MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON SEPTEMBER 2, 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 Commissioners Alan Henderson and Chris Carney, and Patrick Nicholson from Acrisure

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, no changes/additions thereof. 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 Drake. 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 August 19, 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 voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Mr. Petillo asked for a motion to approve the Open and Closed Minutes from the July 15, 2026 Authority Meeting. Commissioner Drake moved the approval, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Finkeldie. The motion carried.

The Open and Closed Minutes for both the August 5, 2026 and August 19, 2026 Commissioner Meetings were emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Wastewater Program

Comptroller's Report

Comptroller Day reported on the Septage, Sludge, and Sewage Report through August 2026. Septage revenues were at approximately 63% of annual projections, while sludge revenues were at 92% of annual projections. Hauled sewage revenue is significantly exceeding expectations at approximately 478% of annual projections. Overall, revenues were tracking at approximately 66% of annual projections, with the fiscal year ending November 30, 2026. Total connection fees received through August 2026 for the Upper Wallkill Facility were $194,232. The Paulinskill Reclamation Facility had no new connection fees in August 2026.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sesto reported on the July 27, 2026 memo sent to the Upper Wallkill system participants. The memo provided an overview of the current condition of the facility and the proposed rehabilitation and replacement scope of work. The memo also included the projected impact on rates under both bonding and "pay-as-you-go" financing options. Mr. Sesto noted that he received feedback from only Hardyston MUA and Sparta Township, included questions and comments regarding asset management, rehabilitation and replacement, capital planning, and annual reporting. He responded to their questions and offered tours of the facility. To date, following the memo, no participating towns have accepted the offer to tour the facility.

SCMUA is scheduled to appear on the County Commissioners' agenda on September 9, 2026, to provide a presentation on the Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation and Nitrate Upgrades Project. Mr. Sesto invited the participating systems he had spoken with to attend the presentation and tour the facility.

b. Solid Waste Program

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reviewed Solid Waste Facility tonnages and revenues through August 2026. Tonnage was down 0.2%, or 163 tons, compared to the same period last year, while revenues increased by approximately $1,007,656.

Mr. Day reviewed a resolution to revise the FY2026 Solid Waste Budget, with transfers in line items due to revised program priorities and is necessary and proper to amend. No increase in overall budget amount. Commissioner Madsen 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.

#26-120 RESOLUTION RE: AMENDING THE SCMUA'S FY2026 SOLID WASTE FACILITY CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET

c. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reviewed a resolution to authorize the destruction of records in accordance with the State of New Jersey Records Management Services. The final minutes of the meetings have been established and approved as the official record thereof. Commissioner Cocula 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.

#26-121 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF MEETING AUDIO RECORDINGS

d. Executive Session

At 3:09 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Executive Session should be approximately 30 minutes and discussions shall include*: Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation Project, and Personnel Items.*

#26-122 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

County Commissioners Alan Henderson and Chris Carney were in the meeting room for discussions regarding the Upper Wallkill Facility Rehabilitation and Nitrate Upgrades Project only.

At 4:14 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: *Upper Wallkill Rehabilitation Project, and Personnel Item.*

e. Personnel Matters

Solid Waste Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris presented a resolution to recognize Solid Waste Employee Benjamin Wilson who shall be retiring on September 15, 2026 after 19 years of service to the SCMUA. Commissioner Meyer moved the acceptance of the retirement, with regret, 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.

#26-123 RESOLUTION RE: DECLARATION OF APPRECIATION TO BENJAMIN WILSON

Mr. Morris requested a motion to accept the resignation of Solid Waste Employee Marc Culver. Commissioner Drake moved the acceptance of Mr. Culver's resignation, seconded by Commissioner Poggi. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Drake, Wesley, Finkeldie, Poggi; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula moved to add motion regarding privatization of the Upper Wallkill Facilities to the Agenda under Wastewater activities, seconded by Commissioner Wesley. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

After discussions in Executive Session, Commissioner Cocula moved to note a consensus to not be in favor of the privatization of the SCMUA Wastewater Facilities, Commissioner Drake seconded. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

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 #26-124 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			

#26-124 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Patrick Nicholson updated the Board on the PEOSHA visit to the Upper Wallkill Wastewater Facility this summer and reported that all concerns have been abated. He also noted that Statewide Insurance Representative Bill Ruch and Executive Director Joseph Sesto worked on updating the SCMUA Lockout/Tagout program and related training. Claim reimbursement remains pending for a fallen tree at the SCMUA Hamburg Pumping Station property.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUEST

No comments.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:20 p.m. Commissioner Poggi moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary