

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Minutes of December 16, 2021 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, December 16, 2021, via remote access. Chair Ricozzi presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
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
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

Absent

Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Derby	Frank Pepe
East Haven	Michelle Verderame

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Anthony DiSalvo
Kevin Curseaden
Catherine LaMarr
Suzanne Sack

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Jim Courchaine
Rochelle Kowalski
Edward O. Norris III
Jeanine Reckdenwald
Premjith Lakshman Singh
Sunny Lakshminarayanan

Office of Consumer Affairs

Louis Dagostine, 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. Jaser, seconded by Mr. Malloy, the RPB approved the minutes of its November 18, 2021 meeting as distributed, with 76 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)	Absent	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Absent	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye

East Haven (6) Absent

No. Branford (8) Aye

Gov. Rep. (1) Absent

Communications

Chair Ricozzi stated that the FY 2023 proposed budget review meetings have been scheduled. The Consumer Affairs Committee/Land Use Committee Joint meeting is on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., and the RPB Finance Committee meeting is on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. RPB members may attend either meeting.

He stated that a billed consumption presentation was given to members of the Finance Committee at its December meeting. Slides from the presentation were distributed to all RPB members. Ms. Kowalski, the RWA's Vice President of Financial Reporting & Analysis, is available to answer any questions and will be available to present the information to the Consumer Affairs Committee, if requested.

Chair Ricozzi reminded members of the transition of board meetings from Zoom to Microsoft Teams. If members have not scheduled a test meeting, they should contact the board office to schedule a time.

He also reminded members that Conflict of Interest forms are overdue, members should submit forms to the board office.

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the committee met earlier in the week and received an update from management on the RWA's billed consumption by fiscal year, class, and month and the committee received an update on RPB approved projects. The next meeting is on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

At 6:39 p.m., Messrs. Marino and Smith entered the meeting.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the month. He stated that the committee received a deer hunt summary update from management. The committee also received a land use update and approved the special meeting date for the review the FY 2023 proposed budget. The next meeting is on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. The Committee will receive a presentation from management of RWA's Customer Care improvements and CIS timeline.

Committee members acknowledged Ted Norris, the RWA's Vice President of Asset Management, and noted his contribution to the boards and thanked him for his years of service.

Authority/Management – Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Authority also met as the Audit-Risk Committee and the Commercial Business Committee.

Mr. Curseaden, Chair of the RWA's Commercial Business Committee reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. The committee met with management in executive session to discuss potential transactions, receive an update on other products and services, and discuss business strategies. The committee also reviewed KPIs.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the RWA's Audit-Risk Committee reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. The committee met in executive session to discuss cybersecurity matters and received a risk management update from management.

Mr. Borowy reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day the Authority voted to elect officers for the upcoming term. Mr. Borowy was elected as Chairman for a two-year term, Mr. Curseaden was elected as Vice Chair for a one-year term, and Ms. LaMarr was elected as Secretary-Treasurer for a one-year term.

He also reported that the Authority approved an application for recommendation to the RPB for the LGWTP project.

Ms. Reckdenwald provided an update on the status of COVID at the RWA and associated planning.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President and Chief Executive Officer, reported that Standard & Poor's Rating Services and Moody's Investor Services affirmed the RWA's ratings of AA- and Aa3, and a stable outlook. The ratings were requested as a result of the upcoming Thirty-Sixth Series Bond issuance that includes new funds, the current refunding, and delayed delivery bonds. In addition, he stated that after the bond pricing, which took place yesterday, the new money would have an interest rate of 2.73%, lower than expected. The lower rate will be reflected in the upcoming rate increase that is effective in January 2022.

He stated that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day the members received an update on monthly billing, which will be effective January 2022.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President and Chief Executive Office, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month ended November 30, 2021 and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2022 is 114%, with no shortfall. He reported the projection reflects the higher than anticipated billed consumption, a small reduction in the anticipated FY 2022 debt service payments, and reflects the one time impact associated with the conversation to monthly billing. Mr. Bingaman noted that there is still uncertainty regarding the short and long-term impacts of the pandemic, and associated variants, including on employment levels and customers' ability to pay. He also noted that the report does not reflect changes associated with the rate application.

He also reported that raw water storage levels as of December 13, 2021, were 84%, compared to the long-term average of 72%.

RPB members congratulated the leadership team for the bond rating classifications and the RWA's strong financial position.

At 7:08 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Havrda, Secretary