

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON JUNE 5, 2024 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 Thomas Madsen, Karl Meyer, Wayne Dietz, Andrea Cocula, John Wesley, John Finkeldie, Executive Director Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Operations Supervisor Michael Rathbun, Wastewater Chief Operator Stephen Furtkevic, Wallkill River Watershed Management Group Director Nathaniel Sajdak, General Counsel John Napolitano (via telecom), Special Counsel Thomas Prol (via telecom), and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Absent: Commissioner Dabinett; SW Superintendent Morris and WW Superintendent Phillips

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 comment. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Executive Director Sesto requested to add a Resolution regarding Franklin Pump Station to the Wastewater Section of the Agenda, and also to add Personnel Item to Executive Director's Report in Closed Session. Commissioner Drake moved the Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Madsen moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Fin. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the May 16, 2024 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioner Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Dietz moved the PASS, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

There were no minutes up for approval at this meeting.

The Open and Closed Minutes for both the May 1, 2024 and May 15 2024 Authority Meetings were distributed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:03 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Session should be approximately 15 minutes and discussions shall include: Vernon Township Legal Fees and Water Quality Management Plan Amendment, Upper Wallkill Hardship Program, St. Paul's Abby Endorsement, and Personnel Item.

#24-098 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:15 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session: Vernon Township Legal Fees and Water Quality Management Plan Amendment, Upper Wallkill Hardship Program, St. Paul's Abby Endorsement, and Personnel Item

b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Furtkevic reported on the Franklin Pump Station and indicated that mixers need to be repaired, a warranty claim was filed to the manufacturer. He also noted that the Contractor continues to work on the final punch-list items.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto provided an engineering design status update for the Upper Wallkill Nitrate Upgrade project. Mr. Sesto reported he has reviewed the 30% engineering cost estimates, and he is coordinating with PS&S on required NJIB submissions in H2Loans.

Mr. Sesto presented a resolution to approve the execution of a Water Quality Management Plan Amendment Endorsement Application for St. Paul's Abby in Andover. He reviewed the proposed site-specific plans and wastewater discharge will increase from 20,000 gpd to 50,000 gpd. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#24-099 RESOLUTION RE: SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY'S (SCMUA) ENDORSEMENT OF SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENT TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (WQMP) FOR THE ST. PAUL'S ABBEY LOCATED AT BLOCK 151, LOTS 22 AND 22.02 AND BLOCK 153 IN ANDOVER TOWNSHIP

Mr. Sesto reported that he was contacted by NJDOT to request the temporary use of the SCMUA property to store road equipment during their project to replace guide rails in Vernon Township. Mr. Sesto reviewed the Agreement and has prepared a resolution to approve execution thereof. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#24-100 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NJDOT) FOR TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT ALONG ROUTE 94 IN VERNON TOWNSHIP

Mr. Sesto reported on proposed change order for Contract No. 459 for the Franklin Pump Station Rehabilitation that includes HOA status monitoring and hardwire switches. The SCMUA Construction Review Committee has reviewed the change order and recommends approval. The resolution was prepared to increase the contract with Rapid Pump & Meter by \$6,795.00. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#24-101 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDER TO SCMUA CONTRACT NO. 459, RAPID PUMP AND METER SERVICE COMPANY

Watershed Director's Report

Mr. Sajdak reported that the WRWVG has begun the task of delivering and planting trees for six (6) lake communities for the tree replacement program. The WRWVG have delivered approximately 1,000 trees to 200 homeowners.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported that Septage is at 49% of anticipated projections, Sludge is at 53%, and Hauled Sewage is at 161% through May 31, 2024. Connection fees for the Upper Wallkill are over the FY2024 projection, and the Paulinskill Facility did not have any additional connections last month.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Rathbun reported on a "hot load" incident where a Blue Diamond Truck was enroute to the facility. They called ahead to advise of a fire in the back in the loader and Mr. Rathbun cleared an area for receipt of the load with the SCMUA water truck standing by. The fire was put out and the cause was discovered to be from a lithium battery. Clean up was done by noon that day.

Mr. Rathbun reported on the Household Hazardous Waste Event on June 1, 2024, noting that 6,112 vehicles were counted for the event portion of the day; 880 vehicles over the truck scales. He indicated that 14.46 tons of Hazardous Waste was collected for the event.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported that the Solid Waste Facility had an EPA air inspection. The inspector was at the facility and was provided all requested information. Mr. Sesto noted that the SCMUA facility is smaller than most other landfill in New Jersey and are classified as a minor emitter (below 34 mega grams of non-methane organic carbons). Air samples related to NMOCs are taken every five (5) years to confirm this "minor emitter" status which then relates to required monitoring of the site landfill gas system via the Facility air permit. Mr. Sesto indicated no issues were of concern with the inspection.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the May 2024 Tonnages and Revenues. Tonnage is up 3.8% and revenues are up 15% compared to the same time period last year.

Mr. Day prepared two (2) resolutions for the auction and donation of certain Solid Waste Equipment. The first resolution is for the donation of two (2) Dodge Durangos to the Lafayette Fire Department for training purposes. They both have been determined to no longer be serviceable to the Authority. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#24-102 RESOLUTION RE: SUSSEX COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY NO LONGER SERVICEABLE FOR SCMUA USE.

Mr. Day reviewed the second resolution to auction a chain hoist through the GovDeals.com public online auction. Commissioner Drake moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#24-103 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY (SCMUA) SOLID WASTE PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE THROUGH GOVDEALS.COM PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION

d. Authority General Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reminded the Commissioners and Staff of the email regarding the Cyber Security training course that is mandatory for frequent computer users of the SCMUA. The course consists of three (3) award certificates. The courses are available through the end of July 2024.

e. Personnel

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Sesto noted Closed Session discussions and requested a motion to fill a full time position, and two (2) part time positions for Site Attendants at the Solid Waste Facility. Commissioner Dietz made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie; 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 #24-104 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA			x			
DIETZ		x	x			
PETILLO			x			
DRAKE	x		x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE			x			
DABINETT						x

#24-104 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioner Dabinett an excused absence, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

The Commissioners noted that Stephen Furtkevic and Michael Rathbun did great jobs filling in at the meeting for the absent Superintendents. Commissioner Drake also thanked the WW Staff and Executive Director Sesto on the tour given to Vernon Twp. officials at the Upper Walkkill Facility. It was very thorough and helpful.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:45 p.m. Commissioner Finkeldie moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary