

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON MAY 3, 2023 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 Ronald Petillo, Vice Chairman John Drake, Commissioners Karl Meyer, Thomas Madsen, Andrea Cocula, Wayne Dietz, John Wesley, John Finkeldie (remote), Robert Dabinett, Executive Director Varro (remote), Comptroller Timothy Day, Chief Engineer Joseph Sesto, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, Wallkill River Watershed Management Group Director Nathaniel Sajdak, General Counsel John Napolitano, Special Counsel Thomas Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

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 present, Mr. Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo made changes to the Closed Session Agenda, by adding Vernon Lawsuit and also U.W. Nitrate Litigation and Plant Wastewater Upgrades and Planning under Authority Business. Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Madsen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the April 19, 2023 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioner Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Drake moved the PASS noting to change the typo date on the Agenda from 2022 to 2023, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

There are no minutes for approval for this meeting.

The Open and Closed Minutes for the March 1, 2023 and March 15, 2023 Authority Meetings have been distributed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

- a. Executive Session (moved to the end of Business portion of the Agenda)
- b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported on an issue at the Paulinskill Plant on April 23rd in which the PLC control center burned out. It is the main controls for the plant, the service representative was called in and was repaired within 48 hours. No further issues occurred and the plant remained in compliance.

Watershed Director's Report

Mr. Sajdak reported on the Earth Day event, and noted that it was a great team effort, and all went well throughout the day with the County school students. He referenced the thank you notes received from the students.

Mr. Sajdak reviewed a resolution for an agreement for green infrastructure project for porous payment project and tree trench project. Funding through the USFWL & NJDEP with grants for planning and installation of projects for a total of \$154,000. Commissioner Cocula moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#23-100 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH HALSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL/NEWTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ASSIST WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A POROUS ASPHALT PROJECT IN THE SCHOOL'S FRONT PARKING LOT AND A TREE TRENCH PROJECT IN THE SCHOOL'S PAVED PLAYGROUND AREA

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the wastewater flows and revenues through April 2023, Sludge and Septage are lower than projections at 23% and 26%, respectively. Hauled sewage is at 26% of projections, and connection fees are at 30% for the year.

- c. Solid Waste Program

Solid Waste Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris reported on the recent rain event which caused high elevations of water in the holding tanks, and during morning inspection a leak was found in tank #2. Leachate was flowing into the containment area, all pumps were shut and tank was pumped down. The tank company was contacted and will repair and inspect all tanks and prepare a report on life-expectancy and repairs needed. Discussions on 25 year old tank, and issues that may occur, and causes of rust.

Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Sesto gave an update on the Stage 2 Landfill Expansion Project, and indicated that the rain has stalled the installation of the liner. Work has been concentrated on Phase 4 Pump Station, and trench drains along the top of the berm. Discussions ensued regarding option to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for an official opening of the new Residents' Convenience Center/Recycling Center.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on solid waste and revenues through the first 5 months of the fiscal year. Tonnages are down 2% compared to the same time period as last year, and revenues are down \$66,000.

d. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the progress of Planet Networks as to when to install the new server at the Admin Bldg. and he also noted they are still waiting on permits to install the broadband at the Upper Wallkill Facility.

a. Executive Session

At 3:15 p.m. Commissioner Drake moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Session should be approximately 20 minutes and discussions shall include: Vernon Township/ Vernon Twp. MUA Lawsuit, U.W. Nitrate Permit Litigation and Plant Project, and Personnel Matter.

#23-101 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:40 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session: Vernon Township/ Vernon Twp. MUA Lawsuit, U.W. Nitrate Permit Litigation and Plant Project, and Personnel Matter.

Commissioner Madsen stepped out of the meeting room at 3:40 p.m.

e. Personnel Matters

Wastewater Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips requested a motion to accept the resignation notice from Jason Doyle after over 20 years of service to the Authority. Commissioner Dietz moved to accept Mr. Doyle's resignation, with regret, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0). The motion passed.

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 #23-102 Financial Consent Agenda | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-------------|
| Commissioner | 1st | 2nd | Yea | Nay | Abstain | Absent |
| MEYER | | x | x | | | |
| MADSEN | | | | | | Out of room |
| COCULA | x | | x | | | |
| DIETZ | | | x | | | |
| PETILLO | | | x | | | |
| DRAKE | | | x | | | |
| WESLEY | | | x | | | |
| FINKELDIE | | | x | | | |
| DABINETT | | | x | | | |

#23-102 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

Commissioner Madsen returned to meeting room 3:42 p.m.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners congratulated and commented on the success of Earth Day 2023.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:43 p.m. Commissioner Dietz moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary