

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

Minutes of August 19, 2021 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, August 19, 2021, 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 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

Absent

New Haven	Naomi Campbell
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Regional Water Authority

Anthony DiSalvo
David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden
Catherine LaMarr

Management

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

Counsel

Bruce McDermott
Raquel Herrera-Soto

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey M. Donofrio

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 distributed to members.

Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Slocum, the RPB approved the minutes of its July 15, 2021 meeting as distributed, with 88 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Absent	Woodbridge (3)	Aye

East Haven (6) Aye

No. Branford (8) Aye

Gov. Rep. (1) Aye

Communications

Chair Ricozzi:

- Reported on the Nominating Committee for the appointment of Authority member. He did not receive any interest from RPB members for the Authority member position. Several members volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee. Mr. Havrda will act as Chairman and the committee is expected to hold its first meeting in the near future.
- Stated that the RPB Quarterly Dashboard Report has been distributed to members. Questions should be directed to Mr. Slocum, Chair of the RPB Finance Committee. He noted that the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee is discussing possible modifications to the report in the future.
- Provided an update on RPB term expirations and reappointments. West Haven, East Haven and Governors Representative are still pending confirmation. Mr. Malloy reported that the Town Council of West Haven is scheduled to meet Monday evening to confirm his reappointment. Chair Ricozzi noted that the board is pending confirmation from the Governor's Office for Mr. Marino.

Ms. Slubowski stated that a tour of Lake Gaillard is being organized for early September. Any members who haven't expressed interest and would like to attend should contact the board office.

Item for Consideration and Action

Mr. Slocum moved for adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority on July 19, 2021 filed an Issuance Test Rate Application to the Representative Policy Board ("RPB"); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee of the Representative Policy Board reviewed the Application and recommends that it be accepted by the RPB as complete; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommends that the public hearing be conducted by a presiding member; and

WHEREAS, the Representative Policy Board is desirous of accepting said Application as complete and scheduling said Application for a public hearing in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the Bylaws and Rules of the RPB.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Representative Policy Board hereby accepts the Authority's Issuance Test Rate Application, as a completed application, substantially in the form submitted to this meeting, and determines to hold a public hearing on the Application conducted by a Presiding Member, on September 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via remote access; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson is hereby directed to give notice of said hearing in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules of Practice, as amended.

Ms. Mowat Young seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 88 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3) Aye
Beacon Falls (0) Aye

Guilford (4) Aye
Hamden (10) Aye

No. Haven (5) 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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Absent	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Chair Ricoszi reported that the Office of Consumer Affairs submitted its First Set of Interrogatories regarding the Authority's Rate Application. RPB members should submit questions to the board office for distribution to the appropriate RWA executive for review and responses.

Mr. Mongillo reported that the Consumer Affairs Committee met earlier in the week and received a detailed review of the RWA Rules and Regulations, which was last reviewed in 2017. After a thorough review, the committee voted to approve the revisions for recommendation to the RPB. He moved for adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority submitted proposed revisions to its *Rules and Regulations for Water Service and its Rules, Regulations and Rates Governing the Extension of Water Mains* to the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") for its consideration and approval; and

WHEREAS, the Representative Policy Board Consumer Affairs Committee reviewed the proposed revisions at its August 16, 2021 meeting and recommended the changes to the RPB for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed revisions to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's *Rules and Regulations for Water Service and its Rules, Regulations and Rates Governing the Extension of Water Mains*, be and hereby are approved substantially in the form submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Oslander seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 88 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Absent	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Chair Ricoszi reported that Mr. Smith will act as Presiding Member at the public hearing for the Authority's 2021 Rate Application.

He stated that the RPB regular meeting conflicts with a holiday. The regular meeting originally scheduled for September 16th will be cancelled and a special meeting of the RPB will meet the following week on September 23, 2021, the meeting will be held remotely.

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Ms. Verderame, and unanimously carried, the RPB voted to approve the cancellation of its regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Absent	Woodbridge (3)	Aye

East Haven (6) Absent No. Branford (8) Aye Gov. Rep. (1) Aye

On motion made by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Mongillo, and unanimously carried, the RPB voted to approve the special meeting of the RPB on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

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 (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Aye	New Haven (13)	Absent	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Aye	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

As a confirmation Chair Ricozzi stated that the next meeting of the RPB will meet on September 23, 2021, with the public hearing to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month to review the completeness of the Authority’s Rate Application and received a presentation from management regarding the Ten Year Model allowing for an opportunity to provide input for the 2021 model update. The committee had no new business to report. The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 5 pm, via zoom.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Harvey, Land Use Committee member, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month at Lake Gaillard. The committee met with management to receive a history of the lake, land acquired and farms in the area. The committee’s next meeting will take place on September 8, 2021.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported on the committee meeting that took earlier in the week. The committee met with management to review a proposed letter to municipal CEO’s regarding RWA’s PipeSafe program and to review changes to the RWA’s Rules and Regulations. The Office of Consumer Affairs reported no pending consumer complaints and commented that the rate application had been reviewed and the first set of interrogatories have been submitted.

Authority/Management – Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority Meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Authority met as the sole member of the Claire C. Bennett Watershed Fund (“Fund”) to review the FY 2021 financial report, recent grants and scholarships awarded. The Authority approved the reappointment of four directors and the appointment of two new directors recommended by the Fund.

He stated that the Authority also met as the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee and as the Strategic Planning Committee.

Mr. Curseaden, Chair of the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day and approved a revised committee charter. The committee also received three presentations from management regarding the RWA’s Business Continuity Work Plan update for FY 2022, Invasive Plant Management, and the Lead & Copper Rule.

Discussion took place regarding the Lake Whitney Business Continuity Plan and a possible special joint meeting of the Finance Committee and Consumer Affairs Committee to meet with management to review the Lead & Copper Rule.

Mr. Borowy reported that the Authority also voted to move its September meeting to a special meeting on September 23, 2021 to align with the Representative Policy.

Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, reported that the Committee met to review the results of a recent Self-Assessment Survey and discuss succession planning at the RWA.

Mr. Bingaman reviewed revenues and operating and maintenance expenses through July 31, 2021. He reported a projected shortfall of \$750,000 to reach maintenance test coverage of 114%. He also stated that there is still financial uncertainty due to the impact of the pandemic, including employment levels and customers' ability to pay.

He also reported that as of August 16, 2021 raw storage levels are at 94%, compared to the long-term average and last year's levels of 78%.

Discussion took place regarding reservoir levels, billed consumption, and Lake Whitney impact.

Attorney Donofrio, Office of Consumer Affairs ("OCA"), reporting no pending consumer complaints. He stated that he completed his review of the rate application and has submitted the first set of interrogatories.

Chair Ricozzi reminded members that the next RPB meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., with the public hearing for the Authority's Rate Application to follow at 7:00 p.m.

At 7:13 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Harvey, Jr., Secretary