

WANAQUE VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

May 27, 2020

Regular Public Meeting

VIA – Video Conference – Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENT – 6:03pm

Chairman Covelli, read the following announcement:

Chairman Covelli stated per the New Jersey Governor's office regarding pandemic order's that this meeting is being held via video conference thru Zoom, in which all information was provided to the public for those who wanted to attend Wanaque Valley Regional Sewerage Authority, Wednesday, May 27, 2020, public meeting, via Zoom, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 adequate notice as defined by Section 3D of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, and has been posted on the WVRSA website. Copy of said notice will be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Covelli stated that for this meeting the Authority will suspend the salute to the flag due to video conference nature of meeting.

Chairman Covelli asked for a roll call.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Michael Levine, Herb Allen, Matthew Conlon, Frank Covelli,

Commissioner Absent: Ted Taukus,

Also Present: John Eskilson – Interim Executive Director – WVRSA  
Steve Wilson – Superintendent of Operations  
Elizabeth Parrinello – Recording Secretary  
Giselle Diaz, P.E. – Boswell Engineering  
Michael Roder – Chapman Environmental Services  
Robert Farrell – Chapman Environmental Services  
Kristi Sorrentino – Chapman Environmental Services

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Covelli asked Mr. Eskilson if there were any correspondence, Mr. Eskilson stated that there was none.

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 22, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Chairman Covelli stated that the Commissioners were emailed copies of the April 22, 2020, minutes for tonight's meeting and asked if they all have had time to review them. Chairman Covelli asked for a motion.

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The following motion was made:

**MOTION** Moved by Mr. Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Levine to approve and accept the meeting minutes of April 22, 2020 Regular Minutes, Chairman Covelli asked if there were any discussion, additions, deletions on the minutes of April 22, 2020, seeing and hearing none Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor is signify so by stating Aye.

Commissioners: Allen, Conlon, Levine and Covelli all stated Aye.  
Commissioner – Taukus Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**REPORTS**

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – Copy attached

Mr. Eskilson prepared a written report which was emailed to Commissioners and Professionals for this evenings meeting.

Mr. Eskilson reported on the calendar time frame for the remainder of FY2020. Stating the following:

June: Personnel Committee meeting regard FY2021 salaries  
July: Resolution establishing and approving salaries for FY2021  
Finance committee meeting regarding FY2021 budget and capital plan  
August: Introduction of FY2021 budget  
September: Adoption of FY2021 budget

Mr. Eskilson stated the staff scheduling will be returning to an 8-hour shift schedule with the employees resuming their pervious schedules. Mr. Eskilson explained to the Board that we will be ending the Covid-19 related prohibition on use of vacation, personnel time as well. All other Covid-19 policies will remain in effect with social distancing and face covering being mandatory.

Mr. Eskilson stated that Mr. Wilson, reported to Mr. Eskilson that we had one employee who was not feeling well and showing signs of Covid-19, he has been tested, we are awaiting results, in the mean time Mr. Eskilson and Mr. Wilson have stepped-up precautions to ensure the health and well being of the workforce, Mr. Wilson ensured that everyone will be following the guidelines. (Discussion continued)

Mr. Eskilson reported that hauler revenue continues to increase for the third straight month. Mr. Eskilson said it is currently tracking approximately \$60K more than anticipated. Mr. Eskilson, also, reported that the increase truck volume into the plant does remain a concern on the plant system. Mr. Eskilson reported that the increase in truck volume causes a sludge production increased, the two are directly related to one another.

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LICENSED OPERATOR/CHAPMAN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES-Chapman Environmental Svcs

Mr. Roder reported on the main plant (WVRS) stating that the staffing and management of WVRS and Chapman are integrating quickly and are working very well together. Mr. Roder spoke about rags, wipes and the large volume of truck discharges with regard to grit from the trucks and the effect on plant operations. Sludge removal is directly related to the septage truck volume and are looking to improve the holding tank mixers to aide in sludge removal.

Mr. Roder stated that Chapman Environmental is looking to lower WVRS laboratory cost, explained the Chapman does a large volume of lab work so the more you bring a company reflects in the pricing.

Mr. Roder moved on the remote plants stating that over the last month they have evaluated each plant, there needs to be an in-depth cost efficiency study. During the last month, improvement in housekeeping, record keeping has been initiated. (Discussion continued)

ENGINEERING REPORT

Ms. Diaz stated Capacity Analysis Report (CAR) which was due on June 30, 2020, WVRS has been given an extension to September 30, 2020. Ms. Diaz stated that there has been a meeting set up (via Zoom) with the Mr. Paul Carelli, Borough Administrator, Borough of Wanaque, Mr. Mahler, Mayor of Wanaque, John Eskilson, Interim Executive Director, WVRS, Mr. Wilson, Superintendent of Operations, WVRS, Mr. Roder, Chapman Environmental Services, Ms. Diaz, P.E., Boswell Engineering, next week to discuss the I & I infiltration problem. (Discussion continued)

Ms. Diaz said that she working with Mr. Wilson on the ongoing construction in the effluent building with the microscreens with the 2021 budget.

SUPERINTENDENT OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Wilson stated that his report is a follow-up of Ms. Diaz's. Mr. Wilson stated that he and Ms. Diaz are working to get all the information regarding the effluent up-grade. Mr. Wilson also stated that he would like the influent flow meter calibrated. Mr. Wilson reported on the SCADA System and off-site access, he stated he now can excess the system by way of cell phone and/or his laptop. Mr. Wilson explained that he is able to check D.O. levels, etc. via off-site remote access. Mr. Wilson stated that the gate access is moving along that all haulers have been notify of the July 1, 2020, gate access.

LEGAL REPORT - None

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Chairman Covelli asked if any of Commissioners had any questions on vouchers, Mr. Levine stated that he had not, explain that he would not open the files.

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**Resolution 20-47** - Accepting and Authorizing Payment of Bills Resolution #20-47

MOTION Moved by Mr. Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Levine to approve and accept Resolution #20-47 in the amount of \$197,699.74

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.  
Commissioners, Allen, Conlon, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye  
Commissioner – Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Levine asked Mr. Eskilson why the Wanaque Reserve landscaper were asked to remove the equipment from the Regional's parking lot. Mr. Eskilson explained that it has become a security and insurance issue. Commissioner Levine stated he understood the concern.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Eskilson stated that a letter of termination should be drawn up for the four remote plant and a motion should be made. Chairman Covelli asked legal counsel Mr. Bailey, Esq. of Huntington, Bailey, LLP to write a motion for the termination of WVRSA Operation and Maintenance Agreement with the four private plants (remote plants).

Mr. Bailey drew up a motion regarding "termination of contract".

MOTION Was made by Mr. Conlon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Levine to Send Termination of Contract to the respective four private plants with an exit date of November 30, 2020.

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.  
Commissioners, Allen, Conlon, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye  
Commissioner – Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT – No one from the public joined the video conference meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION Moved by Mr. Matt Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Allen to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.  
Commissioners, Allen, Conlon, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye  
Commissioner – Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:38PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

*Elizabeth Parrinello*

Elizabeth Parrinello, Recording Secretary

MOTION WAS MADE at the 06/24/2020 Public Meeting

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Allen			X			
Conlon	X		X			
Gerst			X		X	
Levine		X				
Taukus						X
Covelli			X			