Chairman Sproat called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. and welcomed all to the December meeting introducing Board Members, General Counsel and Executive Staff. Chairman Sproat stated the first order of business was to adopt the minutes of the Authority’s October 18, 2007 and November 15, 2007 meeting minutes if there were no comments or questions. Vice
Chairman Dressel reminded the Board that due to a non majority vote last month, the October minutes had been tabled. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Madison, the minutes of the October 18, 2007 and November 15, 2007 regular meetings were adopted unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

1) IBTTA Leadership Academy

Mr. Russo referred the Board to the documents they had received relative to this program. Mr. Russo stated that the IBTTA has developed an Executive Development Program tailored for senior-level managers in public and private sector organizations within the toll industry. The program is geared toward developing the skills of professional managers across a full range of functional areas and responsibilities. Accordingly, Mr. Sinnott nominated Bob Russo for this opportunity and subsequently was notified by IBTTA that Mr. Russo was accepted. Mr. Sinnott indicated that acceptance to the academy is based on agency-head nomination and application review with class size limited to 25 students so the Authority was fortunate in being a part of this beneficial program. Mr. Russo added that the course will be held in Orlando, Florida, February 17-22, 2008 and the fee for the program is $2,950. Other travel and lodging costs are estimated to be approximately $2,250. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Carter moved to grant this request, which was seconded by Commissioner Gerentine, and approved unanimously.
WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the Executive Director’s memo and recommendation to send a staff member to attend the IBTTA Leadership Academy to be held February 17-22, 2008 in Orlando, FL; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that in the interest of management staff development, this is a worthwhile program to benefit the Authority; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that Bob Russo having been accepted by the IBTTA’s review committee, be authorized to attend the IBTTA Leadership Academy to be held February 17-22, 2008 in Orlando, FL with a program course fee of $2,950 and related travel expenses estimated at $2,250; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
2) **2008 Headquarters Vehicle Acquisitions**

Mr. Russo stated he reviewed the inventory of Headquarters vehicles with Craig Gardner for disposal and/or replacement in accordance with Authority guidelines. Five vehicles met replacement in terms of age and/or mileage. Two of the five were identified for replacement in the 2007 model year but were held for additional service pending further review and OGS contract information. Mr. Russo recommended replacement of four vehicles for the 2008 model year. The fifth vehicle would not be replaced at all thereby reducing the Authority’s fleet by one. The subject vehicles are: (2) 2002 Chevrolet Blazers; (2) 2000 Chevrolet Luminas; (1) 2002 Dodge Durango. One Chevrolet Lumina was included in the Authority’s recent auction to effect the planned reduction as noted. Our recommendation would be to purchase (1) Chevrolet Impala (E-85 Fuel) and (3) Ford Escape Hybrids available through the NYS OGS contract. These vehicles would satisfy our statutory requirements for alternatively fueled (AFV) vehicles under Executive Order 111. The Chevrolet Impala would be purchased from Hoselton Chevrolet at a cost of $15,800.85 and the Ford Escapes would be purchased from Warnock Automotive at a cost of $75,847.20. After a brief discussion on the Authority’s changeover to hybrids, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no other comments. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Paradies, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:
WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority Board has reviewed staff recommendations with respect to the need for vehicle replacements in accordance with Authority guidelines and has determined that it is in the public interest to issue a purchase order to Hoselton Chevrolet, Inc. for the purchase of one (1) Chevrolet flex-fuel E-85 Impala sedan.

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that Hoselton Chevrolet, Inc. has the OGS contract award, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED that a purchase order be issued to Hoselton Chevrolet, Inc. for the purchase of one Chevrolet flex-fuel E-85 Impala sedan in the amount of $15,800.85; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has reviewed staff recommendations with respect to vehicle replacements in accordance with Authority guidelines and has determined that it is in the public interest to issue purchase orders to Warnock Fleet for the purchase of three, (3) Ford Escape Hybrid 4x4 SUV’s.

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that Warnock Fleet has the OGS contract award, and

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

BE IT RESOLVED that a purchase order be issued to Warnock Fleet for the purchase of three (3) SUV’s for the combined price of $75,847.20; 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 20\textsuperscript{th} day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
3) **E-ZPass New York CSC – Critical Design Revenue Meetings**

Mr. Russo stated that, according to Authority guidelines, any out of state travel required the approval of the Board and as such sought the Board’s approval for Barry Mickle to attend the Critical Design Review (CDR) meetings in Newark, NJ with NYSTA, MTA B&T, PANY/NJ and ACS in January. Mr. Russo indicated that recently, the New York agencies awarded a new multi-year contract for the E-ZPass Customer Service Center (CSC) to ACS and as a part of the transition, CDR needs to examine the business requirements and policies to be negotiated with ACS to ensure that all of the agencies’ requirements are going to be implemented as outlined in the RFP and proposal documents. After a brief discussion on the growth of E-ZPass, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Vice Chairman Dressel, seconded by Commissioner Gerentine, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
WHEREAS, the Board has received and reviewed a request for overnight, out-of-state travel to attend E-ZPass NY Critical Design Review meetings to be held January 13-15, 2008 and tentatively January 28-30, 2008 in Newark, NJ; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that authorization is granted to Barry Mickle as the Authority’s E-ZPass program manager for the E-ZPass NY Customer Service Center to attend the identified meetings as necessary for critical design review; and

BE IT RESOLVED that authorization is granted for overnight out-of-state travel in accordance with the Authority’s travel guidelines for reimbursement at the approved per diem rates for Newark, NJ; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE:

1) Mid Hudson Bridge Maintenance Building  Design Support

Mr. Moreau stated that as the designer of record for the new maintenance building, Foit-Albert Associates of Albany, NY are uniquely qualified for these support services during construction. Accordingly, Engineering recommends award of a supplemental professional service contract to Foit-Albert Associates at a not-to-exceed cost of $75,000.00. The scope of work for this assignment will be to review the shop drawings and catalogue cut submissions; attend field meetings during construction; provide periodical construction inspection services; final inspection and as-built electronic drawings. Mr. Moreau stated all daily inspection would be done in-house by Joe Rockfort as clerk-of-the-work. After a brief discussion relative to the monitoring of the job and specific features, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further comments. On motion of Commissioner Madison, seconded by Commissioner Teator, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 007-128

Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to award a supplemental agreement for professional engineering design support services in connection with the Mid-Hudson Bridge “Maintenance Building” project to be designated (BA-2003-RE-114-DS.2); and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s Engineering Department has noted that Foit-Albert Associates is uniquely qualified for this assignment as they are the Designer of record for the new maintenance building; and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s Engineering Department has reviewed and approved their “cost-plus” not-to-exceed proposal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a supplemental professional service agreement be issued to Foit-Albert Associates of Albany, New York in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00.

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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
2) **Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting**

Mr. Moreau stated the annual meeting for TRB will be held January 13–15, 2008 in Washington, DC. As a member of the “Long Span Construction Committee” for the past decade, Mr. Moreau asked that the Board consider his attendance. Chairman Sproat called for a motion. 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.: 007-129

Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the request of Bill Moreau to attend the 87th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) held in Washington, DC January 13 through 15, 2008; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that attendance at the meeting is authorized in accordance with Mr. Moreau’s travel request form estimated at $993.00; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
3) **NYSDOT Final Report on Deck Truss Bridges – Briefing**

Mr. Moreau referred the Board to a copy of the second and final report sent to the Governor in response to the August 1 directive following the collapse of the I-35W Bridge in MN. The first report on August 31 identified the 49 deck truss bridges in the State of similar design to the I-35W Bridge and provided the results of the immediate visual inspections of all 49 bridges. The report provided the results of the detailed hands-on inspections of these bridges and outlines a three-part strategy to improve the condition of the more than 17,000 state and local bridges in NY. The results of the inspections showed that the deck truss bridges in NY are safe for travel by the public and the inspection protocols used are effective. The results also confirm that these bridges are meeting or exceeding their design service lives. New York State's transportation system is under stress due to age, heavy use and lack of adequate investment. The State's bridges are a prime example of this situation, while they are safe to use the condition of these assets are worsening. The new bridge strategy discussed in the report provides a path forward in reversing this trend and improving conditions over time.
4) Monthly Jobs in Progress Report

Mr. Moreau stated that all projects were on schedule as planned and/or completed and that there were no issues of concern. A brief discussion followed relative to the Bear Mountain Bridge electrical system upgrade. Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further comments. 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.: 007-130

Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

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 20th day of December 2007.

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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 November. Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Teator, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 007-131
Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

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 November 15, 2007; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
2) **NYS Employees’ Retirement System – Annual Billing**

Mr. Sewell stated that this year’s cost is $834,287 for the Authority’s 178 employees currently in the system. The individual employers’ costs vary from year to year based upon salaries, as well as contribution rates which rise and fall predicated upon investment results of the Retirement Fund. Mr. Sewell further stated that although projected 2007 Authority salaries were similar to the previous year, lower contribution rates decreased the current billing by 9% and a reconciliation of actual salaries in each of the prior two years reduced this year’s expense by another 9%. Overall, last year’s $1,011,957 cost is down by $177,670. Looking forward to the March 31, 2009 billing, the Retirement System is forecasting contribution rates which are 10% below the current rates. Though the Authority expects future annual pension billings to remain somewhere around the million dollar level, the good news for participating employers is that, unlike many other public pension funds, the New York State Retirement System is, and will likely remain, fully funded so there will be no fluctuations due to a under funded system. Commissioner Carter asked if the retirement program was a defined benefit program and Mr. Sewell stated it was. Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Madison, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the report relative to the payment of the annual invoice to the New York State Employees’ Retirement System; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby approve the payment of $834,287 to the New York State and Local Retirement System for pension costs incurred for the year ending March 31, 2008; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
3) **Workers Disability Insurance Renewal**

Mr. Sewell stated that Disability insurance provides a benefit of $170 per week for twenty-six (26) weeks for all permanent employees unable to work due to another work related accident or sickness. The current premium through First Rehabilitation Life Insurance Company (FRL) is $.48 per $100 of covered payroll (maximum of $340 per week). For the renewal, FRL is proposing to increase the rate to $.52 per $100 and to lock in that rate for two years. Although the National Benefit Life quote of $.51 per $100 of salary would lower the estimated cost in 2008 by $279, Mr. Sewell recommended FRL since they have continued to provide low rates despite losing money in three of the last four years and they are providing a guaranteed rate for two years. He indicated that if the Authority switches to the lower cost proposal and its loss values remained stable or continued rising, the rate in 2009 would almost surely increase above the $.52 level. Commissioner Carter agreed with Mr. Sewell’s recommendation. Following further discussion, Chairman Sproat called for a motion. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Gerentine, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 007-133                     Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the report relative to the purchase of workers’ disability insurance; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby concur with and approve the purchase of a two year renewal policy beginning January 1, 2008 with the First Rehabilitation Life Insurance Company at a rate of $.52 per $100 of covered salary; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
4) Feldman vs. NYSBA – Final Payment

Mr. Sewell stated that, to date, $300,000 has been invested in the subject matter. Since the Board’s approval of an additional $75,000 for legal fees in April 2007, the matter was settled during trial in September. The $500,000 settlement was finalized and litigation was concluded at the end of November. Legal counsel, Rapport, Meyers, Whitbeck, Shaw & Rodenhausen, LLP, has provided their final billing, together with those of their various associates, to York Claims Service. These costs will bring the total payout by York to approximately $340,000. Once York pays all the associated expenses, the Authority will submit the total cost to the insurance carrier, the Lexington Insurance Company, and petition them for reimbursement as per the terms of the policy. Mr. Sewell indicated the Board will be kept informed as the Authority seeks to conclude the process of recovering 80% of the expenses over the $100,000 retainage. However, up to an additional $40,000 is needed to service this claim. After a brief discussion, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further comments. On motion of Commissioner Teator, seconded by Vice Chairman Dressel, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has reviewed the report relative to providing $40,000, in addition to the $300,000 it previously authorized, to make the necessary payment to York Claims Service in the matter of Feldman vs. New York State Bridge Authority; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby concur with and approve the issuance of up to an additional $40,000 to York Claims Service for the payment of expenditures related to Feldman vs. New York State Bridge 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
HUMAN RESOURCES:

1) 2007 and 2008 Service Agreement Renewals for The Workplace

Mr. Pizzuto stated a 2006 Service Agreement between the Authority and The Workplace allowing for the renewal of additional terms of one year, and up to 4 years, at the option of both parties, was approved by the Board in 2006. Mr. Pizzuto stated that in reviewing the files, it was noted that an agreement for 2007 was not in place and an invoice was paid to the Workplace in April 2007 in the amount of $12,669.50, which should have had the Board’s prior approval according to Authority guidelines. As such, Mr. Pizzuto asked for the Board’s approval for the 2007 agreement and services. He also recommended that the Authority consider The Workplace Service Agreement for 2008 noting that the fee schedule remained the same since its 2006 inception. After a brief discussion on the total costs expended through the annual contract, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Vice Chairman Dressel, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 007-135 Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the memorandum regarding the renewal of the The Workplace Service Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s contract with The Workplace allows for this renewal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the purchase of healthcare services, through The Workplace, at costs provided for in its proposed fee schedule, for the period January 1, 2007-December 31, 2007 is hereby 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the memorandum regarding the renewal of the The Workplace Service Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s contract with The Workplace allows for this renewal; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the purchase of healthcare services, through The Workplace, at costs provided for in its proposed fee schedule, for the period January 1, 2008-December 31, 2008 is hereby 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

1) Mid-Hudson Bridge (MHB) Intelligent Transportation System Upgrade – Construction Inspection Services Extension

Mr. Herd stated in nearing the completion of this contract, the Authority experienced delivery delays which were unforeseen. As a result, the project was not completed in the allotted time frame and as such an extension is required for the construction inspection portion of the project. This extension will be for a seven (7) week period and it will be a not-to-exceed amount of an additional $20,000.00 to the original requested amount of $90,877.00. After a brief discussion on when the project would be completed, Chairman Sproat called for a motion if there were no further questions or comments. On motion of Commissioner Gerentine, seconded by Commissioner Madison, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 007-137 Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined that an extension of construction inspection services is required for the Mid-Hudson Bridge ITS project, and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s Information Technology Department has reviewed and approved this additional cost; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the contract BA-2005-RO-015-SU issued to Berger/Lehman for construction inspection of the Mid-Hudson Bridge ITS Project be extended to an additional amount not-to-exceed $20,000.00; 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 20th day of December 2007.

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
OPERATIONS:

1) New York State Thruway E-ZPass Transactions – Third Quarter 2007

Mr. Ferguson presented to the Board a report and invoice from the New York State Thruway Authority for the period July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007 for credit card and E-ZPass transaction fee expenses in the amount of $712,163.14. After a brief discussion comparing the expenditures from last year’s quarter and the cost of transaction fees, Chairman Sproat called for a motion to authorize payment of this invoice. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Teator, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

**NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution No.: 007-138 Resolution Date: December 20, 2007

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the report relative to the payment to the New York State Thruway Authority for the Third Quarter 2007 Bridge Authority E-ZPass costs in the amount $712,163.14; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this payment is hereby approved at a cost not-to-exceed $712,163.14; 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 20th day of December

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George C. Sinnott, Secretary
PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PLANNING:

Mr. Bellucci briefed the Board on the latest enhancement of the Suicide Prevention Program (SPP) that being the training of staff on how to handle an emergency call. This training was conducted by the State Police. All necessary materials and videos for this training were produced by the Authority’s IT Department which resulted in no outside costs to the Authority. A discussion followed relative to the phones on the bridges and what is expected and not expected of staff when handling an emergency call.

REPORTS THE BOARD:

1) Monthly Activity Report of the Executive Director

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

Chairman Sproat stated this concluded the regular meeting and called for a motion to adjourn. On motion of Commissioner Carter, seconded by Vice Chairman Dressel, and approved unanimously, the regular meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2008 at 3:00 P.M. at Headquarters.