MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 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 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 Commissioners Alan Henderson and Chris Carney, SCMUA Bond Counsel John Cantalupo

Absent: Commissioner Karl Meyer

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. There were no comments from the public. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo asked for approval of the Final Agenda. Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. 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 Drake. No discussions were 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 September 2, 2026 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the Sussex 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 carried.

Mr. Petillo asked for a motion to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for both the August 5, 2026 and August 19, 2026 Authority Meetings. Commissioner Dietz moved the approval, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

No minutes were emailed to the Commissioners for their review at this meeting.

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 Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Executive Session should be approximately 45 minutes and discussions shall include*: Upper Wallkill Facility Nitrate Rehabilitation Project, Vernon Township Litigation, Wastewater Connection Hardship Policy – Legal Matters, and Personnel Matters.*

#26-125 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

County Commissioners Alan Henderson and Chris Carney, and Bond Counsel John Cantalupo were in the meeting room for discussions regarding the Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation Project only. At 3:53 p.m., all three (3) left the meeting room after those discussions concluded.

At 4:15 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to close Executive 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 included: *Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation Project, Vernon Township Litigation, Wastewater Connection Hardship Policy – Legal Matters, and Personnel Matters.*

After discussions in Executive Session, Commissioner Drake moved to authorize SCMUA Bond Counsel, John Cantalupo, to contact the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (NJIB) on behalf of the Authority. Commissioner Cocula seconded the motion. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). *[Commissioner Madsen was not in the room during vote.]* The motion carried.

a. Wastewater Program

Special Counsel's Report

Mr. Prol referred to action taken at the June 16, 2026 SCMUA Commissioner meeting, at which the Commissioners directed SCMUA staff to amend the Authority's Wastewater Connection Fee Hardship Program to clarify eligibility requirements. SCMUA recognizes the importance of maintaining a hardship policy for qualifying not-for-profit entities to provide a reasonable and consistent means of addressing circumstances in which the immediate payment of a wastewater connection charge would create a financial hardship. For purposes of the program, a qualifying not-for-profit entity is defined as an existing charitable organization, religious organization, church, or other private entity that is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Commissioner Cocula moved to authorize Special Counsel memorialize this action within a resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-126 RESOLUTION RE: ESTABLISHING AN AMENDED AND RESTATED HARDSHIP POLICY WITH A CONNECTION FEE HARDSHIP PAYMENT PLAN FOR QUALIFYING NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES WITHIN THE SCMUA UPPER WALLKILL WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported on the recent NJDEP inspection of the County-owned Homestead Wastewater Plant. He reviewed the plant's history with the Compliance Inspector and confirmed that all required documentation was in order. No violations were issued as a result of the inspection. Mr. Phillips also reported that the Inspector inquired about the frac tank that is onsite. He explained that the frac tank serves as a reservoir to be utilized when Homestead Wastewater Facility can no longer meet effluent code compliance. It was noted that it has been since December 2026 when SCMUA last met with the County on the replacement of this facility. The facility is in poor condition and is well beyond its useful life.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto provided an update on the Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation Project and reported that County Commissioner DeGroot had recently toured the Facility. Mr. Sesto also reported that he scheduled a Facility tour with Wantage Township officials for September 22, 2026, and had discussed with Wantage Township its Sewer Service Agreements, an outstanding charge owed by one of its larger sewer users, and the Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Sesto further reported that the Sparta Township Engineer had contacted SCMUA to discuss the Rehabilitation Project and requested a tour of the Facility.

Mr. Sesto reviewed a resolution authorizing SCMUA's continued participation in the NJSMUAESA electric purchasing cooperative and participation in the cooperative's bidding process for the replacement of the Authority's existing electricity supply contracts, which expire in November 2026 and May 2027. The resolution also authorizes the retention of Gabel Associates, Inc. as the Authority's Energy Agent for the procurement of electricity supply for SCMUA's electric accounts. Commissioner Cocula moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-127 AUTHORIZING AN ENERGY AGENT CONTRACT WITH GABEL ASSOCIATES, INC., AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (JOSEPH SESTO) AND 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

b. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris reported that he received proposals from JESCO and CAT for heavy equipment planned maintenance agreements. These agreements would provide on-call maintenance and repair services at established hourly rates, as needed, for a period of up to 12-months. These services are intended to support heavy equipment repairs during the training and transition period for two (2) newly hired Heavy Equipment Mechanics. Commissioner Cocula authorized the execution of agreements with three

heavy equipment maintenance companies for maintenance services, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion carried.

c. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Comptroller Tim Day presented the proposed FY2027 Operating and Capital Budgets, which had been previously reviewed by the Budget Committee. Mr. Day reviewed the Budget Memo and reported that the proposed FY2027 Operating Budgets reflect the following increases over FY2026: Upper Wallkill Facility, 3.84%; Hampton Commons Facility, 3.86%; Paulinskill Facility, 4.02%; and Solid Waste Facility, 2.49%. A resolution was presented to approve and authorize submission of the FY2027 Operating and Capital Budgets to the New Jersey Department of Local Government Services. Commissioner Madsen moved the authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution carried.

#26-128 RESOLUTION RE: 2027 AUTHORITY BUDGET RESOLUTION

e. Personnel Matters

Solid Waste Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris referred to Executive Sessions discussions for employee re-assignments and salary adjustments. He reviewed the proposed resolutions for consideration. Commissioner Dietz moved all the personnel resolutions for approval, Commissioner Drake seconded. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Madsen, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Cocula. The following resolutions carried.

#26-129 RESOLUTION RE: REASSIGNMENT OF AIDEN COSH-DONAHUE TO FULL-TIME SOLID WASTE SITE ATTENDANT

#26-130 RESOLUTION RE: REASSIGNMENT OF JAMES GOULD TO PART-TIME SOLID WASTE SITE ATTENDANT

#26-131 RESOLUTION RE: REASSIGNMENT OF STANLEY SEVENEY TO PART-TIME SOLID WASTE SITE ATTENDANT

#26-132 RESOLUTION RE: SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR MICHAEL GOULD

#26-133 RESOLUTION RE: SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR ANDREW DELMONT

#26-134 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF JOSHUA COSTON TO THE POSITION OF SOLID WASTE HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC I

#26-135 RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN YANVARY TO THE POSITION OF SOLID WASTE HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC I

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 #26-136 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			

#26-136 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from public.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUEST

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation and commendation to Mr. Prol and Mr. Sesto for their presentation on the Upper Wallkill Facility Nitrate Rehabilitation Project at the Sussex County Commissioners Meeting held on September 9, 2026. Mr. Prol and Mr. Sesto did an excellent job presenting the project, providing clear and informative responses to all questions from the Commissioners, and effectively representing the Authority. Their professionalism, preparation, and knowledge of the project were evident throughout the presentation.

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

11. ADJOURN

At 4:30 p.m. Commissioner Madsen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary