South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority Minutes of the August 19, 2021 Meeting

A regular meeting of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority took place on Thursday, August 19, 2021, via remote access. Chairman Borowy presided.

Present: Authority Members Present – Messrs. Borowy, Curseaden, DiSalvo and Ms. LaMarr

Management - Mss. Kowalski, Reckdenwald and Messrs. Bingaman, Courchaine,

Norris and Singh RPB – Mr. Levine

The Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund – Mr. Stone

Development Resources – Mr. Gershman

Staff – Mrs. Slubowski

Chair Borowy called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Ms. Reckdenwald, the RWA's Senior Vice President of Corporate Services, reviewed the safety moment distributed to members.

Mr. Stone, President of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund ("Fund"), provided an update of the FY 2021 Fund financials, an overview of approved grant and scholarship awards, and golf tournament revenues.

Discussion took place regarding potential land acquisition grants and the Fund's mission.

Mr. Stone also reported that four directors of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund were up for reappointment: T. Clifford, E. Moore, Kate Powell and himself. All four directors have expressed an interest in continuing to serve. Background information was provided to the Authority for its review. He also reported that the Fund is recommending two new appointments to the Fund's Board of Directors, Scott M. Jones, Esq. and Marco Mutonji. Background information was also submitted to the Authority for review. The Authority discussed staggering terms for the two new members to allow for 4 members per term. After discussion, Mr. Curseaden moved for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the following persons be, and hereby are, reappointed as Directors of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, Inc. to serve in such capacity until the annual meeting of the sole Member in 2024, or until they otherwise lawfully cease to hold such office: Thomas P. Clifford III, Esq., Elisabeth Moore, Kate S. Powell, and Brian M. Stone, Esq.; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following persons be and hereby are, elected as Directors of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, Inc.: Scott M. Jones, Esq., to serve in such capacity until the annual meeting of the sole member in 2022, and Mr. Marco Mutonji to serve in such capacity until the annual meeting of the sole member in 2023, or until they otherwise lawfully cease to hold such office.

Ms. LaMarr seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote and the resolution was approved.

Borowy Aye
Curseaden Aye
DiSalvo Aye
LaMarr Aye
Sack Absent

Chair Borowy stated that the Authority previously held a discussion regarding recent donations that did not align with the Funds mission. Mr. Stone noted that the donations were some of the best the Fund ever made.

At 12:51 p.m., Mr. Stone withdrew from the meeting and on motion made by Ms. LaMarr, seconded by Mr. Curseaden, and unanimously carried, the Authority voted to recess the regular meeting to meet as the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
DiSalvo	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Sack	Absent

At 2:30 p.m., Mr. Levine withdrew from the meeting and the Authority reconvened.

On motion made by Mr. Curseaden, seconded by Ms. LaMarr, and unanimously carried, the Authority voted to approve, adopt, or receive, as appropriate the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- 1. Minutes of the July 15, 2021 meeting.
- 2. Capital budget authorization for September 2021.

RESOLVED, that the Vice President of Financial Reporting and Analysis is authorized to submit to the Trustee one or more requisitions in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,100,000 for the month of September 2021 for transfer from the Construction Fund for capital expenditures. Each such requisition shall contain or be accompanied by a certificate identifying such requisition and stating that the amount to be withdrawn pursuant to such requisition is a proper charge to the Construction Fund. Such requisitions are approved notwithstanding the fact that amounts to be withdrawn for a particular project may exceed the amount indicated for such month and year in the current Capital Improvement Budget but will not cause the aggregate amount budgeted for FY 2022 for all Capital Improvement Projects to be exceeded.

- 3. Capital Budget Transfer Notifications.
- 4. Monthly Financial Report for July 2021.
- 5. Accounts Receivable Update for July 2021.
- 6. Cancel Authority's regular meeting of September 16, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. and schedule special Authority meeting on September 23, 2021 at 12:30 p.m.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
DiSalvo	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Sack	Absen

Chair Borowy reconfirmed that the regular meeting scheduled for September 16, 2021 at 12:30 p.m., was cancelled due to a conflict with a holiday. Alternatively, the meeting will be held as a special meeting on September 23, 2021 at 12:30 p.m., to align with the Representative Policy Board's rescheduled meeting and public hearing for the Authority's Rate Application also on September 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Authority members reported on recent Representative Policy Board committee meetings.

At 2:52 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Curseaden, seconded by Mr. LaMarr, and unanimously carried, the Authority voted to recess the regular meeting to meet as the Strategic Planning Committee.

Borowy Aye
Curseaden Aye
DiSalvo Aye
LaMarr Aye
Sack Absent

At 3:35 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

Ms. Reckdenwald provided on update on the status of COVID at the RWA, which included:

- Status of COVID cases
- Reinstatement of mask requirement
- Mid-day cleanings and weekend Clorox treatments
- Vaccination status
- Status of remote meetings

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"):

- Provided an update on the status of well services acquisition revenues. He reported that
 revenues were strong in July. The RWA is continuing to advance its commercial business
 expansion, including other potential acquisitions. The RWA has also engaged a business broker
 to assist in finding companies that fit within its enabling legislation.
- Reported that Mr. Singh, the RWA's Chief Information & Digital Officer & VP Customer Care, met with town officials from Wolcott and Waterbury to discuss extending the PipeSafe service to residents. He will also schedule a meeting with the Town of Meriden.
- Stated that the RWA's financial audit is underway. The FY 2021 audit statements will be presented to the Authority at its September meeting.
- Updated Authority members on efforts to pursue federal water infrastructure funding, which included contacting representative Johanna Hayes. A meeting is being scheduled to meet with her staff. Personalized letters have also been mailed to municipal CEO's in the district about transferring a portion of ARPA funds. To date, the RWA has met with the Mayors of Ansonia and East Haven and staff of the City of New Haven. The three projects submitted for funding through Senator Murphy's office have progressed to the next step. Mr. Bingaman expects positive results.
- Highlighted that Ms. Kowalski and Mr. Norris, the RWA's Vice President of Asset Management, submitted a letter of intent to WIFIA to request partial funding for the Lake Whitney dam project. RWA has an opportunity to receive 49% from WIFIA and a total of 80% federal funding, including loans and grants.
- Reported on last year's piloting of main flushing technology called NO-DES, used to flush
 water mains as well as assess water main conditions and minimize the impact of flushing on
 customer water quality.

Discussion took place regarding the status of RWA's work from home policy.

At 3:50 p.m., on motion made by Ms. LaMarr, seconded by Mr. DiSalvo, and unanimously carried, the Authority voted to go into executive session to discuss cybersecurity and strategy. Present in executive session were Authority members, Mss. Kowalski, Reckdenwald, Slubowski and Messrs. Bingaman, Courchaine, Norris and Singh.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
DiSalvo	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Sack	Absent

At 4:01 p.m., Mr. Gershman entered the meeting.

At 4:37 p.m., Mr. Gershman withdrew from the meeting.

At 4:56 p.m., the Authority came out of executive session and on motion made by Ms. LaMarr, seconded by Mr. Curseaden, and unanimously carried, the Authority voted to adjourn the meeting.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
DiSalvo	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Sack	Absent

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Curseaden, Secretary