

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Minutes of January 21, 2021 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, January 21, 2021, via remote access. Chair Ricozzi presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
Derby	Frank Pepe
East Haven	Michelle Verderame
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Haven	Anthony P. Rescigno
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Mike Horbal
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine

Absent

North Branford	Peter DeSantis
Governor’s Rep	Vincent Marino

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Joseph Cermola
Anthony DiSalvo
Kevin Curseaden
Suzanne Sack

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Beth Nesteriak
Rochelle Kowalski
Edward O. Norris III
Jeanine Reckdenwald
Premjith Lakshman Singh
Tara Augur
Anna Collins

Counsel

Bruce McDermott, Esq.

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey Donofrio, Esq.

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

Call to Order

Chair Ricozzi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Safety Moment

Chair Ricozzi reviewed the Safety Moment handout distributed to members.

Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Pepe, the RPB approved the minutes of its December 17, 2020 meeting as distributed, with 93 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Communications

Chair Ricoszi reported on the IRS standard mileage rate for the calendar year 2021; effective January 1, 2021, the new mileage rate is .56 cents per mile.

He stated that the FY 2021 second quarter RPB Dashboard Report was distributed to members. Mr. Mongillo stated that the first quarter RPB Dashboard was discussed at the Consumer Affairs meeting; it was decided that no further action was necessary at this point.

Mr. Slocum moved for adoption of the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, on December 18, 2020, filed an Application with the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) for a Project to Construct Improvements at the West River Water Treatment Plant located in Woodbridge, Connecticut (the “Application”); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee of the Representative Policy Board reviewed the Application and the associated financing resolution and recommends that it be accepted by the RPB as complete; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommends that a public hearing be conducted by a Presiding Member; and

WHEREAS, the RPB is desirous of accepting said Application as complete, accepting the associated financing resolution, and scheduling said Application for a public hearing in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the RPB Bylaws and Rules of Practice.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB accepts the Authority’s Application for a Project to Construct Improvements at West River Water Treatment Plant located in Woodbridge, Connecticut and determines to hold a public hearing on the Application, to be conducted by Mark Levine, as Presiding Member, on February 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via remote access; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson is hereby directed to give notice of said hearing in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules of Practice, as amended.

Mr. Horbal seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 93 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

On motion made by Mr. Clifford, seconded by Mr. Mongillo, and unanimously carried, the RPB approved its 2020 fourth quarter RPB member compensation, substantially in the form submitted to the meeting, with 93 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye

Representative Policy Board, January 21, 2021

Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Chair Ricoszi acknowledged Mr. Slocum, who reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the month and held a discussion with management regarding the status of the RPB's compensation increase freeze. He reported that following management's recommendation, the Finance Committee recommends instituting compensation increases prospectively, on motion made by Mr. Clifford, seconded by Mr. Mongillo, the RPB voted to approve the release of the RPB compensation freeze prospectively, beginning on January 1, 2021. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote, and the recommendation was approved with 93 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Mr. Slocum stated that the Finance Committee will discuss the possible release of the compensation freeze, retroactively, later in the year.

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the committee meeting that took place earlier in the month. The committee met with management to review compensation, receive a quarterly financial update from management and review the RPB Dashboard Report.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported that the committee met last week to review the land use plan.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the committee met in December and received a presentation on risk, resiliency, and redundancy. The committee will meet again on Monday, January 25, 2021. Mr. Singh will give an update on Cyber Security.

RPB Nominating Committee – Mr. Malloy, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee interviewed three candidates; however, only two candidates are eligible. Mr. Malloy reported that the committee will be receiving the name of a third candidate from Mayor Elicker.

RPB Bylaws and Rules Review Committee – Mr. Ricoszi reported that the committee met last week. There will be one change to the Rules of Practice and expedited timelines for the capital project application and rate application processes, which will be presented to the RPB at its February meeting.

Authority/Management – Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day the Authority also met as the Compensation Committee and the Pension & Benefit Committee.

Ms. Sack, Chair of the Pension & Benefit Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. Morgan Stanley, the RWA's Investment advisor reviewed the RWA's quarterly performance.

Mr. Cermola, Chair of the Compensation Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day, the Authority discussed salaries and merit increases for the Leadership Team.

Mr. Borowy reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day, the Authority received an update on the status of the Lake Whitney Dam project application, which will be underway in the upcoming months.

Representative Policy Board, January 21, 2021

Ms. Nesteriak, RWA's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, reported on activities over the past month, which included:

- Status of COVID-19 at RWA
- Status of State of Connecticut vaccination protocols
- Status of remote work protocols
- Disinfection and increased cleaning procedures

Mr. Bingaman, President & Chief Executive Officer, reported that the Derby Tank Project was approved and work on that project will commence.

Mr. Bingaman reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses through December 31, 2020, and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2021 is 114%, with a projected draw of \$600,000. He stated that there is still considerable uncertainty of the financial impact of the pandemic and that it is important to note that it is less likely to be back to normal in January, due to the resurgence of COVID. Management will continue to watch expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year. The projected draw is based on operating and maintenance expenses remaining at the lower revised budget.

He also reported that reservoir levels as of January 19, 2021, were 84 %, compared to the long-term average of 75 %.

Mr. Bingaman reported that Ms. Kowalski will be a panelist during a two-day virtual workshop hosted by the Connecticut water planning council and the Alliance for water efficiency.

Chair Ricoszi acknowledge Attorney Donofrio, OCA, who had nothing to report.

At 7:11 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary