

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON MAY 19, 2021 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 Meyer, Vice Chairman Drake, Commissioners Petillo, Madsen*, Cocula, Dietz*, Wesley, Dabinett, Executive Director Thomas Varro, Chief Engineer Joseph Sesto, Comptroller Timothy Day*, Solid Waste Superintendent Morris*, Wastewater Superintendent Timothy Phillips*, General Counsel John Napolitano*, Special Counsel Thomas Prol*, and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

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

Absent: Commissioner Finkeldie

2. PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING SUNSHINE LAW

Chairman Meyer stated that the meeting has been duly advertised, and notice given thereof, as required by P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. Call-in information was noticed prior via newspaper/website re: public participation.

3. OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Meyer opened the meeting to public comment. No public on call-in line. Chairman Meyer closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

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

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Drake moved the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Meyer requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the May 5, 2021 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the Sussex County Commissioners Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:14B-14(e). Commissioner Cocula motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Commissioner Cocula motioned to approve the Open and Closed Meeting Minutes for both the March 17, 2021 and April 7, 2021 Authority Meetings. Motion seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (8); Nays (0). The motion carried.

The Open and Closed Meeting Minutes from the April 21, 2021 Authority Meeting were emailed to the Commissioners for review/comment.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:05 p.m. Commissioner Dabinett moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Meyer noted the Closed Session should be approximately 20 minutes and discussions shall include: St. Clare's/Prime Property Lease Renewal, Contract #551 Landfill Expansion Project, Contract #446 Leachate Pump Station/Force Main Project, and Personnel Matters.

#21-129 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:17 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (8), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Meyer confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session: St. Clare's/Prime Property Lease Renewal, Contract #551 Landfill Expansion Project, Contract #446 Leachate Pump Station/Force Main Project, and Personnel Matters.

b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Phillips reported that they are currently looking at options to upgrade the fire alarm systems at the Upper Wallkill and Paulinskill Plants. He will report further on cost effective options to transfer to cellular, and eliminate underground utilities.

Comptroller's Report

Mr. Day reported on the Septage volume, which is at 38% of projections, Sludge is at 42%, and Hauled Sewage is at 42%. Overall volumes are slightly down from the same time period at last year, December 2020 to April 2021. Connection fees are strong and are significantly over projections for the 2021 fiscal year.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris presented a resolution as discussed on Executive Session regarding the renewal of a property lease with St. Clare's/Prime Healthcare. Commissioner Cocula moved the contract authorizing resolution, seconded by Commissioner Drake.

#21-130 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN EXTENSION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH PRIME HEALTHCARE SERVICES – SAINT CLARE'S LLC

Mr. Morris reported that the Compactor is down, a Foley mechanic was out to inspect, and injectors need to be replaced. The repair is estimated to be in 2-3 days. Commissioners ask Mr. Morris to gather information on estimated time the Compactor has been inoperable since purchase.

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Varro reviewed the Annual Topographic Report as prepared by SCS Engineers. He reviewed the cumulative composite density of the landfill, and indicated the projected remaining years of useful life is approximately 3.1 – 3.4 years (projected from 1/1/21). It was also noted that remaining available landfill capacity is projected to March 2022. The North Berm that is now being utilized added 7-11 months of capacity to that calculation, which is both justified and necessary. The Landfill Expansion Project is now ongoing for future use. Discussion ensued regarding aerials showing settlement of Phases 1 and 2, also conversation included that it is not too soon to begin Cell 6.)

Chief Engineer’s Report

Mr. Sesto gave a status report on the Leachate Force Main Project, and noted approximately half of the pipeline has been installed. A pending change order for rock blasting is being reviewed by the contractor and Mr. Sesto before presentation to the Board. Substantial Completion for the contract is September 9th, and Mr. Sesto will continue to provide project updates at the next meeting. Discussions took place regarding drilling and work along Route 94.

Mr. Sesto reported on the Stage 2 Landfill Expansion Project, the minor modification permit for the compost area was received by the NJDEP. Mr. Sesto indicated all forms and documents were uploaded to the I-Bank to expedite the Note Closing as soon as possible. Discussions continued regarding revenue bond issuance and I-Bank funding compared to project timeline schedule. Mr. Sesto reported that the contractor is working on the 10 ft berm and a privacy fence on the Route 15 side.

d. General Authority Business

Comptroller’s Report

Mr. Day introduced two resolutions, one to join the Passaic County Cooperative Pricing System, and the other to join the Union County Cooperative Pricing System. Mr. Day noted there is no fee for either Co-ops, and membership to the systems increases flexibility with project RFPs and provides for fiscally responsible purchases for the Authority’s goods and services. Commissioner Dabinett moved both the Passaic County Co-op resolution and the Union County Co-op resolution, Commissioner Drake seconded. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Meyer, Drake, Wesley, Dabinett; Nays(0); Abstain (0). The resolutions passed.

Commissioner Dietz left the meeting right before vote @ 3:45 p.m.

#21-131 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCMUA AND THE PASSAIC COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM (ID#38PCCP) FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2021 TO MAY 31, 2026

#21-132 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCMUA AND THE UNION COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2021 TO MAY 31, 2026

e. Personnel Matters

Solid Waste Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Morris indicated that he received a resignation notice from Part-time employee William Hemberger. He requested a motion to accept the resignation. Commissioner Cocula moved the acceptance of the resignation notice of Mr. Hemberger, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion passed.

8. Financial Transactions

a. Payment of Bills

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

Res #21-133 Financial Consent Agenda						
Commissioner	1st	2nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
PETILLO			x			
MADSEN	x		x			
COCULA			x			
DIETZ						x
MEYER			x			
DRAKE		x	x			
WESLEY			x			
FINKELDIE						x
DABINETT			x			

#21-133 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioner Cocula motioned to give Commissioner Finkeldie an excused absence from this meeting, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion passed.

11. ADJOURN

At 3:50 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Drake. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary