MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, January 29, 2015 – 9:45
Conference Room 100, 1st Floor, Dulles State Office Building
Watertown, New York

The Development Authority of the North Country Board of Directors met in regular session in Conference Room 100, 1st Floor, Dulles State Office Building, Watertown, New York, on Thursday, January 29, 2015 at 9:45 AM.

Members Present:
Voting
Alfred Calligaris, Chairman
Fredrick Carter
John B. Johnson, Jr
Thomas Heffron
Gary Turck
Richard Lucas
Alex MacKinnon

Non-Voting
William Archer
William Shelly
Mary Doheny

Members Absent:
Brian McGrath
Margaret Murray

Staff Present:
James W. Wright, Executive Director
Thomas Sauter, Deputy Executive Director
Carl Farone, Comptroller
Michelle Capone, Director of Regional Development
David Wolf, Director of Telecommunications
Patricia Pastella, Division Manager, Water Quality Division
Carrie Tuttle, Director of Engineering and Environmental Division
Richard LeClerc, Division Manager, Solid Waste Management Division
Tim Field, Director of Information Technology
Jo Anne T. Yaddow, Executive Assistant
Angela Marra, Administrative Assistant II

Guests:
Richard James, Mackenzie and Hughes, Counsel
Ted Booker, Watertown Daily Times Reporter
Sheila Hess, Conservation Connects, LLC
Paul Czerwinski, Barton & Loguidice, PC
Jason Desserault, Office of the NYS Comptroller
Anne Marie Miller, Office of the NYS Comptroller
1. Chairman Calligaris called the meeting to order at 9:48 AM and acknowledged there was a quorum.

2. Chairman Calligaris offered the Privilege of the Floor.

3. Upon a motion by T. Hefferon, and seconded by G. Turck, the Minutes of the December 11, 2014 Board Meeting, were unanimously approved.

4. Chairman's Report –

   a. Special Meeting – Chairman Calligaris noted this meeting was established as a special board meeting for the purposes of considering the acceptance of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Sheila Hess of Conservation Connects, and Paul Czerwinski of Barton & Loguidice were in attendance to answer questions regarding the DEIS.

   b. Amended Resolution - Chairman Calligaris stated he was contacted by Board Member Alex MacKinnon regarding the resolution authorizing the disposal of CRT waste and its effect in St. Lawrence County. Resolution No. 2015-01-07 is an amended resolution and is on the agenda.

   c. Authority Budget Office Guidance – Copies of the ABO Guidance Board Meetings: Best Practices Guide for Public Authorities were distributed. The document contains new guidance for Board Members regarding the Open Meetings Law and Board Meetings. J. Wright noted there is a reference to a videoconferencing option but there are criteria that need to be met and states teleconferencing cannot be used. More information is forthcoming at future meetings.

   d. Auditors – Chairman Calligaris introduced Jason Dessureault and Anne Marie Miller from the New York State Comptroller's Office and are onsite conducting an audit on Authority loans and procurement.

5. Resolutions –

   a. J. Wright read Resolution No. 2015-01-01, Resolution Remembering Governor Mario M. Cuomo, acknowledging his dedication to New York, the North Country, and his staunch advocacy of Fort Drum. In 1985, Governor Cuomo signed legislation for the creation of the Development Authority of the North Country. J. Wright stated a copy of the resolution would be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo and family.

      Upon a motion by F. Carter, and seconded by T. Hefferon, Resolution No. 2015-01-01, Resolution Remembering Governor Mario M. Cuomo and His Contributions to the North Country, was unanimously approved.
b. Resolution No. 2015-01-02 authorizes the acceptance of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed southern expansion of the landfill. J. Wright introduced Sheila Hess of Conservation Connects, LLC and Paul Czerwinski of Barton and Loguidice, PC. J. Wright explained the permitting and approval process has been in the works for well in excess of eight years. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) addresses potential impacts. Resolution No. 2015-01-01 resolves to accept the DEIS for the purpose of commencing public review which begins on February 11, 2015 with public hearings held on March 4, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the State Office Building in Watertown, and on March 11, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Town of Rodman Offices in Rodman. Public comments are welcomed at both sessions. A copy of the DEIS will be maintained in the Authority’s files and will be readily accessible to the public and made available upon request. Additionally, copies will be available on the Authority’s website, at the public libraries in Watertown, Canton, and Lowville, and will be provided to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). This special meeting was arranged so there would be a complete 45 day period to review and commence the public comment period.

A graphic of the proposed expansion of the landfill was displayed. F. Carter asked what was in the buffer area surrounding the landfill. P. Czerwinski stated the area is “as is” and will stay the same. T. Heffron asked if there are any construction roads. J. Wright stated there will be a bridge constructed to cross the stream to the existing borrow area that will be used for construction materials. F. Carter asked if runoff will flow away from the stream. S. Hess responded yes. J. Johnson stated the leachate collection system works well and the Authority has built a landfill that will stand the test of time. R. Lucas stated the biggest issue with the landfill is the odor and asked if the gas collection system is going to last. R. Lucas also asked about alternative means to the Authority’s trucking of leachate. J. Wright stated the gas collection systems is working well and will continue to operate but gas production will be impacted as waste continues to be diverted. J. Wright stated that alternative leachate handling has been examined and transporting it seems to be the best affordable option at this time rather than onsite treatment.

A handout was distributed detailing costs for the Solid Waste Management ancillary facilities project. Revised Phase II Estimated Costs range from $74,181,415 to $87,889,557. Figures have been updated based on current design planned projection. J. Wright noted the cost of closure and related gas collection capping is ongoing. J. Wright explained that all work is subject to permits and the southern expansion and ancillary facilities improvements are two separate and distinct projects. It was noted that the landfill investments for the ancillary facilities would still need to be done even if NYSDEC does not approve the southern expansion of the landfill as there are 30 more years of landfill life.

Upon a motion by J. Johnson, and seconded by F. Carter, Resolution No. 2015-01-02, Authorizing Acceptance of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Southern Expansion of Existing Solid Waste Management Facility Pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, was unanimously approved.
c. Resolution No. 2015-01-03 authorizes the creation of a reserve fund and moves monies into a reserve for wetlands mitigation, satisfying the obligations under the federal permit.

Upon a motion by R. Lucas, and seconded by T. Hefferson, Resolution No. 2015-01-03, Authorizing the Creation of a Reserve Fund Performance of Obligations Required Under Department of the Army Provisional Permit No. 1989-98111, was unanimously approved.

d. Resolution No. 2015-01-04 authorizes the construction and financing of the ancillary facilities. J. Wright stated improvements to the original infrastructure for continued operations needs to be addressed as they are aging. J. Wright noted the Committee recommending approval is “Finance” and not “Facilities.”

Subject resolution authorizes new leachate tanks and connection into the existing system, scale house, related road work, and the elimination of the old leachate tanks. The Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) will not finance the entire project, only those designated as water related; leachate has been previously authorized. Plans will be submitted to NYSDEC for approval or modification and, in turn, the project will be defined and the level of financing will be determined. This resolution formalizes the approval of the next step.

A. Calligaris asked if the enclosed leachate tanks will help with leachate trucking. J. Wright responded yes. W. Shelly asked if the enclosed leachate tanks will contain the odor and asked about a filter system. Paul Czerwinski stated the tanks are vented and will likely aid in containing odors. R. LeClere stated carbon filtering is an option and could be incorporated into the system.

Upon a motion by F. Carter, and seconded by R. Lucas, Resolution No. 2015-01-04, Authorizing the Construction and Financing of Ancillary Facilities at the Solid Waste Management Facility, was unanimously approved.

e. Resolution No. 2015-01-05 authorizes the submission of an application for EFC funding for the leachate storage and loading facilities, and related improvements. A preliminary determination indicates this project may be eligible for funding assistance through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and subject resolution authorizes the preparation and submission of an application to EFC for financing in an amount not to exceed $7.5 million.

Upon a motion by J. Johnson, and seconded by T. Hefferson, Resolution No. 2015-01-05, Authorizing the Submission of an Application for Environmental Facilities Corporation Funding for the Leachate Storage and Related Work, was unanimously approved.
f. Resolution No. 2015-01-06 authorizes the establishment of various accounts with Community Bank, NA. A request for proposal was sent to various banks in the community and four responses were received. After all proposals were received, the Finance Committee convened and recommended Community Bank for Authority bank services.

Upon a motion by F. Carter, and seconded by R. Lucas, Resolution No. 2015-01-06, Authorizing Establishment of Bank Accounts with Community Bank NA Pursuant to Request for Proposal, was unanimously approved.

g. Resolution No. 2015-01-07 was added to the agenda and authorizes the Solid Waste Management Division to include a St. Lawrence County designated transfer station to transfer cathode ray tubes (CRT) waste to the County. At the time Resolution No. 2014-12-16 was approved establishing the Solid Waste Division to assume the costs for the disposal of CRT, the Authority was unaware St. Lawrence County’s designated transfer site serviced approximately 50% of the County’s population. This resolution authorizes the assumption of electronic waste recycling expenses for CRT disposal for the St. Lawrence County designated transfer site (Casella) effective February 1, 2015. Board Member A. MacKinnon explained that St. Lawrence County has a contract with Casella to do zero sort recycling and was instated long before CRT recycling. Residents can bring televisions to the transfer station, and drop them off free of charge. Casella then hauls them to a recycling company at zero cost to the consumer. Mr. MacKinnon noted the CRTs brought by Casella should be treated in the same way as the other counties.

Upon a motion by A. MacKinnon, and seconded by F. Carter, Resolution No. 2015-01-07, Authorizing the Solid Waste Management Division to Include a St. Lawrence County Designated Transfer Station to Transfer Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT) Waste to the County, was unanimously approved.

6. Division Presentations – Division Managers presented their division budgets. J. Wright noted this Budget Work Session is for discussion purposes and questions/answers with no decisions being made. The Finance Committee will convene and recommendations will be made for a tentative budget.

7. Bill Archer exited the meeting at 11:38 AM.

8. Executive Director’s Report –

a. Preliminary Budget Work Session – J. Wright summarized the budget.
9. Executive Session – Chairman Calligaris made a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:13 AM in order "to discuss the employment history of a particular person" and requested the Executive Director and Counsel remain in attendance. Executive Session ended at 12:26 PM upon a motion by T. Hefferon and seconded by G. Turck.

10. Next Meeting – February 26, 2015

Chairman Calligaris adjourned the meeting at 12:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Fredrick Carter
Secretary