

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON AUGUST 5, 2020 AT THE AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, LAFAYETTE, NEW JERSEY

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Teleconference Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

The following were present: Chairman Drake, Vice Chairman Meyer*, Commissioners Petillo, Madsen*, Cocula, Dietz*, Perez*, Finkeldie*, Dabinett*, Executive Director/Chief Engineer Varro, Comptroller Timothy Day, Senior Project Engineer Sesto, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris*, General Counsel Napolitano*, Special Counsel ProI*, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

*Attended the meeting remotely due to State Executive Orders regarding COVID-19.

2. PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING SUNSHINE LAW

Chairman Drake 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 Drake opened the meeting to public comment. No public present. He closed the meeting to public comment. (Call in information was noticed prior on website for public participation.)

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Drake asked for a motion to approve the Final Agenda. Executive Director requested to add discussions regarding wet weather operations for Open Session, as well as, wastewater permit matters in Closed Session. Commissioner Finkeldie moved the Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Dabinett moved the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Drake requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the July 15, 2020 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Freeholder Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Perez motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On roll call: Ayes (8) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Meyer. The motion passed.

There were no minutes up for approval at this meeting.

The Open and Closed Meeting Minutes for the June 17, 2020 and the July 1, 2020 were distributed for review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:05 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session, motion seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake noted the Closed Session should be approximately 50 minutes and discussions shall include: Landfill Gas to Energy Contract Matters, Wastewater PFOA/PFAS Coalition, and Personnel Items.

#20-132 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:25 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (9), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session Landfill Gas to Energy Contract Matters, Wastewater PFOA/PFAS Coalition, and Personnel Items. When the need for confidentiality of these matters no longer exists, they will be opened to the public.

b. Wastewater Program

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Varro referred to Executive Session discussions regarding the PFOA/PFOS/PFNA wastewater contaminants. The resolution to participate in a coalition with AEA and other wastewater entities was subsequently tabled to gather further requested information.

Mr. Varro reported on the recent heavy rainfall which has had no adverse effects on the Authority's wastewater operations. It was noted that Sussex Borough's system had trouble keeping up with the high flows and were over their allotted amounts. They were pumping and trucking the excess flows to the UW Facility.

Senor Project Engineer's Report

Mr. Sesto reported on the status of the Paulinskill Plant noting that the new membranes are scheduled to be installed August 31st. The plant will be down for four days and a hauler will be utilized to truck flow to the Upper Walkkill Facility. Mr. Sesto had conversations with Branchville representatives regarding higher than normal flow data, and they will investigate further.

Mr. Sesto gave a status report on the current project to begin modifications to the Upper Walkkill Facility to convert sludge cake into a liquid. Forms and paperwork have been forwarded to the NJDEP, and completion and inspection is set for the end of August. This modification will support the change from an S4 facility to an S3.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris reported on operations during the recent heavy rain event. The solid waste facility received 3.5 inches of rain and sustained heavy winds, but there were no issues to report. There was no loss in power, just minimal washouts in certain areas.

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Varro gave a project update on the Landfill Life Extension Project. He is expecting 90% design drawings to be submitted by ARM by the end of this week. Final set by September 9th. The total estimated project construction cost from ARM Consulting Engineers is now \$30 million, which includes a 15% contingency. This funding amount shall be presented to the I-Bank/NJDEP.

Senior Project Engineer's Report

Mr. Sesto gave a status report on the North MSE Berm project, and indicated the Notice to Proceed was issued on July 22nd. A preconstruction meeting was held with a site inspection/walk through including contractor and subcontractors. The SCMUA noticed Tomco requesting them to be onsite as soon as possible.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on Solid Waste Tonnages and Revenues for FY2020 through July 31, 2020. Tonnage is up 0.1% compared to the same time period as last year, however, revenues are down about \$40,000, which is likely due to waste class categories.

Mr. Day reported that the new scale software went live on July 29th, with the Paradigm representatives onsite for three days. Mr. Day noted the transition went well with the SCMUA staff and the reps were very patient, informative and helpful during the training and transition. The new software will expedite transactions at all the scales.

d. General Authority Business

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported that the Authority is officially offering another option for SCMUA Authority Employees to use for deferred compensation with Lincoln Financial. Virtual enrolment is August 12 & 13 if any employees are interested.

Mr. Day reported that a request was received from the Pochuck Valley Fire Department asking for a donation of an SCMUA unusable vehicle for their training exercises. The wastewater facility has a used pickup truck that has outlasted its usability and is available for donation. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution to donate the pickup truck and to remove it from the Upper Wallkill Asset list, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The resolution passed.

#20-133 RESOLUTION RE: SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY NO LONGER SERVICEABLE FOR S.C.M.U.A. USE

e. Personnel Matters

Mr. Varro referred to discussions in Executive Session regarding the Wastewater Superintendent Position. Commissioner Madsen moved to rescind the previous resolution (#20-129) appointing Mr. Timothy Phillips to Acting Wastewater Superintendent, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On roll call: Ayes (9) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Drake, Meyer, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion passed.

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

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

Res #20-131 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN			x			
COCULA	x		x			
DIETZ			x			
DRAKE			x			
MEYER			x			
PEREZ			x			
FINKELDIE		x	x			
DABINETT			x			

#20-134 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioner Dietz thanked the Board/AdHoc Committee for their efforts in trying to fill the Wastewater Superintendent Position.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Finkeldie moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (9); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary