

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY HELD ON OCTOBER 16, 2019 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 Drake, Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Perez, Finkeldie and Dabinett, Executive Director/Chief Engineer Varro, Comptroller Timothy Day, Solid Waste Superintendent Jonathan Morris, Wastewater Superintendent Angelo Baron, General Counsel Napolitano, Special Counsel Prol (via telecom) and Recording Secretary Tara Kronski

Also in attendance: Benjamin Allen from ARM Group and Robert Chilton of Gabel Associates

Absent: Commissioners Dietz and Meyer

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. Closed the meeting to public comment.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Drake asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Executive Director Varro requested to move the presentation by Mr. Ben Allen to the beginning of the Business Agenda, after Closed Executive Session. Commissioner Madsen moved the Agenda, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Cocula moved the approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. No discussions requested. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

6. MINUTES

Chairman Drake requested a motion to approve/acknowledge the email distribution of the October 2, 2019 Pending Action Summary Sheets (PASS) to the County Freeholder Board. Commissioner Perez motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Dabinett. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion carried.

Motion to approve the Open and Closed Minutes for the September 18, 2019 Authority Meeting by Commissioner Finkeldie, seconded by Commissioner Cocula. On voice vote: Ayes (6) Commissioners Petillo, Cocula, Drake, Perez, Finkeldie and Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (1) Commissioner Madsen. The motion carried.

The Open and Closed Minutes for the September 18, 2019 Authority Meeting were emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

7. BUSINESS

a. Executive Session

At 3:04 p.m. Commissioner Cocula moved the adoption of the following resolution authorizing a Closed Executive Session, motion seconded by Commissioner Meyer. On voice vote: (7) Ayes, (0) Nays. The motion carried. Chairman Drake noted the Closed Session should be approximately 30 minutes and discussions shall include: Landfill Gas to Energy Marketing Plan/Contract and Personnel Item.

#19-153 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:33 p.m. Commissioner Madsen moved to adjourn the Closed Session, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Chairman Drake confirmed discussions held as specifically set forth in the resolution authorizing Closed Executive Session included: Landfill Gas to Energy Marketing Plan/Contract and Personnel Item. When the need for confidentiality of these matters no longer exists, they will be opened to the public.

Chairman Drake welcomed Mr. Ben Allen of ARM Group to give a presentation to the Board regarding capital planning and sequencing for infrastructure relocation and solid waste facilities future planning. Mr. Allen reviewed necessary relocation of certain infrastructures within the Solid Waste/Recycling Facilities to create best strategic options to begin placement of Phase 4, 5, 6A landfill cells. He also introduced an updated/revised project timeline for the landfill expansion construction, which has been significantly shortened due to estimated current landfill space and volume. Discussions ensued regarding infrastructure relocation which includes the landfill gas to energy plant, leachate storage tank, composting area, Recycling Facilities and Residents Convenience Center. Further report and discussions continued regarding financing, planning and design for cell construction. Before the infrastructure relocation is complete, the design phase for landfill expansion will begin and be simultaneous. Mr. Allen and Mr. Varro addressed Commissioners' questions and concerns, and an engineering cost proposal from ARM Group shall be prepared for Commissioners consideration at the next Authority Meeting. The proposal shall include budget amounts for each phase of the projects.

Mr. Allen left the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

b. Wastewater Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Baron reported that he has prepared the Upper Walkkill Vernon Twp. Plant Permit renewal application, which is due before March 2020. He asked for Commissioners authorization to submit, Commissioner Cocula moved to approve the submittal of the permit renewal application, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The motion carried.

Mr. Baron gave a status report on the Franklin Pump Station construction work by Ferraro Construction, which should be completed by the beginning of next week. Mr. Baron will report back when fully complete.

Executive Director/Chief Engineer's Report

Mr. Varro presented a resolution authorizing the Authority's Energy Agent, Gabel Associates to act on behalf of the Authority to secure Electric Generation Service bids issued to the sewerage and MUA electrical aggregation. Also, Mr. Varro and General Counsel Napolitano are authorized to be the designated representatives to award the contract due the small window for award. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Finkeldie. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (2) Commissioners Dietz and Meyer. The resolution passed.

#19-154 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING AN ENERGY AGENT CONTRACT WITH GABEL ASSOCIATES, INC., AND AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT AND/OR REJECTION OF 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

Mr. Varro reviewed information regarding the Wallkill River Watershed Management Group's grant award from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. A resolution was prepared to authorize execution of the grant agreement to utilize funding to build green infrastructure. Commissioner Perez moved the resolution to authorize execution of grant agreement, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0). The resolution passed.

#19-155 RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY/WALLKILL RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP AND THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION FOR WORK ASSOCIATED WITH BUILDING AWARENESS OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE UPPER PAULINS KILL WATERSHED – Phase II

Comptroller's Report

Comptroller Day reported on the Septage, Sludge and Hauled Sewage collection through September 30, 2019. He indicated that gallonage and revenues were up for all three, and there was only one connection fee from Franklin Borough.

c. Solid Waste Program

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Morris reported on the recent Recycling Markets, which have been volatile over the past 6 months. He reviewed the charges for mixed rigid plastics and mixed fiber. The Authority has been diligent in inspecting recycling loads from haulers in order to make sure they are not single stream "dirty" loads. The Authority does not accept single stream recycling.

Mr. Morris gave an update on the gas line/boiler installation. A gas line has been installed in the garage and Elizabethtown Gas is scheduled to be here at the end of this week for their end of the gas line.

Mr. Morris reported that SCMUA he and Security officer, Mr. Ed Lyon, have been in contact with Abcode Security regarding security recommendations for the Solid Waste Facility/Administration Building. A proposal is forthcoming.

Mr. Morris indicated that a landfill gas compressor has failed, and a temporary one has been installed. New compressor has been ordered.

d. General Authority Business

Comptroller’s Report

Mr. Day reported that he received review comments from the New Jersey DCA regarding the FY2020 proposed Operating and Capital Budgets. Further requested schedules were provided and no concerns with overall budget. We should receive approved Budgets by the end of November for consideration for adoption by the Board

e. Personnel

Solid Waste Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Morris asked for a motion to consider resolution regarding Matthew Kart status as Part time employee, as discussed in Executive Session. Commissioner Cocula moved the resolution to terminate Matthew Kart, seconded by Commissioner Perez. On roll call: Ayes (7) Commissioners Petillo, Madsen, Cocula, Drake, Perez, Finkeldie, Dabinett; Nays (0); Abstain (0); Absent (1) Commissioners Dietz and Meyer. The resolution passed.

#19-156 RESOLUTION RE: TERMINATE EMPLOYMENT OF PART TIME ATTENDANT MATTHEW KART

Mr. Morris indicated that new Solid Waste hires, Mr. Rathbun and Mr. Curcio, will be starting their positions on October 28th.

8. Payment of Bills

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

Res #19-157 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			

#19-157 RESOLUTION RE: CONSENT AGENDA – BILL PAYING LIST

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

10. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/REQUEST

Commissioners thanked Ben Allen for his informative, helpful and thorough presentation on the proposed solid waste infrastructure relocation project. Commissioner Cocula moved to give Commissioners Dietz and Meyer an excused absence, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7); Nays (0); Abstain (0). The motion passed.

11. ADJOURN

At 4:33 p.m. Commissioner Perez moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Madsen. On voice vote: Ayes (7), Nays (0). The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Cocula, Secretary