

REPRESENTATIVE POLICY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING TRANSCRIPTION

June 9, 2022

Mario:

Okay. This is a special meeting of the RPB of June 9th, 2022. Excuse me. First item on the agenda is the safety moment. For this meeting, it's preventing hearing loss. So, please be careful as you limit exposure at any noisy activities and wear hearing protection if you go to a rock concert. And read the rest of it at your leisure in your packet.

Mario:

The next item is, excuse me, we're going to recess now or recess the RPB meeting. And we're going to hold the public hearing for the Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway Initial Design Project, phase one. I just want to remind all the members of the RPB and anyone else that's on. This is for the design portion of the project. So we do not have any designs that we're really going to be talking about or showing, presenting. It's really to talk about funding, the design, and the need for the project. So with that, if I can have a motion to recess.

Tony:

So moved.

Mario:

Thank you Tony. A second?

Jay:

I'll second it.

Mario:

Second, Jay. Thank you. All in favor of recessing.

Group:

Aye.

Mario:

Anyone opposed? Any abstentions? Okay.

[RECESS FROM 6:35 TO 7:25 P.M. FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR LAKE WHITNEY DAM AND SPILLWAY INITIAL DESIGN APPLICATION]

Mario:

Okay. Thank you very much. And thank you all for coming again tonight, and for the public input. There are a few items for consideration and action. The first is the discussion and acceptance of the draft "Final Decision, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law..." for the "Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway

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Initial Design Project - Phase 1." As you may recall, this project application was done under the expedited process that we all voted on several years ago. And what I've asked Jennifer to do and was send around a standard boiler plate, if you will, on the final decision.

Mario:

Like to go through this, she has now filled it in with some information and I want to make sure we get consensus from the RPB. Make sure that we didn't put anything in there that anyone would object to. If this is acceptable in its form and format, we would then move to resolutions regarding the application itself. But first, let's make sure everybody is okay with what's been written here. So, you should have received the body. I'll ask Jennifer, if you could slide to the revisions that were made or the additions.

Mario:

And as you all may recall, this extracts information from the application. Under the public hearing, I think we would add that questions were asked to the applicant with respect to alternative delivery systems as well as schedule and public involvement. Any other items that you wish to list here, members of the RPB?

Mario:

Okay. Or OCA? All right. And scroll down. I apologize for the coughing.

Jennifer:

Can I make one suggestion, Mario?

Mario:

Yes.

Jennifer:

Back here where it says, "described the background approach, scope, project needs," There was a little more in there. Can I add some of that, alternative assessments, costing, potential permitting agencies, everything that was in the presentation headings.

Mario:

What I believe that under the alternatives analysis, those are all parts of the alternatives analysis.

Jennifer:

Okay. All right. I just usually try and stick with the-

Mario:

Unless someone would want to see it added. Okay. No-one's jumping up and down.

Jennifer:

Okay. The OCA, would anybody like to add anything here?

Mario:

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And Jeff, you're okay with the language?

Jeff:

Yes, I reviewed it and I let Jennifer know this morning that I was good with it.

Mario:

Very good, thank you. Okay, continue. So, we have some "Findings of Fact." [inaudible 00:04:26]. And "Conclusions of Law." Okay. Does anyone have any issues, concerns with the language that was provided?

Mario:

Okay. Thank you very much. Having heard none, we can move to the next item, which is the resolution to approve the Authority's application. There was one item that was added to the resolution that you received, and that identifies the approval of the "Final Decision, Findings of Fact" that we just discussed. And that's the fourth, "Whereas," and if I can trouble Naomi, since she did such a good job earlier, go through the resolution...

Naomi:

Absolutely. "Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority." "Proposed Resolution." Dated June 9th, 2022. "South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Application for the Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway Initial Design Project - Phase 1."

Naomi:

"Whereas, the Regional Water Authority ("RWA") on May 16th, 2022, filed an Application to the Representative Policy Board, ("RPB") for the approval of the Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway Initial Design Project - Phase 1 ("Application");"

Naomi:

"And whereas the RPB finance committee review the application and recommended it to the RPB chairman under the RWA's expedited process that it would be accepted as complete and scheduled a public hearing on June 9th, 2022 at 6:30 PM."

Naomi:

"And whereas the RPB held a public hearing for the application on June 9th, 2022 at 6:30 PM."

Naomi:

"And whereas the proposed finding of fact conclusions of law and final decision of the representative policy board with respect to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authorities application which copy is attached hereto, be and hereby is approved and as revised and discussed at the meeting."

Naomi:

"And whereas the RPB concluded application and the proposed action necessary and consistent with the policies and case of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority. It's not likely to have adverse effects on the environment and in the public interest."

