

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District**

Minutes of January 30, 2020 Meeting

A special meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA”), 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut. Acting Chair Havrda presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
Derby	Frank Pepe
East Haven	Michelle Verderame
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine

Absent

Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
North Branford	Vacant
North Haven	Anthony Rescigno
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

Call to Order

Chair Havrda called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Safety Moment

Chair Havrda reviewed the Safety Moment handout distributed to members.

He stated that the special meeting was being held to review RWA’s rate making process and to discuss emerging trends and considerations in the water industry.

Mr. Bingaman, RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, introduced Mr. Fox, Manager at Raftelis, and the RWA’s cost of service consultant. He stated that Mr. Fox would be providing a presentation on the rate application process, as a review for RPB members and for the benefit of newer members, along with an overview of cost of service studies and current trends and considerations. Mr. Bingaman encouraged discussion to gain input.

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Rita DeIVasto
Linda Discepolo
Rose Gavrilovic
Rochelle Kowalski
Robert Olejarczyk
Beth Silvia-Aramendi
Premjith Lakshman Singh

Counsel

Bruce McDermott

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey M. Donofrio

Raftelis

David Fox

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

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Mr. Fox reviewed the rate making process at RWA, industry trends, including emerging trends across the country, and an overview of cost of service studies. He reported that water usage across the country continues to decline at an average rate of 1% per year and that rate increases are necessary to keep up with the reduction.

At 5:39 p.m., Mr. Borowy entered the meeting.

Discussion ensued between members and management about the unique regulatory structure of RWA compared to other water utilities, the prescribed process at RWA, emerging trends, including revenue mix between fixed vs. volumetric rates, alternative rate structures (e.g., inclining block volumetric rates for essential use), billing frequency, and customer assistance programs. The frequency of rate applications was also discussed.

Members asked questions about general bond resolution requirements, debt, billing and rate application frequency. Atty. Donofrio, Office of Consumer Affairs, stated that he would like to review a cost benefit analysis associated with a change in frequency of rate applications before supporting a change.

Mr. Fox completed his presentation with information on public fire protection methodologies and observations, including the methodology and rate structure used by RWA. Mr. Fox stated that RWA's methodology is industry accepted and results in the lowest cost for public fire as compared to other industry accepted methodologies. Mr. Fox also stated that RWA's existing allocation of public fire protection to hydrants and inch-feet of water main is consistent with industry best practices. RWA's next Cost of Service Study will include an analysis of the costs associated with providing fire protection.

At 6:49 p.m., Mr. Levine withdrew from the meeting.

At 7:00 p.m., Atty. McDermott withdrew from the meeting.

In addition, Mr. Fox discussed wholesale relationships and updating the cost of service study related to wholesale. Mr. Fox also recommended that the RWA continue with its community outreach and communication programs. He thanked RPB members for their time and in-depth conversations. RPB members thanked Mr. Fox for his presentation.

At 7:05 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary