

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2018**

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**MOTIONED BY:** Gardiner

**SECONDED BY:** Velazquez

**WHEREAS**, the North Hudson Sewerage Authority (hereinafter "Authority") is a public body, duly formed under the Sewerage Authorities law, constituting Chapter 138 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1946, as amended (Chapter 14A of Title 40 of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated) and possesses the powers set forth therein; and

**WHEREAS**, a regular meeting of the Authority was held on May 17, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, minutes of the meeting have been prepared by General Counsel and presented to the Authority members and staff for their review.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Authority hereby approves the minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2018 for the record.

**DATED: JUNE 21, 2018**

**RECORD OF COMMISSIONERS' VOTE**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Commissioner Soares	x		
Commissioner Kappock	x		
Commissioner Marotta	x		
Commissioner Gardiner	x		
Commissioner Friedrich	x		
Commissioner Sanchez			x
Commissioner Velazquez	x		
Commissioner Roque	x		
Commissioner Zucconi	x		

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS RESOLUTION WAS DULY ADOPTED BY THE NORTH HUDSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 21, 2018.**

  
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**ASST. SECRETARY**

## NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MAY 17, 2018

At approximately 6:31 p.m, Executive Director Dr. Richard Wolff called the meeting to order.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Gardiner, Soares and Velasquez. Commissioners Friedrich, Marotta, Roque, and Kappock participated by telephone.

Dr. Wolff advised that because of the Commissioners attending the meeting via telephone he would dispense with the agenda and address resolutions first.

Counsel Leanza advised that as this was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Authority and there were seven Commissioners participating appropriate action could be taken as the Authority had met all the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act by its publications and there was the required super majority of seven Commissioners participating to take affirmative action.

At approximately 6:35 p.m., Commissioner Zucconi joined the meeting by telephone.

Dr. Wolff next addressed the Resolutions as follows:

1. Resolution 18-054 minutes of the April 19, 2018 meeting of the Authority. Executive Director Wolff noted that all Commissioners were present at the meeting so that it could be voted on this evening and there were no comments with respect to the minutes.
2. Resolution 18-055 payment of bills. This month's payment consisted of \$1.3 million dollars from the operating fund, \$1.4 million dollars from the capital fund, \$89,000.00 in emergency expenditures, \$8,000.00 in connection reviews for a total of \$2.7 million dollars.
3. Resolution 18-056 miscellaneous repairs. There were three broken manhole castings and one collapsed catch basin in Hoboken. Union City had four collapsed catch basins, one worn manhole casting, one broken sewer main and one sink hole near a manhole. Weehawken had two collapsed catch basins. West New York had four collapsed catch basins. The estimated total for work for this month was \$76,875.00.
4. Resolution 18-057 appointment of Bond Counsel. Executive Director Wolff reminded the Commissioners that the Authority's long term Bond Counsel, Jason

Capizzi, had moved to a new firm and that it was necessary to appoint that firm as our Bond Counsel in order to keep Jason in place. This Resolution appoints Winnie Banta under our standard Bond Counsel terms not to exceed \$15,000.00 and payment per Bond offering project and had been approved by the Finance Committee.

5. Resolution 18-058 modification of the collection system improvement contract. This is for the collection system improvement work under the existing contract with Entech. The Authority is currently working in conjunction with the City of Hoboken on rehabilitation of Washington Street and it was discovered that a portion of the brick sewer between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street is partially blocked by large pieces of cement and that there is a requirement for a new manhole at 7<sup>th</sup> and Washington Street where the sewer is plugged with a concrete and dead ended. The estimated cost of this work is an additional \$60,550.00 and has already been approved by the Facilities Review Board.
6. Resolution 18-059 sewer connection application. This is for 4007 Park Avenue, Union City, a 10-story residential building with 88 units and 1 commercial space with an estimated daily usage of 18,000 gallons per day resulting in a calculated connection fee of \$535,000. This connection has been approved by the Facilities Review Board.
7. Resolution 18-060 sewer connection application. This is for 4217 Park Avenue, Union City, another 10-story residential building with 64 units and 1 commercial space resulting in an estimated 13,200 gallon per day estimated usage calculated as a connection fee of \$398,000. This connection has also been approved by the Facilities Review Board.
8. Resolution 18-061 award of contract for the PURAC III upgrade. This is the third and final phase for the reconstruction and total rehabilitation of the PURAC system. Two bids were received, the lowest responsible bidder was Rapid Pump at \$11.8 million dollars below the engineer's estimate and beating the second bid by approximately \$4 million dollars. This award was approved by the Facilities Review Board.
9. Resolution 18-062 a Bond Resolution to complete financing of the Park Avenue siphon project. This project is partially complete except for some minor road paving contract modifications for the contract were previously approved by the Board on an emergent basis for some of the conditions that were found in the field and this resolution is to fund the final cost of the project through the NJEIT loan and this is the bond resolution for such project in an amount of \$700,000. This bond resolution has been approved by the Finance Committee.
10. Resolution 18-063 a Bond Resolution amending the funding for the combined sewer

outlet long term control project. This resolution amends an earlier funding through the NJEIT for planning in connection with the CSO long term control project. We had originally requested \$5 million dollars which was approved at the September 5, 2016 meeting of the Authority and the State has subsequently increased the amount of available to \$6 million dollars which the Finance Committee has approved.

11. Resolution 18-064 approval of the Authority's engineer contract. This is an extension of existing contract which the Authority engineer making it co-terminus with the Executive Director's contract through January 31, 2023 increasing the base salary for the first time in years to \$172,500.00 and providing for eligibility for future merit increases as well as the Authority benefit programs for employees. This contract has been approved by the Finance Committee.

On motion of Commissioner Velasquez, seconded by Commissioner Gardiner, Resolutions contained on the Authority's consent agenda, Resolutions 18-054 through 18-064 was unanimously adopted with eight votes in the affirmative.

Executive Director Wolff next asked for engineering reports.

## CH2M

Michael Wilson of CH2M reported that with respect to capital improvement projects CH2M has prepared a bid report recommending award of PURAC III to the lowest bidder as contained in the a Resolution previously approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

With regard to the combined sewer overflow projects, CH2M continues to be project manager for development of the CSO long term control project and is working with the Authority on coordinating the alternative analysis workshop scheduled for June 14, 2018 thru June 18, 2018.

With regard to the H6-H7 CSO long term control project, collection system modifications are being refined and used for conceptual designs. The CH2M project teams assisting the Authority with its coordination of engineering activities with the City of Hoboken's northwest resiliency park project team.

Finally, with regard to the H1-H5 combined sewer systems characterization for Adams Street, material is being prepared for the May 15 characterization review meeting with the DEP.

Mr. Pocci noted that it appears that the PURAC award was a little bit too late as the system cannot be maintained and operated in its deteriorated condition and that the Authority is requesting an administrative consent order from the NJDEP to shelter the Authority from any future fines or penalties resulting from deviation from NJDEP permit requirements.

## MOTT MACDONALD

Karen Karvazy reported as follows:

1. With regard to the collection system characterization study, there are only punch list items left and the job will soon be closed out.
2. With regard to the West New York leak detection program, Mott MacDonald continues working with Suez Water engineers and the next meeting and scheduling of coordination of data is scheduled for upcoming Thursday.
3. With regard to the W1234 solids and floatables facilities, the contractor is in the process of dewatering the cofferdam so that the netting modules can next be installed and all work is proceeding well.
4. With regard to the 2017 collection system improvements, the contractor has completed the work in West New York and will be performing some additional work in Union City and in Washington Street in Hoboken.
5. With regard to the Hamilton Avenue sewer improvements, the only work remaining is final restoration of street scape.
6. With regard to PURAC improvements Phase II, the contractor has successfully removed the sand from the clear well and we are awaiting delivery of a new hatch.
7. With regard to the 2017 River Road wastewater treatment plant improvements, the temporary boiler is now being installed and shop drawings and other submissals are under review.
8. With regard to the H5 drainage improvements, Mott MacDonald is currently working on plans and specifications for the replacement of the combined sewer from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Street along Adams Street.
9. With regard to the 2018 Green Infrastructure Project, Mott MacDonald is working on sites plans, specifications and funding for facilities in West New York, Union City and Weehawken.

Authority Engineer Pocci noted that he had participated in a telephone conference with the City of Hoboken and the owners of the property on the southwest corner of Madison and 9<sup>th</sup> Street and they are inclined to make changes in the elevation of their property to accommodate the change in street elevations.

Commissioner Soares inquired as to what was being done at the location and Engineer Pocci replied that the owner is interested in getting some additional information as to what flood level would be protected if he makes the changes in his property to accommodate the higher elevation of the street.

Commissioner Soares also inquired as to what kind of green infrastructure the City was contemplating. Executive Director Wolff replied that we were working on bio swails, some new grading, providing permeable surfaces to parking lot structures and a bio swail and rain garden in the school. These projects were contemplated in both Weehawken and West New York.

Authority Engineer Pocci also indicated that he had participated in an award ceremony where Hoboken received recognition for its detention system in the southwest park.

### **JACOBS OPERATION & MAINTENANCE**

Don Conger reported on the operations of the Adams Street facility s follows:

1. The 30-day average percent removal rates for BOD and TSS were 80 and 82% respectively with a 85% permit requirement and a 30-day effluent concentration limits for BOD and TSS were 28 mg/L and 29 mg/L with a 30 mg/L permit requirement. The average daily flow was 14.25 million gallons with 960,000 gallons of sludge removed. The monthly geometric mean for fecal coliform was 342 cfu with a permit limit of 200 cfu. The maximum weekly average for geometric was 442 cfu with a permit limit of 400 cfu.

Mr. Conger explained that there were major issues with the PURAC system with all cells flooded up with storm water, the basement was flooded out and process had to stopped. The operations people have taken any and all reasonable measures to insure the best results for the system which has deteriorated both structurally and operationally. New sand has been ordered and chemicals continue to be added but it is most difficult to meet permit requirements with the system functionally not working. The Adams Street also suffered a sludge line break in the parking lot which is being repaired on an emergency basis.

2. With respect to the River Road facility, it had achieved 30-day average percent removals of 88% and 90% of CBOD and TSS respectively with 85% permit limits and with regard to 30-day average effluent concentrations, it had achieved 17 mg/L and 15 mg/L of CBOD and TSS respectively with 25 mg/L and 30 mg/L permit requirements. The average daily flow was 9.23 million gallons per day with 399,000 gallons of sludge hauled. The monthly geometric mean for coliform was 7 cfu with a permit limit of 200 cfu. The maximum 7-day geometric mean average value was 22 cfu with a limit of 400 cfu. The monthly average for chlorine residual was less than 0.03 mg/L with a limit of .10 mg/L. In terms of maintenance, last month saw replacement of the trickling filter drive allowing the filter to operate optimally.

3. With regard to the collection system, there were 41 calls answered last month with 8,270 linear feet of sewer cleaned and 71 catch basins cleaned.

Finally with regard to Sandy recovery projects, all wires have been pulled through underground conduit and we are awaiting the delivery of a new transformer from PSE&G next week to begin the electrical connections.

Authority Engineer Pocci gave the report with respect to the work being done by Greeley and Hansen and noted that the contractor, Rapid Pump is installing the new switchgear but it is on hold until PSE&G has installed the new transformers. He also noted that Phase I of the PURAC project is now in close out.

Commissioner Soares followed up on his earlier inquiries regarding the impact of plastic bags on the Authority's system.

Executive Director Dr. Wolff replied that the Authority cannot quantify or monetize the impact of plastic bags on the system and it was also noted that the Authority all had major problems with dental floss and the so called disposable wipes being allowed into the system. It was noted that most of disposable wipes do not disintegrate and cause back ups. There is also a major problem with dental floss because it tends to foul up the packing on gear shifts and pump operations and causes major maintenance problems.

Commissioner Gardiner inquired as to the status of the approval by the constituent municipalities of the grease and other sewer use provisions of the proposed ordinance.

Executive Director Dr. Wolff replied that Union City was the only outstanding municipality not to have approved the measures.

Commissioner Velasquez reported that the City of Union City has hired an environmental consultant to assist it in reviewing the proposed ordinance and its impact upon the City.

At approximately 7:12 p.m. Commissioner Kappock signed off telephonically from his participation in the meeting.

Executive Director Dr. Wolff next asked general counsel, Leanza, to report on some recent lawsuits filed against the Authority.

Counsel Leanza replied that the owners of both 1500 Harbor Boulevard and 800 Harbor Boulevard had filed summons and complaints in Superior Court in Hudson County seeking refund of a portion of the connection fees previously paid for these projects currently under construction.

Counsel Leanza explained that the property owners were seeking a partial credit for connection fee given that the sites had been previously connected to the Authority and paid sewer

use fees which the property owners contend should set off against the connection fees paid.

Counsel Leanza explained that based upon vigorous opposition to the same parties' construction of the W1234 solids and floatables facilities, it is anticipated that the lawsuits may be long detailed and drawn out and he had recommended issuance of an RFP to get an experienced firm in both litigation and the financial constraints of the Sewerage Authority's law to represent the Authority in this action.

Dr. Wolff next addressed the Commissioners regarding the alternative analysis of the long term control plan noting that an initial meeting was held last Monday discussing the status and procedures to be adopted for the workshop schedule for next month reviewing the CSO outfalls, etc. It was determined that ACOM which handled the Authority's 2007 long term control project will moderate the workshop with 17 members participating, including personnel from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Dr. Wolff had noted that two sewer authorities in the State of New Jersey had indicated that they are going to challenge the 2% increase cap in the recently enacted sewerage authority law amendments.

At approximately 7:12 pm it was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting.