

REGULAR MEETING
SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
March 25, 2021
Oakdale, New York

Present: Patrick Halpin, Chairman
Jane Devine, Secretary
Tim Bishop, Member
Elizabeth Mercado, Member
Jacqueline Gordon, Member

Jeffrey W. Szabo, Chief Executive Officer

The meeting was also attended by Counsel T. Hopkins and by Counsel J. Milazzo and by Messrs. Bova, Brady, Brand, Cecchetto, Durk, Finello, Fuller, Given, Galante, Kilcommons, Kleinman, Kuzman, Litka, Motz, O'Connell, Pokorny, Reinfrank, Reynolds, Wahl, Wallach, Warner and by Mmes. Cameron, Cetta, Hannan, Hohenberger, Lowe, Mancuso, Palillo, Tinsley, and Vassallo.

Barbara Yatauro, President of Local 393 and Members of the public were also in attendance.

Booklets containing detailed information for all Agenda items were distributed to each Member, Executive Staff and Counsel to the Authority.

At 3:00 p.m. Mr. Szabo called the meeting to order.

At this time, Mr. Hopkins stated this meeting is being held in accordance with Executive Order No. 202.2 dated March 7, 2020, which authorizes public meetings to be held remotely by conference call or other similar service. Members of the public can call in on the number on SCWA's website and listen to the meeting or participate electronically through Zoom.

The public was advised by Steve Galante (Director of IT) that they may

speak during the public comment portion of the meeting by raising their hand in Zoom or dialing “*9” on the telephone.

Mr. Halpin then opened the meeting for public comment. Public comment was received by Jeff Goldstein, of 122 Fieldstone Court, Middle Island New York 11953, which is part of a private homeowner’s association. Mr. Goldstein reported previously communicating with Janice Tinsley, Deputy CEO for Customer Service regarding three main breaks within his community. Mr. Goldstein formally requested from the Board, a credit for wasted water, which was previously denied as the water mains are not owned or maintained by the Authority. Mr. Hopkins, Chief Legal Officer stated that he would compile a full report of past service to present to the board for their review and discussion at the next board meeting in April.

Mr. Halpin presented the minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 2021, for approval. On motion made by Ms. Devine, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 25, 2021, were approved.

Mr. Szabo then referred to contracts scheduled to expire shortly, and he recommended that the Authority exercise its option to extend these contracts in accordance with the letters of recommendation. These items were considered on consent and on motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(047-03-2021) RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7605 for the maintenance of diesel engines with T&T Baldwin Automotive Inc. (Zone 1) and Power Pro Service (Zone 2), in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7613 for the furnishing and delivery of asphalt paving mixture for cold patching with Seaboard Asphalt Products Co. (Item 1-50) and Black Gold Industries (Item 2), in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning May 1, 2021, Contract 7681 for environmental services with AARCO Environmental Service Corp., in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7682 for the furnishing and delivery of compressed gas cylinders with Airgas USA LLC, in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7687 for the maintenance and repair of fire, burglar alarm systems and card access systems at various SCWA sites with VSS Security Systems Inc., in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7693 for the painting of fire hydrants with Building Services Industries, in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

RESOLVED, To extend for the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021, Contract 7696 for the installation of blowoff basins with Ed Cork & Sons, Inc., in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions of the contract.

Mr. Szabo then reviewed Contracts 7750, 7751, 7752, 7753, 7756, he recommended that these contracts be awarded/rejected in accordance with the letters of recommendation. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Devine, and unanimously carried, it was

(048-03-2021) RESOLVED, that the bid received under Contract 7750 for the furnishing and delivery of copper tubing type 'K' submitted by Ferguson Waterworks of Fredericksburg, Virginia on a discount percentage basis as indicated in the bidder's proposal be and hereby is accepted; 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 Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(049-03-2021) RESOLVED, That the low bid received under Contract 7751 for the furnishing and delivery of cement lined ductile iron pipe submitted by Ferguson Waterworks of Fredericksburg, Virginia, on a unit-price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at an estimated total amount of Two Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Seven and 60/100 (\$249,957.60), 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 Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Devine, and unanimously carried, it was

(050-03-2021) RESOLVED, that the low bid received under Contract 7752 for the construction of well head enclosure buildings with precast concrete walls and wood frame roofs on existing foundations, submitted by Pioneer Construction Corp. of Northport New York., on a unit-price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at an estimated total amount of Seven Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$728,600), be and hereby is accepted; 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. Devine, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(051-03-2021) RESOLVED, To reject the single bid received under Contract 7753, for the furnishing and delivery of steel hydropneumatic tank at Bull Path Well Field submitted by Fred Burack Co. of Rye New York; this contract will re-bid.

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

(052-03-2021) RESOLVED, To accept the proposal for the procurement of line stop / side tap fittings classified as sole source/single source submitted by Hydra- Stop Company Inc. of Burr Ridge, Illinois, on a unit-price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at an estimated total amount of Two Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand One Hundred Forty-Four Dollars (\$297,144), be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

Mr. Szabo then reviewed two requests relating to special service agreements. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(053-03-2021) RESOLVED, To accept the proposal under RFP 1566 for the inspection services of Authority pipeline and road restoration projects submitted by H2M Architects and Engineers of Melville New York during the one-year period beginning June 1, 2021; 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

(054-03-2021) RESOLVED, To reject both of the proposals received under RFP 1568 for the diversity, equity and inclusion program for SCWA employees and re-bid this proposal to solicit more interest.

Mr. Szabo mentioned several requests relating to Rates, Rules and Regulations. Upon further explanation of details by Janice Tinsley, and on motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(055-03-2021) RESOLVED, To authorize the wasted water credit of Seven Thousand Fifty dollars (\$7,050) to the account of the customer at 12 Goose Creek Lane, Wainscott due to a dual check cartridge on the meter that failed, and is the responsibility of the authority.

The members then discussed previously approved resolution 303-10-2019, and an important update regarding the seventh clause. On motion made by Ms. Devine, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(056-03-2021) RESOLVED, To amend resolution 303-10-2019 to amend the seventh clause as recommended by the Environmental Facilities Corporation as follows:

WHEREAS, SCWA is a self-supporting, public benefit corporation operating under the authority of the Public Authorities Law of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, SCWA's system contains more than 580 wells at 235 pump stations, approximately 6,000 miles of main, and is the largest system in the nation relying solely on groundwater as its water source, and

WHEREAS, SCWA has detected the chemical 1,4 dioxane in water produced by some of its wells, and

WHEREAS, SCWA will install a specialized treatment technology system, known as an Advanced Oxidation Treatment system, at the wellfields identified on Schedule A to reduce the amount of 1,4 dioxane in the water it distributes to its customers, and

WHEREAS, the estimated capital cost of each system is \$1.5 Million and each system is designed to treat the water produced by a single well and if a wellfield contains multiple wells each requiring treatment more than one system will be installed at the wellfield, and

WHEREAS, the capital cost includes SCWA expense to design each system, acquire the components of each system and the cost to construct each system, and

WHEREAS, that SCWA will pay for the systems costs with funds from SCWA's Capital Budget, which funds are generated from a water quality and treatment charge on each SCWA account; and

WHEREAS, the New York Clean Water Infrastructure Act invests \$3 Billion in clean and drinking water infrastructure projects and water quality protection across New York and provides at least \$1 Billion for the New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2017 (WIIA) which authorizes the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) to provide grants to assist municipalities in funding water quality infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2019, SCWA submitted 12 applications to the EFC for WIIA grant funding to pay for, in part, the capital costs of the treatment systems proposed at the 12 wellfields identified on the attached Schedule, seeking \$25.5 Million to treat water produced by 17 wells at the wellfields, and

WHEREAS, EFC requires that grant applicants provide a resolution identifying a plan to pay the portion of the treatment systems' capital cost not funded through an EFC grant; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, SCWA remains committed to designing and constructing Advanced Oxidation Process treatment systems identified on the attached Schedule and funding their design and construction.

Mr. Halpin then thanked the Finance Committee for their work on the rate presentation prior to the board meeting. On motion made by Ms. Devine, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, the following Resolution was unanimously carried.

(057-03-2021) WHEREAS, The Authority authorized a rate study that was conducted by Raftelis Rate Consultants, and such study was updated with additional information and recommendations of Elizabeth Vassallo, Chief Financial Officer and Christopher Cecchetto, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, based upon recommendations set forth in such rate study as updated with such additional information and recommendations a proposed rate schedule was posted on the Authority's website and a notice of public hearing appeared in the March 23, 2021 issue of Newsday regarding proposed rate schedule, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on March 25, 2021, to consider such rate schedule, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, To amend and approve the rates to be effective June 1, 2021 in accordance with the duly posted rate schedule; and be it

FUTHER RESOLVED, That the Authority's Rates, Rules and Regulations are hereby amended in accordance with such schedule.

Mr. Szabo then referred to a request relating to the current budget. Upon further explanation of details by Mr. Tim Kilcommons, Chief Engineer, and on motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(058-03-2021) RESOLVED, To authorize revisions to the budget for year ending May 31, 2021 as follows:

Decrease item 040-21 (New Wells) in the amount of \$31,153.81

Increase item 100-21 (Facilities) in the amount of \$31,153.81

This increase will not change the current core capital budget of \$116,777 million.

Ms. Vassallo then elaborated on the details of the Capital and Operating and Maintenance Budgets for fiscal year ending May 31, 2022. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Devine, and unanimously carried, it was

(059-03-2021) RESOLVED, To approve the Operating & Maintenance and Construction Budgets for Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2022.

Mr. Szabo then referenced a request regarding insurance coverages. Mr. Szabo asked Mr. Chas Finello, Director of Risk Management, to elaborate on the proposed insurance coverage. After further explanation of details, and on motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried it was

(060-03-2021) RESOLVED, To renew the policy with Willis Starr Indemnity Company – Ace American for Property Insurance at a total cost of Two Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$255,932), and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew with Zurich American Insurance Co. for a one-year period beginning April 1, 2021, the Authorities general liability, auto liability, and primary umbrella liability (\$10,000,000 limit), at a premium of Two Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One Dollars (\$263,881); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the first layer of excess liability with a \$10,000,000 limit with Zurich American Insurance Company for a one-year period beginning April 1, 2021, as part of the above mentioned package and at a cost of Eighty Five Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$85,648); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the second layer with a \$10,000,000 limit with Allied World Insurance Company for a one-year period beginning April 1, 2021 at a premium of Seventy-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars (\$77,329); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the third layer with a \$15,000,000 limit with Great American Insurance Company for a one-year period beginning April 1, 2021, at

a premium of Ninety-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$92,500); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew one OCP policy with Zurich American Insurance Company at a cost of Two Hundred Nine Dollars (\$209); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To purchase the broker service agreement with Alliant Insurance Services for general liability, auto liability, lead umbrella and excess liability as listed above in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the broker service agreement for property, cyber, public officials not-for-profit, crime and surety from Willis Towers Watson in the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the not-for-profit risk protector (directors and officers liability) policy from the Chubb Insurance Group with Willis Towers Watson in the amount of Eighty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$87,877); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the comprehensive crime protection with Travelers with Willis Towers Watson in the amount of Thirteen Thousand Twenty-Two Dollars (\$13,022); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the cyber insurance policy with Beazley Insurance Company with Willis Towers Watson in the amount of Twenty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars (\$29,884); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To renew the surety-street opening permit bonds with Hartford Ins. Co with Willis Towers Watson, Willis of New York, Inc. acting as broker on a commission basis in the approximate amount of Four Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Five (\$4,675) dependent on the number of bond requests received; and be it

FUTHER RESOLVED, To authorize the Risk Management Department, in consultation with the CEO and General Counsel, to recommend settlements to our insurers on claims that occur between April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022 and that fall within the policy retention or deductible limits; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To authorize the Risk Management Department, in conjunction with the CEO and Chief Legal Counsel, to increase/decrease coverages or purchase additional insurance as required by the operations of the Authority during the period April 1, 2021 to April 1, 2022; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To purchase excess workers compensation and employer's liability policy from the Safety National Insurance Company for any claim over Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000) at a premium of One Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars (\$184,482), and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To enter into an agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher & Company for broker services related to the purchase and servicing of excess insurance policy during the one-year period beginning April 1, 2021 at a total cost of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000).

Mr. Szabo then reviewed a request regarding main extensions. Mr. Kuzman, Director of Construction Maintenance elaborated on the details of the overlap of surcharges. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Devine, and unanimously carried, it was

(061-03-2021) RESOLVED, To rescind resolution 293-08-12 establishing the Deerfield Surcharge Area as the same area as covered under the East Lake Drive Surcharge Area.

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

(062-03-2021) RESOLVED, To waive the tapping fee for an 8" main supplying the Fire Island Lighthouse and Ranger Facility, in the amount of Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$16,700) as previously referenced in Board Resolution #249-08-2010.

Mr. Szabo then reviewed several requests relating to Personnel. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(063-03-2021) RESOLVED, To adopt Policy 112-A to authorize up to four (4) hours of paid excused time for employees to receive each dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in accordance with NYS Law.

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

(064-03-2021) RESOLVED, To amend Policy 603 of SCWA Policies and Procedures Manual to include electric gloves as PPE, complete procedure to be placed in Safety Manual.

On motion made by Ms. Devine, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(065-03-2021) RESOLVED, To amend SCWA's Policies and Procedures manual to include Policy 901, Contacts during Procurement previously approved in Board Resolution 090- 03- 2008 pursuant to the attached outline.

Mr. Szabo then referred to a request regarding Conferences. After further discussion and on motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and

unanimously carried, it was

(066-03-2021) RESOLVED, To authorize the virtual attendance by Donna Mancuso, Chief Human Resources Officer, at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) 2021 ACE Annual Conference June 14-17 2021, at a cost of Three Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$375). Additionally, authorize the tentative in-person attendance of Donna Mancuso at the AWWA UMC 2021 Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia from August 3-6 2021, at a cost of One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,750).

Mr. Szabo reviewed the original invoices to be paid from the Operating Fund, and on motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(067-03-2021) RESOLVED, That the following invoices be paid from the Operating Fund:

Dvirka & Bartilucci Engineers	\$26,625.50
Heslin Rothenberg Farley & Mesiti P.C.	258.90
O'Connor, O'Connor, Hintz & Deveney LLP	555.00
Putney, Twombly, Hall & Hirson LLP	6,840.50

SEQRA REVIEW

Where applicable, the foregoing resolutions, unless otherwise noted, will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment within the meaning of Section 8-0109 of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Members scheduled their next regular meeting for Thursday, April 29, 2021, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

At this time, Mr. Halpin stated that the email inbox was checked for public comment. Public comment was received by Barbara Yatauro, Local 393 President. Ms. Yatauro thanked the members of the Board for amending Policy 603 to include electric gloves and noted that this was done in collaboration with members of the Union on the Safety Committee.

At 4:04 p.m., on motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(068-03-2021) RESOLVED, That the Members go into an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, personnel matters, and labor negotiations.

The meeting was again called to order at 4:42 p.m.

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

(069-03-2021) RESOLVED, To promote Joseph Daub from Water Quality Supervisor to Assistant Trades Superintendent at an annual salary of \$94,000.

As there was no further business to be considered, on motion made by Ms. Devine, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Jane Devine, Secretary