

Staff Secretary Item 1



ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Jerome D. Schad, Chair
Peggy A. LaGree, Vice Chair
Michele M. Iannello, Treasurer

FROM: Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority

DATE: Thursday, August 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Grant Update

On June 22, 2023, the Authority entered into a Professional Services Agreement with J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc. to provide professional grant writing consulting services. In the past year, they have provided said services to the Authority for the following grant applications:

1. FY2021 Cybersecurity Grant with NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services last October in the amount of \$44,000. The grant application was denied as the program was only available to county or local government entities.
2. Health and Safety Training Grant for the Human Resources Department in the amount of \$30,000. This grant was not submitted due to a timing issue. On a positive note, everyone involved is ready to prepare this year's grant application when it becomes available this September.
3. Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grant with NYSED in the amount of \$53,565. This grant application was denied. We have recently received a debriefing letter which provided an overview of their grant application evaluation. This grant is offered each year, and we plan on following the recommendations given in the debriefing letter and reapplying next year.
4. The NYS Environmental Facilities Corp. Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIAA) grant. The grant application was a coordinated event between the Authority's Engineering Department, Arcadis of NY and J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc. The grant request, in the amount of \$5,000,000, is related to LCRR Program Management, Contract No. MP-091. Grant results should be made available late August or early September.

J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc. is in the process of updating the Authority's needs assessment and creating a calendar of opportunities for the upcoming year. I have requested that they attend an upcoming Board Meeting to inform the Board of any future opportunities.

TDM:alh