

Thousand Islands Bridge Authority
Friday, December 15, 2023, 10:30 A.M.
American Administration Building

PRESENT Bruce Armstrong, Chairman
Natalie Kinloch, Vice-Chairwoman
Robert J. Storms, Secretary-Treasurer
Richard Iglinski, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Douglas D. Dier, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Thye Lee, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Barry Ormsby, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Peter Walton, Legal Counsel
Timothy Sturick, Executive Director
Bill Moulton, Director, Bridge Facilities Operations & Maintenance
Patrick Labiendo, Manager, Safety & Security
Bryan Olson, Manager, Finance & Administration
Keri Jobson, Boldt Facilities Operations Manager
Susan Mowers, Manager, Information Technology

ALSO

MEDIA 1

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Bruce Armstrong, Chairman. Upon motion by Natalie Kinloch, seconded by Richard Iglinski, the minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2023, were approved as drafted.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Sturick reported that Mr. Salisbury asked to be excused. Mr. Sturick reported that Jacques E. Pigeon, a past TIBA board member who has served as a Director of the Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation (TIRTDC) since January 1, 2018, has resigned as of December 31, 2023. Mr. Sturick reported that he has a potential Canadian candidate who may be interested in interviewing for the vacancy.

FINANCIAL MATTER

Financial Statement: Mr. Olson, in reviewing the Financial Statement Balance Sheet (Exhibit A) for the month of November 30, 2023, reported that the Authority's directly held Cash and Investment Obligations, total to date of \$13,907,276 compared to \$10,529,475 for the prior fiscal year representing an increase of \$3,377,801 or 32.08% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported Total Facilities to date of \$59,409,777 compared to \$61,321,900 for the prior fiscal year, representing a decrease of \$1,912,123 or 3.12% below the previous period. Mr. Olson reported Total Assets to date of \$88,900,617, compared to \$79,604,641 for the prior fiscal year, representing an increase of \$9,295,976 or 11.68% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported Payables total to date of \$11,092,249 compared to \$11,300,650 for the prior fiscal year, representing a decrease of \$208,401 or 1.84% below the previous period. Mr. Olson reported the Provision for Canadian Dollar Conversion total to date of \$140,547 compared to \$102,007 for the prior fiscal year, representing an increase of \$38,540 or 37.78% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported Total Statutory Equity stands at \$60,401,538, compared to \$58,261,935 for the previous fiscal year, representing an increase of \$2,139,603 or 3.67% above the previous period.

In reviewing Exhibit B (Net Revenue – Bridge, Other Facilities & Programs), Mr. Olson reported Toll Income at \$9,440,167 versus \$7,418,902 for the previous period representing an increase of \$2,021,265 or 27.24% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported total Cost of Operations for Bridge Facilities is recorded at \$5,498,846 versus \$5,119,603 for the previous period representing an increase of \$379,243 or 7.41% above the previous year. Mr. Olson reported total Canadian Dollar Conversion is recorded at \$86,485

versus \$31,362 for the previous period representing an increase of \$55,123 or 175.76% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported total Net Revenue is recorded at \$3,854,836 versus \$2,267,937 for the previous period representing an increase of \$1,586,899 or 69.97% above the previous year. Mr. Olson reported FBCL's Net Revenue Share is recorded at \$1,919,845 as compared to \$1,132,706 the previous period representing an increase of \$787,139 or 69.49% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported TIBA's Net Revenue (Loss) Share through November 30, 2023, is recorded at \$851,922 as compared to (\$7,167) for the previous period representing an increase of \$859,089 or 11,987.51% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported the Total Revenue from Other Facilities & Programs is recorded at \$4,894,600 compared to \$4,051,462 for the previous period representing an increase of \$843,138 or 20.81% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported the Cost of Operations from Other Facilities & Programs is recorded at \$3,502,570 compared to \$3,160,476 for the previous period representing an increase of \$342,094 or 10.82% above the previous period. Mr. Olson reported Total Net Revenue from Other Facilities & Programs year-to-date of \$1,392,030 as compared to \$890,986 for the prior year, representing an increase of \$501,044 or 56.23% above the previous year. Mr. Olson reported Net Revenue from all operations (Bridge, Other Facilities & Programs), through November 30, 2023, is \$2,243,952 compared to \$883,819 for the prior fiscal year, representing an increase of \$1,360,133 or 153.89% above the previous fiscal year.

With respect to Exhibit C (Statement of Source & Use of Funds), Mr. Olson reported that Net Revenue plus the adjustment for non-cash cost of depreciation reflects total funds available of \$4,327,407 compared to \$3,043,198 for the prior

fiscal year, representing an increase of \$1,284,209 or 42.20% above the previous fiscal year. Mr. Olson reported Bridge Facilities Use of Funds year-to-date total of \$512,361, compared to \$59,382 for the previous year representing an increase of \$452,979 or 762.83% above the previous fiscal year. Mr. Olson reported Other Facilities & Programs year-to-date total \$325,785 compared to \$222,642 representing an increase of \$103,143 or 46.33% above the previous fiscal year. Mr. Olson reported Total Use of Funds year-to-date total \$838,146 compared to \$282,024 for the prior year, representing an increase of \$556,122 or 197.19% above the previous year. In terms of Net Increase in Operating Cash and Other Net Current Assets, the current year-to-date amount stands at \$3,489,261 compared to \$2,761,175 for the prior fiscal year, representing an increase of \$728,086 or 26.37% above the previous year.

Mr. Olson's reviewed Exhibit D (Shared Special Maintenance Project Expenses) for November 30, 2023, reported zero for the month and year to date expenses totaling \$24,226.

Financial Statements: Upon Mr. Olson's presentation of the financial statements for the month of November 30, 2023, a motion to accept the financial report was moved by Barry Ormsby, seconded by Robert J. Storms and duly accepted.

Capital Projects Obligation Report: Mr. Olson reviewed the report dated November 30, 2023, noting the Total TIBA*FBCL Projects Budget is \$295,000, with the obligated amount being \$33,306 and incurred to-date of \$33,306 and a balance due of zero. Mr. Olson reported Total TIBA Projects Budget is \$1,878,000, with the obligated amount being \$512,361 and incurred to date of \$512,361 and a balance due of \$120,521. Mr. Olson reported Total Bridge

Facilities Projects Budget is \$2,173,000, with the obligated amount being \$545,667, incurred to date of \$545,667 and a balance due of \$120,521. Mr. Olson reported Total Boldt Facilities Projects budget is \$611,000 with the obligated amount being \$325,786 and incurred to-date of \$325,786 and a balance due of \$55,835. Mr. Olson reported Other Capital Budget is \$25,000, with the obligated amount being zero and incurred to date of zero and a balance due of zero. Total appropriations for Capital Programs for Bridge and Other Facilities & Programs for FY 2023-2024 is \$2,809,000 with the current obligated amount being \$871,453 and incurred to-date of \$871,453 and a balance due of \$176,356. Mr. Olson reported that a Proposed Budget Amendment Resolution would be presented to the board for approval of the Rift Bridge Paving Project which is a shared project between FBCL and TIBA and reclassifying the wages & salaries at CBSA to contract services prior to the fiscal year ending February 29, 2024.

Investment Report: Mr. Olson reviewed the Investment & Fund Report dated November 30, 2023, in detail noting investments totaling \$13,907,276 with an average interest rate of 2.77% versus 1.59% in 2022. Mr. Olson also reported pledged securities for each U.S. institution were in place and at levels equal to or greater than the required minimum (100%). Mr. Olson reported that uncollateralized deposits at authorized Canadian financial institutions totaled \$6,164,059. The credit ratings for the Canadian financial institutions were within the guidelines established by the Investment Policy.

Approval/Ratification of Routine and Special Expense Payments – Proposed Resolution No. 21: Mr. Sturick read the following resolution which

was moved Douglas D. Dier, seconded by Thye Lee and duly adopted.

SEE ATTACHMENT 1

Bridge Facility Vehicle Traffic & Revenue Comparison:

30 Days of November (FY2023/2024 compared to FY2022/2023)

		<u>FY2023/2024</u>		<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>		<u>Percent Change</u>
FY23-24	Total Vehicles	135,325	-	15,926	-	13.3%
	Total Revenue	\$912,114	-	\$161,807	-	21.6%

9 Months March/November (FY2023/2024 compared to FY2022/2023)

		<u>FY2023/2024</u>		<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>		<u>Percent Change</u>
FY23-24	Total Vehicles	1,560,701	-	217,493	-	16.2%
	Total Revenue	\$9,499,806	-	\$2,001,538	-	26.7%

7 Days December (FY2023/2024 compared to FY2022/2023)

		<u>FY2023/2024</u>		<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>		<u>Percent Change</u>
FY23-24	Total Vehicles	26,145	-	1,290	-	5.2%
	Total Revenue	\$199,703	-	\$35,204	-	21.4%

Mr. Sturick reported total passenger traffic for November of fiscal year 2023/2024 is up 19.4% compared to total passenger traffic for November of fiscal year 2022/2023. Mr. Sturick reported total commercial traffic for November of fiscal year 2023/2024 is down 2.8% compared to total commercial traffic for November of fiscal year 2022/2023. Mr. Sturick reported that total passenger traffic for November of fiscal 2023/2024 is down 5.6% compared to November of fiscal year 2019/2020. Mr. Sturick reported that total passenger traffic for the first nine (9) months of fiscal year 2023/2024 is down 9.9% compared to the first nine (9) months of fiscal year 2019/2020. Mr. Sturick reported total commercial traffic for the first nine (9) months of fiscal year

2023/2024 is down 0.50% compared to the first nine (9) months of fiscal year 2019/2020.

Mr. Sturick reviewed the Bridge and Tunnel Operators Association (BTOA) Traffic Report for YTD November 2023 and November 2022. Mr. Sturick reported total crossings for YTD November 2023 and November 2022 were 1,761,503 compared to 1,481,887 the previous period YTD representing an increase of 279,616 or 18.9% above the previous period.

Fiscal 2024-2025 Bridge, Other Facilities and Programs Budget – Proposed Resolution No. 22: Mr. Olson read the following resolution which was moved Barry Ormsby, seconded by Richard Iglinski and duly adopted.

SEE ATTACHMENT 2

Canadian Employees Extended Health Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance Program – Proposed Resolution No. 23: Mr. Olson read the following resolution which was moved Natalie Kinloch, seconded by Richard Iglinski and duly adopted.

SEE ATTACHMENT 3

PROJECT REPORTS

Bridge Facilities

Operations and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Moulton reported that due to the mild winter, the staff have been called in a few times for freezing drizzle. Mr. Moulton reported that staff have been working on vehicle maintenance as well as sending plow trucks out for repairs. Mr. Moulton reported that he does not anticipate receiving the two (2) new plow trucks until the final set-up of the trucks is completed which will likely be sometime after the winter season ends. Mr. Moulton reported that there was a

full-time bridge maintenance position available on the Canadian side that was filled by a seasonal employee earlier this year who has worked at TIBA for a few years. Mr. Moulton reported that the new bridge maintenance employee is currently working on his DZ license to drive a plow truck and has taken the written test and staff have been working with him driving in parking lots, backing up and practicing with different obstacles to follow. Mr. Moulton reported that he will practice with staff driving on the Bridges which will take some time to get used to plowing due to the uniqueness of the Bridge. Mr. Moulton reported that the bridge maintenance staff recently replaced a stay cable on the U.S. Bridge. Mr. Moulton reported that they received and reviewed the draft report for the Follow-Up Inspection of the Canadian Crossing and the Detailed Inspection of the International Rift Bridges with TIBA comments sent to representations from Parsons Transportation Group. Mr. Moulton reported that the draft report for the Boldt Yacht House Bridges has been received and is currently under TIBA staff review. Mr. Moulton reported that the draft report has not yet been received for the Detailed Inspection of the U.S. Crossing. Mr. Moulton reported that the consultant from Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. performed a deficiency inspection of the U.S. maintenance shop fueling station replacement project. Mr. Moulton reported that a few minor items need to be addressed. Mr. Moulton reported that operator training has been completed for office staff and the facilities operator has been appointed and trained with the project being substantially completed. Mr. Moulton reported that PTL Contracting Corporation of Theresa, NY completed the rift camp and white house roofs and the installation of the gutters at the rift camp will be completed to finalize the project.

Safety & Security

Mr. Labiendo reported no new injuries in the past month with one (1) open claim. Mr. Labiendo reported that he recently sent a memo to staff reminding them of seasonal illnesses during the fall and winter months and to be aware of best health practices to help avoid illnesses. Mr. Labiendo reported that as result of the incident at the Rainbow Bridge on November 22, 2023, it displayed the good relationships and communications amongst the various agencies involved. Mr. Labiendo reported that he was recently contacted by a representative from Northern New York Occupational Health Services that they were closing as of January 1, 2024. Mr. Labiendo reported that the representative provided TIBA with drug and alcohol testing, physician oversight of the AED agreement and keeping TIBA updated on current requirements. Mr. Labiendo reported that he is currently researching other companies that can provide similar services that the Northern New York Occupational Health Services provided. Mr. Labiendo reported that he has been working with the U.S. staff to obtain the necessary documentation for Mr. Moulton to provide to the representatives from the Canadian Immigration Office for renewal of the annual work permits for the U.S. staff who also work in Canada. Mr. Labiendo reported once the permits are complete, the employee is scheduled for an appointment with the Canadian Immigration Office to provide identification and sign the document prior to being issued the work permit.

Other Facilities and Programs

Boldt Facilities

Ms. Jobson reported that she has sent the 2024 operating dates, hours of operations and rates to the partners and the local businesses. Ms. Jobson reported that she is currently working on updates and changes to the point-of-sale system. Ms. Jobson reported that she is working on updating and making changes to the audio tour app which was migrated to a new platform last spring. Mr. Jobson reported that she is also working on adding French language on the audio tour app as an option with the American language. Ms. Jobson reported that Ms. Bieber will soon be receiving and processing orders for the Boldt Castle gift shop after the new year. Ms. Jobson reported thirty-two (32) weddings scheduled for the 2024 operating season. Ms. Jobson reported that Mr. Sturick and she attended the IAAPA Expo 2023 on November 11th – November 16th, 2023, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Ms. Jobson reported that there were approximately 40,000 attendees. Ms. Jobson reported that the Expo offered 175 educational sessions to attend. Ms. Jobson reported that the IAAPA Expo was a great experience and opportunity. Ms. Jobson reported that the seasonal maintenance is done for the 2023 operating season. Ms. Jobson reported that the maintenance staff repainted the kitchen and made some equipment placement changes in the concession stand as well as installing new LED lights in the seating area. Ms. Jobson reported that the maintenance staff moved equipment and tools off the Island.

OTHER MATTERS

**Authorization to Execute Contract with NYS Department of
Agriculture and Markets for Operation of the North Country Welcome
Center for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 – Proposed Resolution No. 24: Mr.**

Walton read the following resolution which was moved Douglas D. Dier, seconded by Robert J. Storms and duly adopted.

SEE ATTACHMENT 4

Mr. Sturick reported that the meeting on January 26, 2024, is the annual meeting which includes the election of officers followed by the regular meeting. Mr. Sturick reported that all documents pertaining to Ms. Kinloch's reappointment to the TIBA Board of Directors have been submitted by Mr. Walton to the Jefferson County Board of Legislators for approval for another five (5) year term beginning January 1, 2024.

With no other business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Thye Lee, seconded by Barry Ormsby and unanimously carried.

NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING

By unanimous consent, the place of the next Authority meeting was set for Friday, January 26, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. at the American Administration Building.

Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION NO. 21
RE: APPROVAL/RATIFICATION OF ROUTINE EXPENSE PAYMENTS
AND APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EXPENSE PAYMENTS

The following resolution was moved by Douglas D. Dier, seconded by Thye Lee and duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the below listed requisitions and vouchers, together with invoices and other supporting documentation for routine and special expense payments made since the Authority meeting held on November 17, 2023, were available and reviewed by the Authority during the meeting held on December 15, 2023 (viz):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Requisition</u>	<u>Voucher Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/21/23	3473	35050-35071 - US / C10741-C10746 - CD	\$ 127,027.56
11/28/23	3474	35072-35087 - US / C10747-C10755 - CD	162,901.76
12/05/23	3475	35088-35112 - US / C10756-C10766 - CD	190,561.31
12/12/23	3476	35113-35136 - US / C10767-C10772 - CD	<u>80,062.04</u>
			<u>\$ 560,552.67</u>

NOTE: CDN check #10723 was voided & replaced with check #10754. Check was lost in the mail.

WHEREAS, in a similar manner, the below listed Special Expense Payments, together with invoices and other supporting documentation which require specific approval before payment is made, were available and reviewed by the Authority during the meeting held on December 15, 2023 (viz):

	<u>Amount</u>
Bach Environmental, Inc. - U.S. Fuel Tank Replacement Project Progress Payment #3	\$ 114,831.25
Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. - Professional Services for October 2023 for the U.S. Fuel Tank Replacement Project	5,690.00
Davis Tree Service - Tree Removal at Boldt Castle (Tunnel Wall)	2,500.00
DRCS LLC	
- Replaced Gateway Server for POS at Boldt Castle	21,977.02
- Microsoft Intune subscription for 1 year	3,741.60
Gibbs Tile & Marble - Floor Repair at the North Country Welcome Center	1,885.00
Gilco Auto & Truck Service Center - Repairs to Tuck #21	1,524.38
Harbor Hotel - Annual Employee Appreciation Dinner held on October 27, 2023	12,131.36
Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors	
- Backflow Test at the Rift Water Treatment Plant	1,107.75
- Hot Water Heater Repairs at AMMEX	2,654.62
Keri Jobson - Reimbursement for Travel Expenses - IAAPA Conference from 11/12/23 - 11/16/23 in Orlando, Florida	1,050.04
Lawson Products - Auto Supplies	1,167.71
Lupini Construction, Inc. - Masonry Restoration at Boldt Castle Alster Tower	55,835.00
Pomerville's Septic Services, Inc. - Pumped Septic at AMMEX	1,440.00
Timothy Sturick - Reimbursement for Travel Expenses - IAAPA Conference from 11/12/23 - 11/16/23 in Orlando, Florida	2,074.27
G.A.L. Power Systems Ottawa Ltd.	
- Preventative Maintenance on Generator at Canadian Shop	2,457.75 CD
- Load Bank Testing on Generator at CBSA	1,780.26 CD

HTS Engineering, Ltd. - HVAC Preventative Maintenance for CBSA - August 2023 & October 2023	7,269.42 CD
Schindler Elevator Corporation - Quarterly Billing/Contract for CBSA - 12/1/2023 - 02/29/2024	4,997.81 CD
Sweets Sand & Gravel - Stone Dust & Winter Sand	<u>17,266.50 CD</u>
	<u>\$ 263,381.74</u>

WHEREAS, the Executive Director has recommended approval of all Routine and Special Expense Payments as proper obligations of this Authority.

RESOLVED, that the Authority as it's proper act and deed, hereby approves and ratifies in all respects the routine and special expense payments represented by Requisition No. 3473 through No. 3476 as set forth herein, totaling \$560,552.67, and

RESOLVED, that the Authority, as its proper act and deed, hereby approves for payment special expenses set forth herein, totaling \$263,381.74.

ATTACHMENT 2

RESOLUTION NO. 22

RE: FISCAL 2024-2025 BRIDGE, OTHER FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS BUDGET

The following resolution was moved by Barry Ormsby, seconded by Richard Iglinski and duly adopted.

RESOLVED, that the Operations, Capital and Other Expense Budgets for Bridge, Other Facilities and Programs in the aggregate amount of \$17,939,000 for the fiscal year 2024-2025 (March 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025) as reviewed by the Authority and presented at this meeting, are hereby approved and adopted, and

FURTHER BE IT

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the adopted budgets, the Authority hereby approves the salary and wage schedule for fiscal 2024-2025 to be effective March 1, 2024, and therefore authorize the appropriation of \$4,071,986 for said purpose, hereby increasing the total allocation for full time personnel salaries and wages by \$219,812 or 5.7%, and

FURTHER BE IT

RESOLVED, that said budgets be sent to those Jefferson County and New York State officials as specified in Section 592 and 2501 of the New York State Public Authorities Law and to the officials and executive personnel of the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited on or before December 31, 2023.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Cost of Operations

Bridge Facilities (includes TIBA PILOTS)	\$10,995,000	
Other Facilities and Programs	<u>4,102,000</u>	
Subtotal		15,097,000

Capital and Other Expense

TIBA & FBCL Shared Projects	130,000	
Bridge Facilities	1,548,000	
Other Facilities and Programs	<u>1,164,000</u>	
Subtotal		2,842,000

TOTAL **\$17,939,000**

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ATTACHMENT 3

RESOLUTION NO. 23

**RE: CANADIAN EMPLOYEES EXTENDED HEALTH PLAN, LONG TERM
DISABILITY AND LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM**

The following resolution was moved by Natalie Kinloch seconded by Richard Iglinski and duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the Authority on December 16, 2022, approved by Resolution No. 23, authorizing the placement of the Canadian employees Extended Health Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance with AD&D with Desjardins Financial Security (hereinafter “Desjardins”), and

WHEREAS, the Authority provides employees that are citizens of Canada with specific benefits including Extended Health Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance with AD&D, and

WHEREAS, Desjardins provided a renewal quote for the Extended Health Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance with AD&D with an overall increase of 3.5%, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director completed a thorough review of the Plan not limited to benefits, premiums and cost sharing formulas. The Executive Director recommends to the Authority that it adopt the same plan from Desjardins, administered by Peak Benefit Solutions of Kingston, Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Authority has reviewed the recommendation of the Executive Director and approves the renewal of the Canadian employees Extended Health Plan, Long Term Disability and Life Insurance with AD&D with Desjardins in the monthly premium amount of \$6,474.50 to be effective January 1, 2024, and

FURTHER BE IT

RESOLVED, the Authority hereby directs and empowers the Executive Director to place said insurance programs with Desjardins and to notify the participating Canadian employees of said contract, benefits, premiums and cost sharing formulas, and

FURTHER BE IT

RESOLVED, that nothing in the foregoing shall limit the Authority’s right or authority to modify or terminate this Plan at anytime in the future and nothing in the Plan is intended to create vested or contractual rights for an employee of this Authority.

ATTACHMENT 4

RESOLUTION NO. 24

RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACT WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS FOR OPERATION OF THE NORTH COUNTRY WELCOME CENTER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

The following resolution was moved by Douglas D. Dier, seconded by Robert J. Storms and duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority (the “Authority”) previously leased to New York State property upon the Authority’s campus for the operation of the North Country Welcome Center (the “Welcome Center”); and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and the Authority have previously entered into one (1) year contracts for the Authority to operate and maintain the Welcome Center, the last said contract being for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (the “Contract”); and

WHEREAS, the Contract expired on June 30, 2023; however, the Authority has continued to operate the Welcome Center in anticipation of a new contract for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture and Markets has now provided a new contract to the Authority for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, on substantially the same terms as the prior year contract (the “New Contract”), with funding in the amount of \$850,000.00; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Authority to renew the Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon due consideration, be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority enter into the New Contract for operation of the Welcome Center for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 with the Department of Agriculture and Markets upon substantially the same terms and conditions set forth in the New Contract; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director of the Authority may further negotiate and make changes to the New Contract in the best interests of the Authority provided that the same do not materially change the duties and obligations therein; and it is further

RESOLVED, that upon finalization of the New Contract, the Authority’s Executive Director is authorized and directed to execute the New Contract for operation of the Welcome Center on behalf of the Authority as the Authority’s proper act and deed, binding the Authority to the terms thereof.