

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

**Minutes of May 21, 2020 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, May 21, 2020, via remote access. Chairman Ricozzi presided.

**PRESENT**

**RPB**

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
Derby	Frank Pepe
East Haven	Michelle Verderame
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen A. Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
North Haven	Anthony Rescigno
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

**Regional Water Authority**

Anthony DiSalvo  
David Borowy  
Joseph A. Cermola  
Kevin Curseaden  
Suzanne Sack

**Management**

Larry L. Bingaman  
Linda Discepolo  
Rose Gavrilovic  
Orville Kelly  
Rochelle Kowalski  
Beth Nesteriak  
Ted Norris

**Counsel**

Bruce McDermott

**Office of Consumer Affairs**

Jeffrey M. Donofrio

**Absent**

Beacon Falls                      Peter Betkoski

**Staff**

Jennifer Slubowski

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

Chair Ricozzi reviewed the safety moment distributed to members.

**Minutes**

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Ms. Campbell, the RPB approved the minutes of its April 16, 2020 meeting, as distributed, with 90 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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

## Communications

Chair Ricoszi introduced Mr. DeSantis, the RPB's new North Branford Representative.

Chair Ricoszi reported:

- that members should have received the RPB Quarterly Dashboard Report. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee.
- that the Nominating Committee for RPB Officers has been established and consists of Mss. Campbell, Verderame, Young, and Messrs. Mongillo and Slocum. The committee will elect a Chairperson at its first meeting.

## Items for Consideration and Action

RPB members reviewed the proposed resolution. Mr. Horbal moved for adoption of the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board with respect to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Application for a project to complete the Branford Hill Service Area Improvements, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, be and hereby is, approved in the form submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Malloy seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 90 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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

At 6:36 p.m., Ms. Mowat Young and Mr. Marino entered the meeting.

Mr. Slocum moved for approval of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Water Authority requested the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") review the Authority's FY 2021 proposed Capital and Operating Budgets ("Budgets"); and

**WHEREAS**, the RPB held workshops on April 20, 2020 and April 22, 2020, at which time management and the Authority presented the proposed Budgets and responded to questions in a professional, concise and articulate way; and

**WHEREAS**, the RPB has a duty to review the Budgets and to comment, but has no other statutory obligations or authority.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the RPB wishes to express its appreciation to management and the Authority for the professionalism of their presentation and express its overall support of the FY 2021 proposed Budgets; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB also agrees with the recommendations contained in the OCA's Budget review letter dated May 1, 2020; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB consensus regarding the proposed Budgets is that they are reasonable and supported; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB believes that the Authority’s overall financial plan provides for stable finances at unprecedented and uncertain times during the COVID-19 pandemic and the essential funding of capital projects and the flexibility of reduced operating expenses will support the steps necessary to address financial obstacles during the fiscal year.

Mr. Jaser seconded the motion.

Mr. Slocum stated that the resolutions are self-explanatory and commented that the majority of RPB members attended the budget review meetings. He reported a broad consensus among the group and stated his support of the motion.

Chair Ricozzi thanked management for their work on the FY 2021 Budgets. 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)	Absent	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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Abstain	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

## Reports

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the month. The committee discussed the budget considerations.

**Land Use Committee** – Mr. Levine, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month and received a presentation from management on Japanese Stilt Grass on RWA properties, including goals, methodologies, control methods, conclusions and next steps.

**Consumer Affairs Committee** – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met last month and received an overview of the 2019 Water Quality Report from management, which included a discussion on the disclosure of a manganese exceedance.

**Authority/Management** – Mr. DiSalvo reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day the Authority met as the Audit-Risk Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Pension & Benefit Committee. Committee members reviewed work plans and made a minor change to the pension plan.

Ms. Nesteriak, RWA’s Senior Vice President of Operations and Business Strategy, provided an update of operations at the RWA, which included:

- Chemical and PPE supply levels
- 90 Sargent Drive/Treatment Plants status and cleaning
- Status of various operations

Mr. Bingaman, RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month of April 2020 and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2020 is 116% with no projected draw from the Rate Stabilization Fund.

He reported that reservoir levels as of May 18, 2020 are 98%, compared to LTA of 94%.

Mr. Bingaman also reported that the final steps of the six year remediation project of the required area at the Hamden Middle School were completed on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

He highlighted a digital billboard on 1-95 promoting the RWA's Go Fish 20 Fishing and Recreation Program. He reported that since its launch in March the number of recreation permits has increased.

Mr. Bingaman reported on a discussion that took place at the Authority meeting earlier in the day regarding temporary changes to RWA's affordability plan, which included:

- Increase of income threshold
- Small commercial and industrial program
- Non-essential and essential business support

RPB members asked questions regarding service calls during the pandemic, RWA's recreation program, draft level, RWA equipment, and water line flushing as it relates to buildings re-opening.

At 7:00 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Levine, seconded by Mr. Pepe, unanimously carried, with 101 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative, the meeting adjourned.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Absent	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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

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Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary

Attachment:

1. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board regarding the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Application for a project to complete the Branford Hill Service Area Improvements.