

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON APRIL 1, 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, Mario Poggi, Executive Director Joseph Sesto, Timothy Day, Comptroller, 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

Absent: Commissioners John Finkeldie and John Wesley

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 comments from the public. Mr. Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. No changes were requested. Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. No discussions were requested. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Petillo requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the March 18, 2026 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioner Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Madsen moved the PASS, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

There were no minutes up for approval at this meeting.

The Open and Closed Minutes from the March 4, 2026 Authority Meeting were distributed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported that on March 17, 2026 PEOSHA unannounced inspection of the Upper Wallkill Wastewater Treatment Facility. The inspection lasted four (4) hours with no major violations to report. Mr. Phillips will provide an additional update once the final "notice of order to comply" is received.

Watershed Director's Report

Mr. Sajdak reported that the SCMUA-WRWMG partnered with Cerbos Nursery in Hampton Township to plant four (4) new floating treatment wetland islands for deployment later this summer at the Culver Brook Preserve (former Culver Lake Golf Course). On Tuesday, March 24th, a group of nine (9) volunteers from the Home Ground Realty Executives joined the Watershed Staff at the Town of Newton's Memory Park to remove tree tubes and stakes from a project area along the Moore's Brook / Paulins Kill Headwaters. The SCMUA – WRWMG has partnered with the Lake Owassa Headwaters Foundation to prepare and submit a new grant proposal to the 2026 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Delaware, Watershed Conservation Fund. On Monday, March 23rd, the SCMUA – WRWMG Agricultural Outreach Specialist, Eric VanBenSchoten participated in a pre-construction meeting for wetlands restoration and enhancement practices at a USDA-NRCS easement property, along the Papakating Creek in Frankford Township.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported that the original roof of the Upper Wallkill Service Building has started leaking and is in need of full replacement. He requested proposals from many local contractors. The low-priced proposals was from Tri-County Roofing for \$52,800.

b. Solid Waste Program

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported that proposals were received to replace the damaged fencing between the Administrative Parking Lot and the Bulky Waste Building. The existing fencing (411 linear feet) has deteriorated over time. Following a solicitation process, two (2) proposals were received. The lowest proposal was from Challenger Fence, Inc. through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing System and totaled \$34,772.00. Mr. Sesto also reported that the Administrative Building/Employee Parking Lot is original and is in need of resurfacing. A mill and pave proposal was received from Tilcon through the Morris County Cooperative (Contract #6) in the amount of \$89,957.50. Mr. Sesto noted that the Construction Review Committee has approved both projects.

Commissioner Cocula moved to authorize the reported-on construction projects necessary for the Solid Waste Facility, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion carried.

c. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reminded the Commissioners to file their 2026 Financial Disclosure Statements, as required by the State by April 30th.

d. Executive Session

At 3:08 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 (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Executive Session should be approximately 8 minutes and discussions shall include: Vernon Township Litigation, Landfill Title V Air Permit, and Personnel Matters.

#26-077 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:25 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session included: Vernon Township Litigation, Landfill Title V Air Permit, and Personnel Matters.

d. Personnel Matters

Solid Waste Superintendent's Report

As discussed in Executive Session, Mr. Morris prepared a resolution to authorize a four (4) month extension for an intermittent leave of absence for SW employee WB4676. Commissioner Cocula moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-078 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT A FOUR (4) MONTH EXTENSION OFFICIAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITH PAY FOR WB4676

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day presented a resolution to authorize an official intermittent leave of absence for a six (6) week period for employee JV1569. Commissioner Dietz moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-079 RESOLUTION RE: REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL INTERMITTENT LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITH PAY FOR A SIX (6) WEEK PERIOD FOR JV1569

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 #26-080 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
FINKELDIE						x
POGGI		x	x			

#26-080 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners wished Superintendent Morris a Happy Birthday.

Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioners Finkeldie and Wesley excused absences for today's meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion passed.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Madsen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary