

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Minutes of December 17, 2020 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, December 17, 2020, via remote access. Chair 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 Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
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

Absent

Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
Governor’s Rep	Vincent Marino

Regional Water Authority

Anthony DiSalvo
Kevin Curseaden
David Borowy

Management

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

Counsel

Bruce McDermott, Esq.

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey Donofrio, 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. Malloy, seconded by Ms. Campbell, the RPB approved the minutes of its November 19, 2020 meeting as distributed, 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 (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Communications

Chair Ricozzi reported on recent reappointments to the board.

Chair Ricozzi acknowledged Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, who moved for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Executive Order 7W, which extended Executive Order 7S Section 6 applicable to municipalities, to quasi-municipal corporations , extending the tax deferral and the interest rate reduction program to water charges among other types charges (e.g., sewer and electric), and which Executive Order ends July 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, management recommended extending the time period concerning abatement of interest (a zero interest rate) through December 31, 2020 and presented such recommendation at the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) Finance Committee meeting on June 8, 2020 and at the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee meeting on June 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the RPB Finance Committee and RPB Customer Affairs Committee agreed to recommend to the full RPB management’s recommendation and concurs that this is the right approach in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic impacts.

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2020 the full RPB approved a zero interest rate through December 31, 2020.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues and the associated economic impacts, management recommended to the RPB Finance Committee on December 14, 2020 extending the time period of the abatement of interest (0% interest rate) through at least March 31, 2021.

WHEREAS, the RPB Finance Committee agreed to recommend to the full RPB management’s recommendation and concurs with their recommendation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the full RPB approves the continuation of the abatement of interest on arrears, authorizing a zero interest rate through at least March 31, 2021 and not longer than May 31, 2021.

Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote and the board adopted the resolution 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 (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month to discuss the zero interest rate extension and received a presentation from management on Risk, Resiliency and Redundancy (3Rs).

Land Use Committee – In Mr. Betkoski’s absence, Mr. Harvey reported on the Committee meeting earlier in the month. The Committee received a presentation from management on the Water Chestnut Harvest at Furnace Pond.

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Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee is scheduled to meet next week and will receive the 3Rs presentation from management. All RPB members are invited to attend.

RPB Bylaws and Rules Review Committee – Mr. Ricoszi reported on the meeting earlier in the month. The Committee reviewed revisions to the capital project timeline and rate application timeline. He will report to the board in January with possible action at the RPB's February meeting.

RPB Nominating Committee – Mr. Malloy, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee received Mayor Elicker's list of candidates, which did not include the incumbent. Committee members discussed the interview process.

Authority/Management – Mr. DiSalvo, Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. He stated that due to health issues he will be stepping down in his role as Chairman of the Authority, effective December 31, 2020. He will continue with his directorship until his term expiration on December 31, 2023. Mr. DiSalvo stated that under the circumstances he thought it was necessary to appoint another Chairman as part of RWA's succession planning.

He reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. Mr. Borowy was elected as Chairman, effective January 1, 2021, to fill his unexpired term of one year. The board elected Mr. DiSalvo as Vice Chair to serve until December 31, 2021. He will support Mr. Borowy in his new role.

The Authority also met as the Audit-Risk Committee, Environmental, Health and Safety Committee and the Non-Core Business Committee.

Mr. Curseaden, Chair of the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day. The Committee received three presentations from management: 2021 Legislative Outlook, Deer Hunt Update, and a Recreation Update.

Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Non-Core Business Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day to review strategies for the PipeSafe program and to continue diversification and expansion. The Committee also discussed ways to increase water testing.

At 7:03 p.m., Mr. Curseaden withdrew from the meeting.

Ms. Nesteriak, RWA's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, reported on activities over the past month, which included:

- Status of COVID at RWA
- Disinfection and cleaning procedures
- Reporting requirements
- Pulse survey results

Mr. Bingaman, President & Chief Executive Officer, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses through November 30, 2020, and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2021 is 114%, with a projected draw of \$600,000. He stated that there is still considerable uncertainty of the financial impact of the pandemic and that it is important to note that it is less likely to be back to normal in January, due to the resurgence of COVID. Management will continue to watch expenses for the remainder of the fiscal year.

He also reported that reservoir levels as of December 14, 2020, were 75%, compared to the long-term average of 69%.

Chair Ricoszi thanked everyone for their efforts in 2020 and the RPB commended Mr. DiSalvo for his contributions and good judgment, as Chairman of the Authority.

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At 7:16 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary