

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

**June 23, 2022
Meeting Transcription**

Mario:

Welcome everyone to the regular meeting of the RPB of June 23rd, 2022. It is 6:35 PM. Mario Ricoszi, chair. Before we get started, I want to thank everyone for participating in the special meeting that we had earlier this month and working our way through the application for design on Lake Whitney Dam. I know it was a lengthy evening, but thank you all for your time and energy and efforts. The first item on the agenda is the safety moment, sun exposure prevention, and protecting yourself from the sun, especially during midday hours.

Mario:

All right. With that being said, that's our safety moment. The next item is the approval of minutes of May 26th, 2022. If anyone has to motion to approve.

Stephen:

So moved.

Mario:

Thank you, Steve. A second?

Jay:

Second.

Mario:

I think that was Jay, I heard.

Jay:

Yes.

Mario:

Any corrections additions, amendments to the minutes? Hearing none, all those in favor?

Unanimous:

Aye.

Mario:

Anyone opposed?

Mike:

Hi, Mike Horrible, I will abstain as I was not at the meeting.

Mario:

Thank you, Mike. I was getting to abstention. So Mike is an abstention. Anyone else abstaining? Okay. Thank you all very much. We'll have the special meeting minutes I believe in July. Communications, we have a fiscal year, 2023 weighted vote computation. So once again, we all get re-evaluated as far as the acres of land and the number of customers. And I believe the bottom line is that they stayed the same for all the towns. So if anyone has any questions about that, we could try to get them addressed, but I believe everybody's both accounts stays the same. We also have a memo from requesting you to pick your top two committees and get those to Jennifer, and she'll put the table together so that we can get that done. So if you have a committee preference, please get them to Jennifer as soon as you can. And we have an update on the Derby tank project cost that was included in our packet. And there's a couple of increases on that. I believe this was going to go to Finance Committee if it did not this last month. Is that correct?

Tim:

We did see this and hear this in finance, Mario.

Mario:

Okay.

Tim:

This was a subject of our meeting.

Mario:

That's right. Very good. If there's any questions, Tim will answer them.

Tim:

Of course.

Stephen:

Mario, this is Steve. I have a question. With regard to that update, does it require another approval?

Tim:

No. Not from the RPB.

Stephen:

Okay.

Tim:

And the reason for that is it's under the percentage that would trigger that.

Mario:

Yeah, it's basically at 10%, Steve, what was approved.

Stephen:

Read it wrong then

Tim:

I think it's in the last paragraph of the report.

Stephen:

Yeah. Okay. So even though it had increases, it still ended up at a point where it didn't need another vote.

Tim:

But if they needed the parking lot, we'd be in trouble, but they didn't need the parking lot.

Stephen:

Okay.

Mario:

Okay. Thank you. Onto items for consideration and action. Jennifer, did we get some additional members?

Jennifer:

Yes, we did. And Peter DeSantis is here, but he cannot unmute himself. I heard back from him.

Mario:

Okay. Very good.

Tony:

Tony Rescigno is on the line.

Mario:

Thanks Mr. Rescigno, how are you, sir?

Tony:

I am good.

Mario:

Would you do us the honor of, since Peter is not able to unmute himself, of proposing the resolution that's on the screen?

Tony:

I am just on the call. I just had a call in number. I'm sorry.

Mario:

All right. Anyone wish to make the motion?

Tim:

Mario, would you like me to make the motion?

Mario:

Go ahead.

Tim:

Well, someone else said they'd do it. That's fine.

Mario:

Tim, I'm not sure who it was. So go ahead.

Tim:

Okay. Well, here we go then. The representative policy board of the South Central Regional Water Authority proposed resolution dated June 23rd, 2022. In parenthesis, it says the Authority's application for approval of the water treatment valve replacement program, Lake Gaillard Water Treatment plant filter influent valve replacement project located in North Branford Connecticut. 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 the water treatment plant valve replacement program, Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant filter influent valve, replacement project located in North Branford, Connecticut, which copy is attached here to and hereby is approved in the form, submitted to the meeting.

Mario:

A second?

Mario:

Second?

Jay:

Mr. Chairman, I'll make a motion to second resolution.

Mario:

Second. Thank you, Jay. Any discussion on the resolution? Hearing none, all those in favor?

Unanimous:

Aye.

Mario:

Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Thank you very much.

Vin:

I'm going to abstain.

Mario:

I'm sorry. Who was that?

Vin:

Vin Marino.

Mario:

Vin. Yes. Very good. Vin abstains.

Vin:

Yes, sir.

Mario:

Thank you, Vin. Excuse me. The next item of business is a resolution on the waiver of rule 33B. And Steve, if you wouldn't mind?

Stephen:

Sure. This proposed resolution is from the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water, 30 dated June 23rd 22. It is regarding the waiver of the rules of practice regarding the Authority's application for the Customer Information System Solution Project. Whereas the Authority voted to recommend the application for Customer Information Solution to the RPB at its May 26th, 2022 meeting, and whereas under section 33B of the Representative Policy Board's Description of Organization, Rules of Practice and Procedures for Consumer Complaints state that projects costing more than \$2 million or where the original estimate was less than \$2 million, but where subsequent estimates exceed \$2 million shall be for the Authority or the Authority's management to make a presentation first to the Finance Committee of the board and subsequently to the board.

Stephen:

And whereas the CIS application project cost exceeds 2 million and whereas the RPB of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority agrees that the application is in the public interest and would benefit from a presentation by management to the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee in place of the Finance Committee. And whereas under section three of the Rules of Practice, the RPB may waive the Rules where a good cause appears, and the board may permit deviation from these Rules, except when such deviation is prohibited by statutes.

Stephen:

Now, therefore be it resolved that the RPB agrees that a review of the application by the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee is appropriate and in the best interest of the public and further resolved that the RPB hereby approves a waiver of section 33B of the RPB Rules of Practice regarding a review by the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee for completeness, mode and date of public hearing and authorizes the RPB chair to set the public hearing date and filing of the notice as set forth in section 10 of the RPB Rules of Practice for the CIS application.

Mario:

Thank you, Steve. Is there a second to the motion?

Charles:

I'll second it. Charles.

Mario:

Charles, thank you. Discussion. As we got the application, I thought it would be appropriate since the CIS system interfaces directly with the customers that Consumer Affairs be the one to determine completeness. That was the reason for the motion.

Tim:

It was obviously going to be my question, Mario. And that's quite all right. Obviously the finances still matter, but the whole board can take that up.

Mario:

Yes. And Tim, I do anticipate that as we get into the application, there will be a resolution for the funding that I would like the Finance Committee to review the proposed funding.

Tim:

Yeah. Well, I'm obviously in complete agreement. I just wanted to weigh in.

Mario:

Yes, sir. Thank you. Any other questions, comments, concerns? Okay. Hearing none, all those in favor, aye.

Unanimous:

Aye.

Mario:

Opposed? Abstaining? Okay. The ayes have it. Thank you very much. Steve, this will be on your agenda for your next meeting?

Stephen:

Correct.

Mario:

Okay. For Monday. Thank you. Next item of business is the RPB Nominating Committee recommendation. That is Charles.

Charles:

Yes. Thank you. I didn't know we had a resolution. That's good. Resolved that the following offices are hereby elected to serve for the term of July 1st, 2022 through June 30th, 2023, or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. Chairperson, Mario Ricoszi, Vice Chair, Robert Harvey, Secretary, Charles Havrda, Treasurer, Jasper Jaser and I so move.

Mario:

Okay. Is there a second?

Tim:

Second.

Mario:

Second?

Tim:

Yep. I second

Mario:

Discussion? Okay. Hearing none, all those in favor, say aye.

Unanimous:

Aye.

Mario:

Opposed and abstaining? Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate the thought and the trust that you put in me for yet another year. Thank you. And I think this same holds for the other members.

Charles:

Yes. Thank you.

Mario:

That works. Yes. Thank you for your work there, Charles. That will bring us to the reports. The Finance Committee, Mr. Slocum.

