



NEW JERSEY WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 5196 · CLINTON, N.J. 08809 · (908) 638-6121 · (908) 638-5241 (FAX)

Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority

October 7, 2019

A regular meeting of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority was convened on October 7, 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, Patricia Ingelido, Assistant Director, Division of Water Supply and Geoscience, served as Acting Chair of the meeting and called the meeting to order.

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

Present: Patricia Ingelido, Acting Chair
Steven Picco
Ellsworth Havens
Shing-Fu Hsueh - by phone
Robert Iacullo

Absent: Susan Blew

A quorum existed for the transaction of Authority business.

Interested Parties Present:

Robert Barth, D&R Canal Watch
Oleg Kostin, New Jersey American Water
Angelo Lovisa, Hunterdon Sailing Club

Authority Staff Present:

Beth Gates, Executive Director
Susan Buckley, Director, Finance and Administration
Rita Shaw, Controller
Marc Brooks, Chief Engineer
Paul McKeon, Director Manasquan Water Supply System/D&R Canal
Kenneth Klipstein, Director of Watershed Protection
Julie Shelley, Permit/Property Administrator
Michelle Rollman, Finance and Accounting Analyst
Kathrine Hunt, Deputy Attorney General
Lauren LaRusso, Governor's Authorities Unit - by phone

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Acting Chair Ingelido asked for a motion for approval of the Minutes of the August 27, 2019 special meeting and the Minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting. Mr. Iacullo moved the motion approving the Minutes as prepared and the motion was seconded by Mr. Havens. The Minutes of the August 27, 2019 special meeting and the September 9, 2019 regular meeting were approved by the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Gates stated that everyone has a copy of her report. Ms. Gates stated that the engineering plans and specification documents for the Round Valley Embankment Project were approved by the Infrastructure Financing Program and the Authority received authorization to advertise today. Ms. Gates stated that bid packets will be sent out to prequalified contractors and notice will be posted on the State's and Authority's websites. Newspaper ads will appear this week. Ms. Gates noted particular pride in this effort and in the team for staying the course despite all of the regulatory hurdles. This is one of the most complex projects that the Authority has undertaken.

Ms. Gates reminded the Commissioners that they have received her note about required on-line ethics training. Ms. Gates thanked them in advance for completing the training by November 1.

Ms. Gates stated that the Audit Committee met on Friday and Mr. Picco will deliver that Committee report at the discussion of Resolution B.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Gates stated that there were no items of communications or correspondence received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. McKeon provided the operations report for the Manasquan Water Treatment Plant/Transmission System. Mr. McKeon stated that everyone has a copy of his report. Mr. McKeon stated that the reservoir is at 85 percent of capacity which is normal. Rainfall has recently been less than average. Mr. McKeon noted that operations are running smoothly.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Raritan Basin System operations. Mr. Brooks stated that everyone has a copy of his written report. Mr. Brooks stated that as of today, Spruce Run is at elevation 268.90 or 84.8 percent of capacity. Round Valley is at elevation 365.36 or 73.2 percent of capacity. Mr. Brooks noted that the Round Valley elevation constitutes a drop of six feet since the

prior month because the Authority is dropping the pool in anticipation of the Round Valley Embankment Rehabilitation Project. The combined reservoir capacity was 75.1 percent. The typical combined capacity for this date is 88.6 percent.

Mr. Brooks reported that Canal operations are normal. Mr. Brooks stated that the Authority had an incident July 25 where seepage was identified by a member the public at the location of a high-pressure gas line crossing owned by Williams-Transco. This is a repeat of a similar incident that took place in 2014. Mr. Brooks stated that Authority staff responded and made a short term repair. Williams-Transco is responsible for more permanent repairs and a meeting is being scheduled to evaluate their approach.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Canal Dredging Project. Dredging in Reaches 1 through 4 is complete. Two dredges are actively working in Reach 5. Contractors are now targeting approximately 63 percent completion this season, of Reach 5, which extends from Griggstown Causeway to Blackwells Mills Causeway.

Mr. Brooks reported on the Round Valley Reservoir Dams Rehabilitation and Resource Preservation Project. The Round Valley Grouting project is well underway. Significant progress is being made at the South Dam. Dredging work has been delayed until the end of the month. With the dropping water elevation in the reservoir, the geometry of the channel brought challenges to the contractor that required them to change equipment. The contractor requested a start delay until the pool reaches its target elevation which we expect to be at or near the end of October. The Authority agreed.

Mr. Brooks stated that the Authority is advertising the major embankment rehabilitation today with an expected notice to proceed in early 2020. The major excavation work is expected to take place starting next spring at the Dike.

Mr. Brooks stated that the 6-Mile Run culvert is a 3-barrel culvert in Franklin Township, just upcanal from Blackwells Mills Causeway. The Authority has procured an engineer to prepare designs for an investigation and rehabilitation design. The Authority is set to go out to bid for a contractor to dewater and clean the culverts so that the engineer can do an inspection of the interiors of each barrel.

Mr. Brooks noted that two change orders are described 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 discussed a dam removal project on the Lamington River in Bedminster Township. Mr. Klipstein stated that the Burnt Mills Dam is scheduled to be removed on Wednesday, October 16. Mr. Klipstein

noted that the Authority is coordinating the Round Valley drawdown schedule with the Dam Removal work to accommodate certain wildlife related regulatory issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Brooks provided the background information on the resolution authorizing professional engineering services required for the Multidisciplinary Engineering Project for Structures Rehabilitation in Connection with the Spruce Run Reservoir Outlet Works System in Clinton Township, Town of Clinton, And Union Township, Hunterdon County, WSA-C19017. Mr. Brooks discussed the components of the project which include rehabilitation of the Spruce Run Measuring weir; replacement of the fixed cone discharge valves; the recommendation of repairs to the spalling and cracking Spruce Run ogee overflow spillway; replacement of roofs, and access ladders at vault and tower; the installation of electric operators at Spruce Run tower sluice gates; the recommendation of operational strategies supported with reservoir fill and drawdown computations, permit verification, cost, and implementation schedule; and the updating of hydrologic and hydraulic modeling at Spruce Run Reservoir.

A Notice of Solicitation for Statements of Qualifications and Technical Proposals was advertised in the Star-Ledger, Hunterdon County Democrat and the Times of Trenton on April 18, 2019 and was also posted on New Jersey Business Opportunities website and the Authority's website. Four (4) engineering consultants responded by June 6, 2019 and the Technical Proposals and Statements of Qualifications were evaluated by Authority staff members.

Mr. Brooks stated that on July 19, 2019, the Authority requested and received approval from the Chair of the Capital Projects Committee to request fee proposals from the top three ranked firms. After a negotiation, the top rated firm lowered its price. Staff recommends the award of a contract to Mott MacDonald in the lump sum and reimbursable cost not to exceed amount of \$940,000.

Mr. Iacullo moved the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Mott MacDonald of Morristown, New Jersey, for professional engineering services required for the multidisciplinary engineering project for structures rehabilitation in connection with the Spruce Run Reservoir outlet works system in Clinton Township, Town of Clinton and Union Township, Hunterdon County, for a lump sum and reimbursable cost not to exceed \$940,000. Mr. Havens seconded the motion for the Resolution. All Authority members approved the resolution.

Mr. Picco provided the background information on the resolution accepting the audit prepared by Mercadien, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants, for the year ended June 30, 2019. Mr. Picco stated that the Audit Committee met last week with the accountants who presented the audit document. Mr. Picco stated that the audit includes an unmodified, clean opinion. Mr. Picco noted that Mercadien reported good interactions with Authority staff. The Audit committee recommends approval of the resolution.

Mr. Picco moved the resolution to accept the audit report prepared by Mercadien, P.C. for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 and to authorize that the final report be posted on the Authority's website and distributed to all interested parties. Dr. Hsueh seconded the motion for the Resolution. All Authority members approved the resolution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Personnel - no report
- (b) Finance - Ms. Gates stated that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day. Staff presented the rate proposals for fiscal year 2021. The rates will be presented to the Board at the November meeting.
- (c) Audit - no additional report
- (d) Public Participation - no report
- (e) Capital Projects - no report
- (f) Insurance - no report
- (g) Watershed Lands Acquisition Committee - no report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Barth introduced himself as a member of the D&R Canal Watch. Mr. Barth stated that a photography contest was held to select photographs for a calendar which will be sold as a fundraising effort to restore a canal bridgetender's station. There will be an opening at Blackwells Mills on Sunday, October 13, where calendars may be purchased and signed by the artists.

Anthony Lovisa introduced himself as a member of the Hunterdon Sailing Club. Mr. Lovisa stated that he wished to follow up on questions posed by his colleague at the September meeting regarding incremental levels of harmful algal bloom warnings. Mr. Klipstein responded that conversations are being held with respect and sensitivity to the Hunterdon Sailing Club's concerns but that no conclusions have been made. Mr. Klipstein stated that the Authority continues to investigate and characterize the nature of the harmful algal bloom incidents. Mr. Lovisa requested assistance with the interpretation of the data from the monitoring buoy which

is now in operation. Mr. Klipstein agreed to provide that assistance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURN

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

I hereby certify this to be a true and original copy of the October 7, 2019 New Jersey Water Supply Authority meeting minutes.

Michelle Rollman

Michelle Rollman

Finance and Accounting Analyst