

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING

August 10, 2009 – 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Thompson; Supervisors Hargrave, Hunter, M. Johnson, Wormuth; Peck, Veitch; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Joe Ritchey, Ricky Gardner, DPW-Buildings; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Vincent Cozzolino, Petra Klein, The Solar Energy Consortium; Press

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order.

Mr. Hargrave moved to approve the minutes of the July 13th meeting. Mr. Hunter seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Cozzolino stated the TSEC is completely funded by the US Department of Energy, and the State of New York has given them \$1.5 million to purchase equipment. We work with New York State and the Empire State Development Corp, he said. He said they charge nothing for what they do. We invest in research and development projects with industry and colleges of New York. We promote getting technologies commercialized faster, he stated. He said they recently announced a number of companies that are coming to New York State. We help them by granting them money that we get from the federal government, he said. We also do solar projects for communities across the State, he said. In this case, we took a look at the County's solar system (Building No. 5), and you were prolific many years ago, he stated. He said in terms of funding, they access all of the grants that the County could, but they understand how to put them together. He mentioned there is a NYSERDA grant, 1613, which is a 100% grant for municipalities, and the first round is August 24th, and it is part of the Stimulus plan. I believe we know enough about the technology to put the grant in if you wanted it, he said. We can be the technical arm to help you, he added. We will help you identify what your options are to fix that solar system, and we may recommend a geothermal system. He said your system is 20% heat of the building. We can assign a couple of our project managers and sit down with you to see what makes sense, he stated. We can also talk about what other buildings you own and discuss solar electric and LED lighting, he said.

Ms. Klein said you would be eligible for complete reimbursement from NYSERDA, and there are four rounds of this grant. Mrs. Johnson asked how complicated the application was. Mr. Cozzolino said it doesn't look that bad, but they would have to put some math in there, and they have to convert everything to BTU hours. We would have to decide whether to fix this current system or go to geothermal, he said. Mr. Ritchey stated there is no risk in the beginning. This is just getting in the grant, and down the road, there would be a contract. Chairman Thompson asked if the fluid in these systems is antifreeze, and Mr. Cozzolino said yes. Chairman Thompson asked if that has to be changed every year. Mr. Cozzolino said no, the new solar thermal modules are self-contained. Mr. Ritchey said they were advised that the County's glycol should have been changed, but we had no idea. He said the Committee can apply for the grant, but you would need Board action to accept it. Mr. Cozzolino said there is another round in October. Chairman Thompson asked Mr. Cozzolino if they can tell us what it will cost for a new system, and Mr. Cozzolino said yes. It was the consensus of the Committee to have Mr. Ritchey apply for this grant.

Mr. Ritchey gave an update on some of the Airport projects. He said a grant was received from the New York State Airport Business Development which is 90% State and 10% local. Bids were open on the rehabilitation of the taxiways and apron on August 4. The low bidder was Kubricky for \$1,913,856.95. A part of that grant was for replacement of the old hangar, and those bids were received June 11th. The low bidder was Eastern Building and Restoration for \$482,832.40. He said the taxiway project will probably start in three weeks, and the hangar in two weeks. He stated the Board accepted a grant from the State for the construction of a water main and hydrant. The low bidder was Sparks Excavating for \$95,900, and that work should be started in about three weeks. Mrs. Johnson asked how many bids came in for the water main, and Mr. Ritchey said about 14. He said the off airport obstruction removal design has been done, but we have not been given a grant for that as yet. We may possibly get that grant in October, he said. He said that process will continue for many years, because there are different levels of obstruction. He stated the rehabilitation of the airport beacon was done last year. He said repaving of the access roads will be done in-house in a month or two. He stated the Automated Weather Observation Station (AWOS) was replaced and is up and running. We are fine-tuning the electrical protection, he added. We will try to do the reconstruction of the parking lot in-house in the fall, he said.

Chairman Thompson asked who is responsible for fixing the landing lights. Mr. Gardner said the maintenance of those lights has been turned over to North American.

On a motion of Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Hunter, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann