

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2025 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, Mario Poggi, Executive Director Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, WRWVG 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 comment. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Cocula moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. 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 December 18, 2024 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, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Madsen moved the Open and Closed Minutes for the November 6, 2024 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

The Open and Closed Minutes for the November 27, 2024 Authority Meeting were emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:02 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Executive Session should be approximately 12 minutes and discussions shall include: Upper Walkkill Nitrate Upgrade Project.

#25-013 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:15 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. 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 included: Upper Walkkill Nitrate Upgrade Project.

b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported that the Annual Inspection for the Paulinskill Wastewater Reclamation Facility was conducted by the NJDEP; there were no issues. The Plant is in compliance and running smoothly.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported that the SCMUA is a member of the New Jersey Sewerage and Municipal Utility Authority Electrical Supply Aggregation ("NJSMUAESA") which allows SCMUA to benefit from bulk electricity purchasing. The next bid opening is scheduled for February 25, 2025. A resolution has been prepared to authorize the Executive Director or Comptroller to approval award a contract for electric supply to the low bidder the same day as the bid opening. Commissioner Drake moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen, on roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Finkeldie, Wesley, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#25-014 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING AN ENERGY AGENT CONTRACT WITH GABEL ASSOCIATES, INC., AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOSEPH SESTO, OR IN HIS ABSENCE, THE COMPTROLLER, TIMOTHY DAY, TO AWARD A CONTRACT AND/OR REJECT BIDS IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE NEW JERSEY SEWERAGE AND MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY ELECTRICAL SUPPLY AGGREGATION

Watershed Director's Report

Mr. Sajdak reported on the recent closing of the sale of the former Culver Lake Golf Course to the Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation. The acquisition allows the SCMUA – WRWMG to begin the restoration project grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The funding was also secured to purchase four (4) floating treatment islands for the pond on the property, an educational kiosk and sign, and materials for a wildlife viewing platform.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the Septage, Sludge and Hauled Sewage Revenues for December 2024, the first month of FY2025. Septage volumes were at 5% of annual projections, Sludge volumes were at 5% of annual projections, and Hauled Sewage volumes were at 7% of annual projections. All were slightly below anticipated totals for the month. For

December, the connection fees collected for the Upper Walkkill Plant were \$103,053.00 and the Paulinskill Facility had no new connections.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Morris reported on the recently purchased BOMAG Landfill Compactor. The staff was trained on operation and maintenance for the equipment, and it is currently in service. The SCMUA's compactor trade-in was accepted by the vendor and is scheduled for pick up.

Mr. Morris reported on the annual collection data for Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials. Total Solid Waste Tonnage was 109,303 tons for 2024, and recyclable material collected totaled 4,288 tons which was 2% higher compared to last year. There was an increase in liquid collection at the Recycling Center totaling 25,463 gallons. The paper shred events generated 41 tons of recyclable paper, and 48.64 tons of electronics were collected. The Household Hazardous Waste Events collected 28 tons for disposal off site. Mr. Morris then reviewed vehicle data. In 2024, 120,921 vehicles came in over the truck scales which represents an increase of 7.57% from last year. For 2024, the Bagged Garbage Area serviced 79,912 vehicles, and 51,940 vehicles utilized the Recycling Center.

Mr. Morris reviewed a resolution for the authorization of shared services agreements for municipalities that do not have a Certified Recycling Coordinator on staff to certify the 2024 Recycling Reports for submittal to the NJDEP. SCMUA Recycling Coordinator Dawn Latincsics provides the certification to those municipalities in need of this service. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#25-015 RESOLUTION RE: SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT(S) WITH VARIOUS SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE PROVISION OF CERTIFIED RECYCLING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO CERTIFY AND SUBMIT THE 2024 RECYCLING TONNAGE REPORT TO NJDEP

Mr. Morris indicated a resolution was prepared to authorize the submittal of a spending plan for the 2024 Recycling Enhancement Act Tax Fund Grant. The amount is \$162,000 which will be used for solid waste and recycling initiatives and programs. Commissioner Drake moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#25-016 RESOLUTION RE: ENABLING RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A SPENDING PLAN FOR A 2024 RECYCLING ENHANCEMENT ACT TAX FUND GRANT PURSUANT TO P.L. 2007 C.113 ET SEQ. HEREINAFTER, THE ACT

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto gave a status report on the North Cap Construction Project. He indicated that the contractor is back on-site after the holiday break as of Monday morning. Tomco and ALCO Lining Company are working together to install the rain flap along the northeast project area.

Comptroller’s Report

Mr. Day reviewed the tonnages and revenues for December 2024, the first month of FY2025 for the Solid Waste Facility. Tonnage was up 3.9% compared to last year. Revenues for December 2024 totaled \$20,000 or 2.4% of annual revenue.

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 #25-012 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA	x		x			
DIETZ			x			
PETILLO			x			
DRAKE		x	x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE			x			
POGGI			x			

#25-017 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

10. COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners everyone a Happy New Year!

Commissioner Poggi noted his term was up at the end of this year and was hoping to get reappointed to a 5-year term by the County Commissioners.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Drake moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary