

CCWSA BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
February 17, 2021 at 1:00 pm
7413 County House Road, Auburn, NY

Board of Directors

Paul Dudley, Chair Mike Quill, Vice-Chair- Virtual Christie Waters, Treas.-Virtual John Miller-Absent
Francis Mitchell Herbert Marshall-Virtual Peter Adams-Virtual Andrew Rindfleisch Ben Vitale-Virtual

Administration & Advisors

Jeanine Wilson, Dir.; Patty Schoonmaker, Sr. Clerk; Pat Baum, Sr. Acct. Clerk; Karl Rindfleisch, Wtr/Swr Ops; Joe Carson, Wtr. Maint. Person; Rick Galbato, Attorney-Virtual; Doug Selby, Advisor-Virtual; Jay Sawyer, CSD2 Contractor-Virtual; Mark Colopy, Financial Advisor-Virtual; Tim Carpenter, MRB Engineering; Seth Jensen, Dir. of Municipal Utilities(Auburn)-Virtual; Mayor Bonnie Bennett (Aurora)-Virtual; Ken Teter, Engineer for Aurora-Virtual

Approval of Agenda

Andy Rindfleisch made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. Fran Mitchell 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Approval of Minutes, January 20, 2021

Fran Mitchell questioned the price of piping from Aurora to Honoco Road on page 3 of the minutes. **Andy Rindfleisch made a motion to accept the January 20, 2021 minutes with the amendment to strike the price of piping on page 3 of the minutes. Fran Mitchell 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.**

Mayor Bonnie Bennett - Aurora

Mayor Bennett explained that they were taken back when Jeanine and Doug told her about what we are thinking about doing in what we call Phase 1 – bringing pipe to them from Springport.

Background – Aurora entered into an agreement with the college to fund the engineering report that was done by Ken Teter and Chris Lawton (B&L). They looked at just about everything and came down to two possibilities for Aurora:

1. To build a plant in Aurora or at Long Point;
2. Bring pipeline from Springport

The two possibilities were sent to the State to get listed on the revolving fund. They have waited to see the District Plan. They believe that the future of Cayuga County lies on them having two water sources for the County. The Health Department told them about 2 years ago that they needed to choose a plan and needed to have a Plan B. They thought long and hard because of cost difference between the pipe from Springport and for them to try to build their own plant which would be modular and could be added on to. They were still thinking in terms of the district. They came down to one decision and the Board was unanimous that this was the direction they should go with; they put in place their fiscal advisors and bond counsels, did the SEQR and everything needed to be able to apply for funding last July. They were very happy when CCWSA received county funds for the Map, Plan & Report. Then the Authority ran into some roadblocks.

Ken Teter – Engineer for Aurora. Ken wanted to reiterate the support and belief from the standpoint of Aurora that the Regional District approach alternative of having a water source from Cayuga Lake as well is the right way to go. We have been on hold because of the report and the decisions through our authority and the County Legislature as to find out yes or no. He feels we need to settle the question of: is the Regional Project happening or not; is the Map Plan & Report done, has it been shared, where does this all stand so that we can make an informed decision. Ken said that Aurora has to figure something out; they do not have time and cannot afford to wait another year.

Paul Dudley thanked Ken for stating the situation as it is.

Tim Carpenter – stated that the Map Plan Report must describe a specific project. Up until a month or so ago, it described a whole county wide project. He said that a portion of the Map Plan Report is written but he needs the authority to decide on the framed project before it can move forward.

Herb Marshall asked Tim for an approximate cost to put a pumping station in at Long Point. Tim said the Long Point

plant would be much larger than needed just for Aurora. He believes the price is around \$10 or \$12 million.

Ken Teter wanted to know when he will be able to access the information we have to share via the cost of these alternatives; will it be a month or two? Andy thought that Doug Selby's summary would be helpful for Mayor Bennett and Ken to review. Jeanine is going to email this draft to them for review. Tim explained that the information will not be following in the next month. He said until the authority decides on what this project is going to be we are unable to finish it. Herb discussed that the reason for Phase 1 was that it was believed to be the best way to get the whole thing passed; best way of eliminating objections and best way to get approved in the end. Mayor Bennett stated that until the Map Plan & Report is done, we do not know the financials; how can we go to the towns and municipalities to talk about this when we are unable to tell them what their burden would be and what their advantages will be, and they are not the same across the board. Ken raised a question regarding Phase 1 of doing the connection to Springport through the Village of Aurora then down to Honoco Road; Phase 1 of what project he wanted to know, is the project still the Regional District that was being foreseen down the road? Jeanine told Ken that Doug's graph breaks this information down and this would be part of our reporting to the county. Every year there are different types of funds available.

There was discussion about SEQR and meeting the mandates for required reports.

Mayor Bennett discussed that looking at the report for the cost of pipeline for Aurora is more expensive than it would be for them to do their own plant and plan. Andy Rindfleisch said if we did the whole Master Plan in one shot it would still cost the same amount of money. Ken explained that he is not sure of the cost estimate.

There was discussion regarding water usage for Honoco Road and Aurora. Mayor Bennett explained that the kind of plant they are looking at is something that can be added to modularly; something that will do 150,000 gallons per day, at the present time only doing about 30,000 gallons per day. They would be in a position to take on other customers with the new plant. Ken said that because of the reduced length of intake pipe at Long Point compared to what we need to do to reach a similar depth somewhere along the frontage of the village – the cost for that pipe length gets offset by the pipe having to be run from Long Point all the way to the Village of Aurora along Lake Road. Their intake at Long Point is 500 feet to get to 100 foot of depth; at Sherwood Road, its 3,600 feet for the intake to get to 100 foot of depth.

Paul noted that we need to get some finalizing done. We need to figure out the next step. Ken said we need to have frequent communication.

Peter Adams asked Ken if he would rather have the intake at Long Point or Aurora. Ken said if you can start the project at Long Point all the way through the town – that has more value.

Herb stated that the second source of water for the county is especially important and the surest way to do this is to do the phase as we described it and make sure we have the right amount of information. He believes to put a new line through the Village of Aurora is almost necessary and at our expense, we should increase the size of pipe going all the way to Long Point so that we can accommodate the pumping station there to pump water all the way back to the system. Herb said if we put the small plant into Aurora the chances of supplying water to the rest of the County is probably lost. He is also concerned about the lack of sewer on Sunset Beach Road and Honoco Road and thinks that our plan will help several situations that need help; if we could do this 1st Phase and immediately try to get the pumping station in at Long Point, we would accomplish what is right for the County.

Karl Rindfleisch wanted to know the cost of the 3600 foot intake at Cayuga Lake. Ken said it was \$200/foot.

Mayor Bennett and Ken thanked us for including them in the meeting.

Reports

Water Operations (Rindfleisch/Carson)

Karl Rindfleisch reported things have been quiet, which is good. Joe Carson reported that he is occasionally fixing grinder pumps, helping Jay Sawyer out and started working on water reports.

County Sewer District 2 (Sawyer)

Jay Sawyer reported that all is good up in Fair Haven. He had a suggestion for a Bubbler for Pump Station 4. The information for the Bubbler is presented to the board today. Jay had used a smaller bubbler that he was not happy with. The new Bubbler would be a larger one and the cost is around \$2,900 installed and he said it would pay for itself within 12 to 18 months.

Herb Marshall made a motion to give Jay Sawyer permission to purchase the components for a larger “Bubbler”, not to exceed \$3000.00. Andy Rindfleisch 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

County Infrastructure Report/Master Plan (Selby & Carpenter, MRB)

Doug Selby reported that the project for the CCIDA is out to bid; advertised on February 4, 2021 the bid opening is scheduled for February 26, 2021. There is a pre-bid meeting tomorrow. This project seems to be moving forward. He is not sure of the status of the funding for the construction; it is being handled by the IDA. The project should be ready to start in early March, subject to funding. The project is being bid in two phases. The 1st Phase completion is set up to be bid with an alternate so the contractor can bid the 1st Phase with the 2nd Phase or separately with a deduction if they bid them together. Doug stated IDA is hopeful that a single contractor will give a favorable bid for the whole package. The 1st Phase is necessary to meet the needs of CMI is tentatively scheduled to be completed in mid-April. The new lift station is scheduled to be completed in the fall or early winter of 2021.

Doug discussed his phasing plan that he put together from listening to comments; Aurora; the Board; other people he spoke to about issues we are facing in trying to create a District, the challenges. He tried to figure out a way to address all this. He explained that when we started the Map Plan Report it was intended to be a cooperative effort that we wouldn't just mandate this is it and this is the way it is going to be, but we would get input from the towns and villages and that input would drive how the project is structured and how much money we are going to spend and so forth. This all got sidetracked because of COVID and other reasons and we ended up losing some support. Doug's logical plan of phasing is to demonstrate the value of the project and to get it moving forward again.

Doug presented his plan (attached). This is a format for us to look at and consider if it is reasonable for us to move forward with to promote our project or whether it needs more work. Doug said that the Board needs to decide.

Christie Waters told Doug his report was wonderful because it has detail, numbers, visuals and is understandable. She wanted to know if we should run this by the county legislators and get their feedback. It is a county wide project, and they are providing the funding for the Map Plan and Report; should we make sure they are aware of this and hopefully approve this approach? Doug said his idea was to allow the Board to see this draft to get more feedback and to add more detail, then take it to the legislators; use it to talk to individuals, town and village leaders, and the City of Auburn. Tweak it to the extent necessary and incorporate it within the Map Plan and Report.

Ben Vitale reported that Doug's plan makes sense and appreciates the work he has put into it. Ben believes if Doug refines his work a bit it would be worth taking to the Public Works Committee next month and then they can have a better understanding of where the legislators will be landing on the whole project.

Herb wanted to know if there was any way to work the sewer project into Doug's plan even though it is not part of the water system. Doug said he believes it can be included in a Capital Development plan for the water authority that includes the other projects, but for the Map Plan and Report he thinks we need to segregate out just the water. Andy Rindfleisch mentioned that Doug might want to detail out allocation of debt to other phases and told Doug that he did a great job.

The phased proposal was discussed and Doug stated that he was trying to build on what the Board had previously defined as a consensual Phase 1 project and that is why he included these all together, but they can be broken down.

Ben noted that the county needs to see an update as soon as possible. He said that legislators are getting negative feedback already. He believes that Doug's presentation shows a pathway, and the sooner people see this, the better. Ben suggests getting a few people together with the chair of the legislature to look at Doug's final report and they can all look over it together and get a nice presentation ready.

Project Committee – met on February 3, 2021

Karl reported that they are looking into replacing a 2 inch pipe on Centerport Road. Presently there is a 2 inch pipe that serves about 13 to 14 homes on Centerport Road from Peachtree south to State Street. The pipe is on the old 38/31 line and has always been a problematic piece of pipe. The work is not uniform, there are depth issues, and the existing valves are not operable. We are looking at around 2600 feet of pipe and around \$110,000.00 to replace the pipe. They would put in 8 inch pipe and include 2 new fire hydrants: estimating high at around \$60,000.00 in materials and around \$50,000.00 in labor. Paul asked Fran if this was something that we could afford, and Fran said yes.

Andy Rindfleisch made a motion to replace approximately 2600 feet of water pipe on Centerport Road. The pipe is currently a 2 inch pipe and we want to replace it with an 8 inch pipe for the cost of around \$110,000.00. Fran Mitchell

2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Current Activities/Project Updates (Wilson, Director)

Jeanine discussed one extra report – the new mandate from the Department of Health. Each municipality or water supplier has to attest to having or not having asbestos in the lines. Joe filed the report. We do not have asbestos in the lines. She also wanted to remind the Board Members to send in their financial report/evaluation if they already have not done so.

Paul noted that we need to touch on the Master Plan. Tim Carpenter said it sounds like from what we heard today we want to go with the phased approach. We might want to wait a month to hear if this is the final answer and if it is, he can prepare the Map Plan Report based on the phased approach. It was discussed that we will wait for Doug to put his proposal together and discuss it with the Steering Committee to hear what the towns want to do. Jeanine asked Ben if he could help reach out to the County Attorney for his input; Ben said he was available to help in any way possible.

Financial – Christie Waters (Treasurer); Fran Mitchell (Audit Cmte. Chair)

Christie Waters asked for a motion to pay the revised set of bills that were received this morning from Pat Baum.

Christie Waters made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Andy Rindfleisch 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Fran Mitchell reconciled and reviewed the reconciliations for January 31, 2021 and is satisfied that everything is in order.

Fran Mitchell made a motion to approve the reconciliation report(s) from January 31, 2021, he found no exceptions. Christie Waters 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Budget vs. Actuals: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 (not yet audited by the auditors)

Fran presented with actuals for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 vs. the original budget and also proposed budget changes separately on sewer and water. There is no budget or changes provided for Capital, but he would like approval of proposed budget changes for the sewer and water.

Fran Mitchell made a motion for approval of proposed budget changes for sewer and water as presented. Andy Rindfleisch 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Legal– Attorney Riccardo Galbato, Galbato Law Firm – Updates

Rick Galbato reported that he has been working with Jeanine on getting the Town of Springport agreements signed. No additional reports.

New Business/Old Business Updates

Audit Committee – Chairman: FY20 Audit progressing.

Fran Mitchell reported that he has been asked to make some comments – his term runs out at the end of this year and he does not plan to renew his term after 2021. He asked that we permit him to work as a consultant for maybe an extra year (through 2022) at no charge to help anyone who becomes the audit chair. Fran just wanted to let us know this ahead of time.

Peter Adams made a motion to nominate Ben Vitale as Chair of the Personnel Committee. Herb Marshall 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Next Meeting

March 17, 2021 at 1:00 pm, 7413 County House Road

Respectfully Submitted:

Patty Schoonmaker, Sr. Clerk