

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Minutes of February 24, 2022 Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, February 24, 2022, 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
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.
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

Absent

Derby	Frank Pepe
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden
Catherine LaMarr
Suzanne Sack

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Jim Hill
Paul Joseph
Orville Kelly
Rochelle Kowalski
Sunny Lakshminarayanan
Premjith Lakshman Singh
Donna Verdisco

Murtha Cullina LLP

Bruce McDermott

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey 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 handout distributed to members.

Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Slocum, the RPB approved the minutes of its January 27, 2022 meeting as distributed, with 95 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Absent	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)	Absent
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye

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

Communications

Chair Ricoszi reported on the Code of Ethics Compliance for the period ended November 30, 2021. He reported no violations.

At 6:33 p.m., Mr. Clifford entered the meeting

Mr. Slocum moved for adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that based on the recommendation of the Representative Policy Board Finance Committee, effective June 1, 2022 the compensation of the Regional Water Authority (“RWA”) Chairperson be increased to \$35,500 per year and the compensation of members of the RWA who do not serve as Chairperson be increased to \$26,000 per year.

Ms. Mowat Young seconded the motion.

Mr. Slocum reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the month and held a discussion on Authority member compensation. He stated that last year, due to the uncertainty of the pandemic’s effect on customer’s ability to pay the committee recommended a partial salary increase for Authority members comparable to that of the RWA. This year the Finance Committee voted to recommend an increase, which would bring Authority compensation up to the standard rate.

After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and, the RPB approved the Proposed Resolution, with 98 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)	Absent
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	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 Finance Committee meeting earlier in the month. The Committee met with management and received an updated on RWA’s recent refinancing. He stated the report was optimistic and included savings over the long-term. The Committee also discussed Authority compensation. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee reported on the Land Use Committee meeting earlier in the month. The committee met on February 9th and received a presentation of beetle research and diversity on RWA’s properties. The Committee also received land updates and an invasive species update from management. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday, February 28, 2022 to receive a refinancing update from management. The Committee will also discuss monthly billing. All RPB members are invited to attend.

Authority/Management – Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Authority also met as the Audit-Risk Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the RWA’s Audit-Risk Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the day. The committee met in executive session to discuss cyber risk strategies. The Committee also met with representatives from CliftonLarsonAllen, the RWA’s external auditor, to discuss the FY 2022 plan of audit.

Mr. Borowy also reported that at the Authority meeting earlier in the day, the Authority also met as the Strategic Planning Committee. The committee received an update of the RWA’s FY 2023 Strategic Plan Initiatives. Once the plan is completed, it will be shared with members of the RPB.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, introduced Ms. Verdisco, the RWA’s Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer.

Mr. Joseph, the RWA’s Interim Human Resources Vice President, provided an update on the status of COVID at the RWA.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month ended January 31, 2022 and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2022 is 117%, with no shortfall. He reported that the projection reflects the one time impact associated with the conversation to monthly billing and changes associated with the rate application. Mr. Bingaman noted that there is still uncertainty regarding the short and long-term impacts of the pandemic, and associated variants, including on employment levels and customers’ ability to pay.

He also reported that raw water storage levels as of February 15, 2022, were 91%, compared to the long-term average of 80%.

At 7:00 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Havrda, Secretary