Tim:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Essentially, our report was previously discussed for the most part. We met on June 13th, it was remote. And for the most part, the import of the meeting had to do with the update on the Derby tank, the cost escalators, the reasons, explanations. We were provided with the identical report you've seen this evening. Essentially, we're able to accept it and pass it along for your identification. And basically time costs money, and the delays are not our fault. And that's a piece of this for no question. And that's the way it goes, but we'll move forward and spend well, quite a bit, a lot of money more, which is too bad.

Tim:

But beyond that, we had our monthly report on ongoing projects and it was a fairly fluid meeting. We wrapped it up in about 16 minutes, tried to make it look hard, but it really wasn't. And we wrapped it up and the last announcement would be that our next meeting is July 12, 2022. That's a special meeting because it's off the original schedule that you may have seen. But that's our next meeting and anyone want to join us, please do.

Mario:

Thank you very much, Tim. Any questions for Finance Committee? Okay. Thank you, Tim. Well done. 16 minutes. Huh? I missed that one.

Tim:

Yeah. Well, it was a rush.

Mario:

Okay. Land Use Committee, I believe.

Peter:

Yes. Mr. Bob Harvey is going to give the report, but first of all, that was a little tardy for the meeting. I just want to congratulate you on your reappointment as the chairman and all the other officers. And I will turn this over to Mr. Harvey.

Mario:

Thank you, sir.

Bob:

Thank you. We had our meeting on Wednesday, June 8th, out at the Maltby Lakes. Of course John Triana, a real estate manager gave us a brief history of the Maltby Lakes and Caleb Maltby for whom they're named after and the many different things that he did while he was trying to start the Fairhaven Water Company. He was into a lot of things from trying to create this water company and also oyster harvesting and also mining. So he was very influential in some of the things that happened out there in west Haven.

Bob:

We discussed several other things and the reservoir levels, I'm assuming Larry's going to respond with a more update than what I have. We also talked about some of the things that are happening on RWA property, such as, there seems to be a lot of trespassing and we would like to see what is going to be happening with our police and the monitoring of our properties. Sunny did a small report on the Derby tank. I tried to share at the meeting that next month we will be electing a new chair of the committee or the same chair, and our next meeting is going to be on Wednesday, July 13th, and we have not decided where we're going to be having it yet.

Peter:

Thanks, Bob. Good job.

Bob:

Thank you.

Mario:

Okay. Thank you very much. Questions for Bob or Peter.

Stephen:

Mario, this is Steve.

Mario:

Yes.

Stephen:

Yeah. The things that are happening on the RWA lands, is there any intention to increase the police force to address those things?

Bob:

I don't know. And I guess I'll have to refer that to management.

Mark:

Well, I think it's very upsetting to know that we only have two police officers for thousands of acres of land. And I thought well, I would hold off asking this question until Larry gives his report himself.

Stephen:

Okay. Yeah, no problem.

Mario:

So I'll just ask if Larry can touch on that when they do the report, if that's okay. Is that all right, Steve?

Stephen:

Yeah, no, that's fine. But in hiking I've noticed it too. I think there are a lot of people that don't even have passes that are not necessarily doing anything wrong, but... And something came up pass being down this year. But is it still higher than usual?

Bob:

I believe it is, yes.

Stephen:

Okay.

Peter:

Yeah. They're told in their own. Yes.

Bob:

Yeah. We discussed some of what you've mentioned, Steve, how there are people getting onto the properties, doing things that shouldn't be happening. And there are some people who are trying to mention to some of these people that they're doing wrong things and they get looked at like they have a third eye, I guess. And sometimes you don't want to approach them because you don't know what things they may do to you for even questioning them. So we really think it has to be somebody with

some powers, in case something were to happen badly. We don't want people to be getting hurt, trying to protect our lands.

Mario:

Okay. Good. I think I know that to answer your question, Steve, I do know that is something management's looking at very closely and looking at a couple of different options. It also deals with personnel issues. So I don't think there's specifics. It's also something the authority I believe has been getting updates on and they're watching it. But I think perhaps Larry and David can confirm that. That's my understanding.

David:

Yes, we have been getting updates. There are, there is a holistic look at what we need for security, not just for our lands, but in other ways as a company. And it is a significant issue and it's something of importance and we have been getting updates. Matter of fact, today, we got an update as to some approaches that could work to be successful for the number of incidents that we have.

Mark:

You got an update because it came up at our meeting. And one of your members heard about the meetings and said she was going to bring it back to your committee. This is over a year and a half ago that I heard about this problem that we only have two police officers. How long has it been that we've only had two police officers? Since I was waiting for Larry's part to turn, since you started talking about it, I want to ask some questions. How long has it been since we found only had two police officers?

David:

That I don't know.

Mark:

And both of them have to leave the department. All police officers we've had before this are all going to the FBI school or the terrorist school to get training. And once they get training, they can quit or retire.

Mario:

And that's a problem with all police forces today?

Mark:

They leave, so who's there?

Mario:

Yeah, I understand.

Mark:

Well, talk about doing something else. Something has to be done. Our lands are valuable and people come on the lands and they're doing damage to our lands. They're either going to get hurt, hurt themselves or hurt other people. And I want to know what we're doing about it. I'm thinking this on like my invasive species. I think we should-

Mario:

Okay, Mark.

Mark:

Thank you, Mario.

Mario:

No, no, that's fine. And I definitely love your passion. There's nothing more.

Mark:

The lands are-

Mario:

But I will just ask that David, if you could maybe give us an update in a month or two.

Mark:

There we go.

David:

I'll have an answer to that question then, Mario. And that's a legitimate question.

Mario:

That's a legitimate question.

David:

The 260 employees, I don't know, specific each department off the top of my head, there are 260 employees. And yes, there are the at least two police officers.

Mark:

The answer most likely has been a while.

David:

It has been a while, but that is-

Mark:

That's terrible. That's unacceptable. It's unacceptable to the Land Use Committee. Peter will tell you that. Right, Peter?

Peter:

Yeah. I agree.

Mark:

It's unacceptable to Land Use Committee. It's dangerous to our land and what are we doing about it?

Mario:

Mark, we'll get you an update.

Mark:

Yes.

Mario:

Okay? David's promised us an update.

Mark:

I don't want an update on just that it's been two years or five years for the two police. I want an update what we're doing.

Mario:

I understand, but it does get into personnel issues and that's really not our purview. I understand your concern about the land and protecting it, and certainly Bob's concern about approaching someone and saying, "Hey, you really should have a permit," that's definitely a-

Mark:

We need one more voice out there says something to one of these guys. They're crazy. Crazy situation.

Mario:

Okay.

Mark:

All right.

Mario:

Thank you.

Mark:

I will not let this go, David. So I'll be back next month.

David:

I expect you will, and I appreciate the passion and the understanding, but know that it is not just this meeting that we have gotten updates on the issue of staffing in various departments, including this department. It has been other meetings as well, not precipitated by RPB questions. Because we are taking a holistic view of security, but also other departments as well, and making staff changes where needed to meet the needs of whatever that department is. In this case, we're getting about 1500 to 3000 calls a year. And so that's a certain number of staff is necessary to handle that. And maybe it's more than what we have now, or maybe there's other ways-

Mark:

Getting off the side, what are we doing for the security of our lands? That's what I want to know. I don't want to know who's answering the phone. I don't want to know who's sweeping up the floors. I don't want to know who's fixing the trucks. I want to know what we're doing to protect our lands and protect our workers. And that's what the most important thing. You think I'm crazy, I'm crazy. I'm sorry.

David:

No, you're not crazy, but it's [inaudible 00:30:06] water is just as important. And I have to know how many people we have working in water treatment and how important and how well staffed they are as well as police and the other e-billing and accounts payable and customer service and all the other areas that are important to running and providing good, clean, safe water for everybody every day, every time they turn on the faucet.

Tim:

May I ask a question? Is there typically an incident report that delves into property crime, if you will, or issues of that nature that anyone's able to study? We're talking a lot about this and I guess my question is, where are we truly in a level of whether it's criminality or violations of-

Mark:

[inaudible 00:30:55] of how many times people damage [inaudible 00:30:58]. Right? Peter brought that up, I think.

Peter:

John did. Yes.

Mark:

Yeah.

Tim:

Well, because I think it's reasonable what management is saying to us, Mark, that a report has to be forthcoming, has to be informational so that we can understand it, but you can't accept the fact that we're going to get a report and demand one now.

Tim:

They've told us we'll know in a month. I'm just saying as a member of this group, I think you should hear it the way the rest of us have heard it and take it from there. That's my opinion.

Peter:

Mr. Chairman, Mark, I think we covered this. We rattled the cage enough, Mark, and I think made it loud and clear that we're going to be watching, let him do some more homework. And I agree with you, our property needs to be protected, police need to be protected, the people need to be protected, but maybe something that we got to [inaudible 00:32:03]. Thank you.

Mario:

Okay. Thank you.

Stephen:

Mario. This is Steve. Can I make another comment with regard to this subject?

Mario:

I don't know. You've already raised enough cane today, Steve. Yes, go ahead.

Stephen:

Since I started it and further, I think if these issues don't get addressed, it sends a message and it could be general knowledge that the water company's not going to respond if you go out there and fool around. And that's not good. We need to have a presence to address these things.

Stephen:

It does get to water quality, ultimately too, not just the lands, but people. Some of our supplies don't have much of a buffer.

Mario:

I agree, Steve, but realize, I believe we're the one of only two water utilities in Connecticut that have any security force. Okay?

Stephen:

Yeah.

Mario:

And there's some pretty large ones out there that do not have a separate force. I'm not saying that's good or bad, but I think I'm pretty sure we're only one of two. So I'd rather wait to hear what kind of a long term plan there is. There's been a lot of changes that have happened in policing over the last four, five years, certainly, in general and the requirements for policing and there are multiple ways of addressing policing. So it's not as easy as we hire one extra person to do job A. This policing is... As you will, every one of us is involved in our communities. And if we've ever sat in a town meeting, we've certainly seen the discussions on police budgets and police activities and the training that's involved and the costs involved. And it's not just that cost, but it's a 24/7 type of arrangement. So it's very difficult obviously. And let's give them a little bit of time.

Stephen:

Okay.

Mario:

I rattled their cage before you did.

Stephen:

Yeah. Well, David did say they were looking at different options, but it may take not just one person, but a group of people short term to send a message to whoever's doing this. That is not going to be tolerated, whatever.

Mario:

Yes. And we even discussed some short term options. So I give them a little bit of time.

Stephen:

Thank you, Mario.

Mario:

No, thank you. I appreciate it. And since you have the floor, Consumer Affairs Committee.

Stephen:

Consumer Affairs has not met since our last meeting, but as you mentioned before, we will be meeting on Monday and that will be only to consider the completeness of the Customer Information System application. So that's it from Consumer Affairs today.

Mario:

Okay. Very good. Authority and management, David?

David:

All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mario. Congratulations to you and the rest of the officers for service for another year. It's greatly appreciated and glad you're back. Also, thank you all for the support of the application earlier in your vote this evening that was important to keep up our infrastructure and our operation. So we appreciate that. Other items of great importance on our meeting. We met as the Commercial Business Committee. So Kevin, I believe is on the meeting. I know he was earlier and I think he has a report for us.

Kevin:

Yes. Thank you, David. Mr. Chairman and members of the RPB, we did meet as the Commercial Business Committee today. All of it was an executive session. I'll go over the highlights and then tell you what we decided to do when we got out of executive session. As you know, the commercial enterprise, Commercial Business Committee, the goal increase RWA commercial enterprise revenue sources to help mitigate future rate increases. Objectives, build a framework in 2022 to support net revenue growth to \$9.2 million by 2025. Strategy executing against four key growth initiatives shift to scale an organic expansion of already existing or internal business enterprises, including plumbing and well services, pipe safe product and product expansion, environmental lab services, and water filtration and purification.

Kevin:

We just had the end of the financial year. It allowed us to look back to get some key insights and takeaways which we discussed in executive session. There's a continued strategy and plan in place. We also discussed acquisition in executive session and we granted approval to the Authority today to proceed as a conditional approval to proceed with that acquisition. It's a learning process. It is successful in generating revenue, not going to quite meet the target that we intended, but that is for reasons that are not related to the recently acquired business or the new focus on pipe safe or pipe safe plus or well services. It's related to an ongoing issue we had with pricing on contracts for certain things. So I don't really know what else I can tell that would not go outside the bounds of the executive session, but I'm available to answer questions now or after the meeting. Thank you.

David:

Are there any questions now? All right. We also met as the strategic planning committee. We reviewed the strategic plan from fiscal year 2022. And the fact that we met seven of the eight metrics that were set up from that plan. We also met with the 2023 committee that did a lot of the legwork for the strategic plan for the coming fiscal year. And a lot of our employees participated in this as opposed to just being management. And then they presented to management. Management allowed them to present to us. And there are seven goals for this year coming and from that are global metrics, that the whole company has some responsibility for, and then can work towards a bonus if they were to meet the right metrics and get some additional compensation for meeting the goals.

David:

And they're quite vigorous. They're in a little bit more of a stretch than what we had. For next year will be than what we had for the year just ended. And that's what you want, the growing company to be dynamic and continue to move forward and strive for excellence and strive for everyday providing clean water to every time you turn on the tap. And are there questions regarding the strategic plan?

David:

All right. Then also we had our business review because it is the end of the fiscal year. And with that, I'll hand it over to Larry to talk about the good financial news.

Larry:

All right. Thank you, David. Before I do that, I'll have Donna give a brief update on the COVID situation at RWA.

Donna:

Great. Thanks, Larry. As of June 14th, we have 91 confirmed cases. This is an increase in nine new cases since our last board report on May 18th. Our vaccination rate remains at 85% and our cleaning is still ongoing as we've been doing every Saturday where we've been spraying completely for all the shared workspace. The treatment plants are also being cleaned this way once per week, and there's also daily midday, sanitizing of common areas, including door handles and tables. And when we have employees who have been tested positive, we are actually doing a thorough cleaning of their common workspace areas as well.

Donna:

The Connecticut COVID positivity rate is 7.69, and the team is continually monitoring the daily positivity rate and following all CDC guidelines. As you may recall, back in May mid-month, we had asked employees to work from home through the coming month just to get us through all the holidays, and we're currently right now assessing our go forward plan, given the fact that we've had a little bit of a spike of the nine new cases since our last board report. So with that, I'll pass it back to Larry.

Larry:

Okay. We'll probably continue in a work from home situation probably until after Labor Day, but that's something that we will have to assess. But we will be doing that next week before the July four holiday. Let's see. For the 12 months through May 31, the good news is that our operating revenues are over budget by about 3.3 million, and that's due to total water revenues being over budget by about 3.4

million. However, our other revenues, primarily the field collection charges are lower by about \$131,000. Despite our job being unmated water and others being over budget. When you do all the puts and takes on the own M budget, I am very pleased and excited to say that we're projecting coverage of 138% with no draw from the rate stabilization fund compared to an original budgeted shortfall of \$922,000.

Larry:

This projected coverage is the highest that we've ever had. The previous coverage was I think in 2017, I think, and it was 137%. So we beat it by a slight margin. So that's due to lower expenses and some higher cash and collections being aggressive and some contributions from the commercial business area. So we've had good luck there. And now as of June 13, water storage was at 95% and that compares to a long term average of 91% for this time of the year. So with that, I'd be glad to take any questions.

Bob:

Larry, Bob Harvey, if I may. What is the approximate percentage of people that we have working remotely?

Larry:

I'll say approximately half that are working remotely and that isn't totally remote. Some come in a couple of days a week. Like myself, I'm in the office two to three days a week. Other leadership team members come in on various days, but roughly about half the workforce is working remotely. The other half are the operations people that are in distribution work, construction, the water treatment plants, field services, and the like.

Bob:

Okay. And then I guess that's going to lead me up to my next question. I know a while ago I asked for an organizational chart. I know we've had a lot of changes in some of the executives. I don't know how you're doing with that and when we can expect it.

Larry:

Yeah. We're making some final adjustments to that. And so we should have that out in the next few weeks.

Bob:

Okay. I'll be looking forward to seeing it.

Larry:

Right. We'll get it to you.

Bob:

Thank you.

Larry:

That's it for management's report.

Mario:

Any other questions?

Larry:

Thank you. Thank you, everyone.

Mario:

Jeff Donofio, anything that we need to know from consumer affairs?

Jeff:

Nothing from the OCA tonight. Thank you, Mario.

Mario:

Okay. Thank you. Anything else for the good of the order as they say? Yes, Bob.

Bob:

I assume Sonny's on. Can he give me an update on what's going on with the Prospect? I know they were trying to repair the drain valve and there was some problems. I'm wondering how they're doing with that.

Sunny:

Bob, I'm here. I think the prospect is still, I think enough. As we met last time at the site, we are still continuing with the repairs. I think we have to lower the upper basin and we will actually repair and bring it back, but it's going to be a little bit more time taking than we originally anticipated. I will probably get you some timelines, perhaps in the next few days. I'm talking with the contractor to see exactly where we are going to end up on the timeline.

Bob:

Okay. Because I did see a truck parked there, I guess it must have been Wednesday.

Sonny:

Right. Right.

Bob:

And it was looking like he was waiting for something and I didn't dare go down and talk to him, but I know there's been some work going on there and I didn't see it reflected in the municipality report.

Sunny:

Right. We still are working with a contractor to get some timelines because that is a very, I would say like an old, I would say valve and the stem man. The screws as we walked through last time when we were up the site, we, I would say walked over with you and Mayor Bob to, I would say, indicate what was going on. So I think that's going to take some time for us. It's not going to be an easy fix, but I think I'll get you some timeframes and maybe I think it's going to be prioritized anyway. That is an ongoing

thing, which we are putting pressure on the contractor, but still the material delivery is going to dictate on how the schedules go.

Bob:

Oh yeah. Supply chain is a problem for everyone.

Sunny:

Right. And as you saw, it was not, I would say, it's unique in the way. It's an old prospect, I would say. It's an old dam and it's not, I would say you go to the shop and get one right away.

Bob:

Yeah. Not going to pull one off the shelf. Thank you very much, Sonny.

Sunny:

Sure. Thanks, Bob.

Mario:

Very good, Bob. Any other questions, comments? Okay.

Tom:

Mario?

Mario:

Yes.

Tom:

Tom Clifford.

Mario:

Mr. Clifford, how are you?

Tom:

That's an incredible financial report, if I can say that. I just want to shortly just commend Larry and the leadership team. That's just an incredible financial report. To have coverage that's at 138, you can't do much better than that coming out of this pandemic and with some of the issues we're dealing with financially, with the stock market equities and interest rate. So I just don't want this to go unmentioned. So I want to commend you for that. Thank you.

Larry:

Thank you, Tom. Hard work on the part of lots of folks at the RWA, but thank you very much for that. I appreciate your compliments.

David:

Can I expand on that for just a minute? And I want to say that also that Larry certainly got our appreciation, but it comes from both sides of the house too. It not only comes from additional revenue over and above what our conservative estimates were, but it was from watching very carefully the dollars and buying properly and spending right, and being able to... Even our medical benefits were under what was expected to be. And that's unusual. I know in Cheshire, we're having a hard time with that number as Tim would tell you. But so really they deserve kudos for having it in a balanced way. And the \$22 million that we put in the construction fund is half of last year's capital budget. The cash is there for now. So the percentage is good. It's really a significant item. It was a significant meeting that we had today. And Tom, I greatly appreciate you mentioning that and noticing it. Thank you.

Mario:

Thank you.

Jay:

If there's no business, I will make a motion to adjourn.

Mario:

Okay. Mr. Jaser. Is there a second? Mr. Slocum?

Tim:

Yes.

Mario:

All right. We stand adjourned at 7:20 PM. Thank you all.