

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

HELD AT HEADQUARTERS, HIGHLAND, N.Y. ON  
FEBRUARY 21, 2008

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Business agenda documents/reports are mailed to the Board Members and General Counsel one week prior to the meeting. Web casting of Board meetings is effective as of the July 19, 2007 meeting. A copy of the web cast will be kept as part of the Board meeting files.

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Sproat, James P., Chairman  
Carter, Robert P., Commissioner  
Gerentine, Richard A., Commissioner  
Madison, Thomas J., Commissioner  
Paradies, Walter A., Commissioner

Carl G. Whitbeck, Jr., Counsel

OFFICERS:

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

Absent:

Dressel, Roderick O., Vice Chairman  
Teator, David A., Commissioner

Chairman Sproat called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. and welcomed all to the February meeting introducing Board Members, General Counsel and Executive Staff. Commissioner

Paradies stated that he wanted to officially commend John Bellucci, as the Authority's Public Relations Director and spokesperson at a New Paltz Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting which Commissioner Paradies attended last week. Commissioner Paradies stated that there were approximately 55 people attending and that Mr. Bellucci's presentation of the program describing the Bridge Authority was well received. Commissioner Paradies' commentary was recognized by the Board and Chairman Sproat continued with the meeting stating the first order of business was to approve the minutes of the Authority's January 17, 2008 regular meeting if there were no comments or questions. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the minutes of the January 17, 2008 regular meetings were adopted unanimously.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

##### 1) 2008 E-ZPass Interagency Group (IAG) Member Dues

In Mr. Russo's absence, Mr. Garrison presented an invoice for the Authority's annual assessment as a member of the E-ZPass Interagency Group (IAG) for 2008 and stated the IAG is the operating structure comprised of the member agencies that facilitate operational consistency, reciprocity and shared decision-making with respect to E-ZPass and its implementation. Mr. Garrison conveyed to Chairman Sproat and the Board the Authority is a full voting member of this organization and as a "small" member agency the annual assessment for 2008 remains unchanged from previous years at a cost of \$17,500.00. Mr. Garrison referred the Board to a copy of last year's treasurer's report indicating the assessments of all current agencies. A brief discussion followed relative to the growth of the IAG over the years, functionality and veto votes and the number of patrons using E-ZPass at

the Authority's facilities. Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Madison, seconded by Commissioner Gerentine, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-008  
Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board has been presented with an annual renewal assessment for its membership in the Interagency Group (IAG) at a cost of \$17,500.00 in accordance with the E-ZPass IAG Operating Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Authority agrees that is necessary to maintain its membership in the IAG to continue its E-ZPass electronic toll operations ; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this payment to the IAG for its 2008 annual assessment is hereby approved at a cost not-to-exceed \$17,500.00; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

## 2) Telephone Service Agreement

Mr. Garrison stated that during the past few months several meetings were held to research alternatives to the current phone service providers in an attempt to reduce the overall cost of local and long distance charges. Currently, local service is provided by Verizon and long distance is provided through ACC. The NYS Office of General Services (OGS) awarded a ten-year contract this past August to several vendors including AT&T, PAETEC, QWEST, TIME WARNER, among others, to provide various telecommunications services to state agencies and authorities. After researching the products and services offered together with pricing information provided within the contract by the various vendors, a series of meetings were held with PAETEC to determine an appropriate solution for the Authority. In reviewing the OGS contract, PAETEC offered the most complete array of services at the lowest overall cost. PAETEC has both a nationwide and worldwide presence and maintains sales and technical support here in the Hudson Valley as well. Research indicated that the Authority could significantly reduce costs at the combined Headquarters and Mid-Hudson locations by converting voice lines to a T1 (digital phone line) solution versus several conventional phone lines. The Authority would retain conventional phone lines for data, security and fax lines. Based on the analysis of current bills, this T1 connection through PAETEC, together with its local and long distance calling rates would reduce the Authority's related expense by approximately \$400 per month. A sample comparison was provided to the Board indicating the current Verizon and ACC bills at \$1,426 per month, as compared with \$1,022, if provided through the proposed PAETEC solution. There would be a one-time charge of \$695 for the installation of the T1 and \$1,782.95 for a hardware switch to interface with the Authority's phone system. This solution cannot be applied to the other bridge

locations since there are not enough phone lines to justify the cost of a T1 service. Based on this analysis it was recommended that the Authority utilize the NYS OGS contract award PS63070 to PAETEC for the telecommunications services as described and further detailed on their proposal. After a brief discussion relative to cost savings, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-009

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Authority Board has reviewed staff recommendations with regard to voice telecommunication services at its Headquarters and Mid-Hudson Bridge locations; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that a significant cost benefit exists through the use of the NYS Office of General Services (OGS) contract for these services as described in the recommendation; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the NYS Bridge Authority adopts the NYS OGS contract award PS63070 to PAETEC for telecommunications services as outlined in its proposal subject to the pricing, terms and conditions set forth in the NYS OGS contract; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE:

