

DRAFT

The Onondaga County Water Authority met in regular session on March 17, 2010. Members of the Authority present were R. Tomeny, F. Picardi, W. Simmons, E. Gilligan and S. Miller.

Others present: M. Hooker, A. Geiss, T. Pickard, L. Khanzadian, G. Miller, C. Marvin and L. Ciarla and B. Dumond from Dermody, Burke & Brown.

I. R. Tomeny called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

II. Minutes of the meeting of February 10, 2010 were approved by all Members on Motion by F. Picardi, duly seconded by E. Gilligan.

II. M. HOOKER REPORTED:

- M. Hooker introduced Curt Marvin, Accounting Manager, to review OCWA's annual audit performed by Dermody, Burke & Brown. Requested a motion to recess to Audit Committee.

On Motion by R. Tomeny, duly seconded by F. Picardi, with all Members approving, the Board adjourned the regular Board meeting and convened as the Audit Committee.

- A copy of the Minutes of the Audit Committee is attached to these Minutes.

On Motion by R. Tomeny, duly seconded by E. Gilligan, with all Members approving, the Board reconvened the regular Board meeting at 1:35p.m. Present were all Board members and staff previously noted.

- The Board received and reviewed the report of the Audit Committee.

On Motion by E. Gilligan, duly seconded by S. Miller, with all Members approving, the Board agreed to accept and adopt the recommendations of the Audit Committee as listed below:

- Audit report for 2009 accepted and approved.
- Operations & Accomplishments approved for submission to the ABO
- Annual submission to Public Authorities Reporting Information System (PARIS) approved.
- Discussed status of the Professional services agreement for the printing and mailing of OCWA's water bill which will expire October 2010. Currently working on developing a RFP that will encompass the necessary services for printing and mailing of OCWA bills.
- The Board reviewed and discussed OCWA's recently implemented Professional Services Procurement Procedure which is outlined in the Procurement Policy and Guidelines. The Board indicated that compliance with the outlined guidelines and procedures would be required.
- Bid solicitation for light vehicle maintenance is being developed and in the interim OCWA uses ARI under state contract. OCWA will evaluate and compare the two services to determine the lowest cost solution.
- M. Hooker will attend the AWWA annual congressional fly-in and the Water Utility Council spring meeting, March 23 - 26, 2010.
- T. Pickard will attend the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies annual Water Policy Conference, March 21-24, 2010.
- Attended the Onondaga County, State of the County Address on March 2, 2010. A meeting is scheduled with County Executive, Mahoney and Jean Smiley on March 29, 2010. Also have a meeting scheduled with J. Rhinehart Chairman of the County Legislature, on March 18, 2010 at 1pm.

- Reminded everyone of OCWA's participation in the upcoming Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce Business Show on March 25.
- Reported that a copy of the Assembly Bill related to OCWA's Main Extension Contracts for Town water districts was sent to Joan Christensen, NYS Assembly member, as requested.
- Reported on potential Key Bank 2001 Bond refinancing. OCWA has the opportunity to refinance the 2001 Bond series at a lower interest rate while maintaining the current timeframe.
- Provided an update on the ARRA funding. OCWA is one of sixteen recipients.
- Discussed the topic of hydrofracking and consideration of OCWA's property. Discussed some of the unknown and unanswered questions that exist and OCWA's objective of providing quality water to customers. Reviewed watershed regulations and the need for OCWA to make a statement on Hydrofracking.

On Motion by F. Picardi, duly seconded by S Miller, with all Members approving, the Board resolved that OCWA will not allow leases on OCWA owned properties for any hydrofracking operation, at this time, due to concerns and that OCWA further resolved to forward a letter to the NYSDEC recommending that DEC consider adopting specific regulations and/or permit requirements regarding hydrofracking operations to address watershed protection needs of public drinking water utilities.

- M. Hooker reviewed the Authority Budget Office (ABO) policies, previously distributed by e-mail. Specifically, Board members will need to acknowledge their Fiduciary duty, sign off and submit by May 1, 2010. Requested that the completed form be returned by the next Board meeting. In addition, we are required to submit our mission statement and performance measures.
- Reminded Board members of the need to sign up for the upcoming Public Authorities Accountability Act training scheduled online on March 19 and March 26.

IV. A. GEISS REPORTED:

- Reviewed the Chief Engineer's Report.
- Provided an update on the Otisco Lake level which is currently at +3"
- Western and Eastern tank projects are active construction sites and progress at both locations is on schedule.
- Update on the Storm water permit for the Eastern site which is being modified to allow infiltration basins.
- Reported on a tank overflow on Intrepid Lane. The water flowed onto the site of an adjacent construction project. An insurance claim has been filed and OCWA is evaluating alternatives.
- Advised the Board of the AWWA Heroism award that will be given to T. Robinson for his heroic efforts in saving a life at the scene of a car accident. This award is being presented at the New York State AWWA annual meeting and is one of two being awarded nationally.
- G. Miller provided an update on OCWA's capital projects.
- Reviewed the Water Treatment Plant project which is in the final phases of construction. Presented information on project costs to date. Reviewed amendments to both the Stearns & Wheler and Scadatek contracts and also reviewed the proposed Change order #11 for C.O. Falter as outlined below:
 - Requested an amendment to Scadatek contract to include additional programming for data acquisition and instrumentation which will result

in improved system design. Also includes moving from a centralized control center to a distributed process center which will ultimately allow us greater system operability. The cost of these enhancements is \$73,500.00

On Motion by E. Gilligan, duly seconded by W. Simmons, with all Members approving, the Board authorized the amendment to the Scadatek contract totaling \$73,500.00.

-Requested an amendment to the Stearns & Wheler contract for additional construction engineering, project representative services, computerized maintenance, management and post-construction phase services. The cost of these changes totals \$46,600.00

On Motion by F. Picardi, duly seconded by E. Gilligan, with all Members approving, the Board authorizes the amendment to the Stearns & Wheler contract totaling \$46,600.0 as outlined.

-Reviewed the proposed change Order #11 for CO Falter which includes 18 items. The items include electrical improvements, eliminating carpet in main hallway and replacing with tile, regrouting and repairing troughs, replacing valves; a new polymer feed panel, replacement of lighting and other items. Will get finalized pricing for review at the April Board meeting.

- T. Geiss reported on the proposed construction of a sixteen inch diameter water line at Eastern tank. Applying to MWB for a connection.
- The Otisco Lake Weed Group received a \$60,000.00 grant for work on Otisco Lake. OCWA will participate in the group and assist in the survey process.
- Discussed the Watershed guidelines and the plan to update them.
- Reviewed the Vesper Hills development and mentioned that the water study is incomplete.

V. LEGAL REPORT

- Reviewed Legal report
- T. Pickard requested that the regular Board meeting convene as the Governance Committee

On Motion by R. Tomeny, duly seconded by E. Gilligan, at 3:30pm, with all Members approving, the Board adjourned their regular meeting and reconvened as the Governance Committee.

- A copy of the Minutes of the Governance Committee is attached to these Minutes.

On Motion by S. Miller, duly seconded by W. Simmons, with all Members approving, the Board adjourned the Governance Committee and reconvened the regular Board meeting.

- Distributed for review, an amendment to the by-laws of OCWA to establish a Finance Committee.

On Motion by S. Miller, duly seconded by F. Picardi, with all Members approving the Board tabled the discussion of amending the OCWA by-laws for review at the April 2010 Board meeting.

- Reviewed the requirements and actions of the Public Authorities Accountability Act.
- Reviewed and discussed the letter from the NYS Comptroller on Board Member Compensation. The Onondaga County Water Authority is required to respond to the Comptrollers recommendations by April 29, 2010.

- Bid A-2010 Tank Industry Consultants, Inc. reviewed the bids for painting and repairing of the “Coye Road Tank” and “New Westvale Tank”. The low bidder was significantly below the project cost estimate and the other bidders. At OCWA’s request, TIC contacted the lowest bidder, Worldwide Industries Corporation in order to confirm their understanding of the specifications and review their bid price. Worldwide confirmed their understanding and their bid. It was noted that certain items required to be submitted with bid were outlined and submitted subsequently upon request by TIC.

On Motion by E. Gilligan, duly seconded by S. Miller, with all Members approving, the Board waived the irregularity of the receipt of the items after bids were opened.

On Motion by E. Gilligan, duly seconded by S. Miller, with all Members approving, the Board approved the recommendation of accepting the lowest responsible bidder, Worldwide Industries Corporation and awarded the firm the contract.

On Motion by W. Simmons, duly seconded by S. Miller, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting at 5:10p.m.

The next Authority meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 12:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Khanzadian, Recording Secretary