# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY

# HELD AT HEADQUARTERS, HIGHLAND, N.Y. ON March 21, 2024

Business agenda documents/reports are e-mailed to the Board Members and General Counsel prior to the meeting. Board meetings are web cast and are available on-line.

**BOARD MEMBER: IN ATTENDANCE: IN-PERSON** 

McDonald, Joan, Chair Bruni, Maria, Vice-Chair Berardi, Alexander, Commissioner Gilbert, Ilan, Commissioner O'Brien, Michael, Commissioner

### **OFFICERS:**

Rosso, Jennifer, Secretary Bushek, Brian, Treasurer

Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following public comments were provided over Zoom:

#### Maria Idoni

Ms. Idoni, representing the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, discussed data figures that the AFSP collected regarding suicides and attempts at NYSBA facilities. She went on to say that individual deaths end up affecting multiple people connected with the person or the event. She advocated for the board to approve deterrent fencing.

### Andrew Famulare

Mr. Famulare is a volunteer for the Hudson Valley chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. He discussed the allocation made in NYSBA's

most recent capital plan for various suicide deterrent projects. He felt that the funding could cover a large portion of chain link fence across the NYSBA bridges, per the initial cost estimates presented in Modjeski & Masters' engineering report in 2022. Mr. Famulare stressed that the fences need to be at least 7½ feet in height and run the entire length of the bridge in order to be effective.

### COMMUNITY APPRECIATION/EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS:

There were several employees that received recognition awards.

Lauren Melendez, Deputy Executive Director, was recognized for her excellent leadership as shown by her inclusion in the IBTTA Foundation Leadership Academy Class of 2024.

Danielle Mass & Sheena Fitzpatrick from the Command Center as well as Francine Byrne and Julianne Sgro from IT were all recognized for their contributions to excellence and innovation in information security as acknowledged by the Coast Guard. Chair McDonald presented all employees with the 2023 U.S Coast Guard Sector NY, Area Maritime Security Committee Excellence in Cybersecurity Award.

Jeff Wright, Chief Engineer, was recognized for his leadership & excellence in engineering for his oversight of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge North Deck Replacement & All Electronic Toll Collection Project. Chair McDonald acknowledged that Mr. Wright received the 2024 American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)Gold Award alongside HDR, Construction Inspection Consultant.

The next order of business was to adopt the Regular Board meeting minutes of February 15, 2024. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, seconded by Commissioner Gilbert, the February 15, 2024 minutes were adopted unanimously:

#### REPORTS TO THE BOARD:

### 1) Executive Director's Monthly Detailed Summary

Dr. Alcantara reported to the Board the following:

#### **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

# Strategic Planning & Management Training

Strategic Planning continues with the help of staff from the Thruway Center of Excellence. We are working on establishing a vision for the Authority for the near future (5-10 years) as an actionable way to ensure that everyone in the organization is working towards a common goal. By creating a forward-focused vision we look to create an increased sense of responsibility and purpose throughout the Authority.

# **Labor Management Forum**

In addition to our Authority-wide Labor Management Forum meetings, we have begun having meetings between labor representative teams and directors as we travel to each facility. In the last month we have met with representatives from the Mid-Hudson and Newburgh Beacon Bridges.

### Summer Internship Positions

Hiring has begun for our 2024 summer seasonal positions. Most of our positions are part of our maintenance team, with a few office-related positions as well. Pay is \$20/hour, 40 hours/week. Once again, we will offer career enrichment workshops every other Friday for participants in this program. Please spread the word to anyone you know looking for a summer job!

### **Employee Mental Health/Wellness Initiatives**

We continue to explore ways to enhance the resources we provide to our employees for their mental health and wellness, including ensuring our managers are prepared with the tools they need to help employees after response to traumatic events. This month, we met with the Suicide Prevention Center of New York to explore training options while also talking to a number of sister agencies to identify what policy enhancements that we can make based on what others are already doing.

#### COMMUNITY

# IBTTA Foundation Leadership Academy

Congratulations to Lauren Melendez, who was part of the *IBTTA Foundation Leadership Academy Class of 2024*! Lauren traveled to Washington, DC for a week-long program with other mid- to senior-level managers in the tolling industry. We now have two alumni of this program currently on our staff, the other being Jeff Weiss.

### ACEC New York Engineering Excellence Award

HDR, our consulting partner on the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge deck replacement project, is receiving a gold award for engineering excellence from the *American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) New York*. Congratulations to Jeff Wright and our engineering team for their work with HDR and other contractors who made this project such a success!

#### **Excellence in Cybersecurity Award**

NYSBA has been selected by the US Coast Guard for the 2023 SECNY AMSC

**Excellence in Cybersecurity Award**, in recognition of our work on maritime cybersecurity and cybersecurity. Congratulations to Danielle Mass and the Command Center team and Francine Rivera Byrne and the IT team for their work on this critical issue!

## Celebrating Women's Month

On March 6<sup>th</sup> I was a panelist in the "Don't wait for Permission to Lead Yourself" Morning Fireside at NYU Stern MBA Program in celebration of Women's month.

# **Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls**

On March 7, our PIO Chris Steber represented NYSBA at the Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls, primarily focused on sharing information about the upcoming Bear Mountain Bridge Centennial.

### **Youth Leadership Program**

NYSBA is partnering again with The Chamber Foundation, the nonprofit arm of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, in hosting the Youth Leadership Program. These youth are taking part in practicums where they get exposed to real-world job shadowing experiences. We have placed four of them in different departments and will have them here through the end of April.

### **Meetings with Elected Officials**

On March 13, NYSBA hosted City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers for a meeting to discuss NYSBA's operations and future initiatives as well as a tour of the Command Center.

#### M/WBE & SDVOB Meet & Greet Event

Next week is our M/WBE & SDVOB Meet & Greet event on March 28 at SUNY Orange's Newburgh campus. We have over 300 people registered representing over 200+ businesses from construction, consulting, architecture/engineering firms, suppliers as well as many others. Exhibitors at the event include four state agencies (Empire State Development M/WBE Division and Small Grants Division, Office of General Services SDVOB Division, NY Power Authority and NYS Thruway Authority), as well as four prime contractors and nine consultants.

#### Federal RAISE Grant Application

We submitted our application for a federal RAISE Grant, administered by U.S. DOT, to pay for a state-of-the-art dehumidification system on the Mid-Hudson Bridge. Special thanks to Commissioner O'Brien and to our consultants at Modjeski & Masters for their immense help during this application! We are also grateful for the numerous letters of support that we received from local partners and elected officials.

# **Hudson River Skywalk**

NYSBA and State Parks have partnered to install new signage for pedestrians who travel along the Hudson River Skywalk, on the east side of the Rip Van Winkle Bridge. Some of the existing signage is confusing for pedestrians, so these new wayfinding signs will improve how people traverse along the Skywalk and access Olana State Historic Site as well as Thomas Cole National Historic Site on foot.

### **Walkway Over the Hudson**

NYSBA continues attending meetings for the Walkway Friends Group's Strategic Planning Committee, as they also work on their strategic plan. Thank you again to our PIO Chris Steber for representing NYSBA at those meetings.

#### FINANCE

### **Contracts**

The following contracts will be appearing before the Board this month for approval:

KRB Girder Lead Abatement & Painting BA-2024-RE-101-CM

## **Finance Update**

February 2024 traffic had 4.6 million vehicle crossings, higher than 2023 traffic by 342,000 vehicles (7.98%) and represented 99.1% of the recent high of January 2020 (see attachment A). February YTD traffic was 9.2 million, a 3.13% increase over 2023 (see attachment B).

The total E-ZPass utilization for the month of February amounted to \$2.041 million or 88.3% of total revenue, consisting of \$1.83 million valid E-ZPass tag reads and \$0.27 million E-ZPass account-based transactions identified through plate images. This traffic was composed of 93.53% Passenger and 6.47% Commercial vehicles, the same as February 2023 traffic. Important to note that Commercial vehicles account for approximately ~30% of our revenue (see attachment E&F).

January 2024 Revenue was \$5.46 million as compared to \$5.28 million in 2023. This 3.46% increase from 2023 is attributable to the impact of the May 2023 toll schedule revision (see attachment C). During the month of January, toll related revenue was comprised of \$4.8 million E-ZPass transactions (88%) and \$0.3 million Tolls by Mail traffic (5%) (see attachment D).

JANUARY 31, 2024	
Revenue	% of Total

E-Zpass (1)	\$ 4,806,022	88%
Tolls by Mail (2)	\$ 284,590	5%
Tolls by Mail Fines/Fees (3)	\$ 342,767	6%
Overweight Fees (4)	\$ 31,100	1%
Total Revenue	\$ 5,464,480	100%

#### Notes:

- (1) E-ZPass travel posted to an account for the month and Un-Used Commuter Trips
- (2) TBM Expected Revenue for the current month and latest revisions to estimates for prior months.
- (3) TBM Fines and Fees (Non-Sufficient Funds and Administration Fees) collected this period
- (4) DOT Highway Oversize Overweight Credentialing System Activity

# 2) Monthly Activity Report of the Executive Director

The Monthly Activity Report was submitted by Dr. Minosca Alcantara, noting no expenditures for the month.

#### ADMINISTRATION:

### 1) Prompt Payment Annual Report 2023

Mr. Pavlin reported to the Board Pursuant to New York State Bridge Authority Prompt Payment Policy §207.4b and §2880 of the Public Authorities Law, a copy of our Prompt Payment Annual Report for 2023 together with a resolution for the Board to adopt the report was included in the Board package. Following the adoption of the resolution, the report will be submitted, in accordance with the Public Authorities Law, to the Division of the Budget and the Department of Audit and Control (NYS Comptroller), via PARIS (Public Authorities Reporting Information System), with copies mailed to the Chair of the State Senate Finance Committee and the Chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Chair McDonald asked for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Gilbert, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-019</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority Prompt Payment Policy, as adopted by this Authority in compliance with §2880 of the Public Authorities Law, requires an annual report on the scope and implementation of such policy to be submitted to the Board for review purposes within ninety (90) days after the close of the fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive Director has compiled and submitted such a report reflecting the requirements of Section 207.4 of such Policy; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby approve the described report for fiscal year 2023 filed herewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

### 2) 2023 Annual Procurement Contracts Report & 2024 Procurement Guidelines

Mr. Pavlin explained to the Board that Public Authorities Law and the Authority's Guidelines for Establishing Standards for the Use, Award, Monitoring and Reporting of Procurement Contracts require an annual report detailing information on expenditures and contracts over \$5,000 entered during 2023 or ongoing from previous years. This report, which required Board approval per the guidelines, was included in the Board package with a resolution. Additionally, the Board must review and adopt the Authority's Guidelines for Establishing Standards for the Use, Award, Monitoring and Reporting of Procurement Contracts on an annual basis. These guidelines were included in the Board package as well with a resolution to adopt them. Following the adoption of these resolutions, the report and the guidelines will be submitted, in accordance with the Public Authorities Law, to the Division of the Budget and the Department of Audit and Control (NYS Comptroller), via PARIS (Public Authorities Reporting Information System), with copies mailed to the Department of Economic Development, the Senate Finance Committee and the Assembly Ways and Chair McDonald called for a motion to adopt the first Means Committee. resolution. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Vice-Chair Bruni, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-020

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Board has received and reviewed the Authority's 2023 Annual Procurement Report in accordance with its Procurement Guidelines and pursuant to Section 2879 of the Public Authorities Law; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority hereby approves the Annual Procurement Report for 2023 and authorizes its formal submission as required by the Public Authorities Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

Jennifer	Rosso.	Secretary	

Chair McDonald called for a motion for the second resolution regarding the 2024 Procurement Guidelines. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Berardi, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-021</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Bridge Authority has heretofore adopted <u>Standards For the Use</u>, <u>Award Monitoring and Reporting of Procurement Contracts</u>; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines recommend that they be reviewed and confirmed by the Board annually; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approves its <u>Standards For the Use, Award Monitoring and Reporting of Procurement Contracts</u> as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

#### **ENGINEERING:**

# 1) KRB Girder Spans Lead Abatement & Painting BA-2024-RE-101-CM

The Authority advertised this job in the New York State Contract Reporter and on the NYSBA website to install Class A containment, blast and remove lead paint and repaint the approach girder spans and floor system of the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge, with bids due March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A dozen (12) firms requested the link for plans and specifications with three (3) bids submitted. The low bidder was Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Inc. at \$10,340,000.00. The Engineer's Estimate was \$12,162,000.00. The Engineering department recommended awarding a construction contract to Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Inc., of Amherst, New York at the not-to-exceed amount of \$10,340,000.00 to complete this project. Amherst has committed to meeting the 30% M/WBE goal. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Gilbert, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-022

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, bids were solicited through the New York State Contract Reporter for the contract entitled "Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge East & West Approach Girder Spans Lead Abatement and Painting" as BA-2024-RE-101-CM; and

WHEREAS, three (3) bids were received on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024; the apparent low bidder being the firm of Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Inc., at a bid of \$10,340,000.00; and

WHEREAS, an environmental review of this project has determined there is no significant negative impact to the local environment; and

WHEREAS, after further review of the cost proposal by the Engineering department, it is recommended that a construction contract be awarded to the firm of Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Inc.; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of The New York State Bridge Authority award a construction contract to Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Inc., of Amherst, NY, in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,340,000.00, pending the filing of proper certifications and the receipt of bonding and insurance requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March 2024.

# 2) Mid-Hudson Bridge Traveler Drive Retrofit Request

Mr. Wright explained to the Board that under bridge access platform travelers were installed at MHB 27 years ago and were custom-designed for our application by American Crane. Historically however, the Authority had many issues with the electric motors that drive the wheels to move the unit, due to the severe environmental conditions found under the bridge. The Engineering department brainstormed for a more durable system and went back to American Crane with the idea of converting them from electric to hydraulic and were told they could not assist us with that conversion. The Authority was also turned down for assistance from Rexroth Bosch group, a national hydraulics specialist. We finally found a partner in Motion Industries, an industrial component manufacturer that was willing to help with the engineering to install a hydraulic powered drive system that we could retrofit to our travelers. The hydraulic system is a closed system that is not susceptible to environmental conditions. Through Motion Industries, who provided an on-site hydraulics engineer that helped spec out the equipment, and as a part of a standby readiness emergency contract with Hudson Valley Bridge, we completed a retrofit on one of our six traveler units. This required machined adapters to mate the hydraulic motor to the drive assembly and a gasoline powered hydraulic power pack. Because these units are custom-made, Mr. Wright considers Motion Industries to be a sole source for future retrofit components. The components were installed in-house by the MHB Maintenance crew. Currently, the five travelers units with electric motors are inoperable. The Authority does not want to invest further funds in electric propulsion. With one hydraulic-retrofitted traveler functioning as anticipated, we wish to proceed with retrofitting the other five. While this work is a major revamping of the units, we believe it will result in a much more durable piece of equipment. The retrofits for the other five units are estimated to cost the Authority upwards of \$40,899.00 each. The funding for this will come from the capital program. Mr. Wright recommended Motion Industries as a sole source for the components, at a total not-to-exceed cost of \$204,495.00. The Authority will utilize our in-house forces to install the components on the remaining five units. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll all vote. All Commissioners voted ave unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-023</u> Resolution Date: <u>March 21, 2024</u>

WHEREAS, twenty-seven (27) years ago electric motor-driven under bridge access platform travelers were custom designed and installed at the Mid-Hudson Bridge by American Crane, however their functionality and usefulness has been severely limited by the harsh environmental conditions found beneath the bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Authority had tried unsuccessfully to enlist several manufacturers to assist them with the conversion from electric to hydraulic motors; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Engineering and Maintenance department was eventually able to enlist Motion Industries, an industrial component manufacturer, to engineer the installation of a hydraulic powered drive system that has been successfully retrofit to one (1) traveler unit; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that a purchase order be issued to Motion Industries, of Albany, New York, as a sole source, to retrofit an additional five (5) traveler units at the Mid-Hudson Bridge in accordance with the cost proposal provided in the not-to-exceed amount of \$204,495.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March 2024.

### 3) Purchase of Two (2) Silverado EVs

Mr. Wright informed the Board that the Authority is working toward one of our fleet goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We have researched various vehicles that might be applicable to replace our gasoline powered pickup trucks. This is another step in our plan to comply with the State's directive, EO22, for the use of alternative fuel vehicles. We have selected the Chevy Silverado EV e4WD Crew Cab Work Truck Model 4WT. Although these vehicles are more expensive than a similar gas-powered vehicle, it is anticipated that fuel cost savings over the life cycle of the vehicle will negate the additional up front cost. The Authority would like to purchase two (2) new Chevy Silverado EV e4WD Crew Cab Work Truck Model 4WTs to be utilized in the maintenance departments at two bridges. These will replace two older gas powered pickup trucks. We advertised through the NYS OGS Vehicle Marketplace and received bids from five (5) vendors, with Bob Johnson Auto Group, of Spencerport, New York, being the low bidder at \$155,546.16 for the two (2) trucks that meet the spec we supplied. Mr. Wright also noted that he will be looking into receiving available rebates from the State and Federal government. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Vice-Chair Bruni, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-024</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the New York State Bridge Authority has determined it is in the public interest to issue a purchase order to Bob Johnson Auto Group, of Spencerport, New York, for the purchase of two (2) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado Electric Pickup Trucks to be utilized at two of the Authority's bridges; and

WHEREAS, the Authority utilized NYS OGS' competitive mini-bid process, "Vehicle Marketplace" to solicit prices for two (2) Chevrolet Silverado EV 34WD Crew Cab Work Truck Model 4WTs and received five (5) cost proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Maintenance department has reviewed and approved Bob Johnson Auto Group as the apparent low bidder; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approve issuing a purchase order to Bob Johnson Auto Group, of Spencerport, New York, for the purchase of two (2) Chevrolet Silverado EV 34WD Crew Cab Work Truck Model 4WTs in the total not-to-exceed amount of \$155,546.16; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

# 4) Jobs in Progress

Mr. Wright reported that Spring is here and construction projects have begun. The WOTH steel repair project has started up again and is under full swing. The painting of the BMB Towers will begin next week, with the contractor mobilizing and setting barriers and scaffolding. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Berardi, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-025</u> Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the monthly Engineering Progress Report on Capital Project Status; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Engineering Progress Report is accepted as an instrument documenting the Board's briefing of Capital Construction activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March 2024.

### FINANCIAL:

# 1) Investment Report

Mr. Bushek reviewed the monthly Investment Report, noting eight investments for the month, all of a routine nature. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-026</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the investment control procedures for the New York State Bridge Authority require the Board to review and approve the report of investment transactions completed since the meeting of the Board on February 15, 2024; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby concur with and approve the investment report as filed with this body on this date for the purpose noted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

Jennifer Rosso, Secretary	

# 2) 2023 Annual Investment Report

Mr. Bushek reported to the Board that the Authority's Investment Guidelines adopted pursuant to Public Authorities Law § 2925 requires the subject report, which was included in the Board package. The contents of the report are in the following order: independent accountants' report on compliance with Authority Investment Guidelines; The investment Guidelines, with no amendments in the past year, and Investment Income record and cost of investment associated services. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, and seconded by Commissioner Gilbert, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-027</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, Investment Guidelines adopted by this Authority pursuant to the Public Authorities Law § 2925 require that an annual report be prepared and submitted to the Board for approval each year; now therefore and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby approve the Annual Investment Report for the fiscal year 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March, 2024.

Jennifer Rosso, Secr	etary

# 3) Annual Report Required by Section 2800 Public Authorities Law

Mr. Bushek reported to the Board that the Annual Report Required by Section 2800 Public Authorities Law is to be sent to the Governor (Authorites Budget Office), Comptroller and the ranking majority and minority members of the Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means committees. It consists of the following:

- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Operations, Accomplishments, and Projects Undertaken
- Statements of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Revenue Representing the report of receipts, disbursements, or revenues and expenses, during such fiscal year for operating and capital outlay purposes
- Statements of Net Position and accompanying Statements of Cash Flows Representing Assets and liabilities at the end of the fiscal year
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Schedule of Debt Issuance – Representing the schedule of bonds and notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal year, together with a statement of the amounts redeemed and incurred during such fiscal year as part of a schedule of debt issuance that includes the date of issuance, term, amount, interest rate, and means of payment.
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Compensation Schedule – Representing a compensation schedule that includes by position the title and name, salary, compensation, allowance, and/or benefits provided to any officer, director, or employee in a decision making or managerial position of the Authority whose salary is in excess of \$100,000.
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Real Property Reflecting a listing of:
  - All real property of the Authority at the end of the year with a fair market value in excess of \$15,000.
  - All property disposed of during the year
  - Estimated fair market value for all property held by the Authority at the end of the fiscal year
  - An estimate of fair market value for all property held by the Authority at the end of the year
  - The price received and the name of the purchaser for all property sold by the Authority during the fiscal year
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Internal Control Statement
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Certification

In addition to the requirements of Section 2800, the Authority provides annually through PARIS a certification that the following items have been adopted/implemented:

- Authorities Budget Office Policy Guidance Authority Mission Statement and Performance Measures – Previously approved and provided in the format required by the Authorities Budget Office
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Authority Measurement Report – Assessing the Authority performance against Board adopted measurements.
- Annual Report Per Section 2800 of Public Authorities Law Code of Ethics
- Project Sunlight and New York State Bridge Authority Lobbying Contact Policy representing the Authority's Lobbyist Policy and Related Contacts – The adopted related policies and record keeping consist of: Project Sunlight, lobbying policy, and log of lobbyist contacts during 2023.

Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, and seconded by Commissioner Gilbert, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-028

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, Public Authorities Law § 2800 requires that an annual report be prepared and submitted to the Board for approval each year and annual PARIS reporting requires the Mission Statement and Lobbying Contact Policy reported; now therefore and,

BE IT RESOLVED, the New York State Bridge Authority does hereby approve the Annual Report pursuant to Public Authorities Law § 2800 for the fiscal year 2023, the Mission Statement and Lobbying Contact Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2024.

Jennifer Rosso, Secretary	

# 4) 2024 Annual Real Property & Disposal Reports/Disposal Guidelines

Mr. Bushek indicated to the Board that Pursuant to a requirement of the Public Authorities Accountability Act of 2005, the Authority must annually both review its guidelines for the disposal of property and the Board must designate a responsible "Contracting Officer" for such disposals. Additionally, as required by Article 9, Title 5-A, of the Public Authorities Law, the Board must approve annually a report listing all real property as well as a report of real and personal property disposed during the fiscal year. These reports are subsequently submitted to various State Offices as listed in the guidelines. The 2024 Guidelines and Procedures for the Disposal of Personal Property - The only change is to name Brian Bushek as the Contracting Officer, 2023 Real Property Report and 2023 Disposals Report.

Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Berardi, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-029</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Public Authority Accountability Act of 2005 requires that Authorities annually review and re-adopt guidelines for the disposal of property subject to Article 9, Title 5-A of the Public Authorities Law; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has received and reviewed its disposal guidelines; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority adopts the attached "2024 Guidelines and Procedures for the Disposal of Personal Property" and designates the Director of Administrative Services as its Contracting Officer with the duties and responsibilities as described within the "guidelines"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

Rosso, Secretary

### 5) Quarterly Operations Report Q4 2023

Mr. Bushek indicated to the Board that the traffic increase of 4.39% for the year was the result of increases in traffic over 2022 which was still significantly impacted by COVID-19 in the first quarter. Toll revenue increased 5.58% from the increase in both traffic and the toll schedule revision from May 1, 2023. Significant increases in interest rates from last year resulted in interest income increasing \$3,217,000 to \$4,716,000 year to date. Miscellaneous receipts increased by \$40,000 to \$830,000 primarily from fiber leasing contracts. Change in fair market value of investment declined by \$656,000 from prior year as more investments held were carrying current market rates Operating expenses increased \$5,029,000 as a result of several differences including: increased by \$677,000 on the return of a larger Seasonal Program, the hiring of vacant and new positions, and contractually obligated wage and salary increases associated with the settlement of the collective bargaining agreement; Retirement Costs increased by \$2,520,000 as a result of actuary computations related to GASB 68; Commercial Insurance increased by \$492,000 on higher prevailing market rates, Professional Fees increased by \$206,000 on higher use of the Independent Consulting Engineer or various projects; and Electronic Toll Costs increased by \$696,000 as a result of higher Customer Service Center costs. Market values to produce only \$677,000 income. Operating expenses were budgeted at \$53.2 million, which includes \$10 million for accrual postemployment benefits and \$1.6 million for depreciation of the Walkway Over The Hudson booked at year end. As of 12/31, \$43.8 million was spent. Variances were primarily related to Health Insurance projections under GASB 45/75 Other Post Employment Benefits. The Authority's five-year capital plan originally budgeted \$32.5 million. As of 12/31 \$16.1 million has been spent. work not completed in 2023 will be taken up in 2024. No action was required by the Board.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

# 1) Systemwide Server Replacement BA-2024-RO-004-IT

Ms. Byrne explained to the Board that the IT Department's Capital Improvement budget includes a server replacement program. This year, 11 servers (three video servers, three virtual servers, two domain controllers, one file server, one syslog server, and one backup server) are scheduled for replacement. All servers are being replaced in accordance with our replacement cycle. Old servers will be repurposed where needed. The Authority through the NYS OGS Contract PM21120 has provided a quote for this procurement. Through the RFQ process, Derive Technologies, a NYS certified MBE from New York, New York supplied the Authority with the lowest price quote of \$86,160.60 for the 11 servers. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Gilbert, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-030

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners have reviewed the memorandum describing the need to replace eleven servers; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority received a quote through the RFQ process provided by Derive Technology, a NYS certified MBE, through the NYS OGS Contract PM21120; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approve that a purchase order be issued to Derive Technology from New York, NY for the eleven servers at a not-to-exceed amount of \$86,160.60; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2024.

Jennifer Rosso,	Secretary

#### COMMAND CENTER:

### 1) NYS Police MHB Traffic Control

Mr. Pavlin presented on behalf of Ms. Mass. Mr. Pavlin explained to the Board that the Authority pays the New York State Police to provide traffic control during the weekday AM and PM traffic pattern changes at the Mid-Hudson Bridge. Provisions are made for these services each year and that amount is included in the annual approved budget for the Mid-Hudson Bridge. New York State Police may invoice the Authority a maximum of four hours per weekday (Monday -Friday), excluding holidays, for this service. As of February 15, 2024, the Authority received notification from the New York State Police budgeting office that the hourly rate for the provided services, currently \$149.33/hour, has decreased to \$143.50, effective January 1, 2024. This reduction is attributed to recent Trooper recruitment and the Governor's initiatives for hiring more Troopers, resulting in a decrease in the average overtime rate. Mr. Pavlin expressed that Ms. Mass recommended for the Board to approve an amount not exceeding \$149,240 for these services in 2024. This amount is based on the assumption that the maximum 1040 hours of coverage will be provided at the adjusted rate of \$143.50/hour. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, seconded by O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted ave unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-031

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Authority's Mid-Hudson Bridge facility undergoes traffic pattern changes twice each weekday to accommodate morning and afternoon peak traffic periods; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority has engaged the New York State Police, Troop F, to provided traffic control services during these periods of increased traffic volume at an overtime rate; and,

WHEREAS, this hourly rate is currently \$149.33 and has decreased to \$143.50 on January 1, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the number of hours invoiced by the State Police in 2024 is not expected to exceed one thousand and forty hours, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approves payment for the NYS State Police to provide traffic control services at the Mid-Hudson Bridge for the period January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024 in the not-to-exceed amount of \$149,240; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

•	this resolution has been duly adopted this 21
day of March, 2024.	
	Jennifer Rosso, Secretary

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### **ALL ELECTRONIC TOLLING:**

# 1) NYS Thruway Authority – Invoice#109 November 2023 E-ZPass & Cashless Tolling Expenses

Mr. Weiss reviewed the invoices from the New York State Bridge Authority for November 2023 Bridge Authority E-ZPass & Cashless Tolling Expenses. Mr. Weiss found the amount of \$824,075.35 to be true and accurate for the month of November. Mr. Weiss noted that the invoices contain \$371,934.09 in E-ZPass related costs, \$452,141.26 in Cashless Tolling transaction costs. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Berardi, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-032

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding, dated April 29, 2009, states that the Bridge Authority agrees to reimburse the NYS Thruway Authority for E-ZPass related costs it incurs which are determined as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, E-ZPass related costs resulting from 2,064,144 transactions during the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$371,934.09 and equaling a cost of 18 cents per transaction have been confirmed as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, the first amendment to this Memorandum of Understanding which has been previously approved by the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority, Resolution Number 021-071, on June 17, 2021, states that the Bridge Authority agrees to reimburse the NYS Thruway Authority for Tolls by Mail (Cashless Tolling) related costs it incurs which are determined as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, Cashless Tolling related costs resulting from 549,061 transactions during the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$452,141.26 and equaling a cost of 82 cents per transaction have been confirmed as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approves payment to the NYS Thruway Authority in the amount not to exceed \$824,075.35; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN V day of Ma	WHEREOF,	this resolu	ution has	been du	ıly adopt	ed this 21st
		Jennifer F	Rosso, Se	ecretary		

# 2) NYS Thruway Authority – Invoice#110 December 2023 E-ZPass & Cashless Tolling Expenses

Mr. Weiss reviewed the invoices from the New York State Thruway Authority for December 2023 Bridge Authority E-ZPass and Cashless Tolling expenses. He found the amount of \$619,652.22 to be true and accurate for the month of December. Please be advised, these invoices contain \$399,309.25 in E-ZPass related costs, \$220,342.97 in Cashless Tolling transaction costs. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, seconded by Commissioner Gilbert, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: <u>024-033</u>

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding, dated April 29, 2009, states that the Bridge Authority agrees to reimburse the NYS Thruway Authority for E-ZPass related costs it incurs which are determined as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, E-ZPass related costs resulting from 1,971,062 transactions during the month of December 2023 in the amount of \$399,309.25 and equaling a cost of 20 cents per transaction have been confirmed as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, the first amendment to this Memorandum of Understanding which has been previously approved by the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority, Resolution Number 021-071, on June 17, 2021, states that the Bridge Authority agrees to reimburse the NYS Thruway Authority for Tolls by Mail (Cashless Tolling) related costs it incurs which are determined as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, Cashless Tolling related costs resulting from 537,202 transactions during the month of December 2023 in the amount of \$220,342.97 and equaling a cost of 41 cents per transaction have been confirmed as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approves payment to the NYS Thruway Authority in the amount not to exceed \$619,652.22; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March 2024.

Jennifer Rosso, Secretary	

# 3) NYS Thruway Authority Credit Card Reimbursement for E-ZPass Costs

Mr. Weiss reviewed the spreadsheet from the New York State Thruway Authority for Q4 2023 Bridge Authority E-ZPass and Cashless Tolling credit card reimbursements. He finds them to be true and accurate, and, as such, recommend paying them in the amount of \$282,968.77. Chair McDonald called for a motion. On a motion of Commissioner Berardi, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, Chair McDonald called for a roll call vote. All Commissioners voted aye unanimously:

# NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 024-034

Resolution Date: March 21, 2024

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding, dated April 29, 2009, states that the Bridge Authority agrees to reimburse the NYS Thruway Authority for E-ZPass related costs it incurs which are determined as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, E-ZPass related costs resulting from Credit Card transactions during the fourth quarter of 2023, in the amount of \$282,968.77 has been confirmed as chargeable to the Bridge Authority; and

WHEREAS, the invoice includes charges attributed to Credit Cardreimbursement costs of \$282,968.77 for the fourth quarter of 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority approves payment to the NYS Thruway Authority in the amount not to exceed \$282,968.77; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, or her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary measures to implement this resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this resolution has been duly adopted this 21st day of March 2024.

Jennifer Rosso, Secretary	

Chair McDonald asked for a motion to adjourn. On a motion of Commissioner Gilbert, seconded by Commissioner Berardi, and approved unanimously, the Regular meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

The next Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the NYSBA Headquarters.