

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON OCTOBER 2, 2019 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 Drake, Vice Chairman Meyer, Commissioners Petillo, Cocula, Perez, Meyer, Finkeldie and Dabinett, Executive Director/Chief Engineer Varro, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Angelo Baron, General Counsel Napolitano, Special Counsel Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Absent: Commissioner Dietz

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.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Drake asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Executive Director Varro requested to add under General Authority Business an update regarding Wallkill River Watershed grant award. Commissioner Meyer approved the Agenda, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. 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 Meyer. 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 September 18, 2019 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Freeholder Board. Commissioner Dabinett motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On roll call: Ayes (6) Commissioners Petillo, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (2) Commissioners Madsen, Finkeldie. The motion carried.

Motion to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the August 21, 2019 Authority Meeting by Commissioner Cocula, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (7) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie and Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Petillo. The motion carried.

The Open and Closed Minutes for the September 4, 2019 Authority Meeting were emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

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 seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: (8) Ayes, (0) Nays. The motion carried. Chairman Drake noted the Closed Session should be approximately 30 minutes and discussions shall include: Energy Aggregate Meeting/Bid, Upper Walkkill Permit Conference and Personnel Items.

#19-146 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:21 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. 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: Energy Aggregate Meeting/Bid, Upper Walkkill Permit Conference and Personnel Items. When the need for confidentiality of these matters no longer exists, they will be opened to the public.

b. Wastewater Program

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

After consultations with Department Heads regarding status of certain Capital Projects. Mr. Varro reviewed proposed line item amendments to the Upper Walkkill FY2019 Budget; no increase in overall budget. A resolution was prepared summarizing proposed changes to be submitted to Department of Community Affairs. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution re: proposed budget amendments, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1) Commissioner Dietz. The resolution passed.

#19-147 RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING THE SCMUA'S FY2019 UPPER WALLKILL FACILITIES BUDGET

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris reported on an improper disposal on September 26, 2019 at the landfill that potentially contained hazardous materials. He reviewed the proper procedures taken to contain the material and notified the NJDEP Hotline. Sussex County Haz-Mat came to the facility to inspect, and the hauler will be fined \$500 as per the SCMUA 2019 Rate Schedule. Mr. Morris noted he cannot confirm if NJDEP or Sussex County Department of Health will additionally fine the hauler. NJDEP is being consulted regarding proper disposal/management of the material at the SCMUA Household Hazardous Waste Event.

Mr. Morris distributed pictures of two new trucks that were delivered to the Solid Waste Facility. The 966 Wheel Loader and Ford Ranger with Crew Cab were purchased for operations, both at a very reasonable price.

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Varro reviewed the summary sheet for proposed budget amendment to the FY2019 Solid Waste Budget. Line item transfers are requested in order to install proper equipment for landfill gas and odor control efforts, and channel grates, as well as, a shop heater and blower upgrades. Mr. Varro noted the total overall budget shall remain the same. Commissioner Cocula moved the SW Budget Amendment Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1) Commissioner Dietz. The resolution passed.

#19-148 RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING THE SCMUA'S FY2019 SOLID WASTE FACILITIES BUDGET

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on Solid Waste tonnages and revenues from December 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, which shows overall increase of 2.3% in tonnage compared to the same time period for 2018. Revenues are on target with projections for the year.

d. General Authority Business

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Varro opened discussions on scheduling the FY2020 Rate Hearing. Commissioner Cocula moved to authorize advertisement and hold the FY2020 Rate Hearing on November 6, 2019 at 3:30 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Mr. Varro introduced a resolution assigning Comptroller Tim Day as the Certifying Officer's (M. Nemeth) Supervisor, State statute requires only one be assigned. This resolution supersedes a previous one naming Comptroller and Executive Director as Supervisors. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#19-149 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF MARGUERITE NEMETH AS SCMUA CERTIFYING OFFICER THROUGH FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Chairman Drake welcomed Wallkill River Watershed Management Group Director, Nathaniel Sajdak and Outreach Coordinator Kristine Rogers to the meeting to give an update on their progress with projects related to the grants received to promote green infrastructure. Mr. Sajdak reported on the most recent grant award received from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the current projects that are being funded through them. Most of the projects are for stormwater management using green infrastructure, which includes pavement construction and the use of rain gardens and installation of porous concrete. Ms. Rogers reported on both completed and ongoing projects with local school districts. The recent grant for \$238,000 shall be used for the construction/installation of various stormwater projects for all the schools in the Town of Newton. The students are heavily involved with the planning and construction process of these projects, and it is an enjoyable educational benefit for them, as well as the entire community.

Comptroller’s Report

Mr. Day confirmed that the FY2020 Capital and Operating Budget has been completed and was electronically sent to the Department of Community Affairs on September 30, 2019, followed by a hard copy. A copy was also sent the SC Freeholder Clerk for the Board.

e. Personnel

Solid Waste Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Morris presented a resolution appointing Michael Rathbun to the Solid Waste Operations Manager position. Mr. Rathbun was selected as the most qualified for the position after interviews and discussions with the Personnel Committee. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution to hire Michael Rathbun, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1) Commissioner Dietz. The resolution passed.

#19-150 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL RATHBUN TO THE POSITION OF SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS FOREMAN

Mr. Morris reported that applicant Paul Curcio has performed well on the road test for a Solid Waste Heavy Equipment Operator I, and is hereby recommended to fill the position. A resolution was prepared for consideration. Commissioner Madsen moved the resolution to appoint Mr. Curcio, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1) Commissioner Dietz. The resolution passed.

#19-151 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF SOLID WASTE HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I, PAUL CURCIO

8. Payment of Bills

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

Res #19-152: Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA	x		x			
DIETZ						x
DRAKE			x			
MEYER		x	x			
PEREZ			x			
FINKELDIE			x			
DABINETT			x			

#19-152 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners congratulated the Wallkill River Watershed Management Group for their grant award for green initiatives and thanked them for their hard work. Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioner Dietz an excused absence, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion passed.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:56 p.m. Commissioner Perez moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary