

**HUDSON RIVER-BLACK RIVER REGULATING DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 15, 2014

Stillwater Hotel

2591 Stillwater Road

Stillwater Reservoir

Lowville, New York 13360

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman Stover called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Committee Chairman Thomas Stover; Committee Member David W. Berkstresser; Board Chairman as Ex Officio Committee Member Mark M. Finkle; Board Member Albert Hayes; and Executive Director Michael A. Clark; General Counsel Robert P. Leslie; Chief Engineer Robert S. Foltan; Chief Fiscal Officer Richard J. Ferrara; Hudson River Area Administrator John Hodgson.

MOTION TO ADOPT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Stover asked for a motion to adopt the Committee's draft agenda. Mr. Finkle moved to adopt the meeting agenda. Committee Chairman Stover seconded it and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 10, 2014 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Finkle to adopt the June 10, 2014 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes. Mr. Stover seconded it and the motion was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

(A) New Business

- a. Status of the Board Adoption of a Bond Resolution for Capital Projects -
Mr. Ferrara presented three resolutions advanced to the Committee by Bond Counsel.
 - i. Mr. Ferrara noted that through the first resolution, the Committee would recommend that the Board authorize the sale of \$ 853,121 in bonds to finance the reconstruction project at the Hawkinsville Dam. The second resolution concerned the authorization for the sale of \$ 2,784,343 in bonds to finance the reconstruction of the Ice Sluice and spillway at Conklingville Dam. The third resolution addressed authorization to finance Warning Sirens below the Conklingville Dam. Mr. Berkstresser asked for clarification of the estimated cost for all three projects. Mr. Ferrara noted that in discussions with Bond Counsel and the underwriter, and in conversations with the Chief Engineer, he learned that

the total amount financed could neither exceed nor fall short of the amount needed to cover project costs. Further, that the scope of the project at Conklingville has been expanded to encompass not only the reconstruction of the Ice Sluice, but also grouting of the concrete at the Dam's rock foundation and resurfacing of the concrete on the Dam's spillway.

Mr. Ferrara noted that he would get clarification from the underwriter regarding the figures advanced to cover all projects.

- ii. Mr. Ferrara noted also that staff will circulate a Short Environmental Assessment Form (Parts I & II) and Kleinschmidt's proposal to other potentially interested agencies in order to coordinate SEQRA for the Hawkinsville project. In response to questions from Mr. Berkstresser and the Committee Chair, Mr. Leslie noted that the lead agency coordination on the Hawkinsville project SEQRA review should take approximately 30 days to complete and that the expanded scope of work with respect to the Conklingville project should not alter the designation of that project as a Type II action under SEQRA. Mr. Ferrara recommended that the Committee not advance the three resolutions to the Board for its action until the Board completes the SEQRA process for those projects moving forward.

Mr. Finkle made a motion to table all three bond resolutions (Hawkinsville reconstruction, Conklingville reconstruction, & Warning Sirens) pending completion of SEQRA and clarification on cost. Mr. Stover seconded it and the motion was unanimously approved.

- b. Motion to Advance to the full Board & Recommend Adoption of Budget Development Schedule for FY's 15-16, 16-17, and 17-18 - Mr. Ferrara.
 - i. Mr. Ferrara presented the proposed schedule as outlined at page six (6) of the October meeting's Board packet.

Committee Member Finkle made a motion to advance and recommend for adoption the Budget Development Schedule for FY's 15-16, 16-17, and 17-18. Mr. Stover seconded and the Committee adopted the motion by unanimous vote.

- c. Discussion of District Reserves - Mr. Ferrara pointed to an October 1st memo to the Board in which he described the history behind the District's reservation of funds for specific purposes. He noted that while funding the various reserves was effected at different levels over the last several decades, such funding ended with the liquidation of all such funds in July 2010 for the purpose of forestalling the interruption of operations in the Hudson River Area due to the U.S. District Court DC Cir. Ruling in November 2008. He noted that today, the Hudson River Area has unfunded reserves on its balance sheet in the amount of \$720,000. The figure is \$615,000 for the Black River Area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, Mr. Berkstresser moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stover seconded it. The motion was unanimously approved. The committee meeting adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Ferrara
Secretary/Treasurer