

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

**Minutes of September 22, 2022 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, September 22, 2022, via remote access. Chair Ricozzi presided.

