

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON JUNE 3, 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\*, Finkeldie\*, 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.

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 noticed prior 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 (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

6. MINUTES

Chairman Drake requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the May 20, 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 Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula motioned to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the April 15, 2020 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

There were no minutes distributed at this meeting for review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:03 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session, motion seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake noted the Closed Session should be approximately 50 minutes and discussions shall include: Sparta Twp. Stop and Shop, Landfill Gas to Energy Contract, Sussex Borough License Agreement and Personnel Items.

**#20-116** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:40 p.m. Commissioner Finkeldie moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. 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 Sparta Twp. Stop and Shop, Landfill Gas to Energy Contract, Sussex Borough License Agreement 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**

Superintendent Baron reported that he was contacted by NJDEP and described the new procedure for NJDEP to inspect/audit labs virtually. He noted that much of the records and documentation was sent via email and there was also a virtual visual inspection done via live video feed with a laptop camera to review/inspect lab equipment.

**Senior Project Engineer's Report**

Mr. Sesto gave an update on the delivery of the replacement membranes for the Paulinskill Plant. The membranes were ordered, however due to COVID-19 related matters with air freight, and shipping in individual containers, the price has jumped to \$200,000. Mr. Sesto is working with Kubota to find an alternate shipping method. The fabrication process has begun and now the projected date to begin installation has been moved to late August.

c. Solid Waste Program

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Morris reminded Commissioners that the Household Hazardous Waste Event for June 6, 2020 was previously cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns and lower staff availability due to alternating schedules. He indicated that if going back to full staff, the Paper Shred Event can be held for June. He will prepare staff and public for event. Electronic Waste Event is not scheduled until July 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mr. Varro reported that he was contacted via conference call from State Senator Bucco and Lake Hopatcong Commission regarding acceptance of harvested weeds from the Lake. The Lake Commission is preparing to harvest the lake weeds and some of the weed waste is taken to the Morris County MUA, for composting, but they cannot accept it all. Mr. Varro reported in past years, the SCMUA has accepted the weeds as ID23A Vegetative Waste to the Landfill at \$96/ton. Discussion regarding procedures for changes to the Rate Schedule and potential odors in compost area and landfill. Executive Director Varro indicated he recommended the Lake Hopatcong Commission put their request in writing, and Commissioners will revisit.

Mr. Varro gave a status report on the Landfill Life Extension/Infrastructure Relocation Project and the progress reports from ARM Group. He reviewed the bidding/design timeline which has been compressed. Teleconference meetings are working out well and are saving valuable time.

**Senior Project Engineer’s Report**

Mr. Sesto reported the North MSE Berm Project which is currently advertised for bidding. A pre-bid conference was held remotely, and an addendum was issued by ARM to address questions and to extend the bid date to June 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

**Comptroller’s Report**

Mr. Day reported on Tonnages and Revenues from December 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020, in which compared to the same time period for 2019, tonnage is down 1.2%. Revenues were \$1,061,951 for the month of May.

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 #20-117 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA		x	x			
DIETZ	x		x			
DRAKE			x			
MEYER			x			
PEREZ					x	
FINKELDIE			x			
DABINETT			x			

**#20-117** RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners wished Commissioner Petillo and Executive Director Varro a Happy Birthday.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:11 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary