

WANAQUE VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

July 22, 2020

Regular Public Meeting

VIA – Video Conference – Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENT – 6:10pm

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 asked everyone to stand for the flag salute and asked Mr. Eskilson to led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Covelli asked for a roll call.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Matthew Conlon, Michael Gerst, Michael Levine,
Frank Covelli,

Commissioner Absent: Ted Taukus, Herb Allen

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Covelli asked Mr. Eskilson if there were any correspondence, Mr. Eskilson replied that there two pieces of correspondence both insurance related, one being from the First Environment with regard to 2019 EJIF Audit, WVRSA NJUA-JIF Spill Prevention Control, and, the second was from NJUA-IF, Loss Control Report. Chairman Covelli stated that he had reviewed the reports and said that it is not often that the Safety Commissioner has no suggestions for the member being reviewed/audited. Chairman Covelli said that this is a testament to the diligent work of the WVRSA staff.

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 24, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes

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Chairman Covelli stated that the Commissioners were emailed copies of the June 24, 2020, minutes for tonight's meeting and asked if they all have had time to review them. Chairman Covelli asked for a motion.

The following motion was made:

MOTION Moved by Mr. Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Levine to approve and accept the meeting minutes of June 24, 2020 Regular Minutes, Chairman Covelli asked if there were any discussion, additions, deletions on the minutes of June 24, 2020, seeing and hearing none Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor is signify so by stating Aye.

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

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT– Copy attached

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

Mr. Eskilson said he would like to follow up on a couple of things from the last meeting, one being the Ford 350F that we authorized the sale of via Municibid electronic auction site. Minimum bid was posted at \$500.00 and at the close of Auction WVRSA sold it for \$5,050.00.

Second follow-up is on the training policies, Tech Standard Certification, Cyber Security, WVRSA Information Tech Practice Policy and training thru NJUA-JIF which have been received and accepted by NJUA-JIF; which allowed WVRSA to be eligible for the lowered deductibles.

Chairman Covelli stated to the Commissioners that in order to receive a certificate and receive the lower deductibles we had to demonstrate to the JIF a proficiency plan, through the guidance of our management we received this certificate, which means our deductible went from \$25,000 to \$2,500 per incident.

Mr. Eskilson explained we are operating on target to the end of FY20, and the internal work for FY2021 is near complete, the finance committee will be meeting within the next two weeks. Two issues remain, a renewal agreement with the Borough of Ringwood, for the James Drive STP and the capital improvement plan/budget. (Discussion continued)

With respect to the capital improvement plan/budget, Mr. Eskilson stated that we are looking at both short- and long-term needs with regard to financial needs and implications to future budgets. (Discussion ensued)

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Mr. Eskilson reported that the Local Government Services (DGSL) requires all local agencies to maintain a list of fixed asset values. We have contracted with Acclaim Inventory to come and do an update our list, once this is done it will eliminate any findings in the 2020 Audit.

Mr. Eskilson gave a brief report on the dashboard reports, stating that revenue increased in June, and is currently tracking approximately \$125,000.00 more than anticipated. Mr. Eskilson stated, again sludge production increase for the fourth straight month, internal discussion between staff and Authority professionals continued focused on plant improvements to address the issue.

Mr. Eskilson reported on the daily plant flow, which declined slightly in June, June's eve remained below the NJDEP's 95% threshold. With calibration of the influent meter, we now have a high confidence level in the accuracy of the flow data. Calibration was within 2% so previously reported data remains highly accurate. We are still waiting on the Borough of Wanaque's data comparing water consumption to sewer flow and trying in identify I & I issues.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Ms. Diaz reported to the Board that NJDWSC will be installing a meter, Boswell has asked NJWDSC to provide samples to Mr. Roeder of Chapman ES, so they can analyze what material NJWDSC would be sending to the Authority. The initial reports showed a high amount of aluminum.
(Discussion continued)

LICENSED OPERATOR/CHAPMAN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES-Chapman Environmental Svcs

Mr. Roeder stated that overall things have smoothed out, the challenges that we encountered when we first started have been addressed and are behind us. The biggest change over the last couple of weeks is the way Chapman is staffing both the main plant and at remote plants. Mr. Roeder said that there is more sharing of responsibly with the Authority's staff, this will significantly decrease Chapman's cost to the Authority.

Mr. Roeder explained that the James Drive and Rachlin plants continued to be somewhat problematic, because of capital investment that need to made in each facility. Mr. Roeder said that they are working with both the Borough of Ringwood and Rachlin in getting some improvements done. Mr. Eskilson stated for the Commissioners that Rachlin is a short-term concern for us, there contract is ending November 30, 2020.

Mr. Roeder stated that we are doing some work at the lab, trying to improve the lab analyze that we do in-house. Mr. Roeder stated that the main plant is running well. Mr. Roeder stating, that the dissolved oxygen level identified when Chapman first started have come down due to some changes implemental that have improved the levels. Envirodyne System has been to the site to analyze the aeration system and will have the results and their recommendations.

Mr. Roeder reported on solid wasting, stating that we have been in a very aggressive wasting

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program to get the suspended solids down, which created a lot more solids in the short term, but we needed to do this to help the overall system. Mr. Roeder said he believes we are caught up now. Between the flows coming down and with the additional wasting being done, we should see less solids being generated, which will reduce the cost in sludge removal.

Mr. Roeder reported that on NJWDSC and agreed with Ms. Diaz that additional testing needs to be done. Initially, the aluminum concentration was high and if this is a true reading, Mr. Roeder said it's a red flag to him. If the aluminum number comes down and if NJDWSC brings the flow into the system, he explained the problem with this is, aluminum creates a large number of solids and we would be right back in the same position we were in 3 months ago.

SUPERINTENDENT OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Wilson stated that the flow meters have been calibrated and is waiting for the report. To support with what Mr. Roeder reported on, the solids are coming down and the system to running well. Mr. Wilson stated the WVRSA staff is doing a great job and working well the Chapmans staff.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Bailey stated that he has review the James Drive Treatment Plant draft agreement that Mr. Eskilson had prepared. Mr. Bailey said that it has been sent over to the Mr. Heck, Borough of Ringwood for review. Mr. Bailey stated that the draft agreement accomplishes everything the Authority needed it to, stating this agreement gives the Authority more flexibility than in past agreements.

Chairman Covelli stated that this concludes the report section of this meeting and now we will move to the resolution portion of the meeting. Chairman Covelli asked Mr. Eskilson for a brief explanation of the resolutions.

Resolution 20-53 – Adopting a FY 2021 Salary Guide for Employees of the WVRSA

MOTION Moved by Mr. Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Levine. - Adopting a FY 2021 Salary Guide for Employees of the WVRSA

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

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 20-54 – Authorizing the Issuance of Purchase Orders in Compliance with N.J.S.A. 194A-20 ET SEQ. (NJ Pay to Play Law) for Various Services

MOTION Moved by Mr. Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Levine. - Authorizing the Issuance of Purchase Orders in Compliance with N.J.S.A. 194A-20 ET SEQ. (NJ Pay to Play Law) for Various Services

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Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.

Commissioners: Conlon, Gerst, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye

Commissioners Absent: Allen, Taukus

MOTION CARRIED

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Chairman Covelli asked if any of Commissioners had any questions on vouchers, Mr. Levine stated that he a question on a vendor, Mr. Eskilson explained who and what the vendor was used for. Mr. Levine accepted the explanation.

Resolution 20-55 - Accepting and Authorizing Payment of Bills Resolution #20-55

MOTION Moved by Mr. Levine, 2nd by Mr. Conlon to approve and accept Resolution #20-55 in the amount of \$ 491,465.81.

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.

Commissioners, Conlon, Gerst, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye

Commissioner – Allen, Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

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

Motion was made to close the public portion.

MOTION Moved by Mr. Matt Conlon, 2nd by Mr. Gerst to close public portion of the meeting.

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.

Commissioners - Conlon, Gerst, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye

Commissioner – Allen, Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

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

Chairman Covelli asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.

Commissioners - Conlon, Gerst, Levine, and Covelli all stated Aye

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Commissioner – Allen, Taukus Absent

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Elizabeth Parrinello

Elizabeth Parrinello, Recording Secretary

MOTION WAS MADE at the 08/26/2020 Public Meeting

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