

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Consumer Affairs Committee**

Minutes of the May 16, 2022 Meeting

The regular meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee (“CAC”) of the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RPB”) took place on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Committee members present: S. Mongillo, N. Campbell, M. Levine, A. Rescigno, and R. Smith.

Authority member: K. Curseaden

RWA members: T. Barger, D. Donovan, L. Gonzalez, and R. Kowalski

Office of Consumer Affairs: Jeffrey Donofrio, Esq. (“OCA”)

RPB Staff: J. Slubowski

Chairman Mongillo called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

On motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the committee voted to approve the minutes of its April 18, 2022 meeting, as presented.

Mr. Barger, the RWA’s Water Quality Manager, provided a Lead and Copper update. He stated that the RWA is working with CDM Smith, an engineering and consulting firm, who has extensive experience with lead and copper rule revisions and will work with the RWA to develop a plan going forward. This undertaking is the result of a revision to the federally regulated lead and copper rule and contains various parts and focal areas. The team working on the project consists of approximately 14 members of the RWA from various areas within the organization. Currently, the RWA is focusing on service line inventories, which information is due to be submitted to the state in October 2024, and searching for sub-contractors in areas of communications, inventory mapping, field investigation, corrosion control treatment, and the distribution of lead particulate filters. Inventory mapping is expected to take the bulk of time, as the team will need to review historical information to determine where pipes are located and address unknowns. He stated that once the information is compiled it would be converted to electronic format for geographic placement.

Mr. Barger reported that Ms. Kowalski, the RWA’s Vice President of Financial Reporting & Analysis, is actively working with the state health department and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program for information on grant and financing opportunities. Ms. Capone, the RWA’s Director of Public Affairs, is also working with subcontractors to develop a communication plan for the RWA’s municipal partners, schools, daycares, and state departments. The RWA will also be scheduling meetings with communities to address concerns and answer questions.

Mr. Barger stated that next steps included contacting customers for information, working public on communications and material, addressing concerns, developing sampling protocols, searching for funding opportunities, and upgrading information technology.

The Committee discussed residential responsibility, regulatory requirements, sampling, data unknowns, financing opportunities, data collection, and corrosion control treatment process.

At 6:17 p.m., Mr. Barger withdrew from the meeting.

Atty. Donofrio reported that he currently has no pending complaints but that the RWA is currently working on two matters. First, a customer in Cheshire regarding a PipeSafe billing issue, which is close to resolution. Second, an account in East Haven, affected by the recent transition to monthly billing. The RWA is currently researching this account. A phone call is scheduled for tomorrow, May 17th between the RWA and the customer. If the issue is not resolved, the OCA may have to intervene.

Atty. Donofrio also reported that time he spent time last month reviewing the FY 2023 proposed budget and the preparation of his budget letter to the Authority. He is currently preparing for the upcoming public hearing next week. Atty. Donofrio will also be reviewing the Application for the Lake Whitney Dam Initial Design, under the RWA's expedited basis, which he will be able to accommodate.

On motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the OCA's April 2022 billing (\$5,650.00).

Committee members volunteered for attendance at upcoming Authority meetings, as follows:

June 23, 2022 – Mr. Rescigno
July 28, 2022 – Mr. Levine
August 25, 2022 – Ms. Campbell

The September 23, 2022 Authority meeting will be assigned at a future committee meeting.

The next regular meeting is on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

The committee discussed renovations to the RWA's Water Wagon, which is currently not in use do to rust in the tank. Ms. Kowalski reported that the RWA is currently working on plans for the Water Wagon's repairs.

Chair Mongillo reported that he attended two meetings hosted by the RWA for members of the public to address questions related to the upcoming Lake Whitney Dam Initial Design Project.

At 6:31 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

Stephen Mongillo, Chairman