

MINUTES
SOUTH & CENTER CHAUTAUQUA LAKE SEWER DISTRICTS
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING
JULY 13, 2021

PRESENT:

Karen Rine-Chair
Pierre Chagnon
William Chandler
Tom Erlandson
William Ortman
Robert Yates
Steve Abdella
Thomas Walsh
Bryan Wilson

EXCUSED:

Andrea McLean

VISITOR/GUEST:

Dudley Ericson – Past Board Member

Chair Karen Rine called the meeting to order @ 12 noon.

Project Manager Bryan Wilson first gave a brief update pertaining to the status of the Easement collection process and offered to email a one page summary (of the last update meeting) to anyone requesting same. Currently we are at 91% completion rate concerning easement collection and work continues to reach completion. Mr. Wilson further commented that they had the Sewer Extension Project Kick-off meeting with JD Northrup and it went very well. Another update meeting is scheduled for July 29, 2021 @ 9:30 am.

At this juncture, Attorney Steve Abdella made mention of being back under “Open Meetings Law.” Now that the Governor’s emergency order pertaining to COVID is no longer in effect, open meetings cannot be held via Zoom. After much discussion, it was decided that going forward, these “update” meetings will be categorized Board Meetings and will be media-noticed as such. GHD or other county personnel could participate via zoom, but actual Board Members would need to attend in person.

Next Pierre Chagnon spoke to the group regarding the background information and the work involved, bringing us to the point of making the Sewer Extension a reality. He explained that all this began approximately 8 years ago, breaking down the original plan into Phase I and Phase II due to financial constraints. He was happy to remind the group that we have now just signed a construction contract for Phase I. Further, we are now in a position to “get in under the wire” in applying for Grant Funding (NYS

DEC Water Quality Improvement Grant request) for Phase II. He said the \$10 million dollar requested grant, if received, would provide all the funding to “make Phase II a reality.”

Pierre Chagnon moved that the Administrative Board (of the South & Center Chautauqua Lake Sewer Districts), recommends that the County Legislature authorize the Funding Application for the West Side Extension, Phase II. Mr. Yates seconded the motion.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Erlandson questioned the wording of the part in the proposed Resolution that stated “approximately 1,200 septic systems still exist surrounding Chautauqua Lake and have been identified as a point source of phosphorus inputs to Chautauqua Lake.”

He additionally made mention of the importance of including the “public health issue” within the resolution wording citing that public health is a very important reason for constructing this extension.

Mr. Chagnon responded that both points raised were of value and he would request Attorney Abdella formulate those modifications into the language of the Resolution. That being said Mr. Chagnon replied that the current motion (on the table) does not have to be altered, as the Resolution is of the *Legislature* and this Board is simply moving to have the Legislature authorize the Funding application.

The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Robert Yates told the group about the dedication of the new Town of North Harmony building on July 31, 2021. Director Walsh will be setting up a booth with sewer extension information available to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Next Chair Karen Rine announced to the Board that there is a plan to hold a special “ground-breaking” ceremony related to the commencement of the sewer extension. One possible date discussed was Friday, August 13, 2021 at the BOCES location. Director Walsh stated he would check with the County Executive and Senator Borrello and hopefully something could be confirmed for that date.

The upcoming Board Meeting schedule was discussed briefly and it was agreed upon to change the date of the September Board Meeting from September 7, 2021, to September 14, 2021. Attorney Abdella indicated that he had a conflict with the September 14, 2021 date, but that he would be able to participate remotely.

Lastly, Mr. Chagnon informed the group that he was submitting a Resolution to the County Legislature which will allow him to appoint a Legislator to serve on each of the 4 Sewer District Boards in this County. Since Mr. Chagnon is currently on the SCCLSD Board, this won’t affect our Board composition but he wanted to make all aware of this. He explained a bit about how the Legislature is involved in governing and overseeing the five Sewer Districts; he said by having a Legislator on each District Board, they can be sure this oversight is taking place as it should be.

With no further business to discuss for the good of the Districts, **Pierre Chagnon moved to adjourn the meeting @ 12:50 pm. Mr. Ortman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Ann Peterson
Recording Secretary

c: Thomas Walsh, Director SCCLSD
Steve Abdella, Chautauqua County and Districts' Attorney
Bryan Wilson, Project Manager
Board
File