

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

**Minutes of May 20, 2021 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, May 20, 2021, via remote access. Chairman 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 A. Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
North Haven	Anthony Rescigno
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

**Regional Water Authority**

David Borowy  
Kevin Curseaden  
Anthony DiSalvo  
Catherine LaMarr  
Suzanne Sack

**Management**

Larry L. Bingaman  
Rochelle Kowalski  
Beth Nesteriak  
Ted Norris  
Jeanine Reckdenwald  
Prem Singh

**Office of Consumer Affairs**

Jeffrey M. Donofrio

**Staff**

Jennifer Slubowski

Chair Ricozzi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

He reviewed the safety moment distributed to members.

**Minutes**

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Harvey, the RPB approved the minutes of its April 15, 2021 meeting, as distributed, with 95 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Absent
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Absent	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)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

**Communications**

Chair Ricozzi reported:

- that RPB term expirations are up on June 30, 2021. Municipal CEO’s have been contacted about reappointments. Chair Ricozzi thanked members for their service.
- The RWA will be holding a tour of the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 1 pm. The tour is open to RPB members. Anyone interested in attending should contact the board office.
- The next meeting of the RPB is on June 17, 2021 and will be followed by a public hearing for the disposition of 95 Ives Street in Hamden.
- The Claire C. Bennett Watershed Fund Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2021. The deadline for entries is June 4<sup>th</sup>. There is also a dinner only option for those who do not golf but wish to attend.

**Items for Consideration and Actions**

Mr. Slocum, Chair of the RPB Finance Committee, moved for approval of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Water Authority requested the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") review the Authority's FY 2022 proposed Capital and Operating Budgets ("Budgets"); and

**WHEREAS**, the RPB held workshops on April 19, 2021 and April 20, 2021, at which time management and the Authority presented the proposed Budgets and responded to questions in a professional, concise and articulate way; and

**WHEREAS**, the RPB has a duty to review the Budgets and to comment, but has no other statutory obligations or authority.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the RPB wishes to express its appreciation to management and the Authority for the professionalism of their presentation and express its overall support of the FY 2022 proposed Budgets; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB also agrees with the recommendations contained in the OCA’s Budget review letter dated April 23, 2021; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB consensus regarding the proposed Budgets is that they are reasonable and supported; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the RPB believes that the Authority’s overall financial plan provides for stable finances at unprecedented and uncertain times during the COVID-19 pandemic and the essential funding of capital projects and the flexibility of reduced operating expenses will support the steps necessary to address financial obstacles during the fiscal year.

Mr. Slocum stated his support of the resolution.

Mr. Jaser seconded the motion. Chair Ricozzi thanked management for their work on the FY 2022 Budgets. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 95 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Absent
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Absent	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)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

**Reports**

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Slocum reported on the committee meeting earlier in the month. The committee reviewed the AMI Benefits Realization Walk with management and held a discussion of the FY 2022 Capital and Operating Budgets.

**Land Use Committee** – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month. The committee met at the property formerly known as the Ricci property at 257 Fenn Road in Cheshire. Members of the Cheshire Land Trust provided a historical background of the property. Mr. Slocum reported that he attended the meeting and stated that the name of the property would be changed to the Fenn Moran property, after its 150 year tenants. The committee also reviewed land updates with management.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

**Consumer Affairs Committee** – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the week to review the Customer Care Realignment Initiative and Transformation with management. He suggested that the full RPB receive the presentation in the future. Mr. Mongillo also stated that the OCA reported on a resolved billing issue.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

At 6:50 p.m., Ms. Mowat Young and Mr. Rescigno entered the meeting.

**Nominating Committee** – Mr. Clifford, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the month. RPB members should refer to the minutes of the meeting. The committee is scheduled to meet next week to finalize the slate of officers.

**Authority/Management** – Mr. Borowy introduced Ms. LaMarr, the newest Authority member. The RPB welcomed Ms. LaMarr.

He reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day the Authority met as the Audit-Risk Committee and the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee.

Mr. DiSalvo, Chair of the Audit-Risk Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. The committee met in executive session to discuss cybersecurity with a focus on SCADA as well as other systems, ransomware, staff training and phishing exercises. He stated that a tabletop exercise is scheduled on May 21, 2021

Mr. Curseaden, Chair of the Environmental, Health and Safety Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. The committee received three presentations from management, which included Former Hamden Middle School Remediation update, Legislative update, and Sustainability Activities update.

At 7:06 p.m., Mr. Havrda withdrew from the meeting.

Ms. Nesteriak, RWA’s Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, provided an update of operations and return to work policy at the RWA, which included:

- Employee health metrics and vaccination status
- RWA Mask Policy

- Return to Work and Remote Work Policy
- Milestones and next steps

Mr. Bingaman, RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month of April 2021 and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2021 is 121% without a shortfall, with operating and maintenance expenses projected at the lower revised budget level, a very significant factor in the year-end coverage projection.

He reported that reservoir levels as of May 17, 2021 are 98%, compared to a long term average of 93%.

RPB members commended the RWA for their volunteer efforts to install a service line for a property in North Branford owned by a veteran and his family. Mr. Bingaman stated that 11 members from the Steel Workers Union volunteered for the project.

The RPB also congratulated Mr. Bingaman on his Honorary Degree presented to the RWA by Southern Connecticut State University Business School for its leadership with the creation of the Public Utilities Management Program.

Mr. Borowy reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day, the Authority voted to recommend a non-substantial land use amendment to create trails in Lake Chamberlain. RPB members can expect to receive the application.

Chair Ricoszi acknowledged Atty. Donofrio, Office of Consumer Affairs, who commented on his April 23, 2021 budget letter regarding his approval of the proposed FY 2022 Capital and Operating Budgets.

At 7:14 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Clifford, seconded by Ms. Young, unanimously carried, with 102 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative, the meeting adjourned.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	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)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

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Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary