

Regular Board Meeting

Suffolk County Water Authority April 24, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

4060 Sunrise Highway, Oakdale, and Virtually via Zoom

Attendance Present:

Members: Charles Lefkowitz, Chairman
Tim Bishop, Secretary
John M. Porchia III, Member (Virtually Attended)
John Rose, Member
Elizabeth Mercado, Member

Jeffrey W. Szabo, Chief Executive Officer

The meeting was attended by Counsels A. Bass, B. Malik and J. Milazzo; and was also attended by Messrs. Blevins, Bova, Brady, Coppola, Donnelly, Doscher, Dubois, Deubel, Finello, Fuller, Galante, Given, Huber, Jakobsen, Kilcommons, Kleinman, McDowell, Meyerdierks, Niebling, O'Connell, Pokorny, Rae, Riegger, Schneider, Seevers, Thompson, Turcios, Wahl, and Warner; and Mmes. Berberich, Berroa, Cameron, Cantore, Hannan, Kucera, Mancuso, Naccarato, Pell, Pfeuffer, Simson, Spaulding, Stewart.

Barbara Yatauro of Local 393 and Joseph Fritz from the public were also present.

Jeffrey Szabo, Chief Executive Officer, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. upon all Members of the Board being present.

Mr. Lefkowitz, Chairman extends his sincere thanks to Tyrand Fuller, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Christopher Niebling, Director of Water Quality and Lab Services for joining the Earth Day Water Talk. The Chairman explains how the event was a great success and how they were thoroughly able to answer 30-40 questions from attendees. The Chairman emphasized how important it is for us to stay engaged and involved in our community, and this talk was a perfect example of that spirit in action. The Chairman also extended a special thanks to Dominick DiCarlo, Communications Assistant for managing the audio-visual during the Water Talk.

Mr. Szabo, Chief Executive Officer, also shared the importance of the Water Talk and emphasized the value of these conversations in raising awareness and education around water issues. Mr. Szabo extended his thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Fuller, and Mr. Niebling for representing SCWA with such dedication and professionalism. Mr. Szabo also introduced a new customer service feature that allows residents to easily look up their water quality. He mentioned that SCWA will

begin promoting this feature to the public and informed the Board Members that a demonstration will be provided at the May Board Meeting.

Mr. Szabo had the Board Members refer to their monthly report packets, to review a letter that was sent out to all Elected Officials informing Presiding Officer McCaffrey that SCWA expects to meet the EPA's new PFAS drinking water standards by July 2025- four years ahead of the 2029 deadline. SCWA clarifies they are not involved in any lawsuit against the EPA and remains committed to removing PFAS to non-detectable levels. The letter highlighted the use of granular activated carbon treatment systems and thanked state and federal officials for grant support. SCWA reaffirms its commitment to transparency, public health, and water quality. Additionally, in response to a request by Ms. Mercado, Board Member at the March Board Meeting, Mr. Szabo documented his experience at the AMWA Executive Board Meeting held in Washington, DC and reassured the Board that his attendance was both productive and valuable.

Mr. Pokorny, Deputy CEO of Operations, provided the Board with an update on the proposed agreement with the West Gilgo Beach Association. SCWA and WGBA have been in discussions for years to reach an agreement allowing SCWA to operate and manage the WGBA system. Mr. Pokorny reported that there is agreement on most of the terms of the arrangement. If an agreement is reached, Mr. Pokorny noted that Mr. O'Connell from Production Control has developed a plan for his team to manage the project as well. Mr. Pokorny also explained that costs will be covered through a capital agreement. He also explained that other systems on Fire Island may be interested in entering into similar agreements in the future.

Mr. Szabo then introduces Mr. Christopher Cecchetto, Chief Financial Officer, who presented the FY26 Refunding slide deck which outlined the SCWA plan to redeem \$42.75 million in outstanding bonds using general fund cash reserves. He explained how this strategic move aims to reduce long-term debt and save approximately \$5 million in interest expenses. By redeeming these bonds, SCWA will lower its FY27 debt service requirement from \$62 million to \$45 million, helping smooth future debt obligations. The redemption will incur minimal fees (totaling \$110,000), with the transaction expected to close July 1, 2025.

Mr. Lefkowitz presented the minutes of the regular board meeting on March 20, 2025, and on motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried, it was

(096-04-2025) RESOLVED, To approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on March 20, 2025.

Mr. Szabo presented the contracts to be considered for extension. After a brief explanation of a few items and contract leveling for the future; on motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried, the following contracts were approved on consent:

(097-04-2025) RESOLVED, To extend for the period beginning May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026, Contract 7945 to furnish and deliver ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel with Romeo Enterprises Inc. dba Romeo's Fuel, Holbrook, NY.

RESOLVED, To extend for the period beginning July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, Contract 8045B to furnish and deliver waterworks supplies, tools, and equipment with Pollardwater, Newport News, VA.

RESOLVED, To extend for the period beginning July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, Contract 8045D to furnish and deliver waterworks supplies, tools, and equipment with Core & Main, Bronx, NY.

The CEO then referred to several contracts and recommended that they be awarded or rejected in accordance with the letters of recommendation. On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(098-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the bids for Zones A & C under Contract 8101 to supply and maintenance of pumps and miscellaneous equipment at various Authority owned sites during a one-year period beginning June 1, 2025, submitted by A.C. Schultes, Inc. Woodbury Heights, NJ on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at a total cost of One Million Four Hundred Eighty-three Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty-five Dollars (\$1,483,555) be and hereby is accepted; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the bid for Zone B under Contract 8101, submitted by RMC Well & Pump Inc. East Islip, NY, on the same basis and totaling Nine Hundred Ninety-four Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-four Dollars (\$994,234); be and hereby is accepted and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute these contracts on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(099-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the sole bid under Contract 8103 to furnish and deliver pneumatic shoring shields during the one-year period beginning June 1, 2025, submitted by Prospan Manufacturing Co., Inc, Bensenville, IL on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at a total cost of Forty-five Thousand and Seventy Dollars (\$45,070) be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(100-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the low bid under Contract 8104 for furnishing, installation and cleanout of overflow drain puts and other miscellaneous work, during the one-year period beginning June 1, 2025, submitted by DF Stone Contracting Ltd. Medford, NY on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at total cost of Three Hundred Ninety-eight Thousand and Eight Hundred Dollars (\$398,800), be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(101-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the low bid under Contract 8105 for demolition, removal, and replacement of HVAC mechanical equipment, submitted by Botto Mechanical, Plainview, NY, on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at a total cost of Eighty-nine Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-one Dollars (\$89,861); and that any Member and/ or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(102-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the low bid under Contract 8107 for removal and sifting/ screening of mixed debris at Authority construction maintenance sites during the one-year period beginning May 1, 2025, submitted by D.F. Stone Contracting Ltd., Medford, NY on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at a total cost of Five Hundred Twenty-six Thousand Dollars (\$526,000); and that any Member and/ or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(103-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the bid with the highest discount for Line Items 1, 2, 3, and 7 under Contract 8112 to furnish and deliver tools during the one-year period beginning July 1, 2026, submitted by Colonial Hardware, Springfield, NJ on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, be hereby is accepted; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the bid with the highest discount for Line Items 4 and 6 under Contract 8112 submitted by Ferguson Waterworks, Medford, NY, on the same basis hereby is accepted; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the bid with the highest discount for Line Item 5 under Contract 8112 submitted by Zo-Air Company, Holbrook, NY, on the same basis be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/ or the Chief Executive Officer hereby is authorized to executive this contract on behalf of the Authority.

The Members reviewed several requests for equipment. After an explanation of each, on motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried it was

(104-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the lowest responsive bid and authorize the purchase of three (3) 2025 Chevrolet 5500 Chassis with Knapheide Body and Crane "Hydrant Truck", for the use of the Construction Maintenance Department, from North Shore Chevrolet of Smithtown, NY, in the total amount of Five Hundred Forty-three Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-seven 19/100 Dollars (\$543,377.19).

On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(105-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the quote and authorize the one-time purchase to furnish and deliver an electric hoist system under RFQ Q0008 from HOF Equipment Co., Chicago, IL in the total amount of Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-eight Dollars (\$16,258).

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(106-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the quote and authorize the furnish and delivery of ladders to Bay Shore and Oakdale locations under RFQ Q0011 from Colonial Hardware Corp., Springfield, NJ in the total amount of Twenty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-one Dollars (\$23,651).

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(107-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the quote and authorize the one-time purchase for a vendor to furnish and deliver an interstate equipment trailer under RFQ Q0012 from Equipment Corp, West Babylon, NY in the total amount of Thirty-five Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$35,900).

On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried, it was

(108-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the quote and authorize the furnishing and delivery of the one-time purchase of 2025 Freightliner Chassis with Knapheide Body Upfit "Rack Truck" under RFQ Q0013 for the use of the Stores Department from Robert H. Hoover and Sons, Inc. Flanders, NJ in the total amount of One Hundred Eighty- six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-seven Dollars (\$186,177).

