

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON APRIL 1, 2020 AT THE AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, LAFAYETTE, NEW JERSEY

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Teleconference Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

The following were present: Chairman Drake, Vice Chairman Meyer\*, Commissioners Petillo\*, Madsen\*, Cocula\*, Dietz\*, Perez\*, Dabinett\*, Executive Director/Chief Engineer Varro, Comptroller Timothy Day\*, Senior Project Engineer Sesto, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Angelo Baron\*, General Counsel Napolitano\*, Special Counsel Prol\*, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski  
\*Attended the meeting remotely due to State Executive Orders regarding COVID-19.

Also in attendance via telecom: SCMUA Bond Counsel John Cantalupo  
SCMUA Financial Advisor Anthony Inverso  
ARM Group SW Cons. Eng. Benjamin Allen

Absent: Commissioner Finkeldie

2. PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING SUNSHINE LAW

Chairman Drake stated that the meeting has been duly advertised, and notice given thereof, as required by P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

3. OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Drake opened the meeting to public comment. No public present. He closed the meeting to public comment. (Call in information was prior noticed on website for public participation)

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Drake asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Madsen moved the Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Cocula moved the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Drake requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the March 18, 2020 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Freeholder Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Perez motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula moved to approve the Open and Closed Minutes from the February 19, 2020 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake noted that the Open and Closed Minutes from the March 4, 2020 Authority Meeting have been emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

Chairman Drake gave the floor to ARM Group Ben Allen to begin PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Landfill Life Extension/Infrastructure Relocation Project final details and financing plan. Mr. Allen reviewed the sequencing/timeline of site construction, proposed construction beginning with Stage 1 North Berm. This smaller project will provide 1 year of immediate useable capacity and 1.8 years of ultimate capacity, and will be used to maintain necessary landfilling operations and during the larger Phase 4 & 6B landfill cell construction. Mr. Allen detailed the Phase 4 & 6B cells, including construction costs infrastructure relocation and engineering totaling a cost of \$35 million and shall result in approximately 20 years of landfill capacity. SCMUA Bond Counsel John Cantalupo and Financial Advisor Anthony Inverso continued the presentation providing the best Financing options available, comparing obtaining SCMUA Revenue Bonds vs. Project Loan from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (NJIB). The best scenario for ratepayers and the County would be to fund the North Berm with a SCMUA Project Note over a two year period, and the larger expansion project to be funded by the NJIB which is recommended by the Local Finance Board and SCMUA Professionals. The steps for the Financing Legal requirements were reviewed and Commissioners questions were addressed. Commissioner Petillo moved to authorize Staff and Professionals to go before the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders to submit/present the North Berm and Landfill Expansion/Infrastructure Relocation Projects, and to continue project design along with the necessary steps/work towards financing options and applications to the I-Bank, motion seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0), Abstain (0). The motion passed.

Following the vote, Mr. Allen, Mr. Inverso, and Mr. Cantalupo disconnected and left the meeting.

a. Executive Session

At 3:43 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session, motion seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake noted the Closed Session should be approximately 40 minutes and discussions shall include: Paulinskill-Ovivo Contract Issues, Landfill Gas to Energy Contract Status, Title V Permit, Value Engineering review for Contract #447 A/B-UST Removal/AST Install, and Personnel Items.

**#20-080** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:20 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session included Paulinskill-Ovivo Contract Issues, Landfill Gas to Energy Contract Status, Title V Permit, Value Engineering review for Contract #447 A/B-UST Removal/AST Install, and Personnel Items. When the need for confidentiality of these matters no longer exists, they will be opened to the public.

b. Wastewater Program

**Superintendent’s Report**

Mr. Baron gave a report on wastewater operations in recent safety measures installed for COVID 19. He acknowledged his Staff which has stepped up, PPE has been provided and they have limit interactions with public, haulers and each other. He noted the chemical vendors have been excellent in delivery products. Permit are all being met, even with uptick in septage and sludge hauling due to more people working from home.

c. Solid Waste Program

**Superintendent’s Report**

Mr. Morris reported on the recent Solid Waste Facility Operations in relation to COVID-19, including a request to NJDEP to halt Origin and Disposal Forms with each load. He also reported that Morris County MRF is closing to the general public and recycling may be hard to move with the potential of global MRFs closing. He will monitor the recycling markets over the next few weeks.

Mr. Morris reported on the recent events to be held at the Solid Waste Facilities and the effects of precautions taken due to COVID-19. The Earth Day Event scheduled for April 22, has been postponed. The vendor that empties the clothing bins has stopped, and the bins are closed until further notice. Sharps disposal monthly program is continuing, Orchard Hill Medical has their own policy on dealing with drop offs. A decision will be made for the Paper Shred Event scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> in the next few days. The next E-waste Event is May 16<sup>th</sup> and Household Hazardous Waste Event is June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Director/Chief Engineer’s Report**

Landfill Life Extension/Infrastructure Relocation Project report given at the beginning of Meeting Agenda.

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

FINANCIAL CONSENT AGENDA – Chairman Drake asked for a motion to approve the Financial Consent Agenda (FCA). On roll call:

Res #20-081 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN	x		x			
COCULA		x	x			
DIETZ			x			
DRAKE			x			
MEYER			x			
PEREZ			x			
FINKELDIE						x
DABINETT			x			

**#20-081** RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioner Finkeldie an excused absence, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Commissioners commented on the well put together Power Point Presentation on the Landfill Live Extension Project. They thanked the Staff and Professionals for their work on the report. Wished all to stay healthy and safe during this COVID-19 pandemic.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:35 p.m. Commissioner Perez moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary