

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON APRIL 20, 2022 AT THE AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, LAFAYETTE, NEW JERSEY

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

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

The following were present: Chairman Petillo, Vice Chairman Drake, Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz*, Wesley, Dabinett, Executive Director Thomas Varro, Chief Engineer Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, General Counsel Napolitano*, Special Counsel Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

*Attended the meeting remotely.

Absent: Commissioners Finkeldie and Meyer

2. PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING SUNSHINE LAW

Chairman Petillo 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 Petillo opened the meeting to public comment. No public in attendance. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo asked for a motion to approve the Final Agenda. Commissioner Dabinett moved Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Madsen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Drake. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the April 6, 2022 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioners Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Drake motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. Roll Call: Ayes (6) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Petillo. The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula moved the approval of the Open and Closed Minutes from the March 2, 2022 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Dabinett motioned to approve the Open and Closed Minutes from the March 16, 2022 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. Roll Call: Ayes (6) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Drake. The motion carried.

There were no minutes distributed to Commissioners at this meeting.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:04 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Wesley. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Session should be approximately 10 minutes and discussions shall include: Personnel Item.

#22-103 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:15 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session: Personnel Item.

b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Phillips reported on recent wet weather events and the effect on wastewater operations. Between April 8th -9th it rained a total of 3 inches at the Upper Walkkill Plant. Mr. Phillips contacted the NJDEP to notify them of an exceedance in flows, but plant was still in compliance. Mr. Phillips indicated in preparation of pending forecast, he did empty the Equalization Basin to help accommodate increased flows.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Morris reported that since the Leachate Force Main/Pump Station is up and running, there is no longer a need/use for the Leachate Truck (1) and Trailer-Tankers (2). Discussions ensued regarding any emergency hauling situations, insurance policies, current market for used equipment and amount of steady flows to the Upper Walkkill. It was indicated that the Authority has the means for liquid hauling if ever necessary, and flow to plant is regulated and spread out over 24 hour period. Commissioner Drake moved resolution to authorize disposal/auction of leachate truck and trailers, Commissioner Cocula seconded motion. Roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#22-104 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY (SCMUA) SOLID WASTE PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE THROUGH GOVDEALS PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

Mr. Morris reminded the Commissioners of the E-Waste Event to be held on April 23rd behind the Bulky Waste Building. ERI is the contracted vendor and the SCMUA staff will assist in the collection of the E-waste and traffic control.

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Varro reported on a recent meeting/tour hosted for Lafayette Township Committee members at the Solid Waste Facility. The purpose of the tour was to show them the construction progress of the Stage 2 Landfill Expansion Project. Discussions included relocated composting facility, height of landfill, privacy berms, host community benefits until 2066, and input regarding a new SCMUA sign fronting on Route 94.

Chief Engineer’s Report

Mr. Sesto gave a status report on the Leachate Pump Station/Force Main Project. The punch-list items are still be reviewed/completed. The paving on North Church Road by the Franklin Pump Station is almost complete. He noted the force main is working well.

Mr. Sesto reported on the Stage 2 Landfill Expansion Project. Mr. Sesto noted that the Cell 6 certification is being reviewed as this point, and there is no official timeline as to when it will be approved.

Comptroller’s Report

Mr. Day indicated that RFP/RFQs for Information Technology assistance was finalized, posted on the SCMUA website and distributed. Applicant responses will be opened on May 13th.

e. Personnel Matters

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Varro prepared a resolution for Commissioners to approve the hiring of Christine Casella for the Senior Project Engineer position. Detail of responsibilities and experience was discussed in Executive Session. Commissioner Cocula moved the approval resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#22-105 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTINE CASELLA AS SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

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

Res #22-106 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER						x
MADSEN			x			
COCULA		x	x			
DIETZ			x			
DRAKE	x		x			
PETILLO			x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE						x
DABINETT			x			

#22-106 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioners an excused absence, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (6); Nays (1). The motion passed.

Commissioner Dietz thanked the Personnel Committee for their time interviewing the Senior Project Engineer position, and Messrs. Varro and Sesto for their assistance with technical aspects / interview questions for the position.

Commissioners noted progression of the Stage 2 landfill and commended staff on their work and efforts to keep the regular operations running smoothly throughout. It was noted the project timeframe was significantly shortened in order to not interrupt debris acceptance.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:35 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary