

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

HELD AT HEADQUARTERS, HIGHLAND, N.Y. ON  
February 19, 2015

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Business agenda documents/reports are mailed to the Board Members and General Counsel one week prior to the meeting. Board meetings are web cast and are available on-line.

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Gerentine, Richard A., Chairman  
Ramaglia, Joseph, Vice Chairman  
Higgins, Roger P., Commissioner  
Lashua, C. Vane, Commissioner

OFFICERS:

Ruggiero, Joseph, Secretary  
Bushek, Brian, Treasurer  
Whitbeck, Carl G., Counsel

ABSENT:

Dressel, Roderick O., Commissioner

Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm. Chairman Gerentine asked for a motion to adopt the amended agenda. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia the amended agenda was approved unanimously. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 15, 2015 Regular meeting. On motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Lashua, the minutes of the January 15, 2015 Regular meeting were adopted unanimously.

ENGINEERING:1) 2015 In-House Capital Improvement Program

Mr. Wright explained to the Board that based upon the most recent inspections, the Authority's Maintenance and Engineering department, along with its General Consultant, Modjeski & Masters, has developed both an update to the five year capital plan and a series of in-house capital improvements. These in-house projects are necessary and can be accomplished with the Authority's own forces. Significant savings is generated by performing these tasks in-house versus by contract; the projected savings is \$1,040,225.00. A brief discussion followed relative to cost savings over time. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-007

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to authorize the in-house capital projects as recommended by the Authority's Consulting Engineer; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority continues to invest in cost saving measures utilizing our in- house maintenance skills wherever practical; the projected savings generated by performing these tasks in-house versus by contract is \$1,040,225.00; and,

WHEREAS, the scope of work for these projects has been developed by the Engineering Department and determined to be necessary for the continued safe and efficient operation of the bridges by the General Consultant; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that this Board authorizes the 2015 In-House Capital Projects in the amount of \$ 948,875.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015.

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 Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

2) 2015 System-Wide Type II Treated Salt Procurement

Mr. Wright informed the Board that he would like to purchase Type II treated salt off of OGS contract to supply the Authority's facilities for the 2015 season. The Snow/Ice Control Agents contract, Group 32100, is in effect from January 2015 until September 2016. The contract we used to purchase salt in November of 2014 expired on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Although the Authority will need to do individual purchase orders for each location, Mr. Wright asked for Board approval of the cost as a total because the salt will be provided by one single vendor, Morton Salt Inc., of Chicago, Illinois. A brief discussion followed relative to the supply that was currently on hand for this year. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-008

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the Board has determined it is in the Authority's interest to award a contract to supply Type II treated winter deicing salt; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority has previously purchased this product through the NYSOGS contract which is in place until September 2016; and,

WHEREAS, Morton Salt, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois provided the low quote; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority award five purchase orders, one for each facility, with a total amount not to exceed \$102,006.10; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

3) Toll Collection Operation Touch Panel Acquisition

Mr. Wright explained that touch screens are a part of our toll collection process. The original panels we purchased in 2009 can no longer be repaired. The Authority would like to purchase replacements to supplant those original units so that we may exchange them as they come to the end of their useful lives. A quote was given from GCF-Inc., the single source provider, for the purchase of ten (10) LCD 15" touch screens at the price of \$2,964.00 each for a total of \$29,640.00. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Vice Chairman Ramaglia, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-009

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, LCD touch screen panels are a part of the Authority's toll collection operations; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined it is in the Authority's interest to replace touch screen panels which can no longer be repaired; and

WHEREAS, GCF-INC, of Northvale, New Jersey is the single source supplier of these items and has provided the Authority with a quotation; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority award a purchase order to GCF-INC for ten (10) 15" LCD TOUCH 5015 D IP VESA panels with a total amount not to exceed \$29,640.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

4) Jobs in Progress

Mr. Wright advised the Board regarding the Engineering Jobs in Progress Report for the month of January. Mr. Wright mentioned that the Newburgh-Beacon South Span redecking is on schedule. Mr. Wright also said that the Mid-Hudson Bridge dehumidification Project is in design phase. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-010

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the monthly Engineering Progress Report on Capital Project Status; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Engineering Progress Report is accepted as an instrument documenting the Board's briefing of Capital Construction activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19th day of February 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

FINANCIAL:1) Investment Transaction Report

Mr. Bushek reviewed the Investment Report for the month of November noting five investments for the month. Investment yields slightly rose towards the end of the year. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Lashua, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-011

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the investment control procedures for the New York State Bridge Authority provide that the Board shall review and approve the report of investment transactions completed since the meeting of the Board on January 15, 2015; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby concur with and approve the investment report as filed with this body on this date for the purpose noted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

2) Insurance Fund Balance Determination

Mr. Bushek indicated to the Board that per requirements of its General Revenue Bond Resolution, the Authority maintains insurance policies to protect it against various risks. Where insurance carries a significant deductible, such as with the property damage and loss of revenue policy on the bridges, the Authority has determined to deposit in the Insurance Fund an amount necessary to cover the deductible. As evidenced by the Professional Certificate from Modjeski & Masters, Inc., independent Consulting Engineer, the Insurance Fund balance necessary to equal the deductible amount is now \$10,235,000, determined by multiplying the \$341,138,000 replacement value of the South Span at Newburgh-Beacon by the 3% deductible amount. As such, Mr. Bushek proposed increasing the Insurance Fund balance to \$10,235,000. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-012

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the report relative to determining the adequate balance in the Insurance Fund; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the balance shall be increased from \$10,027,380 for 2014, to \$10,235,000 for 2015 as recommended by the consulting Engineers, Modjeski and Masters, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

BRIDGE OPERATIONS:1) NYS Thruway Invoice – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter E-ZPass Expenses

Mr. Ferguson along with Mr. Savosky have reviewed the invoice from the New York State Thruway Authority for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2014 Bridge Authority E-ZPass expenses for the period October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 and, as such, find them to be true and accurate and recommend that they be paid in the amount of \$904,952.02. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-013

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the report relative to the payment to the New York State Thruway Authority for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2014 Bridge Authority E-ZPass costs in the amount of \$904,952.02; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this payment is hereby approved at a cost not to exceed \$904,952.02; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2014.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary



REPORTS TO BOARD:1) Monthly Activity Report of the Executive Director

The Monthly Activity Report was submitted by Executive Director Joseph Ruggiero noting no expenditures.

2) January 2015 Traffic and Revenue Analysis

Mr. Ruggiero noted for the month of January traffic decreased 1.18% and revenue decreased 1.06%. No action was required by the Board.

3) January 2015 E-ZPass Sales Analysis

Mr. Ruggiero indicated that year-to-date 2015 tag sales were 348, compared to 546 sold year-to-date 2014. No action was required by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:1) Employment Agreements

Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-014

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York State Public Authorities Law, the Board of the Authority is the employer for the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director for purposes of fixing compensation and evaluating performance;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Authority is authorized and directed to enter into employment agreements with Joseph Ruggiero, as Executive Director, and Tara Sullivan, as Deputy Executive Director, for a term of one (1) year to commence March 1, 2015, it being the intention of the Board to consider renewing such employment agreements on an annual basis commencing March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

2) Telecommunications Consultant

In 2012 the Authority procured the professional services of a telecommunications consultant to assist the Authority with the marketing and contracting of Fiber Optic Leases to generate revenue for the Authority. Broadband Consulting was selected at that time and has performed admirably for the Authority. Through 2022, the Authority can expect \$1.278 million in net revenue from current fiber optic leases (gross amount approx. \$1.5M) and several additional leases are currently under discussion. New fiber optic leases tend to be long-term propositions taking more than a year from initial contact to actual contract. Through knowledge of the industry and marketing NYSBA opportunities, Broadband Consulting has brought new clients and new prospects to the Authority and has well positioned the Authority to generate additional revenue from dark fiber. Broadband Consulting has also become well versed in NYSBA infrastructure, the characteristics of each of our facilities and the opportunities at each facility for future potential. In addition, Broadband has worked well with NYSBA management, staff and fiber optic vendors to facilitate a smooth implementation of current contracts and the exploration of new opportunities. With a broad-based experience in the telecom industry, Broadband Consulting has also provided advice on telephone, connectivity and internet services, seeking lower costs and greater functionality for future services at the Authority. Based on the successful track record and in accordance with the terms of the agreement with Broadband Consulting Services, Mr. Ruggiero recommended renewing Broadband Consulting Services agreement for an additional two-year period. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-015

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, leasing excess dark fiber optic strands, negotiating favorable fiber optic agreements, implementing dark fiber plant configurations and securing efficient data services are in the best interest of the Authority; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with its procurement policy, the Authority advertised for the professional services of a consultant with experience in this specialized industry to assist in these complex activities; and,

WHEREAS, after consideration of all proposals the Authority awarded contract number BA-2012-OA-010-PS to Broadband Consulting Services in 2012; and,

WHEREAS Broadband Consulting Services has provided valuable service to the Authority resulting in new dark fiber leases totaling over \$1.5 million, provided competent consultation regarding telephone and connectivity services, represented the Authority at professional trade shows, significantly added to the marketing of Authority assets and is currently in a multi-year process that is expected to result in additional dark fiber leases with new customers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with the terms of the agreement executed for contract number BA-2012-OA-010-PS, the agreement with Broadband Consulting Services is renewed under its existing terms for a period of two additional years; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement and take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

3) Execution of Fiber Optic Lease with QCSTelecom

The Authority has negotiated a new fiber optic lease with QCSTelecom for 48 excess dark fibers over the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. This lease is for a 10-year period and is expected to generate an up-front one-time payment of \$535,260. The lease is consistent with the dark fiber leasing program and has been approved by Counsel. As the co-location rooms and dark fiber infrastructure at the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge are already in place, the Authority will have no additional infrastructure costs to execute this lease. All costs to access the Authority co-location rooms will be the responsibility of QCSTelecom, subject to the Authority's approval. As part of the approval process for these revenue generating leases, Mr. Ruggiero requested the Board of Commissioners to authorize the Executive Director to enter into this lease agreement with QCSTelecom, Inc. Chairman Gerentine called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Lashua, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY  
BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 015-016

Resolution Date: February 19, 2015

WHEREAS, leasing excess dark fiber optic strands has become a significant source of non-toll revenue for the Authority; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Authority, the Authority may execute fiber optic leases for up to ten years; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Authority to continue to pursue appropriate non-toll revenue consistent with the Authority's mission; and

WHEREAS, Authority General Counsel has approved the lease as to form and ready to execute;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a revenue generating fiber optic lease with QCSTelecom, Inc. for a period of up to ten years; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement and take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

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Joseph Ruggiero, Secretary

This concluded the regular meeting. Chairman Gerentine asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion of Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Vice Chairman Ramaglia and approved unanimously, the regular meeting adjourned at 3:24 P.M.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2015 at 3:00 P.M. at Headquarters.