

ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 1, 2013

**ECWA SELECTS BANK EXECUTIVE AS NEXT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
***Served 20 years as Collins Town Supervisor***

BUFFALO, NEW YORK – The Erie County Water Authority (ECWA) Board of Commissioners has selected Robert Gaylord, a long time bank executive, as the next Executive Director of the ECWA. The appointment will be made official at ECWA's board meeting this Thursday.

Gaylord has worked in the banking industry for more than 30 years during his professional career; first at M&T Bank, then Key Trust, and most recently as Vice President and Senior Trust Officer for the past 15 years at HSBC. He served as the Town of Collins Supervisor for 20 years and is currently serving in his fourth year on the town council. He is also very active in several community and government organizations and local economic development initiatives.

"The board of commissioners is very pleased to be appointing Mr. Gaylord as the next Executive Director of the ECWA," said Chairman Francis G. Warthling. "After an extensive candidate review process, we felt strongly that Mr. Gaylord had among the best qualifications based on his extensive record of accomplishments in the private and public sectors and is highly qualified to lead the ECWA and implement the organizational objectives the board has outlined for the future."

Warthling said that the board of commissioners was focused on hiring an executive director with a strong financial management background and extensive municipal government experience. "Based on needs we identified and the professional experience we desired in our new executive director, we felt Mr. Gaylord was the strongest candidate among the finalists. We're very happy he accepted the position and we look forward to working with him on behalf of our more than 166,000 ratepayers," Warthling said.

Under his employment agreement, Mr. Gaylord will be paid \$130,000 in his first year with two percent increases each year after should he accept a renewal option for an additional two years. Should Mr. Gaylord be terminated without cause he would be compensated one year salary.

He will officially begin his duties on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

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