

Warren County Board of Supervisors

Committee: **WARREN COUNTY SEWER**

Date: April 28, 2006

**Committee Members Present:**

Supervisors Champagne  
Belden  
Gabriels  
Mason  
Stec

**Others Present:**

William Lamy, Deputy Superintendent,  
DPW/Sewer Administrator  
Joan Parsons, Commissioner of  
Administrative  
& Fiscal Services  
Supervisor F. Thomas  
Supervisor Barody  
Supervisor VanNess  
Supervisor Girard  
Supervisor Geraghty  
Fred Austin  
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board  
Debra L. Schreiber, Legislative Office  
Specialist

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Mr. Champagne called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Gabriels, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2006 meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. Lamy, who distributed copies of his agenda packet to members of the committee, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Referring to the list of Warren County Sewer referrals on page 2 of the Agenda, Mr. Lamy updated the committee on the sewer extension in Hague. He stated there was a significant section of the sewer extension that would require drilling, blasting or trenching the pipes in the rock. Mr. Lamy stated experts had been consulted but they were receiving mixed signals whether a pipe could be placed within the State right-of-way allowing the connections across the road and traffic to pass. He said he instructed Clough, Harbour & Associates, Inc. to obtain as much information as possible to share with the committee and the Town of Hague before they proceeded with sewer district formation. A tentative public meeting had been scheduled for the first weekend in June, apprised Mr. Lamy. Mr. Champagne reminded the committee that funds had been put aside for this project but he said he was unsure who would be responsible for any overage. The committee acknowledged this particular area was a high risk, but Mr. Lamy emphasized he would turn over every stone to accomplish this project within a reasonable budget. Mr. Champagne queried whether the project was bonded through the Town of Hague and Mr. Belden replied only for a distance, but he had scheduled a meeting with the State inquiring about some possible grant funds. Mr. Mason commented the project was detrimental on the

firms from New Hampshire, Vermont or Maine coming forward on piping through rock. Mr. Lamy mentioned there were more areas to sewer in Hague than there were funds and the extension to the south was a straight forward project.

With respect to the project takeover by the Town of Hague from the County of Warren, Mr. Lamy indicated there was a problem at the treatment plant with lift hoists that did not hold. He stated the bolts that were put in to hold the lifts pulled out of the concrete. Clough, Harbour & Associates had discussed this issue with the contractor, which had resulted in the redesign of new brackets and bolting system, he said. Mr. Lamy articulated had the problem been addressed in the first place, the brackets would have cost more money than the bid amount; therefore, he felt it was appropriate to approve a change order of \$1,893 for the new brackets. He added Clough, Harbour & Associates claimed that because the bolts were insufficient, they had re-engineered this at no cost to the County.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Gabriels to approve the request to authorize the change order in the amount of \$1,893 as outlined above.

Mr. Belden stated since this hoist was not properly designed and maintained Clough, Harbour & Associates as well as the contractor should be responsible for the additional cost. Mr. Stec said he would recommend Clough, Harbour & Associates and the contractor split the cost and be thankful no one got hurt. In addition, he expressed his concern relative to all departments who had such equipment in their possession and whether it was currently being tested and inspected pursuant to OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) standards. Mr. Gabriels queried who was responsible for overseeing the construction according to the plans and Mr. Lamy replied Clough, Harbour & Associates.

After discussion, Mr. Champagne called the question and all committee members unanimously opposed the motion; therefore the motion failed due to a lack of a majority vote.

Relative to Item 1b of the Referral List, Mr. Lamy explained upon correction of the card reader, the County would be in a better position to switch ownership of the treatment plant and existing collection system to the Town of Hague, which he anticipated would be within the next month. Mr. Mason asked why the ownership had not transferred from the County to the Town since inception and Mr. Belden replied the project had not been completed to specifications. However, the truck had been transferred, noted Mr. Belden.

Mr. Stec emphasized that all County owned hoists/lifts needed to be current on their testing and inspections and would authorize hiring someone to insure they meet the OSHA standards.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously authorizing all divisions within the Department of Public Works to hire a firm to inspect and certify the County hoists and lifts.

Mrs. Parsons and Mr. Geraghty entered the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

A short discussion ensued whether the County had a policy relative to OSHA inspection of lifts or whether a private contractor should be hired to certify the lifts. The consensus of the committee was to check on the County's lift inspection policy to determine if it was necessary to hire an outside firm for this purpose.

Continuing on with Item 2 under New Business of the Agenda, Mr. Lamy indicated that due to storm damage that occurred in Warren County on February 17, 2006, the Town of Hague incurred damage to different pieces of equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said he received an invoice from the Town of Hague that had been forwarded to the County's insurance company wherein the Town paid approximately \$7,500 in damage but he was awaiting word as to whether the County would receive any insurance settlement.

Included in the Agenda, Mr. Lamy said, was a letter from Michael Fitzgerald, a resident of the Town of Hague, to Mr. Costello, Operator of the Hague Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said he had previously been unsuccessful contacting the property owner but would continue to attempt to resolve the concerns of the owner. Mr. Belden mentioned he passed the letter on to the Town Attorney. Mr. Champagne asked if the County Attorney had been apprised of the letter and Mr. Lamy indicated he needed to discuss this matter with Mr. Dusek.

Relative to the construction at the Lake George village plant, Mr. Lamy reported this project was on schedule.

Mr. Lamy advised Item 4 was a resolution request to authorize an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Bolton for the Phase II work that was forthcoming. The agreement was similar to the format used for the Village of Lake George, he noted.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May board meeting. A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Lamy noted there was a typographical error on the resolution, the third line from the bottom, the figure \$1,716,000 should read \$1,752,000.

Mr. Belden expressed his thanks to Mr. Lamy for all the time spent on the Hague project and complimented him on a job well done.

There being no further business before the Committee, on motion by Mr. Stec and seconded by Mr. Belden, Mr. Champagne adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Schreiber , Legislative Office Specialist