1) Engineering Copier Purchase

Mr. Moreau stated that the Engineering Department is in need of a replacement copier for the existing eight year old Canon copier. The new unit, a Konica Minolta Biz-Hub 600, will be purchased off the OGS contract in the amount of \$12,683.20. \$15,000.00 was budgeted for this piece of equipment in Engineering's annual budget estimate. After a brief discussion relative to the feasibility of a lease agreement, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-010

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department is in need of a replacement copier for the existing eight year old unit; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Engineering Department has reviewed and approved the OGS contract for a Konica Minolta BizHub 660; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a purchase order be issued to Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA for a Konica Minolta Biz-Hub 600 copier in the amount of \$12,683.20; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

2) Rutgers Bridge Maintenance Workshop

Mr. Moreau asked the Board to please consider authorizing Craig Gardner and the five bridge facilities' foremen to attend the subject workshop. Mr. Moreau provided a course outline which focused on developing programmatic solutions to bridge maintenance problems. He further stated that the one day course will review in detail maintenance for bridge decks, joints, bearings and scour protection. The course would cost \$150.00 per attendee. Class begins at 7:30 a.m. and runs eight hours, so Engineering asked the Board's approval for an overnight stay and that accommodations would be provided on site for \$90/night. After a brief discussion relative to the benefits of this workshop afforded to the maintenance department, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Paradies, seconded by Commissioner Madison, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-011

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the request for Craig Gardner and the five foremen to attend a Bridge Maintenance Workshop held at Rutgers University, in Piscataway, New Jersey April 1, 2008; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that attendance at the workshop is authorized in accordance with the travel request form estimated at \$1,968.00; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

3) Monthly Jobs in Progress Report

Mr. Moreau stated that all projects were on schedule as planned and/or completed and that there was no new construction at the present time. A brief discussion followed relative to the General Consultant agreement and additional assignments, as provided for in the agreement. Mr. Moreau stated that the Board would be kept informed of each new assignment prior to its commencement. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Chairman Sproat, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-012

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Engineering Progress Report is accepted as an instrument documenting the Board's briefing of 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

FINANCIAL:

1) Investment Report

Mr. Sewell reviewed with the Board the Investment Report for the month of January indicating that interest rates were still on the decline. A brief discussion followed regarding interest rates on future investments. Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-013

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

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 January 17, 2008; 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 purpose 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

1) Newburgh-Beacon Bridge Variable Message Signs Acquisition

As previously discussed and given a verbal approval at the last meeting, Mr. Herd stated six (6) Variable Message Signs (VMS) were ordered with the stipulation that the authorization would be brought to the Board's attention for approval at the February meeting. On February 8, 2008, an advertisement was placed in the New York State Contract Reporter stating the Authority's intent to procure these signs through Daktronics at a cost of \$223,212.00, which, as a single source item, is the standard of the Authority. A brief discussion followed relative to the number of signs on the east and west side of the bridge spans. Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Madison, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 008-014

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the memorandum regarding the replacement of the variable message signs (VMS) at the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Authority will purchase these signs through Daktronics; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this procurement is hereby approved at a cost not to exceed \$223,212.00; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

2) Caseta Technologies Lane O/S Upgrade and Audit Enhancement

Mr. Herd stated that in 2002, through an RFP process, Caseta Technologies, Inc. was awarded a contract to develop a new Toll Terminal System for the Authority reserving the right to renew for an additional two years. This system was accepted as complete in March, 2005. In accordance with the original contract terms, the Authority initiated a multi-year maintenance agreement with Caseta for the various software programs that form this system. In 2008 Caseta Technologies, Inc. will be tasked with two (2) projects in addition to their annual maintenance agreement. One project is for the lane operating system to be upgraded and the second is for the enhancements of the Authority's audit capabilities. The total cost for these services will be a not-to-exceed amount of \$54,000.00 and is identified in the approved 2008 Information Technology Capital Program. After a brief discussion relative to enhancements and examples identified through internal audits, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 008-015

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the memorandum regarding the Lane Operating System Upgrade and Audit Enhancements to be performed by Caseta Technologies, Inc. for all of the Authorities facilities; and

WHEREAS, these projects are identified within the approved 2008 Department of Information Technology Capital Program, System Wide Electronic Data Processing Upgrades; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the services performed by Caseta Technologies, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$54,000.00 is approved; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

3) Dr. Theodore Mankovich – Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Contract Renewal

