

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 13, 2006 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Thompson; Supervisors Barrett, Hunter, Janik, Keyrouze, Lucia, Peck, Sausville, Grattidge and Yepsen; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Joe Ritchey, DPW; Julie Stokes, Alane Chinian, Saratoga PLAN; Michael Panichelli, MJ Engineering; Tom Speziale, DPW; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Press.

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Janik the minutes of the February 8, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Ritchey said last month the Public Works Committee and the BOS, passed a resolution accepting a federal grant for the reconstruction of the Stewarts Dam Bridge. A couple of years ago Public Works was given direction to work on an agreement with the owners of the dam. Through the County Attorney's office they have been successful in coming up with that agreement, which has been signed by the owners. The agreement gives a 50/50 share of the local costs of the replacement, not to exceed \$330,000.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Janik to approve a resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Erie Boulevard Hydropower LP to share the local cost of the replacement of the Stewarts Dam Bridge at a total cost, not to exceed \$330,000. Unanimous.**

Mr. Ritchey said in the fall of 2004 the State Department of Transportation came to the county asking if they would administer the design portion of the Round Lake By-pass. At the time, the county was told that their budgeting process was filled for a five-year period and it would be a long drawn out process for them to obtain consulting services. In November of 2004 the Public Works Committee agreed to take on that roll and NYS asked the county to take their feasibility study, which laid out alternatives for the Round Lake Bypass from exit 11 to the intersection of Rt. 9 and Rt. 67. Part of the scope of those design services was for the consultant to identify the property owners and hold a public hearing to inform the public and property owners about the project and to inform them that this could be the first step in an eminent domain proceeding. It is important that the county is not the agency that is going to be doing the eminent domain procedures. The county is simply facilitating the design phase of the project, he said.

Mr. Ritchey said the Town of Malta and Saratoga PLAN are interested in a feasibility study to expand the scope of work of the engineers to address the issues of connectivity of the PLAN trails.

Mr. Sausville asked if the configuration of the trails has been finalized? Mr. Ritchey said in the next study the engineers would be meeting with PLAN, and the Town of Malta to

obtain plans for the trail and incorporate every ones ideas as to the future plan of the trails.

Mr. Ritchey said he would pursue financial support from the State, which would satisfy the counties concern of being consistent with procedures, and hopefully satisfy Saratoga PLAN's concerns that the county is proceeding with the designing for the trails.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Janik the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom