

APPROVED MINUTES

**SARATOGACOUNTYSEWER COMMISSION No. 1
MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2020
3:00 PM at the Treatment Plant**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bisnett, Cannon, Doyle, Fillion, Hotaling, Keegan, Loewenstein

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Howe and Thompson

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Assistant Chief Operator, Gene Hutchings; William Bills, Maintenance Manager; Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Chad M. Cooke P.E., Deputy County Administrator; Michael P. Naughton, Assistant County Attorney

Acting Chairman Bisnett called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Fillion

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of February 6, 2020. *Commissioner Hotaling made a motion to approve the minutes of February 6, 2020. Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of February 6, 2020 were approved. 6 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2018 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Regional Biosolids Handling Facility – Executive Director Rourke reported he attended a productive workshop on February 20, 2020 where options were discussed. Attached to the agenda packet was a summary of the sensitivity analysis performed on the different options. Executive Director Rourke went over the options and that were discussed at the workshop. He said we are looking to raise the overall capital cost to \$56M to include a dryer. This dryer increases the capital cost from \$48M to \$56M. The increased cost also allows us to submit for increased grant funding from \$5M to \$12.5M, thereby keeping the total out of pocket cost similar. The capital cost share ratio will remain the same (50% Saratoga 50% Albany), with Saratoga’s share being \$28M. He said we would need a motion to amend the BOS Resolution 170-2018 to increase the total capital cost of the project to \$56M with a Bond Resolution to follow next month.

Deputy County Administrator Cooke inquired the reason for a motion now vs. later in concert with the Bond Resolution. Executive Director Rourke informed he wanted to discuss now to see what best makes sense while it is fresh in everyone's minds. He said there are a lot of technical aspects and it is a time sensitive issue that needs to be approved in one motion or two. Therefore, he suggested acting on it today at the Commission level and motion it forward to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) when appropriate.

Commissioner Cannon made a motion to forward a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to amend Resolution 170-2018 increasing the total capital cost of the Regional Biosolids Handling Facility from \$48,500,000.00 to \$56,000,000.00 with a Bond Resolution to follow next month. Commissioner Loewenstein seconded the motion. Discussion involved options for disposal, costs for disposal, energy and hauling as well as increased capital costs. Further discussion involved other benefits for increased production as well. Motion passed: 7 Ayes, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.

Executive Director Rourke shared some exciting news with the Commission. He said that Albany County and Saratoga County won an award for Intermunicipal Cooperation for their Regional Biosolids Treatment Facility project. The Capital District Regional Planning Commission will be presenting the 2020 Erastus Corning, 2nd Awards for Intermunicipal Cooperation to municipalities and organizations on March 26, 2020.

Ammonia Related WWTP Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke reported we are still working through the pilot and starting to see some positive results, but the engineer is still looking into some other options should this pilot not come into compliance with our future limits. He said he will continue to update the Commission and NYSDEC should a global shift in the solution be needed.

Interceptor Rehabilitation Design – Executive Director Rourke reported the Interceptor Rehabilitation Design is continuing and still slated to be completed by summer. He said the engineer updated the cost estimate for the project to \$29,800,000.00 with a \$4M contingency. Attached to the agenda packet was an example letter that will be going out to municipalities affected by this work. Executive Director Rourke informed that he and the engineer will be looking to meet with each municipality to ensure they understand the scope and extent of the work to be done and any issues it may cause.

Commissioner Loewenstein inquired if Executive Director Rourke would like Commissioners present at any of the meetings. Executive Director Rourke said Commissioners may be involved and he would keep them apprised on meetings and will include them in municipal response letters.

2019 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Knox Woods (HM) and Riverside #1 (ST) Pump Station Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke reported he was working on replying to NYSDEC comments that were received a couple weeks ago. He said most of the comments were minor and the project is slated for award to contractors at our May meeting at the latest.

Interceptor Rehabilitation Phase VIIA – Executive Director Rourke reported the contractor is still waiting for the weather to continue to finish restoration and manhole rehabilitation. The contractor continues to work with NYSDEC on mitigation and direction with regard to the overflow incident last month.

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Environmental Benefit Project (EBP) Service Agreement – Executive Director Rourke reported he is beginning to get subcontractor pricing on the solar field. The goal is to have a task order with complete construction costs ready for approval from the Commission in April as the project needs to be completed by the end of the year.

Storage Building/HVAC and Roof Replacement Design – Executive Director Rourke reported that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for the design work associated with these upgrades and bids are due by March 26, 2020 with an award to engineer in April.

MISCELLANEOUS

Sewer Use Ordinance – Motion to Recommend Adoption of Local Law

Executive Director Rourke stated this update is required by the EPA. Any comments received at the public hearing will be evaluated for inclusion into the ordinance. The county attorney's office reviewed and modified the order as they saw fit. This ordinance is replacing the last ordinance passed as local law in 1984. This update is required by the EPA. Any comments received at the public hearing will be evaluated for inclusion into the ordinance. The sewer commissions recommend adoption pending any significant changes coming from the public hearing. The county attorney's office reviewed and modified the order as they saw fit. This ordinance is replacing the last ordinance passed as local law in 1984

Commissioner Cannon made a motion to forward a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to adopt of the proposed Sewer Use Ordinance (SUO) and scheduling the Public Hearing. Commissioner Hotaling seconded the motion. Discussion involved timeline for adoption and scheduling a Public Hearing before our Consent Order deadline date of March 31, 2020. Further discussion involved penalties, fines, levies, notices, sole discretion and enforcement. Motion passed: 7 Ayes, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Attorney Naughton said County Attorney Dorsey is preparing final minor edits to the SUO and should have the final version posted on the County website by the end of the day.

DEDICATIONS – None

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hotaling and seconded by Commissioner Doyle. No discussion. The motion passed.

**Next meeting date TBD
3:00 P.M. meeting at the Treatment Plant**