

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

HELD AT HEADQUARTERS, HIGHLAND, N.Y. ON
November 17, 2005

Business agenda documents/reports are mailed to the Board Members and General Counsel one week prior to the meeting.

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Sproat, James P., Chairman
Dressel, Roderick O., Vice Chairman
Paradies, Walter A., Commissioner
Teator, David A., Commissioner

Whitbeck, Carl G., Jr., Esq., Counsel

OFFICERS:

Sinnott, George C., Secretary
Bresnan, James J., Assistant Secretary
Sewell, John R., Treasurer

Chairman Sproat called the regular meeting of the Authority to order at 3:00 P.M. and welcomed the staff and wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Chairman Sproat called for a motion to adopt the minutes of the October 20, 2005 meeting if there were no questions or comments. It was noted that there was a typographical error and was corrected prior to the meeting. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the minutes of the October 20, 2005 regular meeting were adopted unanimously as amended. Chairman Sproat stated that the Chief Engineer, Bill Moreau, would be presenting the Engineering reports.

ENGINEERING:

1) Bear Mountain Bridge Main Cable Southwest Backstay Strengthening Project Award

Mr. Moreau referred the Board's attention to the subject report and stated that four bids were provided and after reviewing the bids, Engineering recommends awarding this contract to the low bidder, Piasecki Steel Construction Corporation, in an amount of \$1,063,250.00. Mr. Moreau stated that Piasecki is one of the most experienced cable contractors in the area. Mr. Moreau further stated that the contractor will modify the west tower top to accommodate the connection of 3-inch diameter strengthening cables and that these cables will be attached to a new foundation anchored into rock. Chairman Sproat asked if the work would begin in the spring of 2006 and Mr. Moreau stated it would. Mr. Moreau noted that the past five years of monitoring the existing cables revealed about ten wire breaks, which would average out to about two a year. Vice Chairman Dressel addressed the concerns for the strength of the main cables and their life span and Mr. Moreau stated that the Authority would need to take in hand the replacement of the cables in approximately 20-25 years but that with this new contract completed the cables will always be monitored. Chairman Sproat supported Mr. Moreau's recommendation and Vice Chairman Dressel agreed. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 05-113

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

WHEREAS, bids were solicited through the New York State Contract Reporter for the contract entitled Bear Mountain Bridge "Main Cable Southwest Backstay Strengthening" (BA2003-RE-103-CM) and four (4) bids were received on November 9, 2005, the low bidder being the firm of Piasecki Steel Construction Corp. at a bid of \$1,063,250.00; and

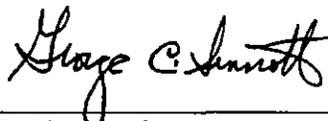
WHEREAS, an environmental review of this project has determined there is no significant negative impact; and

WHEREAS, Piasecki Steel Construction Corp. has previously completed several contracts with the Authority and after further review of the cost proposal by the Engineering Department, it is recommended that a contract be awarded to the firm of Piasecki Steel Construction Corp.; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a contract be awarded to Piasecki Steel Construction Corp. of Castleton, New York in the amount of \$1,063,250.00 pending the filing of proper certifications, and the receipt of bonding and insurance requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of
November 2005



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

2) Bear Mountain Bridge Main Cable Southwest Backstay Strengthening Design and Supervision Award

Mr. Moreau introduced this report stating that at the August Board meeting there was a discussion, which was noted in those minutes, about the advantages of combining the design and supervision responsibilities and awarding this contract to the design engineers, Ammann & Whitney (A&W). At the August meeting, General Counsel stated that there is no legal issue. As such, Engineering recommends awarding this professional service contract to A&W at a cost not-to-exceed \$379,000.00 to provide design support and construction inspection services. Chairman Sproat supported Engineering's recommendation and called for a motion. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Teator, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 005-114

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to award a contract for professional services in connection with the Bear Mountain Bridge "Main Cable (Southwest Backstay) Strengthening" project to be designated (BA-2003-RE-103-DS/SU); and

WHEREAS, as the Engineer of record for providing detailed design documents and monitoring specifications for the strengthening of the main cable southwest backstay, Ammann & Whitney is uniquely qualified to provide design support and construction inspection services; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Engineering Department has reviewed and approved the cost proposal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a professional service agreement be awarded to Ammann & Whitney of New York, New York in an amount not-to-exceed \$379,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of November 2005.



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

3) Headquarters Basement Flood Damage Restoration

Mr. Moreau informed the Board at the last meeting that the Engineering Department had been flooded the weekend of October 15th and 16th and that the entire area was wet upon arrival on Monday, the 17th. Mr. Moreau stated that the eight prior days of rain inundated the sump pump sometime during the weekend and caused a backup of water into the basement and that the carpeting was beyond repair. Various suppliers and contractors were contacted for prices to install light commercial porcelain tile throughout the offices and install an auxiliary sump pump in an existing dry well catch basin. Chairman Sproat asked if the Authority was covered by insurance for these repairs and Mr. Sewell stated no because of how the damage was caused. Mr. Moreau stated that most of the work would be done in house and that the estimated cost would be in the \$20,000.00 range. Vice Chairman Dressel stated that this was an exceptional situation with the first and second rains. Mr. Moreau stated that because most of the work would be done in house he would like to recommend increasing the Engineering's in-house 2005 program by \$20,000.00 with the addition of this project. On motion of Commissioner Teator, seconded by Vice Chairman Dressel, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 005-115

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

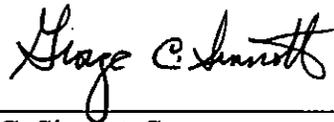
WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to maintain an aggressive capital improvement program; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Board has reviewed the Manager of Maintenance's memo of October 26, 2005, outlining the cost of the adjusted program for 2005; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget of \$232,000.00 be increased by \$20,000.00 to \$252,000.00, with the addition of project BA2005-RE-102-CM.18 "HQ Basement Flood Damage Restoration" listed in the aforementioned memo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of November 2005.



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

4) Systemwide Ice Control Sand

Mr. Moreau stated that as part of the Engineering's maintenance program, this was the time of year to order sand for ice control for the winter and the results of six bids received revealed a company out of Milton, New York as the low bidder. Therefore, Mr. Moreau asked for the Board's approval to purchase this sand from John Noto Trucking, Inc. in an amount of \$15,180.00, which would provide sand for the Newburgh-Beacon and Bear Mountain bridges. This purchase would be for 920 tons of sand. Commissioner Paradies asked about the other facilities and Mr. Moreau stated that the northern bridges are smaller and therefore the purchase of sand for these facilities was not over \$10,000.00 and that a second purchase order would be issued to Route 82 Sand and Gravel, Inc. in the amount of \$4,650.00 for 300 tons of sand for these facilities. Vice Chairman Dressel asked if all the sand was used and where it was kept. Mr. Moreau stated that the companies held the sand at their facility and that maintenance picked it up as needed. Any unused sand would not be charged to the Authority. On motion of Commissioner Paradies, seconded by Chairman Sproat, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 005-116

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

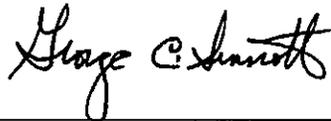
WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to issue a purchase order to John P. Noto Trucking, Inc. for Ice Control Sand. The Ice Control Sand will be distributed to the Newburgh-Beacon bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Engineering Department has reviewed and approved their cost proposal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a purchase order be issued to John P. Noto Trucking, Inc. for Ice Control Sand not-to-exceed the cost of \$15,180.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of November, 2005.



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

5) Monthly Engineering Progress Report

Mr. Moreau presented the Construction Project Report and Chairman Sproat asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Paradies asked how the projects were going in general and Mr. Moreau stated that they were going well and on schedule. Commissioner Teator asked if the roadway repairs at the Rip Van Winkle Bridge were done and Mr. Moreau stated yes. The contractor completed the east approach roadway work in early November and the project is anticipated to finish up by the end of November. Commissioner Teator asked if delays occurred because of roadway work was the local media or radio stations contacted to keep the public informed of delays, if any. Mr. Ferguson, the Manager of Bridge Operations, told Commissioner Teator that they were being contacted when such work would delay traffic. Chairman Sproat stated the report was well presented and if there were no more questions, he would like to call for a motion to accept the October 2005 engineering report as presented. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Chairman Sproat, the following resolution was approved unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 005-117

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the monthly Engineering Progress Report on the Capital Project Status; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Engineering Progress Report for October 2005 is accepted as an instrument documenting the Board's briefing of the Capital Construction activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of November 2005.



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

6) Association for Bridge Construction and Design Bridge Conference – November 5, 2005

Mr. Moreau was a speaker at the subject conference and received Board approval at the October meeting to attend. Commissioner Paradies asked Mr. Moreau how the conference went and Mr. Moreau stated that it went very well and that there were many attendees and his speech was well received on how the Bridge Authority maintains its structures.

FINANCIAL:

1) Investment Report

The Treasurer presented the Investment Report for the month of October 2005 and stated that the report reflected the Authority's investment activity for the month. Mr. Sewell indicated that the yields on investments continued to move upward. Mr. Sewell asked if there were any questions regarding the report and after a brief discussion Chairman Sproat called for a motion to accept the report as presented. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Teator, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 005-118

Resolution Date: November 17, 2005

WHEREAS, the investment control procedures for the New York State Bridge Authority provide that the Board shall review and approve the report of investment transactions completed since the meeting of the Board on October 20, 2005; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby concur with and approve the investment report as filed with this body on this date for the purposes noted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 17th day of
November 2005.



George C. Sinnott, Secretary

2) Bridge Property and Loss of Revenue Insurance Renewal – February 14, 2006

Mr. Sewell provided the Board with a policy renewal update that he requested from Risk Strategies Company, the Authority's current broker. The intent was to bring the Board up to date on what could be expected when this insurance is renewed in February 2006 and that two factors are having a significant impact on the property insurance market. The first is the recent catastrophic losses from several Gulf Coast hurricanes. The same reinsurance market which provides much of the Authority's bridge coverage will be hit with about half of these losses. Currently, customers in areas where catastrophes are unlikely are being quoted 10% to 15% in additional premiums upon renewal and since the insurance companies treaties with the reinsurance do not come up for renewal until January 1, any solid numbers may not be available until after that date. The other factor is the December 31, 2005 expiration of the Federal Terrorism Risk Insurance Act in which the government provides a backstop for insurance company losses should damage arise from a terrorist act. Without this, there is a question of how much terrorism coverage can be obtained and at what cost. He indicated he would keep the Board apprised as new information became available. After further discussions and a Q&A session, the Board thanked Mr. Sewell for the overview. There was no action required by the Board at this time.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD:1) Monthly Activity Report of the Executive Director

The Monthly Activity Report for October 2005 was submitted by the Executive Director.

Mr. Sinnott stated that there were no expenditures to report.

NEW BUSINESS:1) Standard and Poor's Affirmation of Bridge Authority's Bond Rating

The Executive Director, Mr. Sinnott, referred the Board to a document received from Standard and Poor's and stated that due to the Authority's strong financial performance and credit strengths the Authority has again received an "AA-" rating. Mr. Sinnott further stated that this rating is attributed to the excellent maintenance program used to maintain its structures. The Director of Public Relations has been asked to draft a press release for the Chairman's approval so the patrons of the Authority are aware of this affirmation.

Prior to the Attorney/Client Privilege Session the Commissioners, Mr. Sinnott, the Executive Director, and the Director of Public Relations and Planning, Mark Sheedy, met with Mr. Christopher Farrington, who is President of the Ulster County Motorcycle Riders Club. Mr. Farrington asked that the board consider a change in the toll schedule to allow for a discount for motorcycle riders stating their operation on the bridges poses less wear and tear on the bridges. Mr. Farrington suggested a toll equal to half the regular Class 1 toll, which is \$1.00. The official response was that this could only be accomplished at the same time the Authority begins overall changes to the toll structure and it is a very complicated and lengthy process requiring traffic studies and projections and approvals from the Department of State, the New York State

Department of Transportation and the state legislature. Board members agreed that Mr. Farrington made a very articulate argument for the Authority's consideration. The Authority agreed that Mr. Farrington should keep in touch with the Authority going forward. However, the Authority does not expect to have to make a choice regarding a toll increase for another 5-6 years.

Chairman Sproat requested an Attorney/Client Privilege Session at 3:45 P.M. and stated that the regular meeting would reconvene afterward. Upon adjournment of the Attorney/Client Privilege Session, it was noted that there was no further business for the regular meeting and a motion was called to adjourn the regular meeting. On motion of Commissioner Teator, seconded by Vice Chairman Dressel, and approved unanimously, the Board concluded its regular meeting at 4:30 P.M.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2005 at 3:00 P. M at Headquarters.