initiatives first and looking at more ways to save instead of increasing taxes. Director Kee asked how we set up mechanisms to insure that these initiatives are duly implemented by the government in a timely basis. Director Keysa stated that the amended plan the Legislature approved commits a majority to support a number of cuts, but without ten votes, it is one that is not implementable. Director Penksa stated she is in favor of more implementable actions. She noted that one potential downside is that a pending court case, if lost by the County, could result in the ECMC reduction offset of $13.5 million being added back as an expense. Director Penksa also noted that, contrary to the *expectation of some, ECFSA has advisory powers till 2012, even f it doesn't do any bonding. Director Baynes concurred that we don't need to borrow any more money, that it is his preference to cut more spending, and he noted that the County's bond rating was near junk bond status. Director Campbell observed that this authority was created as a result of discord between elected officials, which needs to end.*

Chairman Regan asked Scott Quehl to go over initiatives. Mr. Quehl stated that, prior to the creation of ECFSA, the County had directed massive layoffs of 1,016 general fund positions; as a result, 700 fulltime have been eliminated, resulting in $56 million in cuts, compounding to $180 million in savings over four years. Stretched out over a 4-year plan, $180 million savings would normally be seen as a multi-year recovery plan fully implemented. However, the cost-cutting had been done without a lot of targeting and without a lot of thought as to its impact on the service delivery level or cost recovery or Medicaid fraud. Scott said PFM has identified a number of new initiatives at the direction of the chairman. He estimated these could result in "tens of millions" in additional savings beyond the nearly $200 million in initiatives already proposed over a four year period in the FY-05 four-year plan. PFM is refining the exact nature of initiatives with an aim towards implementation.

Scott noted that state authorization is needed for several initiatives that could be implemented rapidly, such as the 911 wireless service surcharge. Erie County could generate revenue from this, but without the state authorization required to put it in place, it was not counted in gap reduction for YF-06 budget. Such a surcharge has been imposed elsewhere but the State needs to be formally asked before these initiatives can be counted towards gap reduction and therefore tax increase avoidance next year.

Scott introduced Randy Bauer of PFM, who commented on sourcing (how the county handles its purchases) and its relationship with social service programs. NY municipal law governing purchasing and procurement requires that contracts be bid and awarded in a low cost basis. Strategic sourcing is a method for changing procurement practices to a more holistic approach. This was recommended in the Partnership report and PFM believes, with sufficient effort, this will provide achievable savings. Director Campbell stated this is a proven process used in a variety of states, but will require a lobbying effort to get the change in state law.

Chairman Regan questioned whether, if the County Legislature or County Executive requested this from the state, there would there be any problem. Mr. Bauer stated that there should not be, as the process has had lots of success in other states. Director Penksa stated that having a precedent on these issues will help the state legislature to act favorably upon this. She offered to work with Lee VanRiper to get a read on how likely it is to get state approval on the various initiatives. Director Kee stated that the 911 surcharge initiative could put $830,000 in next year's budget, and we need to make sure this happens immediately. Mr. Quehl commented that other new initiatives have not been fully costed out. Director Keysa asked if it would not be necessary to have the County submit a home rule message with 10 votes, and if ECFSA would need to approve that message.

Chairman Regan noted the State Legislature might be in session the first week in December. Director Johnson pointed out that those initiatives that have been presented to us in this matrix *bring about new attractiveness to cutting, and requested that the consultants identify what they are speaking about over and above this matrix that would bring about additional savings. He also noted that specific state authorization is needed to use $2 million already available from the state. He said that the child welfare revenue stream that focuses on preventative services, providing that, for every local dollar spent, the state will reimburse 65 cents on the dollar. In-kind services provided by outside contractors could be counted as "donations" for part of the remaining 35 cents. The County has to request it from the State.*

