

MINUTES
FINANCE AND BUDGET MEETING
Thursday, February 28, 2019 – 11:30 AM
Conference Room 100, 1st Floor
Dulles State Office Building, Watertown, New York

The Development Authority of the North Country Finance Committee met in regular session in Conference Room 100, 1st Floor, Dulles State Office Building, Watertown, New York, on Thursday, February 28, 2019.

Members Present:

Margaret Murray, Chairperson
Fredrick Carter
Mary Doheny
Thomas Hefferon

Members Absent:

John Johnson Jr.

Other Board Members Present:

Alfred Calligaris
James Hollenbeck
Stephen Hunt
Alex MacKinnon
Dennis Mastascusa

Staff Present:

Michelle Capone, Director Regional Dev
Carl Farone, Comptroller
Laurie Marr, Director of PR and Communications
Brian Nutting, Water Quality
Patricia Pastella, Manager, Materials Management
Jennifer Staples, Director Information Services
Carrie Tuttle, Director, Engineering
David Wolf, Manager, Technology
James W. Wright, Executive Director
Angela Marra, Executive Assistant
Melissa Durant, Administrative Assistant

Guest Present:

Richard James, Authority Counsel

1. Chairperson Murray opened the meeting at 11:12 AM.
2. J. Wright stated the preliminary budget had been updated and budget packets were distributed. J. Wright reviewed the highlights.
 - a. IT personnel from technology into administration, as per the DCAA Audit recommendation.
 - b. Recycling transfer station, acknowledgment of projected annualized operating expenses, waste diversion appropriations.
 - c. Radiation Detection System

J. Hollenbeck asked if the transfer sites have this system in place there as well. J. Wright responded they do not.

A. MacKinnon asked what kind of problems this could result in. J. Wright replied that people such as radiation therapy patients, who do not have much access to a hazardous

waste site, still need to dispose of their waste. Once the radiation has been detected, the landfill is not supposed to take it. The shelf life of the radiation in these items should be short, and it would be able to be taken later. A. MacKinnon further asked if this would register on the equipment. J. Wright responded yes. A. Calligaris asked how this was being administered at home. J. Wright replied that the radiation is residual in your body and excreted in bodily fluids.

d. Landfill Expansion, Recycling Transfer Station, and closure of some cells.

F. Carter asked if this work was being done in house. J. Wright responded that it was all contracted. The Authority does the preparatory work, inspections, and wells. All major earth moving work is contracted.

A. Calligaris asked if we own the litter vacuum. J. Wright replied that it will be purchased. A. Calligaris asked if seasonal help to pick up litter will still be needed with this piece being purchased. J. Wright responded that this will always need to be done. The facility always needs to be prepared for DEC inspections. They have worked with the Authority long enough to know how committed we are to investing in cleanup and pickup.

F. Carter asked if the Authority was still happy with CAT products. J. Wright responded that they are working out exceedingly well. They stand behind their equipment. CAT products have safety features that led the Authority to make those purchases that other brands, to this day, don't provide.

e. Telecommunications upfront payments on contracts.

F. Carter asked if there is anywhere in this report for the last mile connections. J. Wright responded that this still remains a problem. We have received requests for this, but none of the current providers want to make the investment. The state has awarded grant money to the Hughes Network which is a satellite based operation.

f. Reserve Summary

J. Hollenbeck asked if there was funding for maintenance and monitoring of the landfill for 30 years after closure. J. Wright responded that is correct. It is 30 years now, but no one has approached 30 years of being closed. Once they do, that number could change.

J. Wright stated the final budget is being presented to the Board at the annual March Board meeting.

3. J. Wright stated any questions over the next few weeks should be directed to Chairperson Murray.

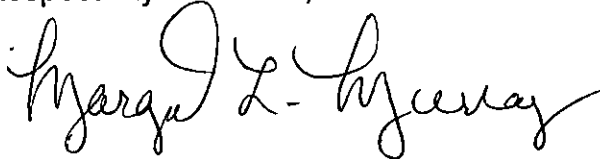
A MacKinnon made a statement, that he had noticed through the Development Authority, we seem to be in the type of businesses; sewer, water, garbage, landfill, that have a potential for disaster. Consequently, he feels it is better the Development Authority be a substantial organization, as opposed to one operating on a shoestring budget. If the unforeseen event were to take place, the water to turn green, you cannot wait for a grant to try and fix it. It is

best to have the capability to go ahead and take care of the problem. J. Wright replied that historically, this has been the Board's philosophy.

M. Murray commented that she would like to thank Carl and the whole staff for putting this all together. This is very easy to read, and the Board appreciates all the hard work.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Margaret L. Murray".

Margaret Murray
Chairman, Finance and Budget Committee