

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

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AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Monday, December 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Safety Moment
2. Approval of Minutes - November 13, 2023 meeting
3. Review proposed revisions, discussion points, including necessary procedural updates to RWA's enabling legislation
4. Review FY 2025 Budget schedule
 - a. Discussion regarding date of meeting for FY 2025 Budget Review
5. Quarterly Report on RPB Approved Projects
6. New Business
7. Adjourn

Note: As a reminder, the next regular meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., via hybrid.

Members of the public may attend the meeting via remote access. For information on attending the meeting and to view meeting documents, please visit https://tinyurl.com/yc2d3mhc . For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or by email at jslubowski@rwater.com
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SAFETY MOMENT

Tap Into
Safety



Regional Water Authority

Looking ahead to holiday gatherings, events, and activities may fill you with anticipation and excitement, along with a little angst. You may feel that build-up of anxiety as the holidays approach. Here are some coping strategies to help bolster your mental health during the holidays.

6 Easy Tips for Reducing Holiday Stress

1. When you wake up in the morning, stop and take a moment to say good morning to your day.
2. If you are in a relationship, take a few minutes to really look at and appreciate your significant other.
3. If you are deployed with your unit, pause to think about how your buddies support and help one another to get through a rough day.
4. Take a moment to be grateful. Before you eat lunch, reflect for a moment and think about something that keeps you going everyday.
5. At dinner, spend a moment thinking about your loved ones. Have you told them lately something you appreciate about them?
6. Finally, before you go to sleep, acknowledge something about yourself you're proud of.



Safety is a core company value at the Regional Water Authority .
It is our goal to reduce workplace injuries to zero.

 Regional Water Authority

**Representative Policy Board
Finance Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Via Remote Access**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Monday, November 13, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES: **Committee Members Present:** Vincent Marino, Tom Clifford, Jay Jaser, Tim Slocum, and Michelle Verderame

RPB: Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Brian Eitzer, Charles Havrda, and Jamie Mowat Young

FMA: Suzanne Sack

Management: Larry Bingaman, Rochelle Kowalski, Sunny Lakshminarayanan, and Charles DelVecchio

OCA: Jeffrey Donofrio

Staff: Jennifer Slubowski

Chair Marino called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

At 5:01 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Slocum, and seconded by Mr. Clifford, the Committee voted unanimously to convene in executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(5)(B), pertaining to commercial and financial information. Present in executive session were Committee members, Messrs. Harvey, Eitzer Havrda, Bingaman, Lakshminarayanan, DelVecchio, and Atty. Donofrio, and Mss. Young, Sack, Kowalski and Slubowski.

At 6:00 p.m., the committee came out of executive session. No votes were taken in, or as a result of, executive session.

On motion made by Mr. Slocum, and seconded by Mr. Jaser, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of its meeting held on October 2, 2023.

Committee members reviewed the proposed 2024 calendar year regular meeting dates. After discussion, on motion made by Mr. Slocum, and seconded by Mr. Jaser, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposed calendar year 2024 regular meeting dates, as amended.

Chair Marino discussed future committee meeting logistics and asked members for input on preferences. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to hold the December 11, 2023 meeting via teams and use a hybrid format for meetings beginning in 2024.

At 6:05 p.m. on motion made by Mr. Jaser, and seconded by Mr. Slocum, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Vincent M. Marino, Chairman

Summary of Enabling Legislation Amendments

1. Section 2, page 3, allowing RWA to conduct its non-core business outside of Connecticut.
 - In May we asked Murtha Cullina whether the RWA could acquire a noncore business if the business has operations outside of the RWA service territory and if some or all of the operations of the business are located outside of Connecticut. Memo attached.
 - As you will see in the attached that while Murtha concluded that the Enabling Legislation does not establish geographic boundaries in which a business must be located in order for it to qualify as a noncore business, Murtha also noted that the absence of guidance as to geographical limits for noncore acquisitions also means that the Enabling Legislation's provisions may be interpreted differently – particularly when the noncore business to be acquired has minimal or no Connecticut nexus. The revisions to the Enable Legislation now proposed is simply designed to make it explicitly clear that there is no geographic limitations for the non-core business.
2. Section 4, page 5, setting the Authority shall meet at least quarterly with the RPB.
3. Section 4, Page 6 correction of typo (the word timber)
4. Section 5, page 7, increasing the Authority board to seven members, providing exclusions to appointment (see below), no less than 5 members shall be residents of the district.
5. Section 9, page 8, allowing the Authority to meet at least quarterly. Also, setting that four members of Authority are a quorum.
6. **Section 14, page 17, setting that interest rate can be applied to past due bills after the 28th day.**
7. Section 18, page 21, combining (c) with (b) moving paragraph (c). Section 18, page 25, first paragraph, adding a period after the word records.
8. Section 19, page 25, raising the question if the \$2 million threshold for RPB approval of capital project should be increased according to inflation as well as the non-core \$1 million threshold. Also comports section 19 to section 18 to exclude vacancies when calculating the total weighted votes of the RPB membership need to approve various items.
9. Section 21, page 26, raising the question if the word "improvements" should be defined to eliminate questions about the applicability of certain provisions.
10. Section 22, page 31, correcting the spelling of the word "all".
11. Section 30, page 35, question if the threshold for RPB approval of a project should be increased.
12. Special Act 03-12, page 40, correcting the word "affect" to "effect".

New Proposed Amendments

13. Section 2, page 3, add "sustainable manufacturing support" to allowed non-core business activity

Additional Information:

The EPA defines Sustainable manufacturing as "the creation of manufactured products through economically-sound processes that minimize negative environmental impacts while conserving energy and natural resources."

The lab we are in discussion with provides analytical services critical to support sustainable manufacturing by enabling the lab's manufacturing clients to operate their processes at the highest level of efficiency. An optimized manufacturing process minimizes process waste generation, minimizes energy usage, and minimizes scrap product.

Further, an optimized manufacturing process results in the highest throughput at the lowest possible operating cost while minimizing process waste generation and scrap. CT Manufacturers can thus produce the highest quality product with a competitive, compliant operation.

14. Section 22 (b), page 27 remove "not exceeding forty years from their respective dates"

15. Section 22 (h), page 30 remove "any bonds issued by it at a price of not more than the principal amount thereof and accrued interest"

16. Section 4, page 4 and 5, RPB compensation – update to base compensation amount, change to every third vs. fifth year, and update referenced dates

17. Section 5, page 7, Authority board term limits (e.g., limit of 3 or 4 terms)

18. Section 5, page 7, consider including a CPI factor for Authority board member compensation, applicable every three years, subject to RPB approval

Regarding #4 above, exclusions to appointments, handle through the rules and regulations vs. the Enabling Legislation, consider including the Authority board Chair as a non-voting member of the nominating committee

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority
 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut 06511-5966 203-562-4020
 http://www.rwater.com

TO: Vincent M. Marino
Marino, Zabel & Schellenberg, PLLC
657 Orange Center Road
Orange, CT 06477

DATE: December 5, 2023

RE: Quarterly Update of RPB
Approved Projects

ATTN: _____

We are sending you Enclosed Under Separate Cover via E-Mail Hand Delivery the following items:

- Prints Shop Drawings Data Sheets RPB Report
 Sketches Specifications Brochures _____

COPIES	PREPARED BY	REFERENCE NO.	DESCRIPTION
1		September - November 2023	Quarterly Report

THESE ARE TRANSMITTED:

- As Requested For Your Information _____
 For Your Use For Review and Comment

Remarks: Enclosed please find the second quarter Fiscal Year 2024 status report of all RPB-approved projects.

Very truly yours,

Regional Water Authority



 Sunny Lakshminarayanan, P.E.
 Vice President – Engineering & Env. Services

- Copies to:** David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden
Suzanne Sack
Catherine LaMarr
Mario Rizzo
Larry Bingaman
Rochelle Kowalski
Premjith Singh

**STATUS OF RPB-APPROVED PROJECTS
SECOND QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2024 REPORT
SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2023**

Ansonia-Derby Tank

Date of Initial Approval by the RPB: November 2012
Date Re-approved by the RPB: February 2019
Amount Initially Approved by the RPB: \$4,900,000
Revised Amount Approved by the RPB: \$5,100,000
Amount Expended to Date: \$5,389,142
Estimated Final Cost of Project: \$5,610,000
Scheduled Completion: February 2020
Anticipated Completion: December 2023

**The anticipated expenditure falls within the 10% allowable overage based upon the escalator used in the application.*

During the quarter, the contractor on the project, Guerrera Construction, continued work on site. The contractor installed the valve vault, completed final water main tie-in, conducted pressure testing, and completed final site restoration and paving. The project is now substantially complete, and the tank was placed into service in November.

West River Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Date Approved by the RPB: March 2021
Amount Approved by the RPB: \$16,300,000
Amount Expended to Date: \$15,507,660
Estimated Final Cost of the Project: \$17,000,000
Scheduled Completion: September 2023
Anticipated Completion: December 2023

During the quarter, the contractor, The Associated Construction Company, conducted testing and startup of the DAF process and DAF building. The contractor conducted the DAF process functional testing, optimization testing, performance testing and hydraulic testing. The plant has been operating using the new DAF process since the end of September, and has notably improved plant reliability, navigated the reservoir turnover, and even improved existing filter run times. The existing electrical motor control centers were transitioned to the new electrical service and removal of the old service is in progress. The emergency backup generator was installed, tested, and is now the active backup power for the site. The project is now substantially complete, and the contractor continues to address punch list items on the hypochlorite disinfection system and the DAF process.

Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant Clarifier, Recycle Pump Station, & Concrete Restoration

Date Approved by the RPB: March 2022
Amount Approved by the RPB: \$8,659,500
Amount Expended to Date: \$1,590,607
Estimated Final Cost of the Project: \$8,659,500
Scheduled Completion: November 2023
Anticipated Completion: November 2024

During the quarter, the contractor, Kovacs Construction, continued the submittal process. The equipment and materials procurement and delivery process continues. The upgraded clarifier components have been released and are in the process of being manufactured. Delivery of these components is scheduled for February/March 2024. Construction is anticipated to start during January of 2024.

Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant HVAC and Electrical Improvements

Date Approved by the RPB: March 2022
Amount Approved by the RPB: \$6,130,800
Amount Expended to Date: \$472,745
Estimated Final Cost of the Project: \$6,130,800
Scheduled Completion: May 2024
Anticipated Completion: To be determined

Buy America, Build America (BABA) waiver was received in late November. The final contract document set is currently being reviewed by both EPA and RWA staff simultaneously, and final approval to advertise for bids is anticipated in December 2023.

Lake Whitney Dam & Spillway Improvements Phase I – Initial Design Project

Date Approved by the RPB: June 2022
Amount Approved by the RPB: Not to exceed \$5,520,000
Amount Expended to Date: \$2,489,767
Estimated Final Cost of Initial Design: \$5,520,000
Scheduled Completion: September 2023
Anticipated Completion: May 2024

During the quarter the design team completed its review of the Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) submittals. Our design engineer submitted a summary of the process and a recommendation to proceed with the upstream option based on the findings. Updates were presented to the Leadership Team, the Authority Board, and RWA will continue to update the RPB committees. Design has resumed for the upstream option.

CIS (Customer Information System)

Date Approved by the RPB: September 2022
Amount Approved by the RPB: \$14,808,000
Amount Expended to Date: \$3,589,797
Estimated Final Cost of the Project: \$14,808,000
Scheduled Completion: September 2024
Anticipated Completion: 2Q Fiscal 2025

Project activities during the quarter consisted of the completion of the analysis phase, and continued work on the design phase, including integrations.