



Charles G. Houghton, Chair, Albany Water Board

Charles "Chuck" Houghton serves as Chair on the Albany Water board. He was a member of the board of directors and Secretary/Treasurer of the Carey Institute for Global Good in Rensselaerville, NY. In addition, he served as a managing director of the W. P. Carey Foundation, a private foundation based in New York City.

Prior to this, Mr. Houghton served for two years as the Director of Institutional Development for the Rensselaerville Institute and Meeting Center, coordinating its fundraising, communications, community relations and consulting work with the environmental group Scenic Hudson.

For 13 years, he served as President of the Electric Launch Company (Elco). Elco, founded in 1893 built electric motor boats and electric drives for other boat and sailboat companies. Part of this work was consulting with other boatbuilding companies to assess their product lines and help enhance their marketing. One of his designs resulting from this consulting work was named "The Most Innovative Environmental Boat of 2008" by the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

Prior to this, Mr. Houghton was a principal in a political and corporate affairs consulting firm, Matt Reese & Associates/CGH Group, which was based in Washington, DC, New York and St. Louis. They provided such clients as American Electric Power, AT&T, Citicorp, Detroit Electric, Green Audit and Assessment, McDonnell Douglas, The National Gas Association, Philip Morris and Southern Services Companies with corporate-wide assessments of their communications, public relations, political and community relations activities and consulting services to achieve corporate objectives. During this period, he and his associates developed the concept of "grassroots lobbying."

Raised in St. Louis, Chuck was the Executive Director of the Missouri-Illinois Bi-State Development Agency and managed, with nearly 5,000 employees, the metropolitan area's public bus system, the airports, the port districts, municipal bonding authority and the Gateway Arch.

Previously, he was Vice President of the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, responsible for encouraging civic, cultural and economic development in the greater St. Louis area.

After serving as an officer in the U. S. Navy during the Vietnam conflict, he was a special assistant to United States Senator Stuart Symington and for five years served as Administrative Assistant to Congressman James Symington. He then served as the campaign manager and finance chairman of the US Senate campaign for James Symington of Missouri.

Mr. Houghton has been an officer, director and founder of many civic and cultural nonprofits, including Laumeier Sculpture Park, Children's Hospital, The Theater Project Company and The First Street Forum, all of St. Louis.

He was President of the Anne and Charles Lindbergh Foundation, and has also served on the boards of the New York Open Center, a holistic learning center in NYC, the Friends of Clermont, which helps support NYS Office of Parks Robert Livingston's house overlooking the Hudson River, and the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station in Rensselaerville, NY.

He graduated cum laude with a major in economics and a minor in fine arts and architecture from Harvard University where he was the bowman on the varsity heavy-weight crew and President of the Hasty Pudding Institute of 1770.