

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON MARCH 4, 2026 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, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, WRWMG Director Nathaniel Sajdak, General Counsel John Napolitano, Special Counsel Thomas Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Absent: Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris

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. Patrick Nicholson of Acrisure, SCMUA's Risk Management Consultant, informed the Board that he has been in discussions with Executive Director Sesto regarding ways to enhance service to the Authority. He also noted that he will follow up on the claims review request discussed at the prior Board meeting. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Executive Director Sesto requested to add in Closed Executive Session under Executive Director's Report Discussions re: Upper Wallkill Nitrate. Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. 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 Finkeldie. 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 February 18, 2026 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioner Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Poggi moved the PASS, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Meyer. The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula moved to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the January 21, 2026 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the February 4, 2026 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (2) Commissioners Meyer and Finkeldie. The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo indicated that the Open and Closed Minutes for the February 18, 2026 Board Meeting has been emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported that Vernon Regional Pumping Station SCADA upgrades project has been completed.

Watershed Director's Report

Mr. Sajdak reported on the upcoming spring events being planned and coordinated with multiple Sussex County schools and municipalities, as well as the Sussex County Realtors' Association, for restoration and planting workdays. He indicated that the Watershed Group looks forward to these outreach and educational events.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the Septage, Sludge and Sewage Report through February 2026. He indicated that septage is at 13% of annual projections, sludge is at 27% of annual projections, and hauled sewage is at 100% of annual projections. Overall, revenue totals are at 14% of annual projections. Total connection fees through February for the Upper Walkkill Facility remain unchanged from last month at \$36,973.00. The Paulinskill Reclamation Facility had no new connection fees during February.

b. Solid Waste Program

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reviewed the tonnages and revenues through February 2026 for the Solid Waste Facility. February 2026 tonnage is down 5.2% compared to this time last year. Revenues are also down approximately 3.5% compared to last year.

c. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day prepared resolutions to extend the professional services agreements for IT Managed Services with Planet Network and for cybersecurity services with Micro Consulting Group for an additional one-year term each. Commissioner Cocula moved the contract renewal resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Meyer. The motion carried.

#26-065 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING ONE YEAR RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MICROCOMPUTER CONSULTING GROUP, SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

#26-066 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR RENEWAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FROM COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING RFP WITH PLANET NETWORKS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) MANAGED SERVICES FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

d. Executive Session

At 3:06 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 20 minutes and discussions shall include: Upper Walkkill Nitrate, Hampton Commons – NJPDES Permit, and Vernon Township Litigation.

#26-067 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:20 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. 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, Hampton Commons – NJPDES Permit, and Vernon Township Litigation.

d. Personnel Matters

Wastewater Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips indicated that Wastewater Employee Operator III, Matthew Kuhn, has notified him of his intent to resign to move out of state. Commissioner Cocula moved to accept Mr. Kuhn's resignation, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion carried.

As discussed in Executive Session, Mr. Phillips prepared a resolution to appoint Zachary Wengenroth as a Wastewater Plant Attendant. Commissioner Dietz moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-068 APPOINTMENT OF WASTEWATER PLANT ATTENDANT, ZACHARY WENGENROTH

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported he received a request from Solid Waste Employee JM9751 for a six (6) months extension of an intermittent leave of absence with pay. Commissioner Madsen moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-069 RESOLUTION RE: REQUEST FOR AN OFFICIAL EXTENDED INTERMITTENT LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITH PAY FOR A SIX (6) MONTH PERIOD FOR JM9751

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

FINANCIAL CONSENT AGENDA – Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve the Financial Consent Agenda (FCA). On roll call:

Res #26-069 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA			x			
DIETZ			x			
PETILLO			x			
DRAKE	x		x			
WESLEY		x	x			
FINKELDIE			x			
POGGI			x			

#26-070 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUEST

None

11. ADJOURN

At 3:25 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary