

WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

October 6, 2006 – 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Callanan; Supervisors Connors, Thompson, Wood, Gutheil; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Wes Carr, Project Coordinator; Dan Loewenstein, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.; Ed Vopelak, C.T. Male; Wilma Koss, Saratoga Lake Association; Press

Chairman Callanan called the meeting to order.

Mr. Wood moved to approve the minutes of the meetings of August 7 and August 29, 2006. Mr. Connors seconded. Unanimous.

Copies of Malcolm Pirnie's Water Treatment And Transmission Facilities Design Progress Report for October were distributed, and Mr. Loewenstein reviewed its contents:

1. Raw Water Pump Station and Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Design:
 - a. The design for the Raw Water Pump Station and WTP was revised to incorporate NYS DOH comments. Final NYS DOH approval was conditionally granted upon submission of final construction documents.
 - b. Finalized General Conditions for Saratoga County requirements with County Attorney and Purchasing Office.
 - c. Coordinated with National Grid for electrical service for the Raw Water Pump Station.
 - d. Redesigned electrical service to the Water Treatment Plant to incorporate 13.5 KV service.
2. Transmission Main and Water Storage Tank:
 - a. Pipeline plan and profile contracts were revised to incorporate NYS DOH comments. Final NYS DOH approval was conditionally granted upon submission of final construction documents.
 - b. Completed the preparation of the pipeline easement descriptions and maps and submitted to land owners for execution.
3. Permitting:
 - a. County responded to comments from the USACE.
 - b. Responded to the USFWS's technical comments regarding the wetland mitigation plan and endangered species issues.
 - c. Received sign-off from USFWS on endangered species issues for wetland mitigation site.
 - d. Review of the Compensatory Wetland Mitigation Plan by the USACE is ongoing.
 - e. Responded to NYS DEC comments on Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs). Two of three SWPPPs have been approved. The Transmission Main SWPPP approval is pending. Notice of Intents (NOIs) will be filed prior to construction.

- f. Completed Phase 1B archeology investigation at the proposed Wetland Mitigation site.
 - g. NYS DOT Highway Permit applications have been submitted.
4. Bidding:
- a. Documents are being prepared for distribution and bidding.
 - b. Plans and specifications will be available on October 10th.
5. Planned Progress:
- a. Submission of final construction documents to NYS DOH for final approval.
 - b. Conduct Prebid Meetings.
 - c. Bids due between November 7th and November 22nd.

Mr. Loewenstein stated they met with DEC, and they told us they are writing the water supply permit. The wetland permit is the last thing they will have to sign off on, he said.

Mr. Gutheil said he met with Skidmore yesterday. They have a master plan, and we may want some communication with them in case we need to put a valve somewhere, he said. Mr. Loewenstein said there could be a change order once it is under construction. Mr. Connors asked if someone will be in touch with Skidmore. Mr. Gutheil said he urged their facilities man to call. Mr. Vopelak stated they will get an easement from them along one of the roads. Mr. Gutheil said they did ask questions about the routing.

Mr. Thompson asked if Skidmore buys water from Saratoga. Mr. Gutheil said he believes they do, but they have a long term vision. I will leave that up to them and you people, he said.

Chairman Callanan stated an RFP was sent out for a financial advisor to put funding together for this project. We have received five responses to that, he said. He said he would like volunteers for a subcommittee to interview them along with the County Attorney. Mr. Connors asked if the role of the financial advisor was beyond the scope of the County. Is there a policy, he asked. Mr. Rider said he believes for a big job like this, they would give us guidance as to where to go and what to do. Mr. Hellwig said the same thing was done with the Sewer District. It is a process that requires expert advice and someone who works in that market, he said.

Chairman Callanan appointed the whole Water Committee to interview for a financial advisor. Mr. Gutheil said the whole thing is to get the highest rates you can. Each one covers things other might not have, he said. To me, the fee shouldn't be the most important thing. The bond rating is the most critical, he added. Chairman Callanan said these five people will be contacted for interviews on October 17th at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Connors said he is a little concerned with the technical aspects of this. How do we protect the County and residents so that we ask all of the right questions, he asked. Chairman Callanan said it will be up to the Committee to ask the right questions. He said maybe it will be appropriate to have a pre-meeting on October 17th which will be an informational meeting along with the County Treasurer and Lemery Greisler.

Mr. Thompson asked about the draft contracts. Chairman Callanan stated right now, there are negotiations going on at the State level to finalize contracts with AMD.

Mr. Connors said he understands the Water Authority will be appointed to administer the project and be responsible for day-to-day operations of the plant. Mr. Rider said yes, and at some point, they will own the easements and equipment.

Mr. Thompson asked where are we going with some of these little companies. He knows of a man (Tom Samascott) who is interested in getting water brought to him, but no one has reached out to him. Chairman Callanan said he has spoken to him, and he is just off East Line Road. Mr. Vopelak said he told Mr. Samascott's engineer that this was conceivable. Chairman Callanan said Mr. Samascott is located on Raymond Road. He has to get an agreement to meter it, he said. We would be happy to bring him in, he added. He requested that anyone with questions should be directed to him, and we will make a contact, he said.

On a motion by Mr. Connors, seconded by Mr. Wood, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann