

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON JUNE 1, 2022 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 Petillo, Vice Chairman Drake, Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Wesley, Dabinett, Executive Director Thomas Varro, Chief Engineer Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips, General Counsel Napolitano, Special Counsel Prol, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Absent: Commissioner Finkeldie

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 public in attendance. Chairman Petillo closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Petillo asked for a motion to approve the Final Agenda. Commissioner Madsen moved Final Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Drake moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietz. No discussions 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 May 18, 2022 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Commissioners Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Dietz moved the PASS, seconded By Commissioner Cocula. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Meyer, Madsen, Cocula, Dietz, Petillo, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Drake. The motion passed.

Commissioner Dabinett moved to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the May 4, 2022 Authority Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

There were no minutes distributed at this meeting.

New Project Engineer, Christine Casella was introduced to the Board by Personnel Committee Chairman Dietz. Ms. Casella gave a summary of her impressive prior experience, and looked forward to working with SCMUA Staff.

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 was seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Petillo noted the Closed Session should be approximately 15-20 minutes and discussions shall include: Upper Walkkill Nitrate Permit Appeal, Vernon Twp/Vernon Twp. MUA Appeal Litigation, Sussex Borough, IT RFQs/RFPs, Personnel Matter.

**#22-115** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Drake. 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: Upper Walkkill Nitrate Permit Appeal, Vernon Twp/Vernon Twp. MUA Appeal Litigation, Sussex Borough, IT RFQs/RFPs, Personnel Matter.

b. Wastewater Program

**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Phillips reported on the Upper Walkkill Septage/Stormwater Upgrade project, and indicated notice was given to all haulers regarding the shutdown. Demolition is scheduled for Friday night, Saturday shall be the installation of new pumps and check valves. Sunday will be the initial start-up and septage receiving area should be ready Monday morning.

**Comptroller's Report**

Mr. Day reported on the revenues for Upper Walkkill for Septage, Sludge and Hauled Sewage for December 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022. Both Sludge and Septage are lower than projections at this time, with Hauled Sewage above projections. He indicated there were have been no connection fees since March 2022, but they are well over projections for FY2022.

c. Solid Waste Program

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Morris reminded the Commissioners that the Household Hazardous Waste Event is scheduled for this weekend, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 7am – 2pm and the paving near the bulky waste building is complete and will provide a safe area to hold the event.

**Chief Engineer’s Report**

Mr. Sesto gave a report on the Leachate Pump Station/Force Main Project, and indicated that project change orders received from Tomco are being reviewed and will be presented to the Construction Review Committee. They will give a recommendation to the Board for resolution.

Mr. Sesto reported that the NJDEP is in the process of reviewing application for certification for Cell 6 for the Stage 2 Landfill Expansion Project. Mr. Sesto noted the initial review was favorable in is being sent up the chain of command for further review/approval. He also indicated that the new convenience center location should be up and running at the end of this month.

**Comptroller’s Report**

Mr. Day gave a report on the Solid Waste Revenues and Tonnages from December 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022, and compared to the same time period as last year, tonnage is down 1.5%. Budget projected are still good.

d. General Authority Business

**Comptroller’s Report**

Mr. Day reported on the status of the Draft 2021 Audit report. There is still ongoing discussions between the SCMUA Auditor and Consulting Engineer regarding Cell Closure Information. He also noted the State has provided the pension liability GASB data. Commissioners shall be provided a copy of the draft audit as soon as available.

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

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

Res #22-116 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
MEYER			x			
MADSEN	x		x			
COCULA		x	x			
DIETZ			x			
DRAKE			x			
PETILLO			x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE						x
DABINETT			x			

**#22-116** RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners wished all June Birthdays, a Happy Birthday, as well as a Happy Father’s Day. Projects are moving along well.

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Commissioner Cocula moved to give an excused absence to Commissioner Finkeldie, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (1). The motion passed.

Commissioner Dietz commented that Solid Waste employee Jeff Matysin assisted him at the convenience center and noted he was knowledgeable, helpful and very friendly, and wished to acknowledge Mr. Matysin as a valuable employee.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:40 p.m. Commissioner Madsen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary