Minutes of the Meeting of the
New Jersey Water Supply Authority
February 4, 2019

A regular meeting of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority was convened on February 4, 2019 at 2:00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority's Clinton Administration Building, located at 1851 Route 31, Clinton, New Jersey.

As designated by Catherine R. McCabe, Commissioner New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Chair New Jersey Water Supply Authority, Jeffrey Hoffman, State Geologist, Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, served as Acting Chair of the meeting and called the meeting to order.

Deputy Attorney General Jung Kim read the statement required by the "Open Public Meetings Act". Executive Director Beth Gates took the roll call of the Authority members.

Present: Jeffrey Hoffman, Acting Chair
Susan Blew – by phone
Ellsworth Havens
Steven J. Picco

Absent: Shing-Fu Hsueh
Robert Iacullo

A quorum existed for the transaction of Authority business.

Interested Parties Present:
Oleg Kostin, New Jersey American Water
David Brogle, Middlesex Water Company
Dave Shope, Resident

Authority Staff Present:
Beth Gates, Executive Director
Susan Buckley, Director Finance and Administration
Marc Brooks, Chief Engineer
Paul McKeon, Director Manasquan Water Supply System/D&R Canal
Kenneth Klipstein, Director Watershed Protection Programs
Rita Shaw, Controller
Michelle Rollman, Finance & Accounting Analyst
Jung Kim, Deputy Attorney General  
Lauren LaRusso, Governor’s Authorities Unit – by phone

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Acting Chair Jeffrey Hoffman opened the meeting by asking for the approval of the minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting. Mr. Picco moved for the approval of the minutes as prepared and this motion was seconded by Mr. Havens. The minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting were approved by the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Ms. Gates stated that everyone has a copy of her report and offered to answer any questions.

Ms. Gates reviewed the ethics Outside Employment Questionnaire for Special State Officers and the Personal and Business Relationships Disclosure Forms. Ms. Gates thanked the Commissioners for their cooperation in completing and returning these forms.

The FY2020 rate public hearings will be held this Thursday and Friday for the Manasquan and Raritan Systems, respectively. Commissioner Picco is chairing the Manasquan Hearing which is 11:00 a.m. on Thursday at the Hospital Road Administration Building, and Commissioner Havens is chairing the Raritan hearing which will be held at the Clinton Administration Building on Friday at 10:00 a.m. The rates are unchanged over FY2019. Ms. Gates thanked Commissioners Picco and Havens for agreeing to chair these required public hearings.

Ms. Gates stated that a required public hearing on the No Net Loss Deforestation and Reforestation Plan for the Round Valley project will be held on Friday, February 8. The hearing is required by statute, and will start the clock ticking for a 60-day public comment period and a 180-day review period for the Division of Parks and Forestry and the Community Forestry Council’s review and approval of the Authority’s plan.

Ms. Gates noted that the New Business agenda item A has been deferred until next month.

COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Gates stated that there were no communications or correspondence received.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. McKeon reported on the Manasquan Reservoir System and the Manasquan Water Treatment Plant/Transmission System. Mr. McKeon stated that everyone has a copy of his reports. Mr. McKeon stated that despite the recent cold weather, the Manasquan Reservoir is full.

Mr. McKeon stated that operations are running smoothly and that annual maintenance activities are being completed. Mr. McKeon noted that the relatively recent filter underdrain is functioning well and that all Reservoir and Treatment Plant requirements are being met.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Raritan Basin System. Mr. Brooks stated that everyone has a copy of his report. Mr. Brooks stated that Spruce Run Reservoir is at elevation 272.9 feet which is 99.5 percent of capacity. Round Valley is at elevation 374.8 which is 86.2 percent of capacity. The combined reservoir capacity is at 88.4 percent while it is typically 90.2 percent for this date.

Mr. Brooks stated that active dredging in the Canal is complete for the season. The transportation of material to the final disposal site has been ongoing since December. Mr. Brooks noted that the contractor is required to mix cement into the sediments to attain lower moisture content and allow improved workability of the material for placement at its final destination. Mr. Brooks stated that the average trucking of sediment has been 912 tons per day, but that recently it has increased to an average of almost 1400 tons per day. Trucking in Franklin Township occurs only between the hours of 9:00 a.m to 3:30 p.m, Monday through Friday. Mr. Brooks anticipates that the transportation of material will be completed for the year in late March. The clearing of trees for the next phase of dredging must be completed by the end of March.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Round Valley Reservoir Dams-Rehabilitation and Resource Preservation Project. Mr. Brooks stated that the Authority has advertised for bids on the Round Valley Grouting project. Bids will only be received from prequalified contractors. A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on January 17, 2019 and bids are due on February 19. Mr. Brooks expects to present a resolution to the Authority Board at the March meeting.

Mr. Brooks stated that the project plans for dredging the channel near the Round Valley South Dam Tower are also complete and all permits are in hand. The Authority is awaiting authorization to advertise from the Environmental Infrastructure Trust.

Mr. Brooks noted that the Authority is actively procuring security firms to conduct background checks for construction contractors on the security project and on the embankment.
modifications project. Mr. Brooks anticipates that that resolution will be before the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Brooks stated that Authority staff, NJ Dam Safety, the owner’s engineer, and the Technical Review Board have all reviewed the “60-percent” drawings for the major embankment work. Comments have been returned to the engineer and they are moving forward with the final design.

Mr. Klipstein reported on the Watershed Management Program. Mr. Klipstein stated that everyone has a copy of his report and that he had nothing to add.

NEW BUSINESS

The Resolution accepting a donation for a project to improve water quality of the Delaware and Raritan Canal was deferred to a future Authority meeting.

Mr. Brooks gave the background information on the Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 1 to Contract WSA-R13005 for professional engineering services required for Long Term Stabilization of the Delaware and Raritan Canal’s Western Embankment from Station 156+00 to Station 207+00 in Stockton Borough, Hunterdon County. Mr. Brooks summarized the damage that was sustained by the embankment during Tropical Storms Irene and Lee in 2011. Mr. Brooks reviewed the process through which TranSystems was contracted to provide engineering services. Mr. Brooks also reviewed the project scope of services. Mr. Brooks discussed the proposed changes to the scope of services which include aesthetic and historical restoration of the embankment; leveling the crest; and a pilot grouting program with pre and post-construction borings to measure the resulting compaction. Construction inspection services will be reduced to offset costs.

Mr. Picco moved the Resolution to amend the contract with TranSystems of Newark, NJ, to include contractual reallocation of funds for Phase II (Design Development) and Phase III (Construction Management) of the project for a zero dollar change to preserve the cost of the contract at a lump sum and reimbursable cost not to exceed $621,394.00. Mr. Havens seconded the motion for the Resolution. All Authority members approved the Resolution.

Mr. McKeon gave the background information on the Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a purchase agreement for Polyaluminum Chloride for the Manasquan Water Treatment Plant, Wall Township, Monmouth County. Mr. McKeon stated that this is an annual purchase agreement and that the cost of these chemicals has increased. Mr. McKeon expressed satisfaction with the
quality and service provided in the past by the low bidder, Gulbrandsen Technologies Inc.

Mr. Havens moved the Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a twelve-month purchase agreement with Gulbrandsen Technologies Inc. of Clinton, New Jersey for Polyaluminum Chloride, for a unit cost of $0.161 / lb. and a total cost not to exceed $78,890.00. Mr. Picco seconded the motion for the Resolution. All Authority members approved the Resolution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Personnel - no report
(b) Finance - no report
(c) Audit - no report
(d) Public Participation - no report
(e) Capital Projects - no report
(f) Insurance - no report
(g) Watershed Lands Acquisition - no report

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURN

Mr. Picco moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Havens seconded the motion. All Authority members approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 P.M.

I hereby certify this to be a true and original copy of the February 4, 2019 New Jersey Water Supply Authority meeting minutes.

Michelle Rollman
Finance & Accounting Analyst