

**SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY**

MARCH 28, 2024

MEETING TRANSCRIPTION

David:

It is 11 o'clock somewhere, there is no one here. I will call the Regional Water Authority's meeting for March 28th, 2024 to order. I will note that we have in person, Mario and myself, and we have Catherine and Suzanne online. I don't see Kevin yet online. Has he gotten on yet? No, but he is going to be online for the first part of the meeting. Then when we take our break for lunch, he's going to drive up from his office. All right, with that we have the safety moment of great interest. Hopefully you all had a chance to look at that and timely as always. So that's good.

Nice to walk when the weather is nice and getting good out there to get some fresh air. Public comment. Jennifer, do we have anyone from the public?

Jennifer:

No.

David:

If we did, they'd be allowed up to three minutes. All right, so then we'll go right into the reason we're starting the meeting early, our annual meeting regarding the budget. So review and discuss proposed capital and operating budgets for fiscal year 2025. Of course we have our budget post, which I didn't look yet. I will hand it over to Larry, I think.

Larry:

Thank you. Thank you.

David:

Mario, you had a question.

Mario:

Do you want to go into executive session or no?

Larry:

Well, on the capital budget, there's a couple of items that we'll want an executive session to it.

David:

Okay, no problem.

Larry:

So if you want to bounce in and out, that's fine or you just go into it.

David:

That makes sense.

Mario:

Yes, if you could save it all for that and for one time within the capital budget and then operating will have some as well.

David:

Yes.

Mario:

If we can try to group them together.

David:

Affecting the wage and salary increase.

Mario:

Exactly right. Yes. My suggestion when we get to the operating budget is let's do that part first because Jay is going to be joining us around 12:30, unless it looks like we'll be done with both around 1230. I think last year took less than two hours for both, so we may, okay. Yeah. [inaudible 00:03:44] Hey, depends on how many questions.

Larry:

Okay, so this is the items that we'll cover today in the capital budget. I'll do a brief history of our capital program and the assumptions and then I will turn it over to Sunny, who will cover most of the rest of the items with the exception of general plant. Prem will comment on that since much of that covers his area. Then sunny, we will wrap it up with a five-year capital improvement and then we will do the executive summary.

If you can flip to the next page, this shows our capital budgets from 1993 to 2029. As you can see, the Cap ex budget tends to fluctuate year by year depending on the priorities of each of the categories, which we have five of those. Which is natural resources, treatment, transmission and pumping, general plant and then there's a contingency or project reserve. From the year 2000 to 2005, you can see that we had a spike in spending in the natural resources category, which took into account the Whitney Dam, 2008 to 2011 we had increased spending for the SAP. So there was a spike there in the general plant area. From 2016 to 2020 we were spending for AMI where you saw a spike in that particular category in terms of transmission and pumping. Then in 2018 was when we had the Great Hill Tunnel issue that we had to deal with.

2021, the pre covid budget was \$41.7 million, but you remember we reduced that budget in 2021 in order to accommodate the rate increase and the like. So that is significantly reduced. But the next year in 2022 that was increased, almost doubled, to restore the funding for those projects that were deferred in the previous fiscal year. Then 2023 to 2029 where you see a large increase in budget there. That's due to increases of very large projects that we have underway, which is the Whitney dam, the lake Gaillard and lake Saltonstall electrical upgrades, the lead service line replacements, north Bradford tank, and then we're still evaluating alternatives on the building, which is continuing to go on and on. The city is, they keep showing us different versions of the same drawing, so it's tending to drag out. The one thing I

do want to mention, you'll notice that in 2005 that it's a very low capital budget and that was actually when we converted to the fiscal year beginning June one.

As you know, that gives us more control over what we need to do from an expense and capital standpoint if we have a very wet summer. That was a step period for that period of time. You go to the next page is the fiscal 25 budget assumptions. Our total capital budget that we are proposing this year prior to the Connecticut DOT, contingency, the growth fund and grants is about \$46.9 million. The five year plan approximates the 10 year model, which is good news. So you've seen some of these numbers before. The five year is about \$200,000 less than the 10 year model presented in October 2023. The net total budget, we are estimating grants of around \$2 million that we'll be able to get, so its net will be \$44.9 million. I just have to take a minute to hand it to both Michelle Sunny and Lisa Gah, who's our budget coordinator.

They worked very closely together along with an outside engineer that used to work with us to seek grants and a low cost loan. They've done a great job, whether it's congressional directed spending or whether it's some of the other sources that we've had. So we'll continue to pursue that. This budget takes into account about \$2 million. The fiscal 25 budget and future budgets take into account GHDS recommendations. That was some of those recommendations where the pipe expenditures should hold steady at about seven to \$8 million in the five-year plan. Should increase the amount of money spent on pumping and we are, such as the Spring Street pump station upgrade, as well as some anticipated spending for the lead service line placement. We are assuming that the RPB approves all of the projects where needed, and we have several that we are planning for them to review.

We have put our capital budget project reserve at about \$3.5 million and that's for two projects, the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment plant clarifiers and the recycle building improvements and the CIS. Then we have a contingency in the budget of about \$685,000, which is about 1.6%. We're continuing to assume that the Connecticut DOT pipe will be self-funded and we have about a 98% recovery rate. In terms of when we do a DOT project and it's eligible for refunding we get back about 98% of that. That is significantly higher than the success of the investor owned water utilities.

We've been able to put together a very sophisticated system where we've been able to take the invoices, review them, make sure that they reflect the work that was done, and then submit them to DOT and then have regular follow up. So we've got a 98% return on that. Then municipal redevelopment pipe and some DOT work is a funded item because those are projects that typically are not reimbursed. An example of that would be Orchard Street in New Haven, Spring Street in West Haven and Orchard Street, which actually goes from Martin Luther King to Chapel in New Haven. So there's a couple of projects there that we know we're not going to get reimbursed for [inaudible 00:11:57]. So that leads me to the fiscal 25 introduction and I will turn it over to Sunny, who will review the rest of the capital budget.

Sunny:

Thanks, Larry. Good morning. This slide kind of gives the four categories in which we spend. As well as which slide touched upon the contingency, CDOTs, plus the commercial. So the natural resources, treatment transmission and pumping as well as the general plants. The four main categories, and as you can see the natural resources is about say 2.7. Treatment, we're going to spend a lot this time. Transmission and pumping 18.8. The general plant, which will include the CIS, it's about say 9.8. The contingency, which Larry just said 685, it's about say 0.7, rounded off. The CDOT is about 3 million, that's reimbursed almost 98%. The commercial, again, it's reflective of phase two of CIS, which Prem will talk about. Overall, if you look at it's 46.9. Plus another, I would say 3.8 gives you 50.7, and that also includes funding for projects that is held in the reserve. Which is the Clarifiers plus CIS and all that.

This is a typical standard slide that has been there. It kind of, I would say, addresses the four main components of how the present situation is. We still see supply chain challenges related to some of the equipment, generators, some of the control panels, semiconductor related things. Then, which Larry touched upon the SRF funding, which we are able to get a lot more. The congressional directed spending, which we are filing even now in the next, I would say month or so, we'll file for more projects. The DWSR, we are going to submit again. The asset management initiatives, that has been a focus in 2024, bringing it back into the focus again for both predictive and preventative maintenance. That is one area which we attacked significantly in 24. There is about, say 110 initiatives, which we identified, which we will continue to do next two or three years.

Then as usual, we conduct, I would say the risk resiliency and redundancy for each of the capital projects as well as the business continuity exercises, which looks at many things. So these are four main pillars, so to speak, and this is a prioritization methodology that's been there for a long time. Right now we have 48 ongoing projects and programs. The prioritization process as usual with the last years. It's based on the 2023, 10 year capital plan. Then as you all know, the infrastructure and the technology projects gets weighted differently and they get prioritized. The review is done by the CPCT, which is the capital project control teams, the project managers, and then the leadership team kind of provides input. It's a very robust rating of each of the projects with multiple, I would say, and if you look at the book and the binder, I think it kind of gives at the end how the prioritization happens. There is an Excel sheet.

Just diving a little bit more into the weeds on the natural resources. The 2.7 million breaks into 14 projects and programs. The Whitney Dam would be a significant one. The next year is going to predominantly focus on the completion of design and the application of permits with both DEEP as well as Army Corps. The 40 million total is the construction, which we have taken as well as the design and construction management. I won't get into the details of the ECI because then we'll have to go into the executive sessions. Given, we involved the ECI contracts, they had some really valid inputs. We incorporated those inputs. Now GZA is kind of advancing the design to 90%, and with that we hope to complete the 90% design by May of June of 2025 I mean 2024. Then after that, we plan to submit for permitting and approvals.

The prospect dam improvements, the design has been completed. Again, this is another design build initiative. We advanced the design to say 45, 50%. We brought in a contractor to work with a designer, [inaudible 00:16:35]. It's the permitting process is ongoing. It's been almost six months. We are waiting with fingers crossed with DEEP, hoping at any point of time. If it comes today, we would still be able to complete this job and you will see one of the project reserves will be related to this. If it comes today, we can still aim to complete the job within the next, I would say two months. Even still, we are not sure when we will actually get the permitting in our hands. That is one significant work that will happen. Then the peat Swamp is another one, which was, it's another old dam, 1895's. It was actually taken over from Birmingham Utility.

There were some renovations done in 1916 and 25. This is again mandated by the state. We've been kind of pushing it off because we had to do the Whitney and Prospect. So we have gotten some extra leeway from the state to get it done by 2027, so 27 28. So we are now in the design stages. We will do a lot of studies and design and I would say alternative analysis. The peat swamp is going to be put on the priority for design. That will get completed this year, going May of 2025. After that, one of the major ones will be the tunnel diversion raw water main program. This is going to be the inventory mapping of the Genesee tunnels. It's going to be remote tunnel inspections associated with it. There is going to be other additional areas in the national resources under real estate purchases and all that which forms part of the 14 projects and programs, just given the significant highlights. Any question?

Mario:

I haven't a ton but I'll let you finish.

Sunny:

Okay. The treatment plan highlights it kind of, talks about the four big treatment plans as well as the Wellfields, the Gaillard, West River, Saltonstall, and Whitney. Then the Wellfields, the 8.5 is allocated for Gaillard. West River is about 1.8, Saltonstall 1.3, Whitney 1.3, and the Wellfields is 2.6. And the notes include the filter media replacements then it also includes the plant valve replacement programs. Then of course, the clarifiers and recycled building, which is an ongoing contract. Then the treatment plant budget valves, which is in a program that continues for each facility about a hundred thousand each year. Then the future regulatory treatment, which could include Legionella based treatment as well as PFAS related for the Whitney, for the Whitney treatment plants. And we are hoping to do some chlorine analysis of residual chlorine studies at West Haven Tanks, North Branford and Northford tanks. So, which will determine as to how we want to attack the Legionella. That's the future treatment compliance. We have allocated about a billion dollars there. We go to the next one Jennifer? I'm going to wait do you have any questions, Mario?

Mario:

Yes, because you're not the same or you're generally in the same order as the, I don't know that I've seen the slides, so.

Sunny:

Okay.

Mario:

Ignoring it, my questions towards your slides.

Sunny:

Got it. Okay. The slides are pretty much based on-

Mario:

Yes, no, I see that.

Larry:

Did you want to ask a question now?

Mario:

No, no, because I'll have to flip back and forth rather stay on your roll. You're on a roll.

Sunny:

Okay, so going to the treatment highlights, I think this pretty much talks about the Gaillard. The filter media replacement is a program that is initiated in 2016, it continues. We replaced, I would say the GAC. The Gaillard there's going to be the highlighted ones, which are significant projects. The clarifiers and

recycle buildings, which the RPP applications you have seen. It continues, I would say last year into this year, hopefully will finish it in fiscal 25.

The HVAC upgrades, which the application came through for RPV. That was supposed to be a bid last year, but we had the Build America Better America legislation, which kind of delayed the exemptions by almost 12 months. We got the exemptions kind of approved as of December, 2023. Now it's going into a bidding and construction. The roof replacement. It's a lot of leaks we observed in the last, I would say as the years gets over and over. The roof is almost greater than 20 plus years old, so the roof replacements will happen for Gaillard.

Then the local control upgrades, that's going to be an ongoing process. The electrical upgrades, that's part of Gaillard, as well as the Saltonstall, which is another application that will come through. It's not yet finalized, we are in the final stages of the design and bidding documents. You'll see the applications come through in fiscal 25. Then there is miscellaneous treatment plans. That's an annual program for miscellaneous improvements as and in operations points, things to be done and replaced.

That kind of touches upon the three other treatment plans where it's going to be the Saltonstall, Whitney and West River. The electrical upgrades, which I just mentioned, which was packaged together as one single contract. The Saltonstall and Gaillard. You'll see the application will also come through in the same way. The contracts will also bid in the same fashion, so we can actually have synergies and economies of scale. The HVAC improvements, this is another one for Saltonstall, which will come through. At this point, the engineer's estimate is 1.9. Based on how the design goes, it might go up. The gravity thickener is another one, which is going to be perhaps coming through, depending on where we end up. At this point, we think it'll be 1.9 construction. Overall, including internal costs and all that, it could be another 2.5.

Based on today's application. You might see the application, if the enabling legislation happens and things go through, you may not actually see the application first. The miscellaneous improvements, again, it's another one which kind of touches upon all the various things that operations identifies. Then going into the Whitney, the ozone and DAF controls. That's an ongoing process where there is control related stuff that kind of gets replaced. Then the West River, there is a salt storage. This is with regard to the brine. There's going to be a new tank that's going to be installed. If you look at the descriptions, you'll see that we put in the new onsite floating generation, which was done as part of the DAF. But there is still some more improvements, which will help in the delivery of brine and all that. We're going to do that. The drying bed improvements, typically, we get the residuals management on the West River.

We get some manganese concentrations that can exceed the D permits, so there is some deadlines which we have to meet. That we are going to do some improvements to the drying bed. The fuel tank replacement, that's again going to be, we have, at this point of time, a thousand gallons, 500 gas and 500 diesel. We are going to double the capacity, to a thousand and a thousand. Again, it's going to be the end of the life cycle for those tanks. It's a good opportunity to increase the bulk storage for those. The lake Whitney, as we just mentioned, there's going to be chemical feed, which you saw the application went through in the last, I would say, a few months. That contract will be ongoing, then the DAF controls.

The Wellfield facility improvements, the Derby Wellfield, which you saw the application, it's an ongoing, I would say, construction project. The Seymour Wellfield generator, again, this was another one which has been in the hopper for a while. We just put the contract out to bid. We received some bids, which is in the stages of evaluation. This is, again, I would say, delayed from 2022 because we were ready to bid the project. This was another CDS grant. Pretty much, I would say, 90% of it will be funded by CDS. This was delayed due to the BABA waivers, but now I think we were able to put it because we got the BABA

waivers done sometime in October, November, so the contract was out. We got, I would say, the bids done in the last, I would say, we've seen the bids in the last few weeks.

We will be awarding that very soon. We will finish those generators. Then there's miscellaneous improvements for various ones. On the well rehab, we are going to, I would say, do a well recovery testing and then based on the testing, we will start, I would say, this is another program that's an ongoing program. We did about, say, three wells in 2024. There was one in Seymour. There was a couple of other ones which we did in North Brantford and North Cheshire. The well rehab is another \$350,000. That's for fiscal '25. Based on the well recovery testing, we will identify wells that needs to be done.

This is, if you read, I would say, the binder, you will see it's a more generic, I would say, description, not identifying the wells. The reason being because the well recovery testing will determine which wells we will actually attack. So the rest of them are pretty much, I would say, programs, well replacements, treatment plan, buried valve programs. Then I just touched upon the regulatory treatment compliance as part of the overall, I would say, slide. This pertains to PFAS and legionella.

And then the roof replacements, this is another program. This is for Seymour wells. The roof, it's older than 25 years it needs replaced, so that's what that \$150,000 is.

Larry:

You want to comment on whether we're thinking about incorporating solar into the roofs [inaudible 00:26:51]?

Sunny:

Right. I think one of the things that on the Gaillard, I would say, you would see the roof replacement is being budgeted for. We are actually, if you look at the five year, you will see there is a solar-related for the same roof. So what we are doing to do is it's a phase one, phase two approach. The solar vendor is going to come as a phase two and with the way that the capital planning both we worked out or I worked out on this is we will do the roof first, have the guy provide, I would say, the proper input for the solar installers to come, but the same vendor will work with the future solar installers, so it goes as a plug and play rather than puncturing holes in the roof. Also, we are examining because one of the things that Larry touched upon was a grant. I mean, Larry, if you want to touch upon the RFP a little bit on the grant that we have put out.

Larry:

Right. We have an RFP that Sonny had put together looking for somebody based in Washington DC that can help us not only find grants, there's a secret process in DC, and so we put out an RFP for people to apply that can help us identify them and then work with our staff to write and submit them, because as you know, sometimes they say the grants are some of the greatest fiction ever written, so we want to find somebody that's very adept at writing grants. So that RFP was issued, I think last week, as I recall, around the 15th of March. So we should be getting some responses here within next week or so, and then we'll select somebody to work with us on a fee basis.

Sunny:

I think this is more like a grant navigator to go and hunt that. For the DWSRF CDs and all that, I think Priscilla is pretty well versed and she's been coordinating with the senator's office and all that, but I think this is to make, sometimes it's the secret sauce, and to have those guys positioned that on

Baltimore regime and DC. They probably know how the legislation works. So I think the grant is geared towards the direction, because we want to leverage more and more.

Larry:

Yes, so Rochelle's almost got a hotline to Senator Murphy's office in St. Paul for congressional directed spending earmarks, so been able to establish a great relationship there.

Sunny:

I'll go with that. I think transmission and pumping highlights, we have \$18.8 million, which, I would say, touches upon many of these activities, the capital pipe. If you look through the Apple pipe that's there, you will find 1, 2, 3, 7 projects identified, Derby, East Haven, Hamden, Milford, and Orange. One of them relates to corrosion. The other one relates to three breaks per a thousand feet, so all of them are digital mining based on the brakes per a thousand feet.

So all of them add to, lets say, \$4.3 million. It's about one and a half miles in five towns. As I said, Derby, East Haven, Hampton, Belfort, and Orange. The municipal redevelopment pipe, that relates to... well, it's self-funded at this point of time, they are road and construction projects, the state CDOT projects, which Larry just mentioned earlier during his introduction, that's pretty much, I would say, reimbursed almost, we are getting 98%.

In terms of the projects for CDOT, it could be, as I think Mario pointed out, it's actually Orchard Street, New Haven, Spring Street, west Haven, and also the water made in New Haven at St. Raphael's Hostel. The capital service pipe connections, this is related to capital pipe and any service connections that needs to be replaced along with it, the general service connections, that's part of the maintenance where we go from the water main to the curb stop, so that's the \$1.9 million.

The valve replacements, again, we have close to 30,000 valves across the entire system, so depending on what valves gets done, it's a bucket that holds it and then we will replace it. Meters, again, this is an ongoing program. Typically, we replace about a thousand meters based on, I would say, what the cost of replacing it is. We also have the flex net that goes with it. Some of it is capital, most of it is capital. Some of them could be operational, but most of it would say captures the capital aspect of it. So that's going to be the meters. We replace about, say, close to maybe thousand to thousand 500 meters depending on the [inaudible 00:31:36].

Larry:

A couple supplemental remarks with regard to, Sunny mentioned, the three breaks per a thousand feet, we've really stuck to that metric, and as a result of that, we still have the lowest main break record the water industry. We average about four breaks per a hundred miles. The normal utility was 20 breaks per a hundred miles, so we have a very good record and it's because of this aggressive replacement of pipe at three breaks per for a thousand feet.

The other thing that I wanted to mention is under the valve replacement program to replace broken distribution system valves, Jim's group director of operations that reports to him has been very aggressive about both exercising valves and in connection with that flushing the system and doing leak detection. Well, some of these valves haven't been exercised in 20 years, so they break and we have actually a valve machine that can loosen them without hurting somebody, but more importantly torque them to the right pressure when that is done. So we've got a very aggressive valve replacement program along with distribution system maintenance that is really doing wonders in terms of the system.

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David:

Since you brought that up, that was one of my questions, but I want to amplify on that point a little bit. Valve exercising and that's just, I think there was a period of time where we probably were not doing as much as maybe we had wanted to do-

Larry:

Correct.

David:

... To be in public and say it that way. Are we at the point now where we are completely in a good place in terms of proper maintenance and then we're putting in capital items to the budget? Are we at the level now? We've ramped that up over the last few years.

Larry:

We have ramped it up over the last year, year-and-a-half, and we have a program now in place where we have a distribution crew that's dedicated to valve exercising along with flushing or leak detection. So we're in a good place now I think in terms of having a program in place. So it's now programmatic and we're putting the money into it in the former capital budget to replace valves because some of these break when you exercise them, because they are so old. So I'm very comfortable with where operations is in terms of the program that they have in effect, and I got to hand it to Jim's people. They're doing a very good job of maintaining that discipline when they're allocating staff resources.

David:

Okay, good.

Sunny:

Going to the next one. Again, continuing and transmission and pumping the hydrants and connections. This is again, another program that continues. We replace about, say, 20 to 50 hydrants depending on how many drunk drivers we get. So pretty much I would say people get the hydrants, but this is only our hydrants that we want.

So the request is based on, I would say, if there is a private hydrant or a town owned hydrant, if the request, they will go and replace it, but that's based on the request. Our own hydrant is about, say, 20 to 50, which we deliver. The good of service is something that we do with depending on, I would say, more efficiencies and if there's new developers that are going to come in, we help them out in extending the water mains and things. So that's the good of service.

But the service line, again, I would say \$3 million allocated this year. This is going to be the elephant in the room for the next, I would say, 10, 13, 12 years. So we've allocated three. We are supposed to submit the inventory by October, 2024, and we hope there will be, I would say, replacements starting sometime in '25 early, I would say 2025, not calendar year '25.

So that's what we propose to do. We are right now, I would say, in the process of getting ready for pot holding and vacuum excavations, pretty much four or five towns we've been in the last, I would say three or four weeks, we've been having extremely good, I would say receptivity with the five towns. But with that said, I'll keep it, I would say, for questions because I'll run through the rest.

So the next would be the Northern Area service expansion. This is, again, a multi, I would say, project initiative. Right now we are attacking the St. Josephs Street Water Main. This is about, say, \$1.4 million. There is going to be another one, York Hill service area, but this is separate. This is going to be in the town of Hamden. There's going to be automation related stuff. Then if you go to the next one, Totoket Road Transmission Main, this is again, I would say, a multi-year. This is going to help out, I would say, bringing Gaillard water into the Brushy Plains area, and it's going to relieve some pressure off the Cherry Hill pump station and all that. So that's pretty much I would say what the hydraulic modeling suggested. So we are going to put some money in there. Then you have the typical, I would say, raw water transmission main replacement and redundancy. This is since we operate about, say, eight tunnel systems with two inactive tunnel systems.

This will include, I would say, evaluation and analysis of the raw water mains that carry water from the reservoirs to the treatment plants. So at this point, we haven't specifically identified any. If you see the generic write-up and see it, then the Pipe Bridge Rehab is pretty much, again, another ongoing program. If you look at the write-up, it's going to talk about the Villa Streets Pipe Bridge. This is going to be around, if you drive on 91 North or South, you will see around exit six, you will see the Villa Streets crossing Mill River. So that is something that's going to be done this year.

Then you're going to see the major other one is going to be the North Brantford tank. We are engaging into the hydraulic analysis design, and it's going to be a multi-year project. We have a 3.3 million gallons at this time. There's going to be alternatives looking at two 1 million gallon tanks or two-and-a-half-million gallon tanks. There's going to be some analysis studies and all that done. So then the other two big items are going to be the York Hill Tank number one painting, then the Ford String Tank number one painting, and then the Ford String Tank number two painting. So that is pretty much as the tanks get evaluated, we see what needs to be done.

Again, another-

Larry:

The stairs replacement on that. What we're doing is when we paint a tank, if it has the enclosed ladder that goes up, we're replacing those stairs, which is both easier for access to the top of the tank. It's safer, and a lot of our senior employees are not able to go up the ladder, and it's a lot easier for them to get to the top of the storage tank with the stairs that we're putting in. Obviously, if they're there, they're maintained as part of the painting project.

Sunny:

If you look at the Derby tank, you will see exactly [inaudible 00:38:31] you'll see... If you're able to set 10 feet, you'll have a landing platform.

Just going to the next one, the variable frequency drives. Again, it's another replacement of VFTs throughout the distribution at the end of the life cycle, we can, I would say, particularly look at it, our INC folks look at it in a very close fashion. They re-plate as needed, so Alan Bradley is our preferred vendor, so if we see that Alan Bradley's are available, we'll pick it up, replace it as needed. The critical pump station upgrades, again, this is going to involve many things. As you know, we have close to 35 plus pump stations. There's going to be, I think, significant work is going to be planned for Fieldstone Village. Then the Gaillard pump station improvements, this is our significantly big pump station. This is the finished water pump station that's from the Gaillard.

At some point at time, we'll do much more bigger a capital project on this, but for the time being, this 200,000 is for reducing the system risk in aging assets for the pump station. The Spring Street, you've

been hearing about this. This is something that we want to do because this is the one that is a primary pump station that feeds most, I would say, west of, I would say, Milford Orange west of New Haven. This is a significant pump station that feeds... This has been, I would say, in the evaluation stage, we are going to extend the evaluation stage. We had initial conversations with the town to explore some properties. John Triana and I would say, Tiffany, the planning manager, went and had some discussions on a few properties. It did not really work out well in terms of, I would say, the ideal locations, we are going to explore some more, I would say available properties to see whether we can do it.

If you go and look at Spring Street pump station, it's a very small pump station at this time, very old assets. It's got like four pumps, but significantly old, I would say, infrastructure that's there. So we need to do some for resiliency and redundancy for sure, and it's pretty low too. So there is possibilities of flooding as well.

So that's going to be a significant project you're going to see in the next, I would say, few years. As you see the budgets come up. The water quality improvements, that's the standard one. Armory street, pump station, chimney rehab, these are going to be a 90' tall masonry chimney. I think there was, I would say, in the earlier past, there was a reason to see whether we can actually demo this, but unfortunately because of the high cost, neighborhood issues, and maybe historical nature of it, we did not do it. So we are just going to do some re-pointing of the bricks on the exterior.

Pump station. Roof replacements, Burwell Hill Tanks Pipe House has a roof that has got asphalt and hot oil layering. So we have about, say, 40 of them that's got low roofing systems. We have a very robust roof asset management program within the authority, it's called RAM. So there is a team that goes and assesses it and making sure that the leaks, they look at many things based on it, they prioritize which roofs have we done. So, this one, I think this year we will attack the Burwell Hill Tanks.

The pump station bypass, that's pretty much I would say we going to the Woodbridge, Burwell Hill [inaudible 00:41:41].

Route 80 is the one coming to.

I'm sorry, you went to the general plant. Sorry.

The Route 80 Throttling Valve Relocation is a significant project. This has been in the planning stages since 2018. I'm sure some of the authority members will be familiar with this. This is something that we are working with the city of New Haven.

... There's been challenges in, I would say, getting approval. So I think we are nearing, I would say, where we are getting close to the design is almost done to the 60% where we have actually designed the walls, the inside guts of the walls. All of it is done, but we still have to work out, I would say, easement related issues. So we are actually moving towards, I would say, resolutions on those things. Given that, I would say, done in the next few months, we plan to, I would say, finish design by the end of, I would say, this calendar year, at least fall of calendar this year, and then we will start looking at permitting and approvals and construction.

But certainly, I think, this has faced challenges. So as you can see, it's been going on from 2018. Hopefully, I think, we moved to a point, because this is a very significant pressure right in the middle of Route 80. So we want to relocate this into a public school that's really close by. We have, I would say, traded, I would say, sketches and had some discussions with the town engineering folks as well as the legal folks. It's an ongoing process happening, so that's where we are. Want to add anything?

Larry:

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No, this is just very critical. This is the main water main that feeds the city of New Haven, and we've been trying to make some progress in terms of getting the necessary permits in order to go into the street to move Route 80 broad links valve and put it into, as Sunny said, school zone. There was a hang-up because the school superintendent was getting ready to retire, so it fell in a black hole. So it is been a bit frustrating in order to get this very important project done, quite frankly, for the safety of New Haven.

Sunny:

I think the Mill Rock control valve improvements, I think we, I would say, went through, because this is the Mill Rock basins is a pretty significant, in terms of one of the largest, I would say, storage, 7.5 million gallons. It serves almost Hamden, New Haven, North Haven, East Haven. If you go there, it's a very old, I would say, tank. It was built in 1930s, so we have to do a lot of work here. So this addresses, I would say, the control valve improvements that needs to be done. At some point of time, DPH has been pressing us to do some kind of an alternative for this tag for saying this is an underground storage tank. We have had multiple conversations, Jim, myself going back, so they want to do something alternate, I would say, the tank itself. We've been kind of pushing back saying that it's going to be expensive. We don't really have safe space to locate something else.

So we've been, I would say, getting away with it. But I think the control valves is something that we can easily attack it to. Given that, I would say the nature of how big the tank is and to relocate and to build a new tank would be extremely, I would say... Logistically, I think it'll, I would say, face significant challenges.

So given that-

Larry:

Their concern is what?

Sunny:

The concern is, if you go there, there is these opening. It's covered, but they feel like there is shrubs and some kind of, I would say, external, I would say, material dust, dirt that could come in through these openings we've covered.

Larry:

Our health department has cited that in a sanitary survey.

Mario:

I get where they're concerned, not necessarily it's below grade.

Sunny:

Not necessarily below grade. It wasn't-

Mario:

It's the ventilation too.

Sunny:

It's the ventilation. We have addressed it significantly, Mario, but still-

Mario:

I get it.

Sunny:

... People, I would say, have they look at it from, I would say, an optics of looking at it from the [inaudible 00:46:07]. Okay, given that, let's move on, I would say, to the next general plan highlights. I'm going to turn it over to Prem if you want to, I would say take it over again.

Prem:

Thank you, Sunny. I don't think I can keep up with your speed, but I'll try.

So the general plan category, we have a 12 project that comprise of \$9.1 million. There are a few projects that are major, like CIS is one of them. We have a separate session. We'll go into execute a session to talk about CIS projects. So I'll keep it short here. We have a \$16 million budget, and we have \$735,000 in reserve that we'll be using for the project in fiscal '25.

Work and Asset Management, this is a continuation of our enterprise asset management roadmap. So there's small dollars for next year. We are, I would say, many sub-projects underneath it. Mostly done by the internal team. So that's going to be something we'll be looking forward to do next year.

LIMS Business and Admins, this is another, as you all know, its lab's critical LIMS system that we use from a perspective of inside and outside lab services. So we have an upgrade that has been planned for the LIMS system next year.

Business Enhancement for AMI. This is a small dollar that's been allocated for any additional improvements for the AMI system, especially the census. Cyber security enhancements. If you remember, we had a discussion about in our audit and risk committee where we discussed about our ethical hacking being one of those things that we can try to do. So I'm happy to say that we actually did that exercise and zero penetration. There are some recommendations that are coming through this, so we are trying to do some of those recommendations as part of next fiscal year. There will be a detailed report that we'll submit later on, but I'll keep moving on from here. So that's good news there. And then data center life cycle replacement project. We have done, this is our annual program that we do and it basically covers all the server replacement, firewalls, network communications, et cetera. So this is a recurring program. Obviously, we'll be doing that as part of next year's program as well. For GIS aerial mapping, this is, again, the flyover that we usually do in terms of compilation of data. So in the next fiscal year plan, this is a rolling program as well. So next year, we are planning to cover with West Haven/Orange, Branford/North Branford. So that's very high level highlights of this slide. If you'll go to the next slide, Jennifer. So on the CIS phase II where, again, this is a small [inaudible 00:48:43] based on our discussions that we are going to be doing some self-service portal that is not part of the original foundation or project. So the small dollars carved out for the future enhancement for the project. SCADA upgrade is another annual program.

So we are planned to do an upgrade next year. There's \$120,000 in there. Fleet, and not being the [inaudible 00:49:04] in here, so we have \$1.5 million allocated for speed fleet and the major part of that is really the two 10-wheel dump trucks and rest as you see here. So we'll be looking to replace some of those capital from a fleet perspective. Security upgrades, many of you have actually gone through this exercise along with us where we discussed about some of the DHS recommendation for some of the security measures for our facilities, so like cameras, et cetera, that we're planning to install. Again, Paul,

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who's our captain, he's actually providing a lot of our input. So we have \$133,000 for next year. Again, this is a program. We'll continue to invest in our security. So that is support security upgrades.

Sunny:

So given this pretty much captures the nutshell of the five-year plan, the five-year average for natural resources treatment. Just highlighting, it compares to the 67.8 million average for five years as originally proposed call [inaudible 00:51:57] '24. It matches the ten-year model. That's a significant difference. So when Rochelle presented in October 2023, if you remember, she presented a ten-year model with the various scenarios. So I think it matches very closely to what I think we presented at that time. So the other one which I would highlight here is actually, if you look at 66.01 million for the five-year average, right now, it includes the 3.468 that is held in reserve funds for '24 and also the project reserve, it shows a negative 3.5 million and it also shows, under the total column, but the total column is not an average per se. It's only the reserve carried from '24 to '25, which is actually noted as footnote number one. Rochelle, if you want to throw some more light on it.

Rochelle:

No, I think you covered it.

Sunny:

Okay.

Rochelle:

We'll be talking about possibly other changes when they go through the capital expenditure update.

Sunny:

Then I would say this goes into the five-year itself. If you look at the five-year capital, one of the highlights that the third slide that Larry had, if you look at the next five years, you're going to have the bars are pretty tall and steep. You're going to have these high-rise buildings. The reason is because you're going to see the Whitney happening at the same time, Prospect, Peat Swamp, Chamberlain, almost four of them happening at the same time. Bethany [inaudible 00:53:35], if we actually looked at it, Rochelle and I looked at it, we pushed it back. Even though they were to be done, "We said we can't really..." Looking at the capital expenditure we are going incur, we moved it past the five years. So one of the reasons you're going to see is we're going to see these tall skyscrapers for the next five years because a lot of projects are happening at the same time.

Unfortunately, either due to the lifespan is ending for certain things, as well as externally dictated conditions, as well as permitting issues or BABA waivers where projects could have happened in '23 and '24 and now they're getting pushed because of HVAC CDS funding or anything else that we were to get grants. So it got pushed to this, it's squishing up this five years, as well as the lead service lines have come in. So that's adding another 10, 12 million. So you will see most of the tapering off in terms of the other capital projects as you go into the next five years, post 2029, but still, you will see the lead service lines pick up based on whatever funds we can get for the replacements of the lead service line accelerating. So just wanted to throw that insight. So you can see what's all happening. This captures the nutshell of the major significant capital projects. So given that, I will throw the summary back to [inaudible 00:55:01]?

Jennifer:

Catherine has a question.

Sunny:

Yes. Catherine.

Catherine:

I just, it's definitely not a question. This is for Larry and Sunny or anyone else. If you're having issues with the City of New Haven and I can be helpful, please do not hesitate to ask me.

Larry:

Thank you.

Sunny:

Sure. Thank you, Catherine. I know we have knocked on your doors earlier, so we might very well take that opportunity too.

Larry:

The Route 80 PRV is one that is critical and we don't quite understand what the issue is, but it seems like the city's not placing the same importance on it as we are.

Catherine:

Okay. Well, I can talk to the engineering department, and at least find out, at least I can find out what the issues are and so we can talk offline.

Larry:

Sure.

Catherine:

But I want to make sure that you know that I'm a resource.

Larry:

Thank you.

Sunny:

Sure. Thank you.

Catherine:

Sure.

Larry:

So in terms of our...

Sunny:

Sorry, I got one more [inaudible 00:56:05].

Larry:

You want to do that one? Okay.

Sunny:

Yeah.

Larry:

Sorry.

Sunny:

You can do that. I think this captures the five-year fiscal year '25 and it gives you the capital improvement for five years. So it's almost, if you look at the totals in the last slide, your first column is pretty much the totals on this slide. So the one thing which I would actually just emphasize in the last slide, if you just want to go back to the earlier slide on 20, slide 20, go back to the earlier slide. Great. So if you can see the 330 is something that's the total, but we are actually estimating the grants to be 26.2 million. So that is something that's significant. It comes from DWS out of grants, it comes from state-bonded grants, it comes from CDS. So we are already knocking on many doors and just emphasize the point that Larry made, we are trying to see where else we can get more grants. Rochelle will also shine some highlight on the latest BRICS grant you applied to, Rochelle, right?

Rochelle:

Yes. The latest BRICS grant, which is a FEMA grant, is not included in the 26.9, but we did actually very recently submit our Lake Whitney project for a FEMA BRIC grant. We do know that it's been reviewed because we actually got some commentary. We had to submit it through the state and they, in turn, submitted it to FEMA. So we thought that was positive. We made the modifications that were requested and I believe we'll hear in probably the July/August timeframe. From memory, it can fund up to 75% of construction. So that be phenomenal.

Sunny:

I mean, that could be a significant impact [inaudible 00:57:51] to on the Whitney capital. I mean, fingers crossed, I mean [inaudible 00:57:56].

Mario:

BRICS is a competitive grant?

Rochelle:

It is competitive.

Mario:

Yeah, fingers crossed, yes, but don't put that [inaudible 00:58:05].

Rochelle:

[inaudible 00:58:06] we did.

Sunny:

We didn't actually cap, we didn't actually put that in [inaudible 00:58:11].

Mario:

Yeah, it's a difficult, competitive grant.

Sunny:

So we don't actually include that [inaudible 00:58:13]. If it does turn out, it's great. If it doesn't...

Mario:

But the more years that you apply for the BRICS grant you get, it improves your chances of obtaining those funds.

Rochelle:

That's great to know.

Sunny:

I think, yeah, go to 22, I guess that's where I was. Yeah, so five-year, if you look at the 24, 329.5 versus 330, and the October 23 model was three 330.2. So all of them are converging into one number. They're all converged [inaudible 00:58:46]. So with that, I think Larry, now we can...

Larry:

Thank you. So from a summary standpoint, the good news is that the five-year capital plan approximates that which was in the five years of the ten-year plan. So you've all seen this budget before. We are very diligent in terms of our reviewing of our capital program, both through the capital prioritization matrix and trying to gain capital efficiency. So that [inaudible 00:59:15] project, but it's essentially trying to do more work for less money. We've been very, very diligent about that. Well as pursuing grants, which we talked about. GHDs is the last evaluation of our capital program and we are very diligent about taking their recommendations into account.

This year, we've progressed with the capital program as it makes sense, and we are continuing to work on the asset management [inaudible 00:59:43], which ultimately will help us to identify projects that needs to be replaced when it's the most critical time to replace them. So that'll give us a better analog, what the true capital budgets should be year, year over year, and it's going to be a couple of years before we hit that down, [inaudible 01:00:00] literally putting all the assets into database. So with that, we'll be glad to take any last minute questions. Kevin's got his hand up and then I know Mario said he's got questions. Kevin?

Kevin:

Thank you. Thank you. I love the asset management plan that's been worked on over the years, but my question is related to, I don't know which slide it is, it was earlier on, it might show the tenure. It was a chart. It might been, it was early on in the present... About five minutes into the presentation. But I had

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a question about Larry and a lot of the members on the team, and Dave, you may remember, and Suzanne as well, Mario probably does from RPB, but there was a lot of discussion, I want to say, five to seven years ago about the capital budget and how it impacts the rate, the rate increases. So we had some studies done by some outside consultants and there was a, and I know we're talking about different times and different costs these days, but there was the thought that we could keep it, what was it, Larry?

I don't know, 27 to 30 million or something like that? Then that would equal a certain projected annual increase or 18-month increase in the rates. So my question is, and I think we probably know some of this from the modeling and the great job that Rochelle's done at that, but do we know roughly what are those rate increases going to look like when you have capital budgets that go to the \$70 million? I am just thinking that this might be a question from some of the members who remember that conversation, how closely they were, not closely, but how the correlation between the capital budget and the rate increases were.

Larry:

Right, and of course, when we did those earlier studies, we were not aware of the lead service line replacement program was not known. The decision on pursuing at least an evaluation of a potential in terms of the building and then the Lake Whitney Dam was not an issue that we had taken into account then. So point is we've had several large, very large projects that have now been incorporated into this five-year, 10-year capital program, which is driving the rates. But Rochelle had actually done that modeling for the increased budget program and what that means in terms of rates. So do you want to comment on that?

Rochelle:

Sure. So as was said, even though they're all bars, they're consistent with what we modeled. So our modeling suggests that even with that higher capital, that we'll be in the six to 8% range over the ten-year model. Now, the caveats are regulatory environment could change as well as the amount of grants that we get, but we were actually pretty pleased to see that the rate increases are still pretty reasonable even with the higher capital.

Kevin:

Great, thank you. I just wanted to... That was just something on my mind and I think it might come up when you speak with the RPB [inaudible 01:03:23].

David:

At that point, Kevin, we have seen, we've been around long enough, we've seen the ten-year model where there were 11, 12% expected rate increases every year-and-a-half for a while. Those have all been mitigated down to, as Rochelle said, when we saw the ten-year model in the fall, they've been down to the six to 8% range in order... There's a lot of different things that they've done, including the fact that we put money aside to get our pension paid down, the fact that we have built in significant funds to have money to put in the capital budget every year with depreciation, and all those have helped change from what had been projected. This year would've been a 12% increase year probably if we went back six, eight years ago.

Kevin:

Easily.

David:

So you've done a very good job of not only keeping them more mitigated than they were supposed to be, but adding in the items that we didn't know about, but sort of did. That worries me what we don't know about that could happen five years from now, but nonetheless, we don't have a crystal ball.

Kevin:

Right. Thank you.

David:

[inaudible 01:04:35] the other hand up. Thank you. But Mario, you had some issues to review?

Mario:

Yes, and first of all, I want to say very nice job on the capital [inaudible 01:04:48]. I have no overarching [inaudible 01:04:52] concerns. I didn't see any gold plating, which is great. Always looking for that. Just a few things. Actually, several questions, comments, concerns. Just in going through the whole thing, it would be interesting to know, and not for this particular budget, but as you look towards future budgets, what is your recurring capital dollars? By that, I mean you have your PC replacements, that's an annual thing you're doing. You're doing your filter media replacements, you're doing an annual program and replacing [inaudible 01:05:37]. So these are things that you're budgeting every year, you're putting in capital. It would be nice to know at what point we get to where the internally generated funds equals or exceeds that number. That could also include your annual [inaudible 01:05:53] replacement. So to me, in my mind, that's like a target of internally generated [inaudible 01:05:59]. It's not something you're going to get to anytime soon. I would dare guess out of \$50 million, it's probably 30 [inaudible 01:06:08] or close to it.

Looking way down the road, it'd be nice to say, "Well, we're bonding because we're doing this large capital project or these large capital projects that are once every so many years at Lake Saltonstall or Lake Gaillard." It's just something to keep in mind in the future as something. I presume that you do pre-bidding value engineering, Sunny, on larger projects.

Sunny:

Yes.

Mario:

Certainly not the small ones, but you mentioned the post-bid value engineering with contractor, which is always good, but just want to make sure that some of the funding requirements require would be a formal [inaudible 01:06:50].

Larry:

There's also the business case evaluation that we go through and...

Mario:

Yes.

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Larry:

... and certain threshold.

Mario:

That's an internal and done these projects, types of projects before. It's nice and refreshing sometimes to include, hire an outside firm to come in and look at the design firm's design because they're giving a fresh set of eyes. Internally, you've conceived in your mind as you're putting the program together, "This is what I want to do," and the consultant that you hired to design, it's like, "Oh, okay, that's what the client wants. This is what I'm going to do," and it's good to get an outside firm to come in.

Larry:

Right.

Mario:

Sometimes it's a requirement congressional direct spending, and it's great that you have speed dial. My concern always is the well is limited and do you want to go... It seems like there are a lot of little projects or do you want to push for the bigger projects? So hold your monies in reserve. Just something to consider.

Rochelle:

I think, at times, there's been a threshold anyway, and I know on our fiscal '23 awards, they actually reached out and said, "Would you rather have us split it across two projects or put it all towards one?"

Larry:

Yep.

Mario:

Sometimes it's, "I know I can get X amount of dollars into this budget," and the relationship is awesome. [inaudible 01:08:35] cautious of those because they are really competitive and difficult. But you mentioned, I think it was a Spring Hill Pump Station. Somebody mentioned it's low in elevation, if I've got that one right, or might've been another facility that is low in elevation?

Sunny:

It is Spring Street.

Mario:

There are FEMA funds available for resiliency and that's a perfect use of resiliency funding. Often, I don't know what community that's located in physically...

Sunny:

Orange.

Mario:

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Orange. So make sure that Orange is an approved town with the state Homeland Security. All of our towns should be if they're not, per FEMA, and you can work with them and sometimes they have monies left over. So if you're in with the Homeland Security and you let them know, "We have a bunch of projects. So if you're 20 21 monies have not been fully expended, we have a project we can put to it real quick." They're slow as... They're horribly slow. But do that. Try and go as fast as Sunny did. Cleaning and lining. That's always a controversial one. A lot of the RPB members remember, "Oh yeah, we used to clean and line, cement line." Have you considered pure and in place pipelining for the water [inaudible 01:10:19]? Because the cement lining doesn't really give you anything, but hydraulic capacity...

Sunny:

Doesn't...

Mario:

... it doesn't give you a structural...

Sunny:

It's not going to extend the life of the interior pipe.

Mario:

So pure and in place does both and it is now more common in water mains [inaudible 01:10:38]. So it's just something for you to consider that will actually improve the structural integrity for 50 years. The cement lining, it improves your fire flows. Doesn't necessarily, and your water quality.

Larry:

Yes, to regulate [inaudible 01:10:52] too.

Mario:

Well, it's because you take that out. That's why your flow is better.

Larry:

Yeah, that's right.

Mario:

[inaudible 01:11:12] Whitney. You had 40 million as your estimated total. Is that still you're estimating?

Larry:

Yes.

Mario:

Okay.

Larry:

Yeah.

Mario:

I just remember 60, 65. So the 40...

Larry:

We are.

Mario:

I was happy, but...

Rochelle:

It's the low end.

Mario:

It's the low end. [inaudible 01:11:37].

Sunny:

But I can actually go over [inaudible 01:11:37].

Mario:

On B3, it's energy and environmental protection is misspelled. So if they ever got a hold of this...

Sunny:

Sorry.

Mario:

... you did a copy and past. Prospect Dam. I think the same with Peat Swamp Dam, Tall Dam, not very much use in water supply still.

Sunny:

Yes, both of them, Peat swamp and Prospect. Prospect we have the point one and two.

Mario:

It's a lot of money.

Sunny:

Yes.

Mario:

And I don't know about those Cheshire people.

Larry:

We spoke to the Prospect people. But they were not too keen on, I would say. They were keen on keeping the tabs.

David:

We tried to give away those. They don't want it if it needs repair number one. But number two, because of that repair, you can't sell it to somebody.

Mario:

Right.

David:

So we were going to repair the Peat swamp dance several years ago. And we said, "Well why are we going to do that if we're thinking about abandoning or breaching it?" That's not practical. Breaching is not practical. Abandoning well known is a huge process to go through. So that leaves us with the responsibility of making sure that it has structural integrity.

Sunny:

I would say going to the point, right? So the rules is legislative. I would say effort to, I would say put more attention to tabs. It would be familiar in the latest legislative session. So now we are [inaudible 01:13:18] is now part of the committee to kind of expedite permits as well as to get some more funding. So if we get an opportunity, we would like to push for more state funding to make it much more safe, resilient. So we'll push for it. As you know Peat swamp comes under say a deep give us a letter in 2017. Prospect is something that we actually filled out the form to deep tap safety and said would you take over? I remember Catherine and Kevin suggesting it when we presented some years ago, we sent the forms and we sent the paperwork after year they said, "We don't have the money [inaudible 01:13:54]. You can actually maintain it."

Mario:

Yeah. They can't maintain the ones they already have.

David:

Prospect spent some small, like \$22,000, but they spent some local money to buy Connecticut water land and a pond, and whatever related. But having a pond as well. So I mean they may be open now when they weren't before to doing something here. I don't know. Do some recreation around it.

Sunny:

I kind of had this conversation last year with both Mayor Bob [inaudible 01:14:22]. I said, "Do you guys buy it?" And John Triana here is from Prospect. He sits on the [inaudible 01:14:26] Prospect in Prospect. He said they don't have any in store [inaudible 01:14:32].

Mario:

You're undergoing filter to treatment now ahead.

Sunny:

Okay.

Mario:

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Filter media replacement, are you doing a pre-analysis before replacing the PDA to look at PFAS removal and adjusting the PDA type? Or possible PFAS premium removal?

Sunny:

We actually don't do specifically if you're asking for the GAC itself, we do water quality testing for sure. And most of it is our filters are doing an extremely good job only on Whitney because it is biologically accurate GAC. There's going to be some improvements down to Whitney per se. But this is more traditional, I would say replacement, once we [inaudible 01:15:20].

Mario:

So you're okay with PFAS? You don't need to make any investments?

Sunny:

Except for Whitney.

Mario:

Right. I always say look at the different projects that you're doing at the same time. At the same location because poor Jim is going to be pulling his hair out for having all these contractors that you send his way. He would be very cautious about your electrical upgrades for Gaillard and [inaudible 01:15:51] and the timing that you have because you're looking at taking Whitney dam improvements. And I presume the Whitney plan will be for the most part, if not offline, at least...

Sunny:

It'll be operational.

Mario:

It'll be operational, but it's subject to potentially a disruption during construction.

Sunny:

Sure.

Mario:

And if you recall, you may not have been here, but one of the big expenses coming out of Lake Galard was because we already have Whitney now. So look at your timing.

Sunny:

Yeah. Once we do, even though it's going to be the same contract, we are going to kind of attack on the one plant and then once salt and salt is over to [inaudible 01:16:47]. That's the plan at this point. But I mean your point is...

Mario:

Whitney dam will take a little while. Pump and VFD replacements. You may be able as well as other energy projects. UI is still doing... So that your VFD's, you may be able to get some money. [inaudible 01:17:08].

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Sunny:

Recently, I would say 40 grand.

Mario:

West River drying bed. We're binding the residuals to the contractor for soil amendment. Looked at the risks involved with that and evaluated them.

Sunny:

This is something we are going to in 25, that's state plan of it. [inaudible 01:17:37].

Mario:

Just don't want to be in a position where...

Sunny:

We are exposed to it.

Mario:

Yes. I see that we actually did go through it. The developer paper. All those looping of pipes come on.

David:

The new one's always the one that has to be going through the budget, the details, the rest.

Mario:

Are you doing the Ford Street tanks one and two at the fitting at the same time? Why would you keep them separately? And you're just throwing more headaches upon yourselves.

Sunny:

Yeah, I think most likely we could buy those kinds of...

Mario:

So I know you mentioned the chimney and [inaudible 01:18:37]. Everyone wants it because of the store potential score. Can you explore store preservation grants?

David:

[inaudible 01:18:48]. We didn't go. We haven't talked about anything.

Mario:

This has been open session this whole time.

David:

Yeah, we were going to go with what we needed to.

Mario:

I asked to go.

Sunny:

I would've not made some remark.

David:

Yeah, we talked about doing it when we needed to if we needed to do that. I didn't hear anything. It didn't alert me in the talk. How are you?

Jay:

The good news, I just got a call from my heart doctor, the secretary. And all my work and all, everything is okay.

David:

That's great.

Jay:

He even had me on a pump thing three days sleeping. Do six pages of what happened?

David:

It's got a slippery way through. Good. Well have a seat. Mario's asking questions about the budget. Roland McCafferty has a question after...

Mario:

So anyway, historic preservation grants for the Army street. If you're going and and the builder of the site. [inaudible 01:20:16]. The copper wool and looking at additional control treatments, I presume you're going to do a lot of pilot testing on that.

David:

Yes.

Mario:

To go easy. That can create sets out distribution system, which I know other people understand. The GIS, have you considered satellite imagery?

David:

No. That is something that we would consider.

Mario:

At some point if you want, we can get together and we can talk about GIS separately. I don't want to take everyone's time. What do you use a bulldozer for? Why do you need a bulldozer? Come on.

David:

Construction.

Mario:

You're not building roads.

David:

No, but we're [inaudible 01:21:12].

Mario:

Come on.

David:

Jim, you want to comment on the bulldozer?

Jim :

Yeah, sure. So we do have plenty of roads on our watershed that we maintain. And we would use a bulldozer for maintaining a lot of those roads, like regrading them when there's ruts and those kinds of things. Because we do want the police to be able to travel the properties and police the kinds of activities that we don't want. Like all the ATV's and those kinds of things.

Mario:

I absolutely agree with you. I just question whether you should have a bulldozer and all the moving it around expense rather than just having someone on call with greater [inaudible 01:21:59] and take care of it. There may be a great [inaudible 01:22:01] there. That's all my questions.

Larry:

That's a good idea to talk.

David:

Something to explore and look at. All right, thank you Mario. Catherine, you had your hand up?

Catherine:

My mics on. I hesitate to even ask this because it's probably not enough to even be a rounding error, but do we ever recover anything from people that damage our property? Like we mentioned earlier about people hitting fire hydrants. And I know we've had people that ended up in our reservoirs. Do we have a program for recovering damages from these people?

Sunny:

Not as far as I know, but unless there is an insurance.

Larry:

We do with hydrants.

Sunny:

We do with hydrants.

Rochelle:

We actually will make a claim against the person who hit the hydrant. As long as we have sufficient information.

Catherine:

Well obviously they can hit-and-run, so that's possible. But sometimes you can get camera activity and my other note on here. Oh, just for clarity, you mentioned that we recover about 98% from Con Dot reimbursement. Is the reimbursement for Orchard Street and Spring Street not available because it's not a state highway? Is that the issue?

Mario:

I can answer that question. That is reimbursed.

Sunny:

Yeah, it is.

Mario:

I did the purchase order myself.

Sunny:

It is reimbursable.

Catherine:

So then why are we at 98% and not 100?

Mario:

The reimbursement is going. The Clean Water Fund program is providing money to greater new Haven WPCA, which are paying RWA to relocate water services, short segments of Water Main, and where the 2% is, there's a segment of pipe, a block long in front of the hospital that will be reimbursed. However, there's a deduction for the assets depreciated value and salvage. And that's where that 2% number ends up coming in. So yes, that is RWA.

Catherine:

I may have misunderstood that.

Rochelle:

And not through CDOT.

Mario:

Not through DOT.

Sunny:

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This is the one that Larry Marcik is working.

Catherine:

Oh, okay. Thank you. All right, that's helpful. Thank you very much.

David:

I just have two brief questions. We're talking about replacing meters already? AMI, is that all that some of them need to be replaced?

Larry:

We only replaced half the meters in the system when we did the AMI.

David:

I didn't realize that.

Larry:

And flex nets are something that you're constantly replacing. So the meter replacement program is to... Since you get those that weren't replaced originally.

David:

Okay, I did not realize that. All right, I've forgotten it that some were census meters and some were... Well they may have evolve with that. But some were not old enough to be replaced yet because they had been recently replaced.

Larry:

Correct.

David:

So they were retrofitted.

Larry:

Correct.

David:

Very good, thank you. And briefly, what's the reaction with the lead service line, the potholing and all that? You said you're starting. You've already started or about to go into the field?

Sunny:

We will actually start in the next few weeks.

David:

Okay, so you haven't had public reaction yet?

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Sunny:

No public reaction yet. But we had extremely good meetings with Milford, Orange, Woodbridge, East Haven, West Haven was pretty good except the new meter was a little concerned about residents wanting to know whether they will be replaced if they do have a lead service clients, would a regional water group come and replace it next week? So she wanted to have it addressed in a letter of some fashion. We can't really commit to that given that I would say we'll have to submit the inventory. But she was very, I would say kind of accommodative and very realistic and she was a state legislator so think she can help us out on identifying some grants around that. But the rest of I would say another six, seven meetings which happened in the last, I would say four or five weeks have been extremely good.

Again, I would say the permitting issue is something some of the Milford said, "You don't need permits, just apply for a blank permit. Go and do it." The same thing. New Haven also agreed to a blank permit, but the permitting process is again kind of slow to the wheels to move. I mean almost the legs at the end of town. So any day we could get the permit in new Haven, and new Haven has about say 500 locations. So that has got our significant chunk. Then we moved to Milford as well as Orange, West Haven, North Haven is normally pretty good in terms of reacting. Woodbridge, we had a great meeting. So all the meetings have been going okay. So we are going to start at least in the next two to three weeks, we are going to have a feast of three crews working on three towns. And then slowly expanding the crews because the contractor can put in a put say six to seven crews at the same time. But we want to experiment with one or two in two towns and then start really mushrooming that same thing.

David:

I'd be very interested to hear the results if we find what we were expecting to find.

Sunny:

Yeah, absolutely. I'll tell you and also if we plan to do some, I would say videos of it and start posting on social media so people understand. They see it's not going to be that invasive people notice you're going to come and dig a hole in the ground. It's not going to be like that. Six inches, maybe fill it up the next day. So that's the plan of action. So we are going to start very soon and start moving across of the office.

David:

Okay, thank you. Any other questions? All right, so we're set with the capital budget. Are we ready to go into the operating budget? Is lunch here?

Rochelle:

Lunch is here.

David:

It is here. Do we want to get something to eat while we have the presentation Mario? Or do we want to let them get started?

Larry:

Keep going.

David:

All right. Yeah, let's keep going then with the operating budget. All right.

Okay. So if you go to the agenda there and we'll recap our fund position, which is very, very good, which Michelle will do. She'll look at the operating budget at a glance, our trends and expenses and revenues, reviewing the maintenance tests, the opportunities and vulnerabilities, which can be both quite frankly as you will know. And then we'll summarize it and then take any questions that you might have. But feel free to ask a question during the discussion itself. We're pleased...

Go back to the other one. Just by opening comments. The fiscal-25 operating budget we're very pleased about does not have a budget to draw. This is the third such operating budget that's not had a draw, although for the last 14 years I think it is, we've not had a draw from the maintenance fund. So we've been doing very well from an operation standpoint. But this is the third budget that doesn't show at all.

This proposed budget does not reflect the plan grade application. Therefore, the additional net that is needed to fund the capital program beginning in January of 2025 is not reflected, nor is the additional depreciation that would be associated with a rate application. We're also quite excited to share that the fiscal-25 operating budget is an improvement over our ten-year model projection. Although O&M expenses is a bit higher, water revenues, pre-rate case, the interest income, and other water revenues are all higher. And pilot's a bit lower than what was in the model. So this is actually an improvement somewhat in the 10 year model that we showed you last time. So with that Dan or Rochelle will review feeds.

Rochelle:

Thank you Larry. So what you see here is balances as of the end of February. And really with the policy changes that were implemented in collaboration with both the governing boards, we've really been able to improve our fund balances. So as of the end of February, non-discretionary reserves. So those are our required reserves. They meet or minimum requirements and discretionary funds are also at or above the targets that we created. And a key aspect, which is a key takeaway here, is this does have to do with prudent year-end transfers. So an example is [inaudible 01:31:03].

Mario:

I see confidential on the bottom. Do you want to go on an executive session?

David:

I think maybe we should depending on what the questions may be as we go through it. That's a motion I would think. A motion to go on executive session pursuant to 1-210B5B, commercial and financial information. Unless I got it wrong Catherine. I'll yield to you for that.

David:

That looked like a second from Catherine. All those in favor of going into executive session, inviting the Authority members. We are also inviting executive team and inviting Jay Jaser from the RPB.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

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All opposed? I didn't hear any negatives. I will assume it was a five-zero vote. All right, very good. So we are in executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 12:30 P.M. TO 1:37 P.M.]

David:

Next item is to consider and act on the distribution of the proposed capital operating budgets to members of the RPB so what's your pleasure. Mario?

Mario:

I'll make the motion that was in the agenda to distribute the capital and operating budgets to the RPB?

David:

Yes. And the OCA.

Mario:

And the OCA.

David:

Exactly. Okay. All right. Is there a second?

Catherine:

Second.

David:

Catherine I think, or Suzanne? I think it was Catherine, saw the hand anyway. Any other discussion? Questions? Anything regarding this? Sensing you're ready to vote then. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

[inaudible 00:00:46] both present 4-0. With that, we will take a 15-minute break. See you back in a little bit.

[BREAK FROM 1:37 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M.]

David:

I will call the meeting back to order. And first item is to recess the Authority meeting and meet as the Environmental Health and Safety Committee. Who would like to move that?

Kevin:

So moved.

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David:

Is there a second?

Mario:

Second.

David:

Second. All right, and all those in favor signify by saying aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

[ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETS FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 2:20 P.M.]

David:

Aye. All right, we're back to the Authority meeting. Thank you.

David:

Next item is the consent calendar.

Mario:

I move to approve the consent calendar as presented.

David:

Is there a second? Any points of clarification? I have just one, it'd be nice if the deer hunt update would compare the year before. It's nice we got 54 deer this year. I don't know if we got a lot the year before, so if we could just get that information when we get the annual update. I don't need it now, but next year.

Sunny:

I believe it was more because last time it was either the does or the bucks were less.

David:

Okay.

Sunny:

But I think when Nicole went over, I think last year was lesser than this year.

David:

Okay, so that's in a positive view because it's still overpopulated. So all right, that was... Any other questions or points of clarification? Seeing none, sensing you're ready to vote. All those in favor say aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

But no, anybody say no? Anybody objections? No. All right, passes unanimous. Oh, you did? Oh, okay. Finance, quarterly update, Rochelle. You didn't have enough to talk about today.

Rochelle:

I know. Just going to do that. We'll go to the balance sheet first, make it a little bit bigger. I'm just going to cover some of the highlights and if you have any other questions just let me know. So first, as you probably anticipate total utility plant met is actually now up by about \$17.9 million. Depreciation is also up, utility plant and service is up. Seawith is actually, although it's down, it is high. And it is primarily because we have a number of relatively large multi-year projects so that's to be expected. From a current asset perspective, current assets are up by about \$700,000 and that's primarily being driven by cash-in-cash equivalent. And that is primarily, again because this is year-over-year, so this is comparing February of 2023 into February of 2024. So February of 2024 includes even the year-end disposition that we did. So the growth fund is actually up even after we transferred money for the transaction that we did. It's up a little over \$2 million and the general fund is also up by about \$1 million.

Right now the revenue accounts are slightly down but that's the cash-in-cash equivalence is a key driver of that area. You'll also see and this is actually good news that accounts receivable is actually down by about \$2.6 million. These numbers are net of our allowance reserve. The note receivable that we have in our books, that is the trifacta note. The least receivables, you might recall that at the end of last fiscal year we had a new accounting pronouncement. And based on discussion with the auditors, all the items related to that [inaudible 00:25:05], we're going to update at the end of each fiscal year because it's just a much more simple approach so we're not dealing with changes throughout the whole year. From a restricted asset perspective, that's up about \$4.4 million. I think some I would say good news here is even the construction fund is actually up a little bit year-over-year and that is because our 37 series proceeds, our year-end disposition has pretty much largely offset our capital expenditures through the third quarter.

Our operating reserve is also up and that was part of the year-end disposition and the debt reserve fund is also up because we did put some additional monies into the debt reserve fund as part of the 37 series. And we also put, even with our DWSRF financing, we put some additional monies into those reserves. That's part of the monies that we get from DWSRF. So overall that's up by about the \$4.4 million. Regulatory assets at this point that's primarily the year-over-year change is primarily related to the amortizations that we do every month on our regulatory assets. As well as that's also where we put cost of issuance so we did have some monies in there for the 37 series as well as our most recent refunding. All those deferred charges are really related to the amortizations as it relates to the pension plans and the OPEB. Although we do do the amortizations every month, the big updates come when we get the year-end actuarial report. On the liability side, so total liabilities are actually down by about \$5.7 million.

Just to highlight a few points, so revenue bonds payable is actually down by about \$6.1 million. As I mentioned, the revenue bond financing that we did was relatively small. And there was also our August principal payment, so year-over-year that's actually down. The DWSRF loans and grants, so this now reflects 13 loans each one day come or the grant. To Suzanne's point, what you see on the liability side is the loans and that's actually down a little bit year-over-year. We do pay principal and interest payments

every month, so different than our RWA bonds that we make actual payments twice a year. We're making payments on the DWSRF every month. The pension liability and OPEB liability, they'll be updated based on the actuarial report. The current portion of revenue bonds payable, that's up year-over-year, so that's reflecting our August one payment. Other key items to know the accounts payable for construction, that's primarily related to retainage and whatever the timing balances are. We do have some real large projects of which some of the retainage has been recorded but not I mean released, but not all of it.

The deferred inflows, again that's primarily related to the pension, so that's amortization. And then really year-over-year you can see that our net position actually is up by about 29 [inaudible 00:29:10]. Any questions on the balance sheet? I would go to A one. So first on the sort of the top part of the sheet, you can see that metered water revenue is actually down by about \$2.8 million. That's consistent with really what we've been talking about throughout this fiscal year. You can also see that the other water revenues and other proprietary gross revenues are actually up versus budget. The O and M is actually down by about \$2.5 million. I'm going to get into that in a little bit more detail later. Interest income, you can also see is actually doing quite well. It's over budget by about \$2.7 million. The intergovernmental revenues, that's the one grant that we did already receive from DWSRF, doesn't yet represent the additional grant that we're expecting to get when we close on the West River financing. Those are the key highlights in the upper part.

If you have any questions on the lower part, this is our projected maintenance test and we are pleased to mention that we're now projecting 120%. I will share that I would say that this projection has more upside than downside. You probably recall that we usually have a very strong May from the cash collections, but we don't want to count on May because if it doesn't come in higher, there's not going to be anything that we can do, but we have continued to increase our coverage outlook. You could also see that the O and M that we're projecting is consistent with all the details that were in the budget and that does include that additional small pension contribution that we mentioned earlier. Just go to the next page. In here I just want to highlight a couple of things so this is on the upper part as well as on the lower part. This is where we look at sensitivities for variances in the consumption and so we kept consistent with just looking at a 5% and a 10% reduction.

It was more based on what we're seeing during the summer months, but you can see that even a small change because now there's just three more months left, but it can have an impact. And if you just scroll down Jennifer, further down. I just want to point out from a maintenance test perspective, you can see even with just three more months to go, the changes that it would make in your cash are not insignificant because there's change in your coverage and that's why we're watching this now very closely throughout the year. Go to the next page. So this is our O and M detail and as I mentioned, the assumption one category is consistent with the budget narratives that went out so we are projecting to come in under budget. I do expect that there'll probably be further variances throughout the remaining three months. And just to highlight some of the key variances year-to-date, payroll is actually lower by about \$131,000.

We're under in headcount, but we actually, and I mentioned this when I was talking about the budget, we are seeing a higher mix towards O and M than what we expected. So that is partially offsetting our headcount [inaudible 00:33:26]. The other key variances that we're seeing is collection expenses is one of the larger variances. We are seeing lower bank fees than what we had budgeted and higher rebilling because to a question that came up earlier, we do do some rebilling of collection related expenses. Business improvement is another area that's under by about \$282,000, that's primarily because of timing. We're expecting that to come in pretty much on target. Outside services is an area that are significantly lower by about \$1.1 million. We are now anticipating that is going to come in under budget

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but not by quite this amount. And the other area that's under year-to-date that I just want to point out is maintenance and repairs, but we are expecting a good part of that to be spent before the end of the fiscal year so overall projecting to be under budget.

David:

I harp on my comment about maintenance and exercising valves or things that we do when we talk about the budget. Are we shortchanging something that we shouldn't be shortchanging now that we seem to be in a good place?

Rochelle:

Not that I'm aware of.

Kevin:

Likewise, maybe Jim can talk to that, can address that in more detail but in our conversation we're not shortchanging anything out in the field.

David:

But we're just under extending because there's just things we're not getting to, we're not doing.

Rochelle:

Or it could be-

David:

And they're-

Kevin:

Could have been over-

Rochelle:

Yes, that's-

Kevin:

... under budgeted more than what we actually need.

David:

Okay, that's a fair point. If that's the case then that's all right. You know where I'm getting at with this, this [inaudible 00:35:29] assurances. I know it's tough with you because we talk about that all the time.

Kevin:

Yes.

David:

Jim, you want to add to that?

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Jim:

No, I mean we're putting a lot more emphasis on system maintenance than we ever have in years past, especially related to the subjects that you're talking about, our valve exercising and flushing. We're finding broken valves in the system and essentially those broken valves are dead ends, which degrade water quality. So the more of those we get to, the better water quality we'll have and when there is a main break, we have more control over the system. So we're going to continue to focus on maintaining the system the best that we can and putting more resources into washing and get exercising.

David:

Thank you.

Rochelle:

From a capital perspective, a couple key things here that I want to mention. We are projecting at an overall level that we are going to potentially exceed the 96%. However, I do want to point out that that does assume that we'll put some additional monies into the project reserve. So in the capital budget you saw that the project reserve was about 3.5. We purposely were waiting until later in the fiscal year to come to you to get approval for even other projects. I'm going to give you some examples that are definitely being impacted by their supply chain, permitting or what I would call regulatory requirements, like when we actually got our waivers from our CDS funding. And that includes the clarifiers that we also have an amendment about even this month. The lead line replacements, we were hoping to do more on that, but we did have some delays regarding the permits that we need to get. Also, some other examples is the Seymour Wellfield Generator that was touched upon as CDS funded, so I just wanted to mention that.

But assuming that when we come to you in April with those additional amendments and you approve it, the projections actually have us slightly exceeding a 6% target. Just going to cover some of the larger variances. So if you go back up to the top, maybe try to make it a little bit bigger. Prospect Dam is one of the ones that we talked about and that actually does have to do with the regulatory approvals that were required. That's one of the ones that we're going to be back to you unless we actually get the permit, as Sunny was mentioning earlier. Also, some other ones of the larger variances, the filter media is currently under but we're actually anticipating that we'll actually be able to do more and we'll have an appropriate amendment for that. The clarifiers, you can see that under run, that is why we're coming to you this month for the type three B amendment on that project and that is definitely being impacted by supply chain.

Although pipe is currently under running overall, we're actually projecting to be pretty much on budget with that to the extent that we can accelerate different projects and do more, we are doing that. The Ansonia-Derby Tank is one of the projects that actually good news, that actually did come in under our expectation and another project that's actually came in under budget is actually the West River Improvement Project so that's actually good news there. So as we mentioned when we talked last time about the capital expenditures, there are now more moving parts than there used to be. So we're working through how we could accelerate things where we can and trying to manage through that. But overall we are trying to do the best we can to manage the program and some of the cases it's not a matter that we don't need the funding. It's just a matter of it's going to happen. This fiscal year is going to happen early and next fiscal year. Are there are any questions on the schedule? The next area is our investment earnings and this has been doing very well.

So at the time, way back when we did the fiscal '24 budget, we assume for example that the STIF rate would be around 3.5 and as of February 29th it's about 5.43 and the last time I looked it's pretty much

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right on that amount. On some of the long-term investments, when we look to do investments, we balance getting monthly interest payments in the STIF to doing or a longer term where you're getting paid twice a year. So probably towards the end of this fiscal year we're going to do some more longer term securities as long as the rates are beneficial so that's what is being depicted here. And just some various notes about Jay, to your point where some of the money is invested in. Like as I mentioned, even the money in the revenue fund, the suite product actually protects us so we're not subject to that \$250,000. Go to the next page. So this again is good news. This is our cash-based earnings so this is the top part is what is in our maintenance tasks so doing well.

And I do want to mention even though the construction fund and the growth fund, the interest earnings don't come into play with our maintenance tests, they're definitely available to support our transactions. And the construction fund, that interest earning stays within the fund and it actually is used to fund our capital program. So year-to-date, we have over \$1 million dollars. And I think I mentioned this before, but we are not pulling money out of the construction fund in advance. We're really pulling it out per each funding that we do so the monies are earning interest as long as they're not yet expended. So interest earnings has been good and better than [inaudible 00:43:11].

Mario:

Very good, just a question. The long-term investments if I'm reading this right is about a half a percent?

Rochelle:

Yes, so you're probably asking how could that be?

Mario:

Well, why are we doing half a percent-

Rochelle:

No, so-

Mario:

... 5% a short term?

Rochelle:

[inaudible 00:43:30].

Mario:

I have to ask the question.

Rochelle:

Yes, so at the time we did those and they're almost matured. So we're going to reinvest it and the time that we did this, this is just how volatile things have been. It was at the time the STIF was like that whole one so we're definitely going to convert those into much higher.

Mario:

Okay.

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Rochelle:

Any other questions?

David:

[inaudible 00:43:58]. All right, very good, thank you. I don't see any on the screen there okay, then we will move on to the type B amendment, which you referred to Rochelle.

Rochelle:

Yes, so this is our request due to supply chain challenges to move \$1.5 million into the project reserve. And this \$1.5 million was actually factored into the \$3.5 million that you saw as part of the capital budget so requesting approval to do that so those monies are available [inaudible 00:44:33].

David:

That's been an acceptable reason in the past that we understand that. So what's your pleasure, folks?

Kevin:

Make a motion to that the Authority approves the transfer of \$1.5 million Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant Clarifiers and Recycling Building Improvements capital budget account to the project reserve account.

David:

All right.

Mario:

Second.

David:

Second. Any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

Okay, perfect. That passes unanimous. Rochelle, I think you hinted at but didn't really mention you shepherded a successful bond refinancing the other day, that went very well so.

Rochelle:

Yes, I think Larry's going to do it.

David:

Oh, were you going to do that in your update [inaudible 00:45:16]? Sorry.

Kevin:

Taking Larry's good news.

David:

Well, I was on the call for it. I jumped the gun and I gave approval before she did, but it was very good. They did very well but we'll get to that in a few minutes then. All right, RPB assignments. First we'll complete March and then we'll go into the future ones. Let's see, since we last met actually Consumer Affairs met. Suzanne, were you able to attend that one February 26th?

