

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON AUGUST 5, 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 and Mario Poggi, Executive Director Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, General Counsel John Napolitano, Special Counsel Thomas Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski.

Also in Attendance: County Commissioner Alan Henderson

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. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo asked for approval of the Agenda. Commissioner Madsen 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 Poggi. No discussions were 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 July 15, 2026 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioner Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Cocula moved the PASS, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Poggi; Nays (0) Commissioner Finkeldie; Abstain (1). The motion carried.

Mr. Petillo asked for a motion to approve the Open and Closed Minutes from the June 15, 2026 Authority Meeting. Commissioner Drake moved the approval, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

There were no minutes emailed to the Commissioners at this meeting.

7. BUSINESS

a. Wastewater Program

Comptroller's Report

Comptroller Day reported on the Septage, Sludge, and Sewage Report through June 2026. He indicated that septage revenues were at 48% of annual projections, sludge revenues were at 77% of annual projections, and hauled sewage revenues were significantly exceeding expectations at 347% of annual projections. Overall, revenues were on track at approximately 50% of annual projections. Total connection fees through June for the Upper Wallkill Facility were \$82,748. The Paulinskill Reclamation Facility had no new connection fees for June 2026.

Comptroller Day subsequently reported on the Septage, Sludge, and Sewage Report through July 2026. He indicated that septage revenues had increased to 55% of annual projections, while sludge revenues were at 85% of annual projections. Hauled sewage revenues continued to significantly exceed expectations, reaching 411% of annual projections. Overall, revenues were at approximately 58% of annual projections. Total connection fees through July for the Upper Wallkill Facility increased to \$91,551. The Paulinskill Reclamation Facility had no new connection fees for July 2026.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reviewed two (2) resolutions to authorize the Executive Director and the Watershed Director to execute Cost Sharing Agreements with eligible homeowner applicants within the Paulins Kill Watershed who have satisfied all requirements of the SCMUA-WRWMG's Nativescaping for Shoreline Protection and/or Lawn Reduction Program and who have been approved to receive funding assistance. Commissioner Drake moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-110 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF COST SHARING AGREEMENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL HOMEOWNERS AS PART OF THE SCMUA-WRWMG'S NATIVESCAPING FOR SHORELINE PROTECTION AND/OR LAWN REDUCTION PROGRAM IN THE UPPER PAULINS KILL WATERSHED LAKE COMMUNITIES

An additional resolution authorizes the Watershed Director to execute Cost Sharing Agreements with eligible homeowner applicants within the Paulins Kill Watershed who have satisfied all requirements of the SCMUA-WRWMG's Septic System Maintenance Program and who have been approved to receive funding assistance. Commissioner Drake 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.

#26-111 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF COST SHARING AGREEMENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL HOMEOWNERS AS PART OF THE SCMUA-WRWMG'S SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE COST SHARE PROGRAM IN THE UPPER PAULINS KILL WATERSHED LAKE

b. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris provided an update on recent landfill operations. He reported that on July 21st, a significant rain event resulted in approximately 2.6 inches of rainfall in less than one hour at the Solid Waste Facilities. The heavy rainfall caused localized erosion issues, and the NJDEP hotline was notified. Repairs were subsequently completed and inspected, with no further issues reported.

Mr. Morris also reported that Mid-Atlantic completed repairs to the leachate storage tank. During the repair work, additional repairs were identified as necessary. He is currently awaiting a proposal for the additional work. The tank's most recent inspection was conducted in 2023.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reviewed the tonnages and revenues for the Solid Waste Facility through June 2026. He reported that tonnages were down approximately 0.5%, or 329 tons, compared to the same period last year. Revenues, however, were up approximately 2.5% compared to the same period last year.

Mr. Day subsequently reviewed the tonnages and revenues for the Solid Waste Facility through July 2026. He reported that tonnages were down approximately 0.2%, or 155 tons, compared to the same period last year. Revenues were up approximately 1.67% compared to the same period last year.

c. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reviewed a resolution to give authorization to lease a new mail postage machine from Pitney Bowes, for a 5-year period through NJ State Contract. The previous lease ends on December 31, 2026, the new lease is from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2032. Commissioner Cocula moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-112 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A 5-YEAR LEASE WITH PITNEY BOWES THROUGH NEW JERSEY STATE CONTRACT PROGRAM FOR POSTAGE EQUIPMENT FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

d. Executive Session

At 3:10 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Executive Session should be approximately 15 minutes and discussions shall include: Vernon Township Litigation, Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation Project, and Personnel Item.

#26-113 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

County Commissioner Alan Henderson was in the meeting room for discussions regarding the Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation Project only.

At 3:55 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. 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: Vernon Township Litigation, Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation Project, and Personnel Item.

e. Personnel Matters

Solid Waste Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Morris presented a hiring resolution to appoint Kristian Rokosny as Heavy Equipment Operator I, as discussed in Executive Session. Commissioner Madsen moved the 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.

#26-114 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF SOLID WASTE HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I, KRISTIAN ROKOSNY

At 3:56, Chairman Petillo requested to go back into Executive Session for approximately 7 minutes to further discuss the Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation and referred to the Executive Session resolution. Commissioner Cocula motioned to go back into Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

At 4:01 Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Dietz left the meeting at this time.

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 #26-115 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER			x			
MADSEN	x		x			
COCULA			x			
DIETZ						x
PETILLO			x			
DRAKE		x	x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE			x			
POGGI			x			

#26-115 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners wished Wayne Dietz a Happy Birthday!

11. ADJOURN

At 4:05 p.m. Commissioner Madsen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary