

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2006 – 3:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Thompson; Supervisors Hunter, Janik, Keyrouze, Lucia, Peck, M. Johnson, Wood, Trottier, Sausville, and Raymond; D. Wickerham, County Administrator; Joe Ritchey, DPW; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Press.

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Janik, seconded by Mr. Hunter the minutes of the August 1, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

Ms Raymond said the Batchlerville Bridge is deteriorating, and every year it is more and more in eminent danger of being shut down. There has always been a question as to ownership of the bridge, which was built by the regulating district. The New York State Department of Transportation has always contended that that it is not theirs because it is not on the State Highway system. The lawyers in DOT and in Senator Bruno's office have indicated that they feel that it is not a real "slam dunk", it is a real question of who owns it. In 1928 the county, by resolution, supported a report from a member that said that they wanted a bridge in Edinburg and if necessary they would help pay for it. In 1982 the County, by resolution, said it was their bridge and took \$3,000 in federal money to re-deck it.

The accommodation that is being offered by Senator Bruno's office, the State of New York and Congressman Sweeney's office is a combination of Federal and State money that would pay 100% of the cost of the new bridge. The understanding that once the bridge is constructed, complete and passes inspection, is that it will be turned over to the county.

Ms. Raymond said certainly the best of all worlds would be if it belonged to the Regulating District and they would build a new bridge. The reality is that if the Regulating District were to own the bridge, they will not build a new bridge.

Ms. Raymond said this is a \$35 million project that will be built on our behalf. She asked for the support of the committee to move forward with the project.

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Lucia to authorize the Board of Supervisors to accept a newly constructed bridge over the Sacandaga Reservoir at Batchellerville subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Lucia the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom