

**Facilities and Infrastructure Committee  
Special Meeting  
June 3, 2008  
Scott Heyman Conference Room**

*Approved 7/17/08*

Present: L. McBean-Clairborne, Chair; K. Luz Herrera (arrived 4:55 p.m.), Vice Chair, D. Randall, D. Kiefer, C. Chock  
Staff: R. Nicholas, Airport; W. Sczesny, J. Lampman, Highway Division; E. Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works; M. Lynch, Public Information; D. Squires, Finance Director; K. Fuller, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature  
Legislator: F. Proto  
Guest: Josh Pottorff, Student; Tim Ashmore, Ithaca Journal; Syl Kacapyr, 870 WHCU; Larry Cerretani, C&S Engineers

**Call to Order**

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

**Chair's Statement**

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne thanked Ms. Fuller for informing the Committee of Ms. Nelson, Public Works Administrator's loss of her mother. She asked that members personally take time to acknowledge the loss.

**Changes to the Agenda**

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne moved the Highway Division's action to the beginning of the meeting.

**Deletion from Agenda**

There was no deletions from the agenda. (Later in the meeting the resolution entitled "Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with C&S Engineers, Inc., for Construction Observation and Contract Administration Services – Runway Safety Area Improvements and Obstruction Clearance" was withdrawn.

**Highway Division**

**Approval to Seek Construction Bids and Level of Committee Involvement – Banks Road Bridge Restoration Project (BIN 3209730) Town of Caroline**

Mr. Sczesny said the request is to reconstruct a new bridge at this location due to flood damage in 2006. At this time both Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) and the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) have given approval to do so, with 100 percent reimbursement, and it is desired to start construction at this time.

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne said she would like to be informed of the bid.

A brief discussion occurred during which it was noted by Mr. Sczesny that the State and Federal agencies have indicated that if there is an increase in the construction costs due to the recent increase in cost of materials it would also be reimbursed.

Ms. Kiefer expressed an interest to have the Committee award the bid if it would not delay the project. She explained that she would like to see the process due to the involvement of FEMA and SEMO on the project due to the natural disaster status, which is unusual for the County. Mr. Marx indicated that in order to do so it would require a special meeting in order to continue on the schedule required for the 2008 construction season. Ms. Chock inquired if

there would be anything unusual about the process and was informed it is the standard procedure for a total reconstruction.

The majority of the Committee present indicated a preference to be informed of the award of bid. Ms. Kiefer desired to have more involvement and would to be able to view the analysis of the bids.

Mr. Proto expressed appreciation, stating the residents and businesses such as Gaggle and K&H Concrete would be very pleased to see the reconstruction occurring.

**RESOLUTION NO. – AWARD OF BID – RELOCATION OF PARALLEL TAXIWAY (PHASE III) - ITHACA TOMPKINS REGIONAL AIRPORT**

Mr. Nicholas said he apologized for the short period of time to review the information provided. The Federal Aviation Administration notified airports that bid amounts were required to be received by today, with June 13<sup>th</sup> being the deadline for them to award grants, with acceptance of grant awards to be completed by June 20<sup>th</sup>. This is the result of delays at the Federal Congressional level.

It was MOVED by Mr. Randall, seconded by Ms. Kiefer. Mr. Nicholas explained this is the third and hopefully final phase of this project that started in 1999. If awarded enough funding the project could be completed, and if not it may require an additional phase to remove the old taxiway.

Ms. Herrera arrived at this time.

A discussion occurred, with Committee members in consensus that they are displeased with the need to make a decision on such short notice and having material just handed out at the Committee meeting rather than received ahead. Mr. Nicholas explained the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires request came following a determination by the Federal government on budgeting issues. Only seventy-five percent of requested funding was provided. Subsequently, the FAA has specific deadlines involved. Ms. Herrera said she recognizes the short time periods allowed by the FAA is a “business as usual”, with Airport staff and consultants not responsible for the short period to review information. She said the process is not transparent or good business, and does not follow the County policies, and although she is happy to see the project move forward, will not support the resolution for this reason. Ms. Chock expressed a desire not to support the resolution if there were enough votes to move the resolution forward to also express displeasure. Mrs. McBean-Clairborne said she would not want the FAA to think the County does not want the funding for improvements; she shares displeasure at the need to rush things through but recognizes it is out of the control of County staff. Mr. Nicholas stressed this particular situation was a result of Federal Congressional delays.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes 3 (Legislators Chock, Kiefer, McBean-Clairborne); Noes – 2 (Legislators Herrera and Randall). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Ms. Kiefer was excused at this time to attend a Government Operations Committee meeting.

WHEREAS, the Finance Department advertised for and received two (2) bids for construction of the Relocation of the Parallel Taxiway (Phase III) project at the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid of \$4,481,225.30 was submitted by Sealand Contractors of Rush, New York, and

WHEREAS, the funding for this construction project is as follows:

Federal Aviation Administration Share	(95.0%)	\$4,257,164.00
New York State Department of Transportation Share	( 2.5%)	\$ 112,030.65
Local Share (Airline Rates & Charges)	( 2.5%)	\$ 112,030.65
TOTAL		\$4,481,225.30

, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That subject to grants being received from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), the County Administrator be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract with Sealand Contractors,

RESOLVED, further, That the Finance Director be authorized to borrow monies if necessary, until reimbursement is received from the FAA and NYSDOT,

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-2

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**RESOLUTION NO. – MAKING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE –  
HANGAR DEMOLITION PROJECT - ITHACA TOMPKINS REGIONAL AIRPORT**

MOVED by Ms. Herrera, seconded by Mr. Randall. Mr. Randall asked why there is a negative declaration if it appears asbestos is present. Mr. Nicholas explained the negative declaration is appropriate at this time as any asbestos removal will be completed as the law specifies. Once the building is dismantled it will require a full Environmental Assessment Review to determine there are not environmental problems with the soil.

At this time a brief discussion regarding the award of bid on the project took place, with Mr. Randall expressing concern on the low bid for asbestos removal.

Mr. Marx indicated the short Environmental Assessment form could be modified to include language indicating all asbestos removal shall be completed according to regulatory requirements.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Kiefer).  
**RESOLUTION ADOPTED.**

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Airport Master Plan and to improve the operational capacity of the airport, it has been decided that the old hangar complex, formerly occupied by Taughanock Aviation Corporation, shall be demolished, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That in terms of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process, the Hangar Demolition Project is an Unlisted action,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Legislature does hereby make a Negative Declaration of Environmental Significance for said project.

**SEQR ACTION:** Unlisted

(Negative Declaration - Short Environmental Assessment Form is on file in the Clerk's Office)

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**RESOLUTION NO. - AWARD OF BID – HANGAR DEMOLITION - ITHACA TOMPKINS REGIONAL  
AIRPORT**

MOVED by Ms. Chock, seconded by Mrs. McBean-Clairborne. In response to Ms. Chock's question of why the information was received with no review time, Mr. Nicholas again reiterated it is the result of Federal Congressional delays requiring an extremely brief lead-time to meet FAA deadlines. Mrs. McBean-Clairborne inquired what would occur if the bid is not awarded at this time; Mr. Nicholas said the work could not be done. Ms. Chock again expressed displeasure in the lack of review time but indicated she would support the resolution to get work done. Mrs. McBean-Clairborne also said she would prefer to have the information in advance. Mr. Randall does not support the resolution, noting he feels there is information lacking to clearly explain the large difference in bids for asbestos removal.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 2 (Legislators Chock and McBean); Noes – 2 (Legislators Herrera and Randall). **RESOLUTION FAILED.**

Ms. Kiefer returned to the meeting at this time (5:25 p.m.). Mr. Nicholas reiterated his comments for the benefit of Ms. Kiefer. In addition, a brief discussion occurred, during which it was suggested the resolution could be

reconsidered. It was suggested that in order to resolve the asbestos concern the Committee was stating, language would be added to the resolution to stipulate the Committee receive a report of the asbestos removal process.

At this time it was MOVED by Ms. Kiefer, seconded by Ms. Chock, and unanimously approved, to revisit the resolution, with the suggested language changes. A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Legislators Chock, Kiefer, and McBean-Clairborne); Noes – 2 (Legislators Herrera and Randall). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, the Finance Department advertised for and received four (4) bids to demolish the hangar complex formerly occupied by Taughannock Aviation Corporation, and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder for said demolition project was Ritter & Paratore of Utica, New York, with a bid of \$199,900, and

WHEREAS, the funding sources of said demolition project are:

Federal Aviation Administration Share	(95.0%)	\$189,905.00
New York State Department of Transportation Share	( 2.5%)	\$ 4,997.50
Local Share (Airline Rates & Charges)	( 2.5%)	\$ 4,997.50
TOTAL		\$199,900.00

, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the County Administrator be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract with Ritter and Paratore, contingent upon the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee receiving and reviewing a full report of the asbestos removal procedure prior to work proceeding or funds being disbursed, and subject to grants being received from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT),

RESOLVED, further, That the Finance Director be authorized to borrow monies if necessary, until reimbursement is received from the FAA and NYSDOT.

SEQR ACTION: Unlisted

(Short Environmental Assessment Form is on file in the Clerk's Office )

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**Withdrawal of Resolution**

Due to time constraint, the following resolution was withdrawn from the agenda: Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with C&S Engineers, Inc., for Construction Observation and Contract Administration Services – Runway Safety Area Improvements and Obstruction Clearance.

**Adjournment**

On motion the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.