MINUTES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, August 27, 2015, 9:30 AM
Solid Waste Management Facility Conference Room
23400 NYS Route 177, Rodman New York

Members Present:
Gary Turck, Chairman
Alfred Calligaris
Fredrick Carter
Thomas Hefferon
Margaret Murray
John B. Johnson, Jr.

Staff Present:
James W. Wright, Executive Director
Jo Anne T. Yaddow, Executive Assistant

1. Chairman Turck called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

2. J. Wright presented Resolution No. 2015-08-86, Recognizing the Service of William M. Shelly to the Development Authority of the North Country.

   Upon a motion by A. Calligaris, and seconded by M. Murray, Resolution No. 2015-08-86, Recognizing the Service of William M. Shelly to the Development Authority of the North Country, was unanimously approved.

3. Open Meetings/Videoconferencing – J. Wright stated two Board Members have expressed interest in video-conferencing. While the Authorities Budget Office does not have specific guidelines regarding videoconferencing, the following applies per the Open Meetings Law:

   ▶ If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, public notice for the meeting shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used, identify the locations for the meeting, and that the public has the right to attend the meeting at any of the locations.
   ▶ The public should be provided an opportunity to attend, listen and observe at any site at which a member participates in the videoconferencing.
   ▶ Notice of the locations of the meeting, including the location of the member who is attending via videoconference, shall be included in the public notice.
   ▶ The remote location must be open and accessible to the public. When a location is open to the public, the media cannot be prohibited from attending.
G. Turck asked if there has to be a certain number of individuals in the videoconference. J. Wright stated a quorum has to be met and all parties can still vote. Board Members have to be able to see each other and interact.

After discussion, the Committee’s consensus was to not opt for videoconferencing.

4. Health Insurance – J. Wright stated the Governance Committee had deferred this topic and since health insurance open enrollment begins in January, discussion needs to occur. J. Wright stated the Board has the authority to modify, amend, or terminate any plan or policy at any time, including changes that may increase the contributions required for current and retired employees.

The following items were discussed:

- Current health insurance provider will be working with the Authority as we move from the two current classes to four due to the increase in the number of Authority employees.
- Increase of monthly health insurance premium contributions to 30% for current and retired employees
- Affordable Care Act takes effect and changes the standard and the impacts on the lower paid employees.
- Authority currently pays Medicare reimbursement to retirees age 65 and over. With the number of retirees due to increase, these costs will rise. The option is to discontinue this reimbursement. Discussion regarding meting the costs out over three years versus stopping the reimbursement immediately.

The Committee consensus was the increase of 30% is recommended and should start effective January 2016. Further discussions will occur in October during budget preparation.

5. Additional Resolution – Resolution No. 2015-08-100, Authorizing the Executive Director to Retain Professional Services for Conducting a Position Classification and Compensation Review was presented. J. Wright stated the Authority wants to retain a consultant to perform a class and position study of comparable salaries of employees. G. Turck asked if the cost would be $60,000 for the study per the resolution. J. Wright stated the actual cost is unknown until a request for proposal is done.

Upon a motion by T. Hefferon, and seconded by F. Carter, Resolution No. 2015-08-100, Authorizing the Executive Director to Retain Professional Services for Conducting a Position Classification and Compensation Review, was unanimously approved.

6. Chairman Turck adjourned the meeting at 10:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Gary Turck
Chairman, Governance Committee