Mr. Quehl commented on the Partnership report, saying more research is needed regarding ECC subsidies. The college is saddled by expensive labor costs that are tied to county labor practices. Because of changes needed in state law regarding education and the need to involve unions to implement sweeping series of labor reduction costs, the County Executive could not put in such savings in his FY-06 budget because it was not likely to happen. It would be a cutting edge program. Director Penksa stated that, just as precedence would help us in other areas; it is really going to work the opposite with this one. "Once you authorize a change for one college, you would have to do for all." This is one of the most questionable initiatives of the Partnership's report. There will have to be a lot of difficulty to implement this. Mr. Quehl stated the test of prudence is being applied to all the initiatives. He noted that the SAP computer program can break down department activities by cost center or program. "Within each program you can identify the revenue, expenditure and head count." Director Keysa asked where this information would be coming from – the budget director or the Comptroller's Office. Mr. Quehl stated the data would be available from the financial management systems sometime in November.

Director Johnson endorsed the process PFM is talking about. He would like to see each county department state its projected expenditures and the revenues that it would line up with those expenditures. "If they have to check with other sources, we as an advisory body must insist that is being done." Director Kee said we need assurance that the system can track and monitor if the County is falling short of target. She said she would offer a resolution urging the County to submit a request for the waiver for the Child Services funding. Director Campbell stated that we should send the cost improvements from PFM to the County as another list of items to get the discussions started. Director Penksa agreed that lack of staff makes it hard to get things done and wanted to know how PFM found these things. Mr. Quehl stated that the PFM staff members have a sense of where to look and know the questions to ask. He also said that county department managers have had fantastic ideas.

Director Kee asked that ECFSA staff craft a resolution on these issues: 1) Recommend that the county administration file a waiver to allow the County to county outside contractor "donations" as local effort, for $2 million in annual Child Support funding. 2) Recommend that the County submit a home rule request for authorization to impose a 911 surcharge which would yield $830,000 in annual revenue; 3) Recommend that the County submit a home rule request to be allowed to use strategic sourcing, for savings ultimately estimated at $1,113,000; 4) Recommend that the County increase the pistol permit processing fee, for estimated revenues of $38,000; 5) Recommend that the County submit a home rule message requesting that motor vehicles processing fees be increased as outlined. Many of these items are already in the FY'05 four-year plan and a request to the State must be made on a timely basis. "Taxes are not the *only solution."*

Director Penksa noted the County Legislature's amendment of the FY '05 four-year plan included an estimate of increased sales tax revenue for a full year She said it will take longer to implement the sales tax increase because of the need to provide venders with enough lead-time to reprogram their cash registers. Mr. Van Riper pointed out that the tax department typically requires that changes coincide with a sales tax quarter. Once the request is made and approved, 90 days notice to vendors is required to change. His experience is that this notice period could be waived down to thirty days. That means March 1st could be the earliest date it could be imposed, which would result in a reduction in revenues of about $10 million.

Director Campbell and Director Penksa discussed the prospect of the Legislature getting the votes needed for the sales taxes. The downside risk in this plan is the need to raise additional revenue. Should that need develop during fiscal year 2006, there will be new legislators, and it is impossible to predict how they will react. Ms. Penska observed, "You can't raise real property taxes in mid-year. We should ask for a contingency plan now. How can we prudently approve this plan with so much risk without knowing what the County Executive and Legislature will do if these revenues don't come to fruition?"

Director Keysa stated there is a need for staff at the County Legislature to plan this, and that the Partnership report expressed concern for someone there to be focused on budget capabilities. Such positions should be part of the budget the County Executive puts forth. Also we need to look at the consequences on other levels of government. For example, the suggestion to have local governments plow county roads will mean that towns, villages and cities may need to buy additional equipment and hire additional staff, employees who may not be needed on a year-round basis.

Director Keysa said he has asked many people for their viewpoints on solutions to the county's fiscal crisis. Virtually all wanted further cuts. However, none were in favor of deficit financing except as a short-term last resort. As far as new taxes, all indicated a preference for an increased sales tax of a half or quarter cent on the dollar rather than a major hike in the real property tax. Keysa noted that, if more of the legislators do not sign on to the compromise passed by the majority, it will mean a massive increase in the real property tax. Keysa expressed his concern that "If we completely reject the amended plan, we don't have a lot of options other than property or deficient financing."

