

**MONTGOMERY-OTSEGO-SCHOHARIE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING #1**

DATE: January 19, 2006

LOCATION: Howes Cave Administrative Complex

Members Present

Charles Buck
Rudy Laguna
Donald Lindberg
William Strevy
Meredith McNeil
Olga Podmajersky
Edward Wesnofske

Members Absent

Raymond Halgas

Others Present

Gilbert L. Chichester
Melissa Morlang
Marijeanne Broadwell
Karen Sullivan - Otsego Co.

1. Opening

Chairman Wesnofske opened the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Meredith McNeil motioned, seconded by Charles Buck, to adopt the Agenda. On voice call the Agenda was unanimously approved.

3. Management Personnel Issues

Resolution No. 1 Resolution Authorizing Compensation Adjustments and Extension of Contract Compensation Terms for the Executive Director and Director of Finance and Administration} Sponsored by Rudy Laguna - Seconded by Charles Buck

Donald Lindberg stated that he met earlier in the week with Ms. Morlang and Mr. Chichester relative to their contracts and salaries as depicted in the Resolution. He stated that they have both been without a raise for three years, which they are deserving of. He indicated the Board needs to complete both Mr. Chichester's and Ms. Morlang's contract.

Mr. Strevy asked how the salary amounts were negotiated. Mr. Wesnofske explained that after checking with Mr. Buck and Mr. McNeil it was agreed that Mr. Lindberg would meet with Mr. Chichester and Ms. Morlang to discuss their salary requests and to negotiate a reasonable salary for both so as to bring the situation to a conclusion.

Mr. Strevy asked if the Personnel Committee Chairman had been consulted on the matter. Mr. Wesnofske stated that the Personnel Chairman had not been consulted but Mr. Wesnofske did call him and left a message on his voice mail explaining the situation. Mr. Wesnofske stated that he has left several other messages in the past for the Personnel Chairman about this issue and did not receive any feedback.

Mr. Strevy asked if the conditions and wording in the management contracts would remain the same. Mr. Wesnofske stated that was correct other than the fact that the Executive Director will not have to pay a portion of his medical insurance and he will be reimbursed the amount he has paid in for the past three years.

Ms. Podmajersky stated that it was her understanding that the Board was moving toward all management employees paying for a portion of their health insurance. Mr. Wesnofske stated there has been some difference of opinion on the matter. He stated that in 2007, in accordance with the revised Public Authorities Law, there has to be a written compensation plan in place for senior management. Ms. Podmajersky thought that all Authority employees should be covered under the same medical plan. Mr. Lindberg stated that he has never been in favor of staff making contributions for their health insurance.

Mr. Strevy asked how it came about that management employees were offered a more expensive premium health plan than the other employees. Ms. Morlang responded that it has been that way since the inception of the Authority. Mr. Strevy asked why it has been allowed to continue.

Mr. Wesnofske pointed out that the State of New York has management employees who are treated differently with a variety of plans and perks which are not given to civil service and unionized employees.

Mr. Strevy stated that he was not in favor of the Resolution.

Ms. Podmajersky stated that the salaries were too high for the responsibilities and she would not support it.

On voice call the Resolution was adopted with five members voting "aye" and two members (Podmajersky, Strevy) voting "nay" and one member (Halgas) "absent".

4. Oneonta Transfer Station

Mr. Wesnofske stated that since the meeting is a Special Board Meeting other business could not be discussed unless 2/3rd of the members present are in agreement.

He asked if Mr. Laguna had some informal discussion he would like to bring forward relative to the Oneonta Transfer Station.

Mr. Laguna stated that it has been brought to his attention that the area around the recycling drop-off at the Oneonta Transfer Station is really muddy and suggested that a truckload of gravel put around it. Mr. Wesnofske suggested that the Operations Committee review the matter. Mr. Chichester stated that the Building and Grounds Supervisor is currently at the

Oneonta Transfer Station dealing with several other issues and he would also be looking at the recycling area and would be addressing the problem in the near future.

5. Transportation and Disposal Agreement

Ms. Podmajersky asked what the status was of the transportation and disposal agreement. Mr. Chichester responded that he spoke to Mr. Riccelli who indicated that there has been a lot of communication with Casella and Waste Management. There has been a lot of staffing issue with Waste Management. Mr. Riccelli anticipates coming together with Casella the next day and Waste Management in the next couple of days.

Ms. Podmajersky asked where the garbage was going. Mr. Chichester responded that the waste is being delivered to Hyland, Ontario and Chemung. Very little if any waste is going to High Acres but Waste Management is still bringing waste into the Authority.

6. Management Contracts

Mr. Lindberg suggested that the Personnel Committee meet as a Committee of the Whole after the organizational meeting on January 31st to finalize Mr. Chichester's and Ms. Morlang's contracts. He pointed out that it is not fair to employees that their contracts have not been settled.

Mr. Strevy stated that it was not fair to the Board or the employees and the matter should be settled as soon as possible. Mr. Lindberg pointed out that the Personnel Committee Chairman ignored the matter, which was not fair of him.

7. Nominating Committee

Chairman Wesnofske appointed Charles Buck, William Strevy and Donald Lindberg as the Nominating Committee for the 2006 election of Officers for the Authority. He asked that Mr. Buck take lead of the committee. Mr. Buck asked that the nominating committee meet after the Board meeting.

8. Next Board Meeting

The Annual Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.

9. Closing

Meredith McNeil motioned, seconded by Charles Buck, to adjourn the meeting. On voice call the motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Loske
Confidential Secretary