

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2010**

---

**MOTIONED BY:** Rivera

**SECONDED BY:** Raia

**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 January 21, 2010; 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 January 21, 2010 for the record.

**DATED: FEBRUARY 25, 2010**

**RECORD OF COMMISSIONERS' VOTE**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Commissioner Lopez	x		
Commissioner Marotta	x		
Commissioner Raia	x		
Commissioner Rivera	x		
Commissioner Schaffer	x		
Commissioner Schroeder	x		
Commissioner Spaccavento	x		
Commissioner Stack	x		
Commissioner Wolff	x		

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS RESOLUTION WAS DULY ADOPTED BY THE NORTH HUDSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON FEBRUARY 25, 2010.**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**SECRETARY**

## NORTH HUDSON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2010

At approximately 6:32 p.m., Chairman Richard Wolff called the meeting to order. Counsel Leanza advised that this was a regular meeting of the Authority, and that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, a schedule of the Authority's meetings had been sent to the Authority's official newspapers, the Jersey Journal and Star Ledger, with a courtesy copy to the Hoboken Reporter. In addition, copies of such schedule were sent to the Clerks of Hoboken, Union City, Weehawken and West New York and the Hudson County Clerk, with a copy thereof posted on the Authority's bulletin board. In addition to Chairman Wolff, Commissioners Lopez, Marotta, Raia, Rivera, Schaffer, Schroeder, Spaccavento and Stack were also all in attendance at the meeting.

Counsel Leanza advised that there were nine members present and that affirmative action could be taken on matters coming before the Board.

Upon motion by Commissioner Spaccavento, seconded by Commissioner Raia, Resolution 09-119 authorizing the minutes of the December 10, 2009 meeting of the Authority was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Wolff next called for the Engineer's Report.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT - AECOM.**

Mr. DeStefano reported that from December 8<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>, he had been meeting with OMI and the Authority staff on a weekly basis to coordinate plant functions. The meetings have been running very well.

AECOM is also working on the Amtrak tunnel project. AECOM has been presented with a deed for the Authority's property and has forwarded the same so that any easement matters for the project could be worked out.

On January 15, 2010, AECOM inspected a Purac cell structural failure and will put together recommendations for repair of this failure and preemptive action that can be taken to preclude failures in other cells.

AECOM has also completed its recommendations regarding the automatic transfer switch for automatic start of backup generators at the treatment plants.

AECOM reviewed one connection application for a 96 unit building at 115-129 37<sup>th</sup> Street in Union City and is working on the West New York sewer rehabilitation project as well as the 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Street pump station screenings upgrades.

Chairman Wolff questioned Mr. DeStefano regarding the structural failure of Purac.

Mr. DeStefano replied that below the water surface, the troughs for the backflow have corroded and also 2 by 2 panels above the air plenums have corroded. It appears that the reinforcing steel thereon has deteriorated causing a concrete failure.

Chairman Wolff inquired as to whether this corrosion could be a normal or natural occurrence.

Mr. DeStefano replied that although a natural occurrence, AECOM is investigating the matter and will take a closer look to determine the exact cause of this sudden failure and proper corrective action, including design of additional panels that can be replaced in the event of any future failures.

AECOM is also working on the Adams Street corrosion repairs and River Road grid screw replacement as well as the Adams Street miscellaneous repair project.

#### CH2M Hill.

Jim Howey reported that the H1 wet weather pump station project is proceeding and that on January 11<sup>th</sup>, a notice to proceed had been issued. He also reported that counsel had obtained all zoning approvals as necessary from the City of Hoboken. Mr. Howey also reported that bids for the fire safety system are due January 27<sup>th</sup> and the same will be reviewed. We are anxious to obtain the same as the issuance of the final certificate of occupancy for the alternate energy is holding up reimbursement from the Board of Public Utilities.

Scafar Contracting Company with a bid of \$733,319.00 was the lowest bidder for a contract for repairs of improvements to the wastewater treatment plant.

The plans for ultraviolet disinfection upgrades for the Adams Street plant are complete and ready for bidding.

CH2M Hill is completing the flow diversion design and reconstruction of the Liberty Place pump station to effectuate the diversion of flow from West New York to Hoboken and is hoped that the same can be bid by this May.

Finally, Mr. Howey reported that the valve work in trickling filter pump station has been completed.

Chairman Wolff inquired as to an end date for the flow diversion project from West New York and Mr. Howey replied that it is on the 2010 funding list and the same may be started this summer.

#### **HATCH MOTT MACDONALD.**

Kevin Wynn of Hatch Mott MacDonald reported that the design work for the new 18<sup>th</sup> Street pump station outfall and contract documents are 95% complete and are waiting for easements from Dykes Lumber and Hartz Mountain to go out to bid for the same.

With respect to the Adams Street plant outfall, counsel is scheduled to appear before the Mayor and Council of Hoboken to obtain necessary permission to run a bypass outfall across property belonging to the City of Hoboken.

With respect to the Jackson Street and Newark Street combined sewer rehabilitation and Hoboken combined sewer wood rehabilitation, Hatch Mott MacDonald is awaiting authorization from the Authority to bid the same.

#### **OMI.**

Gary Fournier of OMI reported that the River Road facility had achieved removal percentages of 73% and 72% of BOD and TSS respectively for the previous month and effluent concentrations of 38 mg/l and 25 mg/l of CBOD and TSS respectively for the previous month.

There was a problem in one of the trickling filter controls due to an internal problem with the automatic controls which was addressed and repaired. OMI is working on the weir wall extension and also reports that the disinfection chlorination is working well.

Commissioner Rivera inquired as to when we will see upgrades in the performance of the West New York system and attainment of our normal permit removal rates.

Executive Director Pocci said that we should expect a substantial improvement when the flow diversion is completed, with the extension of the weir walls and that the Authority was also working on the infiltration and inflow problem which should also result in significant increases in plant performance.

The Adams Street facility had attained 87% and 90% removal percentages of BOD and TSS respectively with effluent concentration levels of 12 mg/l and 8 mg/l of BOD and TSS respectively.

Chairman Wolff inquired as to whether the Purac problem will impact on plant operation results.

Mr. Fournier said no, that there are enough working Purac cells to still effectively treat existing inflow levels.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raia, seconded by Commissioner Stack, Resolution 09-120 authorizing the payment of bills was unanimously adopted.

Upon motion by Commissioner Stack, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, Resolution 09-121 directing work to Cliffside Paving under the biennial miscellaneous repair contract, consisting of nine individual projects in the amount of approximately \$53,000.00, was unanimously adopted.

The Commissioners next addressed Resolution 09-122 adopting the Authority's budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2011. Chairman Wolff explained to the Commissioners that the total rate increase expected in the budget is 5.8%. This increase has been explained to all the constituent mayors and that based upon the TD Bank refinancing, rate increases of approximately the same amounts would be required for the next three years. The increase would consist of 5% on user charges and \$1.00 on the facility service charges. One of the Authority problems is that our flow rates continue to decline based both upon the demographics of our service area as well as the institution of water conservation measures. Our estimate is that the combined impact of the rate changes is approximately \$5.50 on the average rate payer or approximately \$32.00 per year. The finance committee had reviewed these matters in detail and had unanimously agreed on the details of the budget. Chairman Wolff also noted that the TD Bank Note is due in June of 2013 and that the Authority was working on potential refinances of the same.

Chairman Wolff also indicated that in the \$36,900,000 budget, staff raises were held to only 3% after no raise at all last year. Chairman Wolff also indicated that our operating permit fees have continued to increase and that since 2003, we had suffered a 205% increase in the same. Our studies show, however, that our capital program as well as all our expenses can be funded with an annual 5-6% rate increase per year.

Commissioner Stack commented that it is always difficult to balance the budget but in these bad times, all of us must do whatever we can to share the burden of cost controls and cuts and this will be reflected in all of our contracts for professional services.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raia, seconded by Commissioner Schroeder, the budget resolution was unanimously adopted.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raia, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, Resolution 09-123 authorizing wastewater service charge and facility service charge was unanimously adopted.

It should be noted that Commissioner Stack asked for a continuing review of the number of units that we bill for a facilities charge and Chairman Wolff said that the finance committee was working on the same.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raia, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, Resolution 09-124 considering the late filing of the annual budget was unanimously adopted.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Commissioner Raia, Resolution 09-125 authorizing an award of a contract for repairs and improvement to the wastewater treatment plants to Scafar Contracting Company in the amount of \$733,319.00 was unanimously adopted noting that the same had also been approved by the Facilities Review Board.

Upon motion by Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Commissioner Raia, Resolution 09-126 directing work to AECOM under its annual professional engineering services contract for inspection and report on both the Purac cell failures as well as the trickling filter inspections was unanimously adopted in the amounts of \$67,950.00 and \$41,850.00 respectively, again noting the same had been approved by the Facilities Review Board.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raia, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, it was unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:17 p.m.