



## NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

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### Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority

May 7, 2018

A regular meeting of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority was convened on May 7, 2018 at 2:04 P.M. in the Conference Room of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority's Administration Building located at 1851 Highway 31, Clinton, New Jersey.

As designated by Catherine McCabe, Acting 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 - by phone  
Susan Blew - by phone  
Ellsworth Havens - by phone  
Shing-Fu Hsueh - by phone  
Robert Iacullo - by phone

Absent: Steven Picco

A quorum existed for the transaction of Authority business.

#### Interested Parties Present:

Oleg Kostin, New Jersey American Water  
Dan Losik, East Brunswick Water Supply  
Robert Barth, D&R Canal Watch  
Theresa Landewe, INTERA Inc.

Authority Staff Present:

Beth Gates, Executive Director  
Michelle Rollman, Executive Secretary II  
Marc Brooks, Chief Engineer  
Susan Buckley, Director Finance & Administration  
Rita Shaw, Controller  
Paul McKeon, Director Manasquan Reservoir and D&R Canal Systems  
Kenneth Klipstein, Director Watershed Protection Programs  
Jung Kim, Deputy Attorney General  
Lauren LaRusso, Associate Counsel, Authorities Unit

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Acting Chair Hoffman opened the meeting by asking for the approval of the minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting. Ms. Blew moved for the approval of the minutes as prepared and this motion was seconded by Dr. Hsueh. The minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting were approved by the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Gates noted that everyone has a copy of her report.

Ms. Gates reminded all Commissioners that the annual financial disclosure statements, required by Executive Order No. 10 must be filed before May 15, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence and communications.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. McKeon provided a report on the Water Treatment Plant and the Manasquan Reservoir System. Mr. McKeon stated that above normal rainfall and below normal temperatures over the past six months in central NJ have resulted in the Manasquan reservoir being essentially full since the beginning of the year.

Mr. McKeon stated that there have been no major operational problems in the last 60 days. The Oak Glen Water Treatment Plant was turned off from December 15 to April 15 due to construction work. This contributed to less water being diverted from the reservoir.

All water treatment regulations have been met and customer contracts fulfilled in 2018. Preventive maintenance programs and inspections are 90 percent up to date.

Mr. McKeon reported that the Renewal and Replacement plan for the reservoir is ongoing and the approved Capital plan for the Water Treatment Plant is on schedule.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Raritan Basin System. Mr. Brooks stated that everyone has a copy of his report. Mr. Brooks stated that the Spruce Run Reservoir came up from the low of 248.66 in the fall of 2016, where it was over 24 feet below full pool, to 11 billion gallons or 100 percent of capacity. Spruce Run started spilling on April 17 of this year for the first time since April 1, 2014. The Authority is pumping to Round Valley Reservoir. Pumping began on April 12 and since then the Authority has moved 2.27 billion gallons to Round Valley and raised the reservoir level by almost 4 feet. Round Valley is at 45.11 billion gallons or 82 percent full. The combined reservoir capacity is now at 85 percent while the typical combined level for this date is 95 percent.

Mr. Brooks stated that the New Jersey Department of Transportation has a contractor who is cleaning the culverts that carry the Canal for one mile under Route 1 in Trenton. They are currently working in the first of the two culverts.

Mr. Brooks reported that Authority Canal crews have been very busy cleaning up approximately 200 trees that fell from the late season Nor'easters.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Canal Dredging Project. The contractor has mobilized and cleared all trees necessary for the dredging project including those in areas along the towpath, at the access areas and at the staging area. Work in the Canal will begin in July when they will be removing debris and subaquatic vegetation which will be immediately followed by the actual dredging.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Round Valley Reservoir Dams-Rehabilitation and Resource Preservation Project. Mr. Brooks stated that the draft embankment schematic design report has been received and reviewed by Authority staff and the Technical Review Board. A meeting was held on April 25 to discuss two alternatives recommended in the schematic design report. Staff briefed the Capital Projects Committee this afternoon prior to this meeting.

Mr. Brooks stated that pre-final plans and specifications for grouting are under review by staff and the Technical Review Board. The schematic design report for the dredging work at the South Tower has been finalized and pre-final plans and specifications are under review by Authority staff. The security element draft schematic design report comments were returned to the engineer of record this month.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Landing Lane Spillway Project. The consultant gave the Authority the schematic draft design report for review.

Mr. Brooks noted that contractor bids were received for the Griggstown Waste Gate seepage that will be discussed during New

Business.

Mr. Brooks discussed the emergency repair at the Six Mile Run Culvert. Mr. Brooks stated that the Six Mile Run Culvert is located in Franklin Township, Somerset County at Station 2298+17, just south of Blackwells Mill Road and that it carries the Six Mile Run stream under Canal Road, the Canal and the multi-use trail. On March 12, 2018 after two Nor'easters, Franklin Township alerted the Authority to a significant sink hole that had formed in the area of the road over the culvert. Authority engineering personnel inspected the site in the afternoon of the same day. The Authority engaged an engineer and contractor on an emergency basis and the repair was made in two days. Mr. Brooks stated that the cost of the engineer was \$4,900 and the cost for the contractor was \$29,480. The Authority intends to undertake temporary repairs on the inside of two of the barrels where missing stones in the arch are allowing the soil to move. It is expected that this will be followed by a full scale engineering investigation and rehabilitation, procured on a non-emergent basis.

Mr. Brooks stated that Change Orders are in his written report and offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Klipstein reported on the Watershed Management Program. Mr. Klipstein stated that everyone has a copy of his report. Mr. Klipstein stated that the second year of the D&R hydrilla management program is scheduled to begin on or around Memorial Day. All interested parties have been briefed and there is good support for the program. The Authority will be initiating a 4-acre pilot hydrilla management program proximate to the Manasquan Reservoir boat launch later this month. The Authority has received good support from our reservoir management partner, Monmouth County Parks System on the pilot program.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Marc Brooks provided the background information on the Resolution authorizing the award of a construction contract for the Griggstown Waste Gate Seepage Repairs on the Delaware and Raritan Canal in Franklin Township, Somerset County. Mr. Brooks stated that the Griggstown waste gate is located on the Delaware & Raritan Canal left bank, approximately 160 feet upcanal from the Griggstown Lock in Franklin Township. During a routine engineering inspection of the Canal structures in January 2017, the inspection team found steady clear seepage coming from near the bottom of the downstream stone masonry headwall of the waste gate. The potential for a breach was of particular concern for the Authority and staff received approval to procure an engineer and contractor on an emergency basis, as certified by the Executive Director in accordance with Executive Order 37 and approved by the Capital Projects Committee. Mr. Brooks noted that staff still accepted three fee proposals from consultants and chose the low-bidder, Civil Dynamics, Inc. of Stockholm, New Jersey.

Upon further review by Civil Dynamics of the seepage and condition of the waste gate, emergency repairs were not necessary and the repair construction was procured in accordance with typical Authority procurement policies.

Advertisements for bids were published in the local papers on March 31, 2018. The project was also advertised on the Authority's website and on the New Jersey Business Opportunities website. Nine potential bidders attended a mandatory pre-bid meeting on April 10, 2018. Three addenda were issued on April 10, April 16, and April 20, 2018. Three bids were timely received and opened at a public bid opening on April 30, 2018. The low bid submitted by Merco, Inc. of Lebanon, New Jersey was for \$347,500.00. Mr. Brooks noted that the Engineer's estimate was \$213,900.00. Mr. Brooks stated that among the reasons for the cost difference provided by the consulting engineer and detailed in his written report, is the fact that half of the work items are specialty work (embankment grouting). There are few contractors in New Jersey able to do this work and this may have precluded smaller contractors from bidding who might then have had to use a subcontractor for this element. Mr. Brooks also noted that other firms may be busy and unable to bid during this time. Authority staff and Civil Dynamics recommend the award of a construction contract to Merco, Inc. for a lump sum and unit price cost not to exceed amount of \$347,500.00. Mr. Brooks was asked if Merco, Inc. had done work previously for the Authority to which Mr. Brooks responded that they had done work at Island Farm Weir and for an emergency Canal breach in Stockton in 2006.

Mr. Iacullo moved the Resolution authorizing the award of a construction contract for the Griggstown Waste Gate Seepage Repairs on the Delaware and Raritan Canal in Franklin Township, Somerset County. Ms. Blew seconded this motion. 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 Committee - no report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Barth Introduced himself as a representative of the D&R Canal Watch. Mr. Barth stated that the D&R Canal Watch has many activities scheduled including their annual meeting, a bicycle ride, and several hikes. A listing can be found on their website, [www.canalwatch.org](http://www.canalwatch.org). Mr. Barth invited everyone to attend.

Mr. Barth also discussed a recent Canal Society of New Jersey symposium that he attended in which Bill McKelvey, a Canal historian, gave a report on the dredging of the Canal which occurred thirty years ago. Mr. Barth described the methods of the historical dredging and provided two copies of a disk with the symposium presentation for distribution.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session.

Mr. Iacullo moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Havens seconded the motion. All Authority members approved of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 P.M.

I hereby certify this to be a true and original copy of the May 7, 2018 New Jersey Water Supply Authority meeting minutes.

*Michelle Rollman*

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Michelle Rollman  
Executive Secretary II