The Development Authority of the North Country Finance Committee met in regular session in Conference Room 100, 1st Floor, Dulles State Office Building, Watertown, New York, on Thursday, February 25, 2015.

**Members Present:**
Margaret Murray, Chairperson
John B. Johnson, Jr.
Thomas Hefferon

**Members Absent:**
Fredrick Carter
Mary Reidy Doheny

**Staff Present:**
James W. Wright, Executive Director
Carl Farone, Comptroller
Laura Tousant, Deputy Comptroller
Michelle Capone, Director, Regional Development
Richard LeClerc, Manager, Solid Waste
Patricia Pastella, Manager, Water Quality
Carrie Tuttle, Engineering Director
David Wolf, Manager, Telecommunications
Jo Anne Yaddow, Executive Assistant
Angela Marra, Administrative Assistant

**Other Board Members Present:**
Gary Turck, Chairman BOD
Alfred Calligaris
Alex MacKinnon

**Guest Present:**
Richard James, Authority Counsel

1. Chairperson Murray opened the meeting at 11:00 am and turned the meeting over to C. Farone.

   Preliminary budget has been updated – executive recommendations goes to finance comm and they have a month to deliberated and they meet before annual and have recommendations, adopted at annual meeting -

   Overview – summary to identify the state of the authority’s finances and is consistent with what was provided at budget work session.

   Operating Trends –
   Budgetary Risks Assessment and was recommended last year by ABO – took last year’s risks (red part) – progress listed.
Revisions and Reconciliations – ABO recommended as well….
Regional Initiatives –

Budget Elements – Added personnel section consolidating all into one section – classification changes, positions added, wage pool, retiree health insurance…etc. Benefits are reducing – decline in rates.

QUESTION - Brian – insurance premiums went up do you have a tier program? jww – no they are established in three levels and determined according to individual requirements of employee.

Critical Issues – list these out --

Information and Data -

Budget docs for each unit – broken down by division…

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QUESTION – Brian asked why the prof fees decreased and he was aware of Professional fees increasing last year – 2015-2016 doubled….carl will have to check jww engineering services most likely….modified budget jcc contract and Massena diversification project…(per mlc)….

Capital plan –

SW relocation project

Pg 153 – Reserve and Debt Service –

QUESTION: AL C This is in addition to regular reserves, correct? Carl – yes.

Debt Service –
Any questions????? Adjourn at noon -

- Solid Waste Interest Expense – Increased by $195,128 to cover the interest on bonding for capital projects.
- Solid Waste Tip Fee – Reduce the replacement reserve commitment to $1.00 per ton to provide for cash flow to cover Increase Interest expense.
- Solid Waste Replacement Reserve – Upon retirement of outstanding bond issues of 1995 and 1997, the debt service reserve balances will be Board designated to the replacement reserve fund.
- Telecommunications – Capital budget for cybersecurity was moved to operations and increased from $25K to $35K. This is to include ongoing testing of telecommunications and Authority information technology systems.
- Interest Earnings – Increased to $973,344 to reflect current market projections; budget also contains a market to market adjustment to better reflect actual interest earnings.
- Regional Development budget for JCC Regional Study increased from $10,000 to $15,000 to include St. Lawrence County quality of life survey.
- Regional Development budget added $15,000 for legal fees related to Florelle Paper loan recovery.
- Community Rental Housing Reserve – Board designated Community Rental Housing reserve of $4,000,000 is recommended to be discontinued and the funds Board designated as an Administrative Reserve.
- Army Waterline appropriated $25,000 from operations repair and maintenance to capital improvements and apply $55,000 of remaining Army capital reserves, reducing rates to Army and outside users.

11. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Murray
Chairman, Finance and Budget Committee