Suzanne:

Please come back to me because I don't have my notes in front of me, thanks.

David:

Okay, and there was a joint meeting on February 28th. I forgot the purpose of that.

Kevin:

I think was that still the discussion on the-

David:

The commercial-

Kevin:

... [inaudible 00:46:03] business?

David:

Was it? Oh, okay. All right. Did I attend that one? I [inaudible 00:46:11] logged into a couple of them. Not maybe I didn't [inaudible 00:46:11] go on that one.

Suzanne:

I didn't see anybody.

David:

The Finance one then. All right, were there any concerns raised? I think Larry, you and I talked about it afterwards. That you said it went well and there were not-

Larry:

No, there were no concerns raised about it, so it was good.

David:

Good. Okay. Move on to Finance of March 11, Catherine.

Catherine:

I did attend. Actually let me make sure that my mic is on. Okay, great. I did attend. The meeting was called to order at 5:00. There's a reason why I'm mentioning that. David Flint from CliftonLarsonAllen

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made a brief presentation outlining the audit plan and the objectives, including an additional standard that will be implemented this year. We've talked about that at prior board meetings. There was a quarterly report on the approved projects, the RPB approved projects and the financing and the meeting adjourned at 5:11 PM so it was an 11-minute meeting.

David:

You got mine because I neglected to say I attended the special meeting on March 4th of the Finance Committee, to approve the fitness and completion of the application from target three.

Kevin:

Oh, Yes, target three that's right.

David:

Oh.

Kevin:

By the time I logged in the meeting was over.

David:

They were gone, right. It ended in about three minutes and were gone. But I got in on time, they had no questions. They said it was complete and everything was fine.

All right, so Kevin, you had Land Use on March 13th?

Kevin:

Yes, I had Land Use and it was a discussion was presented by, it was the deer hunt was the large topic of conversation and it was a little bit of history and context given to it again. And is it Nicole Smith? But it was Ms. Smith, she gave an excellent presentation. I was thinking of recommending that she come and give a presentation to the Five Member Authority at one of the next appropriate meetings about the deer hunt. So I thought it would be nice to meet her. She seemed very on top of it. And the discussion also went about the [inaudible 00:48:53] police being hired and future topics of interest.

They discussed a little bit, but mostly it was about the deer harvest.

David:

Okay, very good. All right. Mario, did you attend last Monday's Consumer Affairs?

Mario:

Consumer Affairs started at 5:00. At 7:15 it had not beat a Finance Committee meeting, but I guess concern for a quorum lost. They approved the minutes and went right to the end of the agenda, approved the OCAs invoices because I guess they must have missed the prior month, but they had a great presentation by Lisa DiFrancesco on the education program, the Whitney Water Center program. The schools, they're having trouble getting schools to actually come out to the Whitney Water Center. So there's been more in-school programs of late. There's a Project Water, which is a package program that teachers can get involved in and students can get involved in. And there's programs that are in a box that they loan out to the different schools so it's a great support I think for the science educators in

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the area. There are about 4,800 students a year, which is about 15% above the pre-COVID, which is great. And they've also been touching on items such as invasive species and pollution as part of that, not just water treatment conservation and they've gotten some good responses from that.

There's a new educator, Paris Robberstad, if I'm pronouncing that correctly, who also presented. It was a remote only meeting and I thought she was going to jump through the screen she was so excited about what she's doing and it's great. [inaudible 00:51:07] loan boxes with different topics that people can get into. The OCA then reported that there are no active consumer complaints, although there's some work with 180 North Main Street in Ansonia, to try and get a resolution that he's kind of holding back on. And he reviewed the application for target three and provided comments. That is I guess the end of the coverage. It was actually a half hour meeting, sorry 5:31 to 5:58 for Consumer Affairs is very quick.

David:

Yes, very good. All right Suzanne, did you find what you need?

Suzanne:

I did find what I need, thank you. And Prem, you're an angel. He also texted me and said, "Hey, this is what was on the agenda." But I actually did find my notes. Thank you Prem, for trying to save me. So we met on February 26th at 5:30 and there was no public comment there. They approved their minutes and the main topic was the lead and copper rule update. And there was nothing particularly of interest related to that except a lot of curious questions about timing, about what pieces of the puzzle. How do we know what we know about what's lead? What are the updates from a regulatory point of view about what needs to get done? And the questions were all answered well by Tom Barger. There was no OCA report. They approved an invoice of \$2,967. There was no new business. They talked about the upcoming meetings and we were done in a flash.

David:

Very good, thank you. All right, so next we have to do the assignments for the next three months. And April is a little out of unusual because of some of them are dual meetings and such, but Finance Committee is going to review the budget at their regular meeting on April 8th. I know I'll be attending remotely, but that doesn't mean I need to be the assigned person, but it is good to hear the comments for anybody who is able to go to go.

Catherine:

David, I can go to either Finance or Consumer Affairs, but I'm out of state on the 10th, so I can't do Land Use in April.

David:

All right.

Catherine:

I'll do whatever anybody-

David:

Do you want to do Consumer Affairs and Kevin we'll assign Finance? But-

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Kevin:

Yes.

David:

... I have a feeling you're both going to go to both and I'm going to try to go to both as well though one of them is on April 15th.

Catherine:

Fine with me.

David:

Yes, okay, now Suzanne and Mario, you're most welcome. Again, you hear comments from RPB members regarding the budget, so it's good. But we will certainly summarize them and Finance summarizes them and gives us their thoughts later on anyway in the process. All right so that leaves Land Use on April 10th.

Mario:

I can do that hybrid.

David:

Okay, Mario volunteering for that. And Executive Committee is usually Larry and I if they want us. If not, it's nobody because they sometimes like to be alone and that's perfectly fine. All right, whatever their pleasure. May, Land Use, May 8th.

Suzanne:

I can do that.

David:

Okay.

Kevin:

Is that right?

David:

Okay. Finance May 13th, okay, Kevin. Consumer Affairs, May 20th, Teams only on that one.

Liz:

I can do that one, but [inaudible 00:54:44] I'm happy to switch with Catherine because I went to Consumer Affairs and she always goes to Land Use. So if you want to switch Catherine, I just didn't get my mouth open fast enough.

Catherine:

Okay, well, I'm available so honestly it doesn't matter to me either way.

David:

We do that-

Catherine:

All right.

David:

... because Yes, one seems to be heavy to one type of meeting and the other, it's good to get a variety.

Catherine:

Okay.

David:

So June Finance on June 10th?

Catherine:

June's also a weird month for me.

David:

[inaudible 00:55:18] hasn't gone to Finance in a while, so he beat anybody else. Land Use, June 12th, who hadn't gone in a while and would like to go?

Catherine:

Well, I can't-

David:

Kevin?

Catherine:

I cannot do the 17th, so I guess I'm doing the 12th.

David:

Okay. So, all right, so Catherine, you'll do Land Use on the 12th and Mario will do Consumer Affairs. Not Mario, Kevin. I'm looking at Mario for some reason, but I'm pointing to Kevin. Kevin will do Consumer Affairs on Monday the 17th. That covers us. All right, very good. All right, so now we'll go into business updates. ROACIS, did you want to start with that?

Kevin:

Yes. We'll start with the ROA update and I'll have Prem do that. He and Rochelle and I have been knee-deep in talking about the program, ways to move it forward [inaudible 00:56:11]. Yes, you know what we should because it involves some negotiating strategy as well so thank you for the reminder again.

David:

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So then I'll entertain a motion to go into executive session for the purposes of discussion of contract negotiations.

Kevin:

So moved.

David:

All right, and inviting the executive team and the RPB member.

Kevin:

Yes.

David:

All right, so-

Catherine:

I'll second that [inaudible 00:56:34].

David:

Okay. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

And Jay can stay.

Mario:

You can stay.

David:

All right, good we are in executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 2:55 P.M. TO 3:20 P.M.]

Larry:

I just want to mention a couple of extra items. Highlight a couple of items. First of all, I testified in February on the [inaudible 00:00:11] legislation, joint testimony was submitted by David and Bob Harvey, and Jeff Donofrio did that separately. The good news is that last week it passed unanimously out the Planning and Development Committee.

David:

Excellent.

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Larry:

With strong support from Zullo, who is the East Haven representative.

David:

Yes.

Larry:

Said he liked all the changes and the reason that RWA was doing. So now it's sitting on the House floor and waiting for vote action there and then it would go to the Senate, and then onto the governor's office so it's making its way and nobody's messing with it. There's no opposition and so that's the good news.

David:

Is he the chief sponsor? Is that how it's working?

Larry:

No.

David:

He's in the wrong party to be a chief sponsor.

Larry:

No. It was a committee bill.

David:

Okay. Well they're all committee bills this year. Because it's a recession.

Larry:

That's right. We worked with him to get it drafted, but it's a committee bill.

David:

Thank you.

Larry:

And then last week, I'll just say I met with the mayor of Wallingford to talk about how we could partner. He said, "Thank you very much."

David:

He's brand new.

Larry:

He's brand new. Yes, that's right. And he's been in office two months. And then I have a meeting with Walcraft, I think it is next week, same thing. See how we can partner and that sort.

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David:

Mayor Don's a nice guy.

Larry:

Yes. So that's all that I have.

David:

Okay.

Larry:

Except we'll need to go into executive session.

David:

We'll go into the security update so I will entertain a motion. So moved by Kevin, second by Mario for executive session. All those in favor of going into executive session, inviting Jay, our RPB member, as well as senior executive team.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

And that was all five.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 3:22 P.M. TO 3:41 P.M.]

David:

We're out of executive session. So, what's your pleasure? We haven't voted yet, but will.

Suzanne:

We're out of executive session?

David:

We are now, yes.

Suzanne:

I'd like to make a motion that the Authority authorizes Sunny, Vice-President of Engineering and Environmental Services of South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, to execute any all documents related to the purchase of 10 plus acres located at 0 Easterly Drive in Hamden, Connecticut from the Viola H. Preisner Trust. The property is located within the Authority's Lake Whitney watershed.

Mario:

Second.

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David:

Mario, second. All right. Sensing you're ready to vote, all those in favor say aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

David:

Unanimous. All right. So we are onto a motion to recess as the Authority and meet as the Commercial Business Committee.

Kevin:

So moved

Mario:

Second.

David:

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

Authority members:

Aye.

[COMMERCIAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETS FROM 3:41 P.M. TO 5:28 P.M.]

David:

All right, we are back to the Authority. Thank you. We're back to the full RPB. There's nothing to act on coming from the committees.

Kevin:

No other actions-

David:

So, who would like to vote we adjourn this seven-hour meeting?

Kevin:

So moved.

Mario:

Second.

David:

All in favor? Aye.

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Authority members:

Aye.