

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON FEBRUARY 17, 2021 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 Meyer, Vice Chairman Drake, Commissioners Petillo, Madsen\*, Cocula, Dietz\*, Wesley\*, Finkeldie\*, Dabinett\*, Comptroller Timothy Day, Chief Engineer Sesto, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Phillips\*, General Counsel Napolitano\*, Special Counsel Prol\*, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Also in remote attendance: Authority's Bond Counsel John Cantalupo\*

\*Attended the meeting remotely due to State Executive Orders regarding COVID-19.

Audited the meeting remotely: Executive Director Varro

2. PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING SUNSHINE LAW

Chairman Meyer stated that the meeting has been duly advertised, and notice given thereof, as required by P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Call-in information was noticed prior via newspaper/website re: public participation.

3. OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Meyer opened the meeting to public comment. Steve Wells President of Spectraserv was in attendance and spoke to the Board regarding a past situation that caused a contract default for Liquid Sludge Hauling for 2020. Mr. Wells explained the circumstances regarding their lapse in service that was primarily due to COVID restrictions/quarantining issues and lack of communication between dispatcher and manager/owner. The Board thanked him for coming to address concerns directly. Mr. Wells left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Meyer asked for a motion to approve the Final Agenda. Commissioner Drake, moved the Final Agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Cocula moved the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Drake. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Meyer requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the January 20, 2021 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioners Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Madsen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula moved the Open and Closed Meeting Minutes for the December 16, 2020 Authority Meeting, Commissioner Drake seconded the motion. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (2) Meyer, Wesley.

The Open and Closed Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2021 and January 20, 2021 were distributed for Commissioners' review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:15 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. Special Counsel Prol requested to add discussions regarding Care Environmental HHW Claim in Georgia to his Closed Session Report. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dabinett, as amended. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Meyer noted the Closed Session should be approximately 40 minutes and discussions shall include: Contract #21-11 Liquid Sludge Hauling, Sussex Borough Flow Meter, Homestead Wastewater Facility, contract #229 Bids for Bulky Waste Building Roof Repairs, Care Environmental HHW Claim in Georgia and Personnel Items.

**#21-065** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Finkeldie moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session: Contract #21-11 Liquid Sludge Hauling, Sussex Borough Flow Meter, Homestead Wastewater Facility, contract #229 Bids for Bulky Waste Building Roof Repairs, Care Environmental HHW Claim in Georgia and Personnel Items.

b. Wastewater Program

**Comptroller's Report**

Mr. Day reported on the Septage, Sludge and Hauled Sewage volumes/revenues through January 2021. Sludge is at 10% of projected revenues, Septage at 13%, and Hauled Sewage is 10%. Overall, 13% under anticipated revenues for the first two months of the fiscal year. Connection fees are strong totaling \$104,520.00.

c. Solid Waste Program

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Morris gave an update on the odor control system on the perimeter of the landfill. The odor control units did freeze up during this past cold snap, and the vendor provided a technician to make adjustments. The vendor also provided a barrel of freshener at no cost to the Authority.

Mr. Morris reported that the both the JD dozer and 750K dozer were not functioning due to hydraulic issues, and sensor issues, respectively. Maintenance staff and JD representative worked to get both back in service.

**Chief Engineer's Report**

Mr. Sesto updated the Commissioners on the Landfill Life Expansion/Infrastructure Relocation Project financing, and indicated that approval was received by the NJ I-Bank to return the Addendum. Opening date is scheduled for February 26, at 11:00 a.m. Clarifications were issued to bid holders, with much interest for this project.

**Comptroller's Report**

Comptroller Day and Bond Counsel Cantalupo reported on the status of the application process with the NJ I-Bank for the Landfill Life Extension/Infrastructure Relocation Project. Mr. Day noted that the Authority's presentation was well received, and funding was approved by the I-Bank at their last meeting. A supplemental resolution was prepared by Bond Counsel, and is required each time an additional bond needed. This resolution authorizes the full project, allows for issuance of bonds through NJIB, and markets for costs that not allowable through NJIB. The Resolution also secures the funding in order to award the contract. Commissioner Petillo moved the supplemental bond resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Meyer, Wesley, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

**#21-066** SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE AUTHORITY'S NOT TO EXCEED \$39,000,000 COUNTY – SECURED SOLID WASTE REVENUE BONDS OR PROJECT NOTES (LANDFILL EXPANSION PROJECT)

e. Personal Matters

**Solid Waste Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Morris read a Declaration of Appreciation for Jeffrey Starch, a 27-year employee with the Authority and is scheduled to retire on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Cocula moved to accept, with regret, Mr. Starch's retirement, and also moved his Declaration of Appreciation, as he has been an asset to the Authority throughout his tenure. Commissioner Dabinett seconded motion. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

**#21-067** RESOLUTION RE: DECLARATION OF APPRECIATION TO JEFFREY STARCH

Mr. Morris presented a resolution as discussed in Executive Session for a 90 day extension of an Official Leave of Absence for CW0228. Commissioner Cocula moved to authorize extension resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Meyer, Wesley, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

**#21-068** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND "OFFICIAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY FOR PERSONAL ILLNESS, FOR AN ADDITIONAL 90 DAY PERIOD FOR CW0228

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 #21-069 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA			x			
DIETZ			x			
DRAKE	x		x			
MEYER			x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE			x			
DABINETT		x	x			

**#21-069** RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners wished Jeff Starch well in his retirement years, and his dedication to the Authority. Commissioners thanked the SW staff for their work in keeping the facility open during snow storm. They also thanked the staff and professionals in securing funding for the Landfill Expansion Project, in order to move forward in a timely manner.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:20 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary