

**OGDENSBURG BRIDGE & PORT AUTHORITY**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority was held in the Board Room of the Administration Building on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 4:15 PM.

The following were present:

Vernon D. Burns, Chairperson  
Megan J. M. Whitton, Vice-Chairperson  
Christopher B. T. Coffin, Treasurer  
Nicole A. Terminelli, Assistant Secretary (left at 4:27 PM)  
Toni A. Kennedy, Member

ALSO: Steven J. Lawrence, Executive Director  
Patricia A. Nisco, Chief Financial Officer  
Stephanie Saracco, Airport Manager  
Kenton Stancliff, EFPR Group, CPAs

ABSENT: David D. King, Secretary  
Jennifer Quirk-Pickman, Assistant Treasurer

- I. Board Chair Burns called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.
- II. Unfinished Business.  
There was none.
- III. Business Items.

On a motion by Christopher B. T. Coffin, seconded by Toni Kennedy, the agenda was amended to deal with Item B. 1. First.

B. Other Such Matters

1. Opposition to Assembly Bill A. 7919 and Senate Bill S.3908 – New York State Buy American Salt Act. Nicole A. Terminelli reported that the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators brought forth a similar resolution at their recent meeting. Ms. Terminelli stated that the resolution is important to make sure that the voice

of the North Country is heard. Assembly Bill A.7919 and Senate Bill S.3908 were introduced as legislation as a means to support New York State salt mines and promote economic growth within its borders. In some instances, this may be the case, however the New York State Salt Act does not ensure that the procurement process will utilize salt mines within New York State. These bills will affect international ports throughout the State, having a direct, negative impact on their local economies. Governmental entities that are required to follow this process will continue to use the lowest bidder as their selected contract, which, due to costs and geographic location, may very well be a mining company outside of New York State. This will continue to outsource jobs to employees that do not necessarily promote our local economic growth. As 80% of income at the Port of Ogdensburg comes from businesses associated with importing rock salt from Canada, the passage of the bills will cause economic suffering and job loss in the City of Ogdensburg and at the Port of Ogdensburg. These bills will cause a reduction of International Longshoremen's Association jobs at the Port of Ogdensburg – jobs that pay a living-wage in an already depressed community. The acts will also have ramifications for local trucking companies, resulting in a further reduction in jobs. Since a plentiful and steady supply of rock salt is needed in St. Lawrence County throughout the fall, winter, and oftentimes into spring, these bills will cause a constriction of supply or increase in the cost of salt, which poses a direct danger to the roads and safety of travelers. There are additional concerns that prohibiting the purchase of imported rock salt will cause a premium to local governments, as well as others who need it, such as hospitals, colleges, nursing homes, and factories. Board Chair Vernon D. Burns

added that the Authority recently spent more on equipment for the Port of Ogdensburg because the pieces were made in the United States. Mr. Burns noted that now, because of this same type of legislation, there could be American union jobs lost at the Port. On a motion Nicole A. Terminelli, seconded by Christopher B. T. Coffin, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority hereby opposes Assembly Bill A.7919 and Senate Bill S.3908 – the New York State Buy American Salt Act; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority encourages Governor Hochul to consider all of the ramifications of signing these bills; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority strongly advises Governor Hochul not to sign these bills; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of said resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Katherine Hochul, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, and Assemblyman Mark Walczyk.

A vote was called.

AYES: Christopher B. T. Coffin  
Vernon D. Burns  
Megan J. M. Whitton  
Nicole A. Terminelli  
Toni A. Kennedy

MOTION CARRIED

A. General Administration

1. Acceptance of 2021-2022 Audit. Kenton Stancliff from EFPR Group, CPAs presented the audit reports for fiscal year ended March 31, 2022, for the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority on June 29, 2022. Christopher B. T. Coffin asked what the solutions exist to address the finding that the Authority has uncollateralized deposits. Chief Financial Officer Patricia A. Nisco replied that

she will have to look into and will have to respond to that section of the audit.  
Board Chair Vernon D. Burns thanked the auditors for pointing out the amount of decrease in bridge traffic, which is completely beyond the Authority's control.  
On a motion by Christopher B. T. Coffin, seconded by Toni A. Kennedy, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority does hereby approve and accept the audit reports for the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022 as prepared by EFPR Group, CPAs.

A vote was called.

AYES: Vernon D. Burns  
Megan J. M. Whitton  
Toni A. Kennedy  
Christopher B. T. Coffin

MOTION CARRIED

Board Chair Vernon D. Burns stated that there was a need for Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations with a particular corporation. On a motion by Megan J. M. Whitton, seconded by Christopher B. T. Coffin, the meeting went into Executive Session at 4:47 PM. On a motion by Megan J. M. Whitton, seconded by Toni A. Kennedy, the meeting resumed at 4:56 PM. There was no action to be taken out of Executive Session. On a motion by Christopher B. T. Coffin, seconded by Toni A. Kennedy, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.

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Megan J. M. Whitton  
Vice-Chair

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Vernon D. Burns  
Chairperson