Chairman Regan asked Mr. Van Riper asked about the review of risk management and worker's compensation. Mr. Van Riper said a resolution was sent to the County Legislature and County Executive with items outlined at the last board meeting. A list of 15 other items was circulated to board members, who wanted to review the list first. Twelve items in the matrix could be acted upon sooner rather than later. He met with Mr. Kevin Kelly of the Legislature, who explained the legislative rules and procedures. "Our role is that we make recommendations to them and only legislators or the County Executive can submit a resolution. In some cases, we have just backed up what has already begun." Lee said the resolution on 911 surcharges is before the Legislature.

Chairman Regan spoke about the need for all parties to meet and start to resolve these problems one by one. Who does what under what time line? He said he plans to hold conversations with the County Executive regarding getting someone reporting to Legislature on budget items. Chair Regan said ECFSA needs to demonstrate to the taxpayers that we are not simply submitting higher taxes; "We need to cut costs and at the same time lower and moderate taxes. We need to come up with a better mix of reforms and restructuring under tight time lines. Raising taxes alone is unacceptable."

Director Kee noted that the original FY'05 four-year plan as submitted by the County Executive projected fourth year savings of $68 million, with a number of non-property tax revenues. When compared to the amended plan approved by a majority of the legislators, they reduced some of the non-property tax revenues, but still came up with a fourth year savings of $67 million.

Director Johnson said the amended plan approved by the Legislature did bring about some savings, but that he had a difficult time with this authority endorsing a plan that has not been amply demonstrated. He said it would have a hard impact on citizens, who are tired of government raising taxes before looking at more functional efforts. Johnson urged more aggressive efforts with more reductions so taxes can be decreased.

Director Baynes spoke about the inability of the County Legislature to pass a plan without the needed votes. Director Campbell added that the burden of the financial situation is crucial. "Millions of dollars are sitting on the table and need to be incorporated into the plan. The Legislature needs to have any new initiatives in their hands. Revenue was cut out and some problems exist. This is a format and a plan for the new Legislature."

Chairman Regan asked for a formal motion to disapprove the FY '05 four- year plan as amended by the County Legislature. Director Johnson so moved and was seconded by Director Penksa. Discussion followed.

Mr. Van Riper remarked on his Report to the Board, outlining legislation needed, the timeline to submit an amendment with a half cent sales tax increase and four other changes. He noted that the sales tax proposal had only passed with a simple majority and not the 10 votes required to actually authorize the tax increase. Inclusion of revenues from such a sales tax increase is not allowable under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") under which such financial plans are reviewed. If this board disapproves the FY '05 four-year plan, Van Riper said it goes back to the County Legislature, and the County has 15 days to modify the plan and come back with a plan again subject to ECFSA approval.

Mr. Stamm stated this is not just a matter of shortage of votes. The issue is that, under the best of circumstances, this plan is likely to create a fiscal problem as early as March that can't be fixed because you can't go back to the taxpayers for more taxes in 2006.

Director Kee spoke about the problems with deficit financing and the problems of selling the hospital. She asked why there was not a similar concern for including the extra one-percent sales tax, which requires reauthorization each year, if that also requires a two-thirds vote each year and the same concern for proposed fee increases, also subject to a two-thirds approval.

Mr. Van Riper replied that there is history of that tax being renewed. The history of a new increase is very different, given last year's experience. And Director Kee is right to point out that revenue projections from proposed fees would also be disallowed under GAAP.

Director Penksa commended the County Legislature for devising and approving its amended plan. However, she said ECFSA cannot fulfill its fiduciary responsibility by approving this plan. "There is a tremendous downside risk. This plan doesn't meet General Accepted Accounting Principles."

Director Campbell wants all the options and alternatives to be worked on and to use the talents that we have. He expressed concern that factions are still not working together on the plan. "I want to send it back to give the Legislature and County Executive to give them more time to get together."

Director Keysa said he was pleased that those that voted for this plan had done so, saying that a blend of sales and property tax is more acceptable than deficit financing. Keysa said he was disappointed that seven members did not sign on or participate in some constructive fashion to craft the plan which came to us. "Those who adhere to a mantra that "I will never vote for an increase in taxes or fees" are being irresponsible. Everyone is well aware that there is a necessity for some form of revenue enhancement."

Director Baynes stated that the business community would be happy if we don't do deficit borrowing and go further into debt.

Chairman Regan called for a roll call vote on disapproval of the 2005 four-year Financial Plan, to which the Directors responded as follows:
Baynes, in favor; Penksa, in favor; Campbell, in favor; Keysa, in favor; Kee, opposed to sending it back; Johnson, in favor; Regan, in favor.

Chair Regan declared the resolution to have duly passed with six "ayes" and one "nay."

Resolution No. 05-35
DISAPPROVING 2005-FOUR YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

WHEREAS, The Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority ("ECFSA") was created by Chapter 182 of the Laws of 2005, as amended, to be a corporate governmental agency and instrumentality of the State of New York constituting a public benefit corporation to "oversee the County's budget, financial and capital plans; to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to achieve budgetary savings and to finance short-term cash flow or capital needs; and, if necessary, to develop financial plans on behalf of the County if the County is unwilling or unable to take the required steps toward fiscal stability"; and

WHEREAS, as required by Chapter 182 of the Laws of 2005, the County Executive submitted to the Erie County Legislature on September 13, 2005, a four year Financial Plan; and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature amended and modified such Financial Plan to presume the imposition of an increase in the Erie County sales tax of 0.5 percent effective on January 1, 2006; a modified proposal to increase Erie County property taxes by sixteen percent in 2006 and a further 0.5 percent in 2007; a phase in of the proposed fee for County Sheriff's Department road patrols; and, a rejection of certain proposed parking fees and reduction in the proposed increase of other fees; and

WHEREAS, this modified plan was submitted to the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority by the County Executive, with the approval of the County Legislature, as required by Chapter 182 of the Laws of 2005; and,

WHEREAS, the ECFSA is directed by such Act to approve or disapprove the Financial Plan and, in the event the Authority shall disapprove such Financial Plan based on disapproval of certain actions or assumptions shall promptly notify the County Executive and Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the approval of the County Legislature was by a simple majority vote rather than the two-thirds vote required by the County Charter to increase taxes, and that the County Legislature did not enact Local Resolutions by the necessary two-thirds vote directing the County Attorney to prepare appropriate State bills for introduction in the New York State Assembly and Senate increasing the County sales tax or to prepare appropriate home rule requests for introduction in and adoption by the County Legislature to request passage of such bill by the New York State Assembly and Senate; and,

WHEREAS, such actions are necessary and prudent for acceptance by this Authority of four-year Financial Plan revenue projections which are considered established and collectable as required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ECFSA disapproves the Financial Plan submitted by the County Executive, with the approval of the County Legislature, for the reasons so specified and that notification be prepared and transmitted to the County Executive and the Erie County Legislature so stating.

This resolution shall take effect upon formal transmittal to the County Executive and County Legislature.

Discussion took place regarding the timetable and when the report should be transmitted to the County. Director Kee asked if the seven county legislators who had not approved the plan submitted could meet with the Chair of the Board and anyone else on this board. Chairman Regan said he would meet with those legislators, and that a resolution is not needed to go ahead to make calls to get meetings scheduled with the County Legislature and the board.

Chairman Regan said he wanted to give the legislators the maximum time to consider their actions, and suggested the letter transmitting the rejection resolution go out next week. Regan then asked general counsel Greg Stamm if a resolution was needed to set the date for submission of the rejection to the County, of if it could be done informally. Mr. Stamm stated it could be done informally.

Public Comments

The Chairman then opened the floor to questions or comments from the audience.

Erie County Legislator Demone Smith, Chair of Finance and Management, spoke about the history of the plan which had been submitted, noting that it came from the consultants hired by the control board with four changes, and with a combination revenue approach. He agreed that the sales tax is a very regressive tax, and said that it should be respected that legislators put together a compromise with lots of meetings and a lot of work. He also noted that Thursday meetings of ECFSA conflict with committee meetings of the County Legislature. Mr. Smith invited ECFSA staff to attend all legislative meetings.

Erie County Legislator Al DeBenedetti, spoke about being disappointed that he didn't have an opportunity to address the board before the vote. He noted the amended plan included service cuts of $60 million – the largest cut in Erie County history. "When you line up the plan that the Legislature approved with the plan from the County Executive, there are minor differences in service cuts." Some fees were not included because they were too high. Deficit financing was cut out and replaced by a sales tax increase because of the long-term debts and all the payments to underwriters. Mr. DeBenedetti said he was upset that "You set up rules and never made us aware of them." Revenues have to be "actionable". The state legislation doesn't say the plan has to be "actionable." For budgeting purposes, the term "actionable" is not being applied with consistency. "You should have accepted our plan and leave it to us to resolve at budget time. Hopefully the standard applied in the Legislature is to not allow any revenue to be used that doesn't have the necessary votes prior to or day of the budget. The biggest problem in how the sales tax gets approved. If we can get your cooperation and that of the state delegation, this might be able to be done."

Majority Leader Lynn Marinelli of the County Legislature said "We are confused - We passed a four year modified plan as required." She said there was also confusion in that the plan doesn't go back to the County Legislature; it goes back to the County Executive. Mr. Van Riper stated that the plan goes back to the "County." Ms. Marinelli noted that the FY '06 budget is due by October 15th. "That is were the public process begins." That is when ideas and initiatives are considered, line-by-line, department by department. She expects more cuts to come, but said that deficit borrowing needs to be eliminated. "It is unacceptable to spend $21 million (on interest) without getting any services for borrowing." Ms. Marinelli said the County Comptroller's office is working with the Legislature in helping with the recommendations and initiatives. Of the 159 recommendations, she said she supports over well over 90 and said the Legislature had already been forging ahead on some of them. Sixty more, if given due process, need another level of government or unions to also take action. She said she pledges to work with this board and its members although she remains a proponent of it not becoming a hard control board. "If you could, help with the members of the Legislature who have not come to the table." Ms. Marinelli further noted that the FY '05 four-year plan did not include important federal mandates to the Board of Elections, saying the "Help America Vote Act" would impose costs associated with training staff, inspectors, new machines, etc.

Chairman Regan asked when Legislator Marinelli would like to receive the plan. Ms. Marinelli asked that it coincide with terms of a local law requiring that the County Executive propose a budget by October 15th. She also noted that efforts are under way to seat an Erie County charter review commission. Ms. Marinelli said this was a perfect time to look at the mission, structures and functions of the County.

Director Keysa stated that he plans to send copies of the resolution to the Clerk of the Legislature and the County Executive.

Legislator Denise Marshall from the fifth district said she was glad ECFSA started the meeting with discussion of initiatives, reductions and expenditures. Ms. Marshall said she would "love to sit down and talk" about some of her proposals. She said she had discussed her suggestions with Chairman Holt, who told her they could be included in the budget but not the plan. She observed that the timeline for the budget would nearly mirror the timeline for this plan, saying that the more time the legislators have to look at plan and budget the better. Ms. Marshall said her constituents are in agreement to see reform, more departmental efficiencies, fewer managers, restructuring the way government is set up. She said she is available anytime to meet.

Director Keysa noted that if ECFSA sends the plan back on October 15th, the County would have till October 30th to submit a modified plan. He said the 2006 county budget doesn't need to be approved until December 5th. Calculating that there is a gap in time, he asked counsel: "If the normal budget process is followed, is the County limited by state law by getting a plan back to ECFSA by October 30th?"

Mr. Stamm remarked that the drafters of this legislation did not set a helpful timeline. He suggested ECFSA could keep the dialogue open and waits until the 2006 budget process was complete on December 5th, or adopt a hard line requiring a response before then to this plan, and make the legislators declare their voting intentions.