On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(109-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the quote and authorize the furnish and delivery of six (6) Type B remote-terminal unit control panels for the use of the Engineering Department from Systems Integrated (SI), in the total amount of Thirteen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$13,250) per panel totaling Seventy-nine Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$79,500).

The Members considered requests for conferences, training, seminars, and meetings.
On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(110-04-2025) RESOLVED, To authorize the attendance of Nicholas Russo: Field Supervisor in Production Control, Scott Meyerderks: Lead Civil Engineer in Engineering, Donald Siddons: Field Supervisor in Construction Maintenance, and Richard Kondenar: Materials Supervisor in the Storeroom to attend the American Water Works Association (AWWA) 2025 Annual Conference to be held from June 8-11, 2025 in Denver, CO, in the total estimated amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) per person and-totaling approximately Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000).

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously carried, it was

(111-04-2025) RESOLVED, To authorize the attendance of Jeffrey Szabo, CEO to attend the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) executive board meeting, to be held from June 7- 8, 2025, in Denver, CO, in the total amount to not exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500).

On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose and unanimously carried, it was

(112-04-2025) RESOLVED, To authorize the attendance of Gina Spaulding, Call Center Clerk Manager, Customer Service to attend the Innovative Utility CX/ IUCX Annual Conference from May 6-8, 2025, in Phoenix, AZ in the total amount to not exceed Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$2,700).

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(113-04-2025) RESOLVED, To authorize the training request for clerks and field technicians within Customer Service and Construction Maintenance departments to further enhance communications and conflict resolution skills with our customers, to be provided by Suffolk Community College, Selden, NY in the total amount of Eleven Thousand Six Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$11,610).

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously

carried, it was

(114-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the proposal under RFP Q0009 and authorize–Future Environment Designs Inc., Syosset, NY to provide the NYS required asbestos operations and maintenance course for Authority field employees, in the total amount of Two Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-five Dollars (\$2,355).

On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried, it was

(115-04-2025) RESOLVED, To accept the proposal under RFQ Q0010 and authorize Future Environment Designs Inc., Syosset, NY to provide the NYS required asbestos operations and maintenance initial training course for Authority field employees, in total amount of Four Thousand Six Hundred and Fifteen Dollars (\$4,615).

The CEO then referenced several special service agreements for approval. On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(116-04-2025) RESOLVED, To extend Contract 1630A for the performance of water tank engineering services, with Dvirka & Bartilucci Consulting Engineers, Woodbury, NY, during the one-year period beginning July 1, 2025, in the total amount to not exceed Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000); and that any Member and/ or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(117-04-2025) RESOLVED, To extend RFP 1633A to provide legal services for the one-year period beginning July 1, 2025, with Milber Markis Plousadis & Seiden, of Woodbury, NY; be and hereby is accepted and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To extend RFP 1633B to provide legal services for the one-year period beginning July 1, 2025, with Sobel Law Group, Huntington, NY; and that any Member and/ or the Chief Executive Office be and hereby is authorized to execute these agreements on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(118-04-2025) RESOLVED, That the three highest-rated law firms who submitted proposals for

RFP 1651 to provide defense counsel to handle certain tort claims against SCWA: Lewis Johs Avallone Aviles LLP, Islandia, NY, McCabe, Collins, McGeough, Fowler, Levine & Nogan LLP, Jericho, NY, and Morris Duffy Alonso Faley & Pitcoff (Christopher M. Rogers), Melville, NY; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive officer be and hereby is authorized to execute agreements on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(119-04-2025) RESOLVED, To delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to retain a vendor under RFP 1655 to provide Class III construction estimate for the construction of a new operations building that would be a two-story 35,900 sq. ft office building and demolition of the existing Construction Maintenance Building, and a single-story 21,0000 sq. ft building: to be ratified at the next board meeting.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously carried, it was

(120-04-2025) RESOLVED, To enter a five (5) year agreement with 365 Data Centers, Commack, NY in the total amount of One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-three 76/100 Dollars (1,763.76); and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

The Members reviewed the one (1) request for membership renewal. After explanation of the request, and on motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(121-04-2025) RESOLVED, to approve the yearly renewal of the SCWA Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Water ISAC), for the use of the Emergency Management department, with WaterISAC, Washington, DC in the total amount of Six Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-five Dollars (\$6,355).

The Members reviewed the one (1) request for budget amendment for fiscal year ending on May 31, 2025. After explanation of the one request, and on motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(122-04-2025) RESOLVED, to approve budget amendment number ten (10) to the budget for fiscal year ending May 31, 2025, for Jeffrey Kleinman, Director of General Services, to decrease item 100 (Facilities) in the amount of One Million Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500,00) and increase to

item 095 (Transportation) in the amount of One Million Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500,000); this will not impact the capital budget.

The Members then reviewed the one (1) request for rates, rules, and regulations. After explanation of the request, and on motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously carried, it was

(123-04-2025) RESOLVED, To approve the request for a fifty percent (50%) wasted-eater credit to the Lake Point Association, Bay Shore, NY (3000278151) in the total amount of One Hundred Eleven Thousand One Hundred and Eighty-four Dollars (\$111,184) and a late fee credit in the amount of Two Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety-seven 17/100 Dollars (\$2,2297.17).

The Members reviewed a request to renew the Authority's current disability insurance. On motion made by Mr. Rose duly seconded by Ms. Mercado and unanimously carried, it was

(124-04-2025) RESOLVED, to accept the renewal of SCWA's current insurance policies for Life Insurance, Long Term Disability (LTD) and Short-Term NYS Disability (DBL) that are written through Sun Life Financial, for the one-year period beginning August 1, 2025, at the same cost to the Authority.

The Members then reviewed the invoices for payment. On motion made by Ms. Mercado duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(125-04-2025) RESOLVED, To approve the following invoices be paid from the Operating Fund:

Bond, Schoeneck & King	\$7,493.00
Dvirka & Bartilucci	\$5,821.50

The Members scheduled their next regular meeting for Thursday, May 22nd, 2025, beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Oakdale Administration Building.

At this time, Mr. Szabo asked if there was anyone from the public who had any comments. No one from the public wished to speak to the Members at this time.

At 4:00 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, it was

resolved that

(126-04-2025) The Members went into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and possible litigation matters.

On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Mr. Rose and unanimously carried, it was

(127-04-2025) RESOLVED, To hire Emmanuel Jacquez of Miller Place, NY to fill the open position of Education & Communications Assistant in the Pine Barrens, in the total annual amount of Sixty-two Thousand Dollars (\$62,000), upon successful completion of a pre-employment physical and background check.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(128-04-2025) RESOLVED, To approve the following salary scale for college intern employees:

<u>Class</u>	<u>2024 Salary structure</u>	<u>Recommended 2025 Salary</u>
<u>Freshman and Sophomore</u>	<u>\$ 17.00 per hour</u>	<u>\$ 17.50 per hour</u>
<u>Junior and Senior</u>	<u>\$ 19.00 per hour</u>	<u>\$ 19.50 per hour</u>
<u>Masters/Professional Degree</u>	<u>\$ 21.00 per hour</u>	<u>\$ 21.50 per hour</u>

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried, it was

(128-04-2025) RESOLVED, To approve the following salary scale for college intern employees:

Loraine	Felisme	Babylon	Human Resources	Senior	\$19.50hr
Cara	Murphy	Bellport	Facilities	Junior	\$19.50hr
Meaghen	Keane	Kings Park	Engineering	Senior	\$19.50hr
Jamie	Hurtado	Coram	Communications	Master's	\$21.50hr
Samantha	Ramos	Bay Shore	Production Control	Junior	\$19.50hr
Gabriel	Villacres-Balseca	Deer Park	Lab (Inorganic)	Senior	\$19.50hr
Rumaysa	Islam	Levittown	Lab (Inorganic)	Junior	\$19.50hr

Max	Wenzel	Deer Park	Production Control	Junior	\$19.50hr
Andrew	Vasiliou	East Northport	Construction Maintenance	Senior	\$19.50hr
Steven	Pereira	West Babylon	Construction Maintenance	Junior	\$19.50hr
Thomas	Gallant	Amityville	Safety	Senior	\$19.50hr

**** Returning Intern**

All interns for 2025 will be working up to 28 hours per week in order that during the look-back period the average time does not exceed 30 hours per week. They will begin their internships beginning May 20, 2025, and ending August 2025.

On motion made by Mr. Rose, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously carried, it was

(127-04-2025) RESOLVED, To hire Keith Liere of Ridge, NY to fill the open position of Utility Person in East Hampton, in the total amount of Thirty-six 43/100 Dollars (\$36.43) per hour, upon successful completion of a pre-employment physical and background check.

As there was no further business to be considered, on motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Rose the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Timothy Bishop, Secretary