Mr. Herd stated that in 2003, a 5-Year EDP Consultant Contract received approval and was awarded to Dr. Theodore Mankovich. Over the past four years the Information Technology Department has utilized the services of Dr. Mankovich primarily as an expert technical resource for support and training regarding the electronic toll collection systems. For the fiscal year 2008, a scope of consulting services was developed for Dr. Mankovich which was estimated to be approximately 768 hours at a total cost not-to-exceed \$92,160.00. Commissioner Carter inquired about on-site visits and after a discussion relative to the terms of this contract and cost comparison over the years and the procedure to be followed regarding a Request for Proposal being advertised next year, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Madison, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-016

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the memorandum and scope of consulting services for the General Electronic Data Processing Consultant; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has established a consulting contract with Dr. Theodore Mankovich for these services; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED; that an addendum to contract BA-2003-OO-020-PS is established for a not-to-exceed amount of \$92,160.00

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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

OPERATIONS:

1) IBTTA Facilities Management Workshop – April 26-30, 2008, Orlando, Florida

Mr. Ferguson stated that he would like to attend the International Bridge Tunnel and Turnpike Association's (IBTTA) Facilities Management Workshop to be held in Orlando, Florida April 26-30, 2008. Mr. Ferguson stated that he attended this workshop in 2007 and found it to be a valuable learning experience. Mr. Ferguson proceeded to brief the Board on the contents of the workshop stating that the meetings provide a forum for sharing knowledge and ideas amongst persons serving in a similar capacity from various toll agencies throughout the world. This year's relevant topics include: Agency Best Practices, Cashless Tolling, Toll Plaza Signing and Safety, Toll Industry Changes, Road Rage, a tour of the SunWatch Operations Center (which monitors 750 toll lanes from a single point), and the recently completed SR429 Toll Road and Plaza. Chairman Sproat encouraged fellow Board Members to attend if they were inclined to do so stating he had attended several IBTTA conferences in the past and found them most informative relative to the operations of the Bridge Authority. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 008-017

Resolution Date: February 21, 2008

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed a request for overnight, out-of-state travel to attend an IBTTA Facilities Management Workshop being held in Orlando, Florida April 26 - 30, 2008; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that authorization is granted to the Manager of Bridge Operations to attend the workshop as the representative for the Authority; 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2008.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary

## PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PLANNING:

Mr. Bellucci briefed the Board on the following:

- *Suicide Prevention Program* - Potential Mid-Hudson Bridge “jumper” saved this morning (February 21, Thursday) due to the systems in place and the right procedures followed.
- Final installation of phones complete at the Rip Van Winkle Bridge.
- Excellent media coverage on the reduction of accidents for 2007.
- February 23, 2008, Saturday, is the *10-Year Anniversary of E-Pass* on Authority facilities.
- The *Minority-Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)* Master Goal Plan will be filed with the Governor’s Office next week.
- The theme of the 2007 Authority Annual Report will be “Bridge Safety.”

## REPORTS THE BOARD:

### 1) Monthly Activity Report of the Executive Director

The Monthly Activity Report for January was submitted by the Executive Director with no expenditures to report.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Sewell stated that on January 18<sup>th</sup>, the Office of the State Comptroller informed the Authority it was conducting a series of statewide audits of certain public authorities including the Bridge Authority. Mr. Sewell highlighted the following:

- The first audit related to the *New York State Health Insurance Plan (NYSHIP)* coverage provided by the Authority. The objective of the audit was to determine whether NYSHIP coverage was provided only to individuals who meet eligibility criteria. The auditors

indicated the Authority should have a preliminary report in about two weeks. As far as the NYSHIP audit, they did not find any covered employees who were not eligible but they did note that though the Authority kept documentation of proof for many eligible dependents, there were 20 some persons for which there were no proof. However, the auditor explained, it was unclear whether NYSHIP required that we keep this information.

- The other audit dealt with the *New York State and Local Retirement System*. Specifically, they were to determine whether the Authority is reporting appropriate salary and service credit information concerning its employees. The retirement audit showed the Authority reported the appropriate salaries for all employees, however, a flaw in the software created a discrepancy in the service credit information in September of each year from 2005 through 2007.
- On January 26<sup>th</sup>, the Authority received correspondence from the Comptroller's office indicating an audit of the Authority's compliance with *Executive Order #134*, which speaks to our use of *environmentally safe cleaning products*, had been scheduled. That audit is in process. The Authority was unaware of this executive order and the State Office of General Services (OGS) and Environmental Conservation (DEC) did not provide to the Authority, or to apparently many other state entities, the consultation and guidance as mandated in the order. Following receipt of the Comptroller's letter, the Authority began the process of complying with the executive order.

Once the preliminary findings for these audits are received, Mr. Sewell will recommend to the Executive Director that there be an Audit Committee meeting to discuss them.

At the conclusion of this report to the Board, Chairman Sproat called for a motion to adjourn. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, and approved unanimously, the regular meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2008 at 3:00 P.M. at Headquarters.