

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

**September 17, 2020
Meeting Transcription**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, September 17, 2020, via remote access. Chair Ricozzi presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
Derby	Frank Pepe
East Haven	Michelle Verderame
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

Regional Water Authority

Anthony DiSalvo
David Borowy
Suzanne Sack

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Rochelle Kowalski
Beth Nesteriak
Edward O. Norris III
Jeanine Reckdenwald
Premjith Lakshman Singh

Counsel

Bruce McDermott

Office of Consumer Affairs

Atty. Jeffrey Donofrio

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

Mario:

Okay I think we've hit 6:30. So Jennifer if you want to start recording. [crosstalk 00:00:51].

Jennifer:

You're on, I'm on it. There you go.

Mario:

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Okay. I'll call a meeting of the RPB of September 17th to order. We have a safety moment as our first item of business, and it's on workstation ergonomics, which I've needed to straighten mine up. This is the same stuff they told you in school. Keep your feet flat on the floor, and I never paid any attention to it. I think the kids today pay even less attention, but I guess we all should. Please read through that, and hopefully we'll all feel better, when we're sitting on our computers and resting.

Mario:

The next item of business, if there are no questions on that is the approval of the minutes of August 20th.

Greg:

So moved.

Mario:

Greg with a motion. Second?

Naomi:

Second.

Mario:

Naomi had a second. Okay. Any discussion, amendments, corrections to the minutes? Okay, hearing none, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Mario:

Opposed? Abstaining? Okay. It's unanimous. Very good. Communications, we have the nominating committee. Do you want to handle this in your report, Greg?

Greg:

Sure. Yeah. Do you want me to do the whole thing now? Give the report? It's in there.

Mario:

Okay, why don't you do it now?

Greg:

Okay. The nominating committee met on August 31st. The first item on the agenda was the safety moment. We went over that. Then we asked Larry and Tony to attend, to see the types of experience in other traits most needed by the authority. They made several comments, and then they left after that.

Greg:

We reviewed the RPB bylaws, provisions regarding the nominating process. We developed and agreed on a draft of selection guidelines for submission to the members. It's basically the same thing as it was in

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the past, with just one little tweak to it, which Larry and Tony provided. [inaudible 00:03:34] have experience with capital budgets, yeah, capital and operating budgets. That's basically the only difference.

Greg:

We agreed on the next steps and key dates to complete the committee's assignment. We're going to meet with Joe on September... next week, next Tuesday. What's that? The 22nd, I believe.

Mario:

I think so.

Greg:

In the minutes, it said that we weren't going to meet with them, but after we met, we decided that we... he deserves to come in front of the board, the nominating committee..

Mario:

Very good.

Greg:

We changed that. As of right now, we don't have any other candidates. We haven't heard from the City of New Haven. The person that's handling it for the City of New Haven, basically the go between person the mayor and us, and I'm probably killing her name, Taisha Anderson. I think that's it.

Mario:

The question, I think, to the RPB is are there any comments on the criteria.

Greg:

That's right.

Mario:

That was presented.

Greg:

Yeah, it was submitted to the entire membership, and do we have any comments? Changes? Whatever?

Mario:

Okay, you got that, Greg?

Greg:

Yeah, unfortunately I don't speak that language.

Tony:

The dog.

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Tony:

It's the dog.

Mario:

Who got the dog?

Greg:

I knew it was a dog.

Mario:

[inaudible 00:05:41] Any other comments besides, "Woof, woof, woof?" All right.

Mike:

I agree with the criteria.

Mario:

Thank you very much.

Greg:

Thank you.

Mario:

All right, Greg, I guess you got your marching orders with that, and we will try to follow up with Taisha again.

Naomi:

Taisha's last name is Anderson?

Greg:

That's what I put down. I don't know. I could be wrong.

Naomi:

It's not Walker? [crosstalk 00:06:16] Okay. Is she the chair of the board?

Mario:

I believe she is on the mayor's staff.

Naomi:

Okay.

Greg:

Yeah, she's on the staff.

Mario:

And she works at coordinating appointments.

Greg:

Yeah, she's the intermediary between the mayor and the board.

Naomi:

Okay.

Mario:

Naomi I'll also asked about your appointment.

Speaker 10:

I haven't heard anything.

Mario:

Understand. We'll try to move that along.

Naomi:

Okay.

Mario:

Any other questions for the nominating committee? Okay. Move on to the next item, which is consideration and action, finance committee recommendation regarding approval of a resolution for interim financing. Tim, you got to make these shorter.

Tim:

I got it.

Mario:

Tim, would you please [crosstalk 00:07:08]

Tim:

It would have been if I had written it. Anyway, Mario, you got to the gist of it. The bottom line is that our meeting of last week, Ms. Kowalski presented a proposed resolution based on staff's desire to create a reserve opportunity to borrow should they feel they need to, since our capital budget was reduced to nearly \$19 million off of, I believe, 38 million. They feel like as a contingency, they wanted to have the capacity and the authority, I guess is really the word, to seek financing should the need arise.

Tim:

We tossed it around a little. We really gave them a hell of a time. Then the motion was put forward to advance it to the full board with our support.

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Tim:

With that little summary in the background, unless someone from the finance committee wants to embellish it a little further, I can go further with the proposed resolution. Would that be acceptable?

Mario:

I think it's appropriate.

Jay:

I'll second it.

Participant:

I'd like to say, though, the point is that it's a contingency to fall back on, by the RWA, in the event that they have a need for liquidity with what's going on with the economics in America, if that helps anyone.

Tim:

I think that's correct.

Jay:

It's a liquidity issue for them to act upon in the event of a matter coming up which was unexpected or something that they were going to do in the future, that they could use that temporarily on a contingency basis to improve their liquidity. That's all I have.

Tim:

[crosstalk 00:09:18] Correct. With that, if you're okay with this, I'll go forward with the resolution.

Stephen:

Tim, this is Stephen.

Tim:

Yes, Stephen.

Stephen:

Can you explain to me a little more what a draw down note is? I'm not a finance person.

Tim:

You know, I think that's a fair question, and I would request that Rochelle explain a draw down note. She's probably more comfortable with that.

Rochelle:

The draw down note is such that we only borrow what we need just to meet the requirement of issuance, we'll need to draw down 50,000, but if we don't need additional, we won't even draw it down. We only pay interest, and the debt is only what we draw.

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Jamie:

It works like a credit line?

Rochelle:

It's like a credit line.

Mario:

Does that answer your question, Steve?

Tim:

Is that satisfactory? It is typical to get the resolution on the table and then ask questions. If someone wants to ask a question, I'll put it on the table. We'll seek a second. We can talk about it forever.

Tim:

With that, resolution approving the issuance of bonds. Whereas the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority proposes to issue its bonds, which may be issued as project loan obligations deliver to the state of Connecticut in accordance with Special Act 77-98 as amended of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut and the Water System Revenue Bond Resolution, general resolution, adopted by the Authority and approved by the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority District on July 31, 1980, as amended and supplemented, the general bond resolutions and whereas the Act authorizes the authority to issue its bond from time to time, but subject to approval of the RPB.

Tim:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, number one, the RPB hereby approves the issuance of the Authority's bonds in aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5 million. The bonds may be issued as obligations in one or more series pursuant to the general bond resolution, and a supplemental resolution to be adopted by the Authority for each series of bonds, each of which shall specify the amount of the bonds, the purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the date or dates, maturities, sinking fund installments if any, interest rates, series denominations, form, redemption prices, security provisions, and other details of the bonds as the Authority shall determine in accordance with the limits established by the General Bond Resolution.

Tim:

And hereby, number three, the purposes of the bond shall be to finance or refinance the cost of certain capital improvements to the water system of the Authority from approximately September 1, 2020, through December 21, 2021, in accordance with the certain capital improvement plan adopted by the Authority on June 18th, 2020, as may be amended from time to time to provide funds for deposit to the capital contingency fund, debt reserve fund, and operating reserve fund as necessary pursuant to the general bond resolution that's permitted by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended and pay cost of issuance.

Tim:

The bonds may be sold by negotiation as serial or term bonds with stated maturities and may be sold in private or direct placement to a bank or the State of Connecticut. That's the resolution.

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Rich:

Tim, could you repeat that?

Tim:

If you'd like some clarification on the Revenue Code of 1986, I'll have to get back to you.

Mario:

Is there a second to the resolution?

Jay:

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

Rich:

We need a motion to adopt it, don't we? And then a second?

Tim:

I read the motion. I read the motion.

Participant:

Oh, you read it as a motion? Okay.

Tim:

That's all I was reading, the motion.

Rich:

Okay, I thought you were reading the resolution.

Tim:

Well...

Rich:

Okay.

Tim:

That is the motion.

Brian:

Does this mean that they can go ahead and issue bonds without coming to us at this point? As long as it's under five million, so if something comes up, they don't have to come to us to get the bonds out in an emergency basis. Is that correct?

Tim:

That is my understanding.

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Brian:

Okay, that's fine.

Tim:

Up to the limit, and also bounded by the dates. This is bounded by certain parameters stated in the resolution.

Brian:

Normally we don't do projects that are greater than, or less than five million, too? Is that correct? It covers [crosstalk 00:14:17]

Mario:

Two million.

Brian:

So that's a lot more than we normally would approve. Okay.

Mario:

Yeah, just to the \$2 million is the approval of the RPB on a capital project. This is not directed toward any one particular project, but I believe someone used the term "line of credit", which is in order to keep the cash flowing.

Brian:

But if a particular project still went over that two million level, it would still come to us.

Mario:

Correct.

Brian:

Okay.

Stephen:

Tim, this is Stephen again.

Tim:

Stephen.

Stephen:

I'm a little confused. The capital projects you have control. Is this in anticipation of something you don't know is going to happen? I don't understand how these funds would be used. We have a plan for what spending. You could decide to do it or not, I guess, depending on the financial situation. Why would you expect to have a \$5 million that you didn't know about?

Tim:

Rochelle, I'll ask you to explain that, although you did give us an explanation, but please phrase it for the group.

Rochelle:

Okay. This is really a contingency plan that we have approved a note, approval for a note, and to subsequently issue our RWA bonds to cover the note in case there's something unanticipated, especially given how lean our program is. We didn't want to be in a situation where we wouldn't have anything in place should there be something that we need to move forward on. It doesn't mean that it will be five million. Actually, that's a not to exceed amount, and again, at this point we would only issue to the minimum that we need to issue, which is 50,000.

Stephen:

Okay, but normally we have contingencies on all of these capital projects anyway.

Rochelle:

This is a contingency, again, because the capital program is basically a little under 20 million. It's usually 38 million. We just want to have a contingency plan in case we need to have a critical project that was scheduled.

Stephen:

[crosstalk 00:16:47] cut back the capital enough to need this reserve, potentially.

Rochelle:

Correct.

Stephen:

Okay, thank you.

Tim:

As I understood it, Rochelle, say, for example, you've got five projects in the work. Those are really five projects they decided were essential. Out of a 38 million proposed, they're down to about 18 or 19. You don't want to stop any of those if something goes a little over, and you don't have another project in the mix you could maybe forestall to draw funds from that. I assume that's what this allows for. This gives us a safety, some room for wiggle.

Rochelle:

Yes.

Tim:

Because we've already cut it so lean.

Rochelle:

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Correct. It gives, as Jay was saying, it gives us an opportunity if we choose not to draw on our own internal funds, so it gives us more liquidity flexibility.

Tim:

Right.

Mario:

Other questions? Of Tim or Rochelle? Okay, hearing none, there's a motion from Tim and a second by Jay, I believe it was.

Tim:

Correct.

Jay:

Yes, it is.

Mario:

All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Mario:

Okay, anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay the motion carries. Thank you, Tim.

Tim:

Thank you.

Rochelle:

Thank you.

Mario:

That brings us to reports, and Tim, finance is first, so you can keep the floor.

Tim:

Thank you. That actually was only one piece of the business that we did discuss at our regular meeting. The other one was already discussed by the RPB in general, but Mr. Singh and Dana made a presentation regarding the customer service and the AMI original case for going with monthly billing and things like that. We basically got an up close and personal presentation on the whole topic, which as Steve indicated last time, was very positive in that it really was bringing costs down, anticipated costs from five years ago to a much lower cost to the organization overall. It was a positive presentation. I myself gained greater understanding of the whole thing, and they still feel that they may even be able to do better.

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Tim:

It was a very nice presentation. I don't know if the full RPB has had the presentation, but I know there is a PowerPoint that was presented to us that maybe could at least be shared at some point, if not presented fully. Again, it was a progress report, not the final deal.

Tim:

Beyond that, I believe that more or less concluded the business of our day, of our meeting.

Mario:

Questions of Tim? Do you know, Tim, if that was the same report that was given to Consumer Affairs?

Tim:

Yeah, I believe it was the same. I mean, Prem presented both of them, so I have to take his reliable word that it was the same and not different. I think the presentation was offered to finance simply because I raised a few questions and maybe indicated that we'd love to hear about it in finance a little more directly, because any report presented in full is more illuminating than a summary, even though Steve gave an absolutely tremendous summary. Again, that's why we saw it. It was good.

Mario:

Very good. Other questions for Tim? All right, thank you very much.

Tim:

Thank you.

Mario:

Land use committee. Peter, are you out there?

Peter:

I'm here, Mr. Chairman. Can you hear me?

Mario:

Yes, sir.

Peter:

Okay. Good evening everyone.

Jay:

Good evening.

Peter:

We met on September 9th at the Lake Whitney water treatment plant in Hamden, which is a beautiful, fairly new addition to Regional Water. That was the first time I was there. Also, out there was Mr. Kay, our resident beekeeper. He give us the whole... There was actually quite a few hives right there on site.

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Now I know why everyone in the area is so sweet, with all that honey going into the water there. I enjoyed that. I'm sure everyone else did, too.

Peter:

Another, we had, I guess, Ms. Velasquez. Is that how you say that, Ted?

Ted:

Velasquez.

Peter:

I would hope, Ted, you would intervene a little here to give me a little more of a report on... She is the renewable economic resource project. She's a leader, I believe, in that division. She just gave us an update. This was before my time, I believe, in 2011. This has been brought to Regional Water's attention before. Ted, can you help me out here a little bit on a little update?

Ted:

Sure, I'd be glad to. In 2011, a process was created whereby if they wanted to get an economic resource project approved, we would be going through that process. The project's turned out to have some difficulties with it in terms of ex parte communications and redundancy, so we are proposing a land use... That policy is in the land use plan, and we are proposing an amendment to that policy, which is what Amy discussed, in order to streamline the policy to make projects more efficient, and to provide for a de minimis project category.

Peter:

Thanks, Ted. Mr. Chairman, can we ask if there's any questions on that at the moment while we're right there? Or would you rather have the people review the minutes on their own? Because...

Mario:

Are there any questions on that?

Peter:

Okay, well I just wanted to make sure because it's a unique situation which will benefit the Regional Water as long as it's moved forward correctly, which Ted is at the helm there, and I have faith in Ted. The rest of the land use was pretty much okay where we stand. Thank you, ted.

Jamie:

I would just add one thing, if you don't mind, Peter?

Peter:

No, of course Jamie.

Jamie:

Yeah, there was a good discussion about communication in the process, so I found it very educational. I wasn't aware that we had that system in place, but I think that Ted and his team did a good job at really

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looking at where there was opportunity for improvement in communicating both with the towns and with us. I'm an advocate of what they are doing.

Peter:

Thank you, Jamie. That was great input. Anyone else? Where's Mark Levine? He's awful quiet. Is he here?

Mario:

Yes, he is.

Peter:

Okay. All right.

Mark:

I'm here, I'm here.

Peter:

All right, all right.

Mark:

If you want me to throw my two cents into it, Ted and that person really streamlined the program and didn't take any authority away from the land use committee. If everyone remembers the battle we had over that when they wanted to just streamline and put some kind of power stuff on our land without coming to land use and saying they didn't need the approval of the RPB, this really... Then we came through with the 2011 program, and now Ted is coming with the 2020 program which is absolutely a much... as good if not better.

Peter:

Thank you, thank you Mark. I agree with you. We're moving forward, and like I said, Ted is doing a great job.

Mike:

I would just like to say this, okay? I attended the land use committee meeting at Lake Whitney. It was very educational to me, and I am very supportive of the Regional Water Authority's efforts to promote this type of honey or honeybee growth. I've enjoyed it, and it was very educational to me. I continue to support the regional water authority's efforts to build on this.

Peter:

Thank you, Mike. Thank you. Anyone else?

Mario:

Anything else, Peter?

Peter:

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Yeah, well, our reservoir current year, as of August 31st this year, current year, 75%. Previous year is 87. Historic average 74. They're saying no drought, so I guess we're okay. Of course, John Triana gives us a great report. Everyone, you have the minutes if you need anything, and I believe that's pretty much it. Our next meeting is October 14th at 4:30, and I believe it's outside, right Mark?

Jennifer:

Peter?

Peter:

Yes.

Jennifer:

It's October 5th.

Peter:

Oh.

Mark:

Yes, yes, yes. It's your turn to [inaudible 00:26:33].

Peter:

It's October 5th?

Jennifer:

Yes.

Peter:

Where did I get the 14th? [crosstalk 00:26:41]

Mark:

We have a little problem. Is it really October 5th?

Jennifer:

Yes, because of Columbus Day.

Mark:

I will not be at the meeting. I'm being operated on. I'm getting a new knee put in.

Peter:

Okay, all right.

Mark:

I won't be there, so Peter, you got to buy the pizza or put the pizza meeting off to November.

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Peter:

Well [crosstalk 00:27:08] We'll have two pizza parties. How's that?

Mark:

[inaudible 00:27:13] because it might not... You go there for the foliage, and I think you would get better foliage in November, but that's up to you.

Peter:

Okay.

Mario:

Peter, monitor the situation.

Peter:

I'll take care of that. My hands are [inaudible 00:27:28]. Jennifer, thank you for the correction there. We'll, weather permitting, I believe, right Jennifer?

Jennifer:

Yes, that's correct. Yes.

Peter:

If there's no more questions, that's my report, and stay safe and healthy, everyone.

Mario:

Thank you, Peter. Appreciate it. We'll move on to consumer affairs committee, Steve?

Stephen:

Thanks, Mario. Consumer affairs has not met since our last meeting. We are going to meet on Monday, September 21st, and Prem will be there again to give us an update on the pipe safe marketing program, so looking forward to that. Tim, if you or anyone else is interested in that, you can join in for that presentation. Prem, will Phil Vece be there?

Prem:

We haven't actually asked him to be there, but I can ask him. I can talk to him about it.

Stephen:

Yeah, I'm not requesting that necessarily. I did see that he sent out an email today, maybe as part of that effort, I think, and made sure that everybody got to see the ad that was put on TV.

Prem:

As a matter of fact, I guess it would be a good conversation. We can go a little bit more in detail, Steve, right? We'll talk on Monday, yeah.

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Stephen:

Okay, thank you.

Tim:

Thanks for the invite, Steve. What is the date again for that meeting?

Stephen:

Monday, the 21st.

Tim:

Okay.

Mario:

5:30, I believe.

Stephen:

5:30 meeting. Okay, any questions for Steve? Greg, did you have anything else to add on the nominating committee?

Greg:

No, I said it all.

Stephen:

Okay, thank you very much. We turn to authority and management, Mr. DiSalvo.

Tony:

Thank you. We met today without Joe, but his committee met, the audit risk committee, and we met with the auditors who reviewed the audit results and the interaction that they had with our staff. There were no issues that we could see and no issues we could create, so everything went really fine.

Tony:

We met also as the environmental health and safety. Kevin was able to pull in and run the meeting. He is now at Fort Drum somewhere. Hopefully he's in another meeting and not just gallivanting around in the bar. He's getting a whole bunch of notes. The environmental health and safety committee had a presentation by Amanda Schenke, who's the manager of environmental, health and safety and risk. We discussed her new department and its structure, which became effective on July 1st.

Tony:

The second presentation was given by Ted, who discussed the business continuity plan and the activities plan for this year. The third presentation was also given by Ted, who discussed the AWIA's requirement to certify that we have an emergency response plan, and that seemed to be well in order.

Tony:

Those were the major activities of the... Oh, also, the last thing was that we had a presentation from Josh around invasive plant management. That was a very good presentation which showed that he discussed all the things that he was doing in the field around invasive plant management. I think part of that's the short window that we have to deal with it. I think he used as much of that window as possible. Where's Mark? Mark, you would have been very proud of that presentation. It really is something that you might want to see if you haven't already. You guys seen it at consumer affairs or land use?

Mark:

No, I haven't seen it, I don't think.

Tony:

Okay, you ought to see it. That was a good one.

Mark:

Is that the video you're talking about?

Tony:

No, him.

Naomi:

No.

Tony:

Neighborhood made a good presentation with slides.

Mark:

No, we haven't seen that.

Mario:

He covered a lot of what he's done in the field, Mark.

Mark:

Good, good. He's really a... He's becoming famous in that field.

Peter:

Yes, he is.

Tony:

Well, he deserves it.

Mark:

Oh, yeah.

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Tony:

It's the first time I've seen presentations, no offense taken, Mark, but the first time I've seen presentations that I really understood.

Mark:

Took me a while, too.

Tony:

Thank you. Next, I think I want to give it to Larry and let him bring you up to date on a number of other items.

Larry:

Okay, thank you very much, and to start our management's report, we'll have Beth kick off with an update on our COVID operations status.

Beth:

Great. Thank you, Larry, and good evening, everyone.

Participant:

Good evening.

Beth:

I'm happy to report that I don't have much of a report. That's always good news in the moment of COVID. No new report of any illness associated with COVID from our staff or any issues from that, which is always great. As I reported in August, we were moving into, and we have moved into, our phase three reopening. This is a committee that Jeanine and I head. Phase three started after Labor Day were we have brought more staff back into 90 Sargent, but are still maintaining the building at about 50% occupancy. We have continued to do cleaning of 90 Sargent, and actually have increased the frequency as more employees come back. We are doing a twice a month Clorox 360 treatment on the building as well as our treatment plant, and also increased just daily cleaning within the building. We've had good success with that, and hope to continue as cold and flu season arrive and we can maintain this good track record we have.

Beth:

In terms of the other areas of the organization, no real new change. We have a lot of folks that are continuing to report full time, obviously a lot of our operational staff, and still doing some job site reporting to try to eliminate congregation of groups.

Beth:

Overall, it's going well, and we are offering flu shots for all of our employees come October, and we're promoting that as well. Overall, I'm happy to report good news on the COVID front.

Larry:

Any questions of Beth?

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Frank:

Beth, I think you're doing a good job on the [inaudible 00:34:51]. There's nobody in the facility that's [inaudible 00:34:53] or nothing. They're keeping it clean, huh?

Beth:

Yep, we've had some good success. That's a lot in part due to our employees. They've been really great about following our social distancing practices. We are wearing masks in 90 Sargent Drive where we can, just traversing through the building, and then anywhere we can't maintain six feet, we are wearing masks, so encouraging hand washing, and have lots of supplies in terms of hand sanitizer and PPE. It has been going well.

Frank:

I've got one quick question. Are any employees going into houses, or no? You've stopped that for now?

Beth:

I have very limited access to houses right now.

Frank:

Okay. Thank you.

Larry:

Okay, thank you and again good evening everyone.

Participant:

Good evening.

Larry:

Thank you. I'll give you a financial update. After three months of actual results through August the 31st, operating revenues are over budget by about \$2.7 million, which is about 8%. That's due to the total water revenues being over budget by about \$2.2 million, primarily due to higher than anticipated consumption. Other revenues around over budget by about \$448,000 due to some of our miscellaneous charges and jobbing being up, and our non-core revenue, primarily the lab, garage services, and pipe safe being over budget.

Larry:

Our operating and maintenance expenses are about \$1.1 million under budget, and at this point in time, we're saying that all of that is due to timing. When you take all that together and project it to year end, we are projecting that we'll only have a draw of almost just under \$5 million to meet the coverage of 114%. That's still a very significant number, but consider that the projected shortfall is about \$7 million than our original budget of a \$12 million draw in order to meet our 114% coverage.

Larry:

What we're finding is that to date, the impacts of COVID-19 on cash receipts are not as severe as originally forecasted, and billings are higher than anticipated. However, debt service is slightly lower,

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primarily due to the timing of DWSRF financing as well, and these favorable variances are partially offset by lower projected interest earnings from the funds that we have in various investment.

Larry:

Keep in mind that we are still early in our fiscal year, and there's still considerable uncertainty regarding the financial impacts of the pandemic. It's important to note that our revised fiscal '21 budget assumed a full return to normal in January of 2021.

Larry:

In terms of storage, as of September the 14th, raw water storage was at 72% compared to a long term average of 71% for this time of the year. With that, that concludes management's report, and the financial update.

Mario:

Thank you, Larry.

Larry:

Thank you.

Mario:

Tony, you're on mute.

Tony:

Were there any other questions? Sorry. Okay. Thank you.

Mario:

Okay, thank you very much. I believe we have an update on the land use committee report as far as the date for the October meeting. I believe it's now the 14th is the correct date?

Peter:

Right, thank you Mario. Thank you Jennifer.

Jennifer:

Sorry, everybody. It was a long day today.

Peter:

That's minor. Thank you. Mark, you can make it now.

Mark:

You better pick me up.

Peter:

I knew that was coming, I'll pick you up.

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Mark:

You pick me up. I seen the 5th. What are you talking about? That's not right.

Jennifer:

I understand.

Mark:

Call me and I'll tell you what you got to do.

Peter:

All right, buddy, and I'll pick you up.

Mario:

Okay, very good. That's taken care of, the 14th. Mr. Donofrio, would you have any words that you need to share?

Mr. Donofrio:

The only comment from the OCA tonight is I did appreciate receiving some information about the new pipe safe program advertising endeavor. I took a look at it from a consumer perspective, and I thought that it was well done, the signage, the print ad, the TV ad, which will be at the link for today. I think were all accurate and very positive. It's good to see that the Authority is focusing on growing what's already a successful non-core revenue operation.

Peter:

Agree.

Mario:

Any other items to come before the board? Any other items? Hearing none...

Rich:

Mario, I just wanted to pass along from the mayor, he wanted me to pass along his thanks to Dan Doyle, who he said has been a pleasure to work with and has been very supportive of us here in Milford.

Mario:

Very good. Thank you so much.

Larry:

Thank you. Thanks, Rich. I just want to point out that we launched a revised community liaison program, and we have three people in the communications and outreach department, Dan Doyle being the manager of it, and two other individuals, Lori Vitagliano and Kate Rayner, who's relatively new. Each one of those individuals have five towns that they're responsible for, and Milford is Dan's town, so he'll be in touch with the mayor's office and other town officials on a regular basis, just as the other two will in terms of their towns that they're responsible for. Thank you, I'll be sure to pass that on.

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Rich:
Please.

Mario:
Thank you, Rich.

Jamie:
Thank you, Larry. With that program, are the folks that are going to be communicating with the town's mayor or first selectmen also going to also notify the respective RPB? [crosstalk 00:41:59] loop?

Larry:
That's part of their responsibility. It's not only town officials, but it's also the RPB members as well. That's part of the police chiefs, public works, so that would be part of the process.

Stephen:
This is Stephen. Do you know which person is responsibility for Hamden?

Larry:
No, but I'll get a breakdown of the... Jeannine will get a breakdown of who's responsible for which towns and send it to me, because that department reports to Jeanine.

Stephen:
Okay, thanks.

Mario:
Yeah, that would be helpful.

Jeanine:
Will do.

Mario:
Anything else before the board? Hearing none, see a motion to adjourn.

Frank:
So moved.

Mario:
Okay.

Greg:
Second.

Mario:

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Second, Greg. We stand adjourned at 7:12.