County Comptroller James Hartman remarked about the sales tax gap of $10 million. He said the County is dangerously low on reserve funds, with only $4 million left. He asked, "How do you manage any slippage in 2006 budget?" He stated there are two principle risks, the first being cutting the hospital subsidy if the lawsuit goes against the County, and the second being the timetable for enactment of sales tax. His opinion was that there needs to be contingency plans for each of these risks. "It would have been better to get ten votes last Friday." He thought the State Legislature might meet before the end of the year, that a home rule message could go to them asking a tax to take effect December 1st which would take special administrative action by the Department of Taxation & Finance. He said the quarter cent sales tax was enacted in nine days, so if we miss a December 1st date, they would be looking at January 1st and not March 1st. Hartman said the charter requires ten votes to get this date and the worst case would be February 1st implementation.

Mr. Van Riper commented that sales tax was easier to implement due to the expiration of the quarter cent state sales tax, saying T&F did not have to change the overall rate; the county's tax just displaced the quarter cent from the state.

Mr. DeBenedetti responded that there had been a month's break and they did change twice. "There is precedence in an increase in the sales tax and it happened outside the taxable quarters."

Mr. Stamm asked Mr. DeBenedetti,"If the Executive gives the Legislature a budget on October 15th, what is the earliest you could pass a budget? Mr. DeBenedetti responded that he didn't think there was a restriction on early passage, just a deadline. "Budgets have been passed earlier if the legislators come to agreement."

John Drexelius, Jr., Counsel to State Senator Volker, said he was immensely familiar with the Erie County sales tax in a staff level role. The ability of Taxation and Finance to administratively waive the notice goes to 30 days. On several occasion, including the implementation of the quarter cent sales tax, the State Legislature directed the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance to not provide that notice. Departmental staff was up in arms over that. With respect to the quarters, in a special situation, the State Legislature, with the concurrence of the Governor, gave specific authorizations in statute to break the quarter, again over the strong objection of Taxation and Finance. Unlike last June, they are not at the end of legislative session, they are at the beginning and the first session date is the 2nd Monday in January, the first day a bill could get acted on it. Drexelius wanted to be clear to the ECFSA board that these are very complicated and much expedited requests being asked and there is some real risk to a tax law change to be implemented by February 1st. The state legislators are not in the same legislative mode in January as they are in June.

Mr. Van Riper stated that you could send a home rule and tie it to the renewal of the one percent, although not in the same bill, and it would most likely pass.

Celeste Lawson, Executive Director of Arts Counsel, said she was glad to see improved communications with all bodies of the Legislature, the County Executive and this board. "You cannot save your way to prosperity, reform is needed and there is a cost for services. We do not want a repeat of the fiasco that happened this past year that resulted in a substantial loss of financial aid to the culturals." She asked if ECFSA meetings could take place later in the day so other professionals could participate and not have to use personal time.

Chairman Regan commented that culturals are a magnet for high quality of life and they do have a positive impact on the general economic environment. The Chair said the board would discuss later or evening meetings and will attempt to coordinate schedules.

Director Kee reminded the Chair she had proposed an amendment at the last meeting, but suggested that, in light of today's time constraints, it continue to be on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Returning to administrative matters, Director Kee moved to approve minutes from September 22, 2005. The motion was seconded by Director Johnson and unanimously approved.

Resolution 05-34
APPROVING MINUTES AND RESOLUTIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

BE IT RESOLVED that the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority approves the minutes of its meeting of September 22, 2005 and ratifies and affirms four resolutions numbered 05-30 through 05-33 that were approved on September 22, 2005.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

OTHER BUSINESS

Director Johnson asked about Director Kee's suggestion for a resolution regarding Preventive Services that would generate approximately $2 million to the budget. Chairman Regan noted that we had so many others. "That is going to be done. We shouldn't need a motion to do what we are going to do."

Chairman Regan said he is going to get on the phone with the County Executive and work with County Legislature and is grateful for that. "The issue is how fast and carefully we can show the taxpayer that we want to downsize government without downsizing services."

At 11:28 a.m., Director Campbell moved to adjourn, seconded by Director Kee, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stanley Jay Keysa,
ECFSA Secretary