

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority

Environmental, Health & Safety Committee

Minutes of the March 28, 2024 Meeting

The regular meeting of the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee (“Committee”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA”) took place on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chairman Ricozzi presided.

Present: **Committee** – Messrs. Ricozzi, Borowy, Curseaden, and Mss. LaMarr and Sack
Management – Mss. Kowalski and Calo (R), and Messrs. Bingaman, Henley (R), Hill (R), Lakshminarayanan, Singh (R), and Tracy (R)
RPB – Mr. Jaser
Staff – Mrs. Slubowski

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

On motion made by Mr. Borowy, and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the its meeting held on November 16, 2023.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

Mr. Lakshminarayanan, the RWA’s Vice President of Engineering & Environmental Services, and Will Henley, RWA’s Aquatic Resource Scientist, provided a Raw Water Quality update, which included new sampling initiatives, preventative treatments at reservoirs and the implementation of new technologies for better decision-making.

Mr. Henley discussed the automation system for use during emergencies. It allows critical changes to be made to raw water quality without personnel being on-site. The system also helps conserve water during peak or poor incidents. The current system involves making changes in advance of uncertain weather conditions, while the new system will allow for a more targeted response to emergencies.

Josh Tracy, RWA’s Invasive Species Management Technician, provided an update on innovative methods to eliminate invasive species on RWA owned properties. He reported on the steam weeder, which uses high-pressure steam to burn herbaceous material. The Japanese stiltgrass continues to be a problem as it grows along the road and within log landings during timber management. The steam weeder would help eradicate this plant and reduce sedimentation in the reservoirs. In addition, other methods require contractors with heavy machinery to remove the plants, while other areas can be managed by one person. The new technology is expected to increase the amount of acreage that can be treated.

At 2:16 p.m., Messrs. Henley and Tracy withdrew from the meeting.

Liz Calo, RWA’s General Manager and Head of Human Resources, provided a Health & Safety Initiative update. She reported that the RWA’s current safety programs were found to be effective; however, the company has not yet achieved its zero injury goal. The organization continues to promote awareness among employees and further improvement to the safety programs. A nurse hotline has been implemented to ensure injured employees receive prompt care.

She also highlighted the workplace safety audits and inspections program and its importance to ensure compliance with OSHA regulations. The company is also taking steps to ensure the safety program covers

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commercial operations and their adherence to regulations. The update also included focus areas for fiscal 2025.

At 2:20 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Borowy, and seconded Mr. Curseaden, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

Mario Ricozzi, Chairman

(R) = Attended remotely.

UNAPPROVED