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Naomi:

"Now, therefore be it resolved that the RPB hereby approves the Authority's Application for the Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway Initial Design Project - Phase 1, number 22-02 filed May 16, 2022 in accordance with Section 19 Connecticut Special Act 77-98 as amended."

Mario:

Thank you very much, Naomi, is there a second, Bob? Thank you. Any further discussion again, this is the design for the Lake Whitney Dam. Obviously, it's a large project. So the design costs exceed \$2 million, which is why it's been split up into two instead of trying to come up with a very good cost estimate on a very limited design, any discussion, questions? Hearing none, all those in favor. Say aye.

Group:

Aye.

Mario:

Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Thank you very much. Having approved the application. If I may go to Tim Slocum, the Finance Committee reviewed a resolution for financing, which Tim, if you wouldn't mind reading that.

Tim:

Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is the proposed resolution, a resolution approving the issuance of bonds.

Tim:

"Whereas the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, (the "Authority") proposes to issue its bonds, which may be issued as Project Loan Obligations delivered to the State of Connecticut, or as obligations issued pursuant to the federal Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (the "Bonds") in accordance with the Special Act 77-98 as amended of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut (the "Act") and the Water System Revenue Bond Resolution, General Bond Resolution, adopted by the Authority and approved by the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District, (the "RPB") on July 31st, 1980 as amended and supplemented (the "General Bond Resolution");"

Tim:

"And whereas the act authorizes the Authority to issue its bonds from time to time, but subject to the approval of the RPB."

Tim:

"Now, therefore be it resolved that number one, the RPB hereby approves the issuance of the Authority's Bonds in an aggregate principle amount, not to exceed \$6,020,000 and further resolved."

Tim:

"Number two, the Bonds may be issued as obligations in one or more series pursuant to the General Bond Resolution and the supplemental resolution that will be adopted by the Authority for each series of Bonds, of which shall specify the amount of the Bonds, the purpose for which the Bonds would be

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issued, the date or dates, maturities, sinking fund installments, if any interest rates, series denominations, form redemption prices, security provisions, and each other details of the Bonds as the Authority shall determine in accordance with the limits established by the General Bond Resolution and hereby and further resolved;"

Tim:

"Three, the purpose of the bond shall be to finance or refinance the cost of the design of the Lake Whitney Dam and Spillway Improvements"... "To provide funds for deposit to the Capital Contingency Fund, Debt Reserve Fund, and the Operating Reserve Fund as necessary pursuant to the General Bond Resolution as permitted by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended to pay the costs of issuance and further resolved;"

Tim:

"Four, the Bonds may be sold by negotiation as serial or term bonds with state of maturities and may be sold in a private or direct placement to a bank, the State of Connecticut or the United States of America.

Tim:

Here ends.

Mario:

Thank you very much, Tim. That's in a motion. And is there a second?

Greg:

I second it.

Mario:

Thank you very much, Greg. Any questions? Comments, discussion on the financing. Okay. Hearing none. All those in favor sign signify by saying aye.

Group:

Aye.

Mario:

Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Thank you all very much. We can't do anything new on the agenda because it is a special meeting. So we are limited. However, I think it's appropriate that the chair acknowledges Mr. Marsik for his excellent job in the video that was produced. We all enjoyed it. And didn't, in all the years I've known you Larry, I didn't realize that you were a member of the screen actors guild.

Stephen:

Mario. This is Steve. I'd also like to say that Jeff, as usual did an excellent job of reviewing this and presenting it in a way that was very informative for the RPB.

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Mario:

Yes. I agree. Absolutely, good job. Okay. Hearing nothing else. A motion to adjourn.

Sunny:

Mario, just to, just to thank all the Chairs for expediting the process, the Chair of the RPB, the Authority and the Finance Committee. The rest of, I would say the members who worked with us throughout the entire process, it started on the 16th of May, but today we are on the 9th of June, thank you all so much for, I would say being patient listening, going through, I would say 800 pages of documents. So, on top, as part of the leadership team, as well as part of, I would say the engineering team, I mean our heartfelt thanks and thanks for the OCA to listen to all the patient ideas. I kind of, I would say picked his brain quite a bit. He was quite patient to give me enough appointments during his busy time. And you know, and Steve, especially for showing up for those two meetings and on setting, I would say most of the questions, which April and I would've answered. So thank you Steve. Very much. So it's been a fantastic, I would say to work with all of you so special, thanks to our gratitude.

Mario:

Okay. Well, you're welcome. And I'm sure we'll get Jeff's bill. Thank you. Did we vote on the motion to adjourn?

Tom:

So moved.

Mario:

So move second, Peter. Thank you all in favor.

Group:

Aye.