

Regular Board Meeting  
Suffolk County Water Authority  
November 16, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.  
4060 Sunrise Highway, Oakdale  
and Virtually via Zoom

**Attendance**

**Present:**

Members: Charles Lefkowitz, Chairman  
Tim Bishop, Secretary  
Elizabeth Mercado, Member  
Jacqueline Gordon, Member  
John M. Porchia, Member  
Jeffrey W. Szabo, Chief Executive Officer

The meeting was attended by Counsels B. Malik and J. Milazzo; and was also attended by Messrs. Aponte, Bova, Brady, Cecchetto, Derenze, Dubois, Finello Fuller, Huber, Jacobson, Kleinman, Kilcommons, Lehning, Litka, Marafino, McDowell, Moore, Niebling, O'Connell, Penza, Pokorny, Schembri, Schneider, Seevers, Wahl and Warner; and Mmes. Berberich, Bonilla, Cameron, Cetta, Hannan, Mancuso, Naccarto, Pell, Pfeuffer, Spaulding, Tinsley, and Wynhurst.

Michael Voyias of T. Mina Supply, Inc. and Barbara Yatauro of Local 393 were also present.

Chairman Lefkowitz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Voyias spoke about his experience at the recent Purchasing Forum held by the Authority. He expressed his concern with competing against larger companies and asked the Authority to consider adopting a policy of preferring Long Island based businesses. It was noted by Mr. Milazzo that state law would prohibit such a preference. Chairman Lefkowitz asked that this be studied further.

Mr. Szabo discussed a recenty proposal by the New York State Drinking Water Council that would require the Authority to notify customers when certain contaiments were discovered in their water. Concern was expressed by Mr. Pokorny that repeated notifications to customers could make them less likely to review the notifications and could unnecessarily alarm them. Mr. Schneider told the board that the Authority does more sampling than most drinking water providers. Ms. Gordon asked if the Authority would receive funding from the state for the cost of reporting. This was unclear as of now.

Mr. Cecchetto discussed the progress being made on the upcoming budgetting season. Chairman Lefkowitz thanked Mr. Cecchetto and Ms. Simson for their work.

Mr. Penza gave a presentation to the board on the hydraulic model. This provides the Authority with realtime information on its systems.

Mr. Szabo updated the board on the progress being made on water main projects in Riverhead and Manorville.

Mr. Dubois discussed the progress being made on the Authority's television commercial. He explained that it will be five minutes in length, which can then be broken up into different sections to be used for different purposes.

At 5:08 p.m Chairman Lefkowitz called the meeting back into public session.

(461-11-2023) Mr. Lefkowitz presented the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 19, 2023, and on motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado the minutes of the regular board meeting on October 19, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Mr. Szabo presented the contracts to be considered for extensions. Items 2a through 2b were approved on consent with a resolution motioned by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried.

(462-11-2023) RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7911B for the replacement of concrete and bituminous patches, concrete curb and concrete sidewalk restoration on state, county, town and village highways (Group II) with New York Paving Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning February 1, 2024, Contract 7912 for the maintenance of heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment at water quality laboratory- Hauppauge and Administration Building, Oakdale with Commercial Instrumentation Services.

Mr. Szabo referenced a memo recommending rescinding contract 7976B. On motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(463-11-2023) RESOLVED, To rescind, Contract 7976B for the furnishing and delivering plumbing valves, fittings, pipe and associated supplies with Central Islip Plumbing.

Mr. Szabo then referred to Contracts 7988 and 8003, he recommended that they be awarded or rejected in accordance with the letters of recommendation.

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

(464-11-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 7997 for the construction of two chemical treatment and control building at Bull Path and Alvah's Lane in designated areas of the Towns of East Hampton and Southold, submitted by Pioneer Construction Company of Northport,

NY, 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 cost of One Million Four Hundred and Fifty-one Thousand and Fifty-four Dollars (\$1,451,051), 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. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(465-11-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 8002 for the replacement of topsoil and grass seeding on state, county, town and village highways (Group I) in designated areas of the Towns of Huntington, Babylon, Islip, Smithtown, and Brookhaven during the one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, submitted by Green Velvet Landscaping of Bay Shore, NY, 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 cost of One Hundred and Thirty-one Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$131,850), 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.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 8002 for the replacement of topsoil and grass seeding on state, county, town and village highways (Group II) in designated areas of the Towns of Southampton, East Hampton, Southold, and Flanders/Riverhead during the one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, submitted by LLL Industries of Brookhaven, NY, 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 cost of One Hundred and Eighty-six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-five Dollars (\$186,875), 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 Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(466-11-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 8004 for the repair of electric motors during the one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, submitted by D&D Electric Motors of Lindenhurst, NY, 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 cost of Forty-five Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$45,400), 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 Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(467-11-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 8007 for the construction of a 20" X 10" diameter well (No. 1A) approximately Eight Hundred (800) feet deep located at North Country Road well field in designated areas of Miller Place, Town of Brookhaven, NY submitted by Steffen Drilling of Glassboro, NJ, 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 cost of One

Million Four Hundred and Forty-nine Thousand Dollars (\$1,449,000), 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.

Mr. Szabo then referenced a memo from the Chief Financial Officer regarding an Authority bank account. On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(468-10-2023) RESOLVED, To the Finance department to open one new account with J.P. Morgan Chase ("JPMC") for direct debit billing purposes and to utilize an existing JPMC account for direct deposit payroll., and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, JPMC has had a long-standing relationship with SCWA and provides the scale and services required to operate efficiently and effectively. SCWA's Information Technology department is familiar with JPMC data transmission protocols and processes. Furthermore, this will consolidate all payroll related banking and related processes with JPMC. Currently, the process is fragmented between JPMC and HSBC.

Mr. Szabo then moved onto a discussion of equipment. On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(469-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Otis Ford Inc., of Quogue, NY to purchase nine (9) Ford F-350 regular cab 4x4 DRW trucks with fiberglass utility bodies and plows at a price of \$96,859.96 per unit.

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

(470-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Buxton USA, of Lindenhurst, NY to furnish, deliver, and install a high vacuum sterilizer required for the new sample receiving area in the Hauppauge Laboratory at a price of \$53,850.

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

(471-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Fisher Scientific, of Bohemia, NY to furnish, deliver and install a replacement glassware washer in the Hauppauge Laboratory at a price of \$8,876.

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

(472-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Agilent Technologies, of Santa Clara, CA for the purchase of a Preventive Maintenance Services contract for three-years maintenance and preventative services for the ICP OES at a price of \$27,571.

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

(473-11-2023) RESOLVED, To Enter into a product demo agreement for thirty-days with Promochrom Technologies, of Richmond, BC Canada, to try one SPE-03 automated solid phase extraction unit.

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

(474-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Laser Industries Inc., of Ridge, NY for the purchase of RCA- Not Screened at the price of \$30,000.

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

(475-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Malvese Equipment Co., of Riverhead, NY for the purchase of eight (8) Kubota B26TLB Tractor Loader Backhoes at a price of \$44,873.29 per unit.

FURTHER RESOLVED, To accept the quote of H.O. Penn Machinery Co. Inc., of Bronx, NY for the purchase of two (2) Caterpillar 302.7 Mini-Excavators at the price of \$54,955 per unit.

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

(476-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of DVM Industries, of Queens, NY for the evaluation and planning of HVAC upgrades to the Production Control building at the price of \$18,000.

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

(477-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the renewal of the maintenance agreement with SAP Industries, Inc. of Newtown Square, PA for all two hundred and eighty-five (285) licenses during a one-year period at the price of \$459,447.78.

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

(478-11-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the renewal of the annual license and support agreement with TD Synnex, of Fremont, CA for the InfoWater software during a one-year period at the price of \$10,215.92.

Mr. Szabo then began a discussion on special services by inviting Mr. Kilcommons to explain a new pilot program for an alternative AOP system for the treatment of 1,4 Dioxane. On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(479-11-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize an on-site pilot at the Commercial Blvd. pump station located in Central Islip, NY to identify the applicability of the peroxone AOP system to SCWA's need for treatment of 1,4D with APT operating their system with oversight by SCWA engineers and testing and analysis performed by SCWA's laboratory. The in-kind contribution from SCWA is Sixty-two Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty-four Dollars (\$62,434.00).

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

(480-11-2023) RESOLVED, To approve the following invoices be paid from the Operating Fund:

American Water Works Association	\$25,431.00
Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC	\$16,840.00
CorrTech	\$15,675.00
Dvirka & Bartilucci	\$19,541.25

The next meeting of the board members was scheduled for December 28, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. There was no new business or public comment. At 4:19 p.m., on a motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(481-11-2023) RESOLVED, That the members enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and litigation. The members will not return to public session.

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

(482-11-2023) RESOLVED, To Employ William Schrader of Islip Terrace, NY to the position of Field Operator at the rate of \$43.41 per hour; to be effective upon successful completion of pre-employment physical and background check.

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

(483-11-2023) RESOLVED, To employ Michael Taravella of Smithtown, NY to the position of Accountant at a salary of \$70,000; to be effective upon successful completion of pre-employment physical and background check.

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

(484-11-2023) RESOLVED, To promote Justine Covais from Payroll Assistant to Payroll Accountant at a salary of \$77,500.

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

(485-11-2023) WHEREAS, the Authority filed suit arising out of contamination of its water sources with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on November 30, 2017 (PFAS Litigation); and

WHEREAS, the Authority's PFAS Litigation was transferred to the Aqueous Film-Forming Foam Multidistrict Litigation No. 2873 (AFFF MDL) on December 7, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2023, the AFFF MDL Court preliminarily approved a settlement class for all claims against Defendant 3M Company for certain water providers throughout the country, of which, the Authority is a qualifying class member; and

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2023, the AFFF MDL Court preliminarily approved a settlement class for claims against Defendants E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company, The Chemours Company, Corteva, Inc., and DuPont de Nemours, Inc., for certain water providers throughout the country, of which, the Authority is a qualifying class member; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Authority elects to participate in the class action settlement through the AFFF MDL with Defendant 3M Company; and be it

RESOLVED, That the Authority elects to participate in the action settlement reached through the AFFF MDL with Defendants E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company, The Chemours Company, Corteva, Inc., and DuPont de Nemours, Inc.; and be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority authorizes its outside counsel, Sher Edling LLP and Hausfeld, LLP, to take all action necessary to effectuate the Authority's participation and receipt of funds from the settlements, including but not limited to, working with Authority staff to confirm and gather additional information that may be needed through the claims process, completion of claim forms on behalf of the Authority, communicating with Class Counsel, Defendants, and/or the Claims Administrator, and Special Master, and all other necessary communication, evaluation, and action through the settlement process.

The next meeting of the board members was scheduled for December 28, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. As there was no further business to be considered, on motion made by Mr. Bishop and duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

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Timothy Bishop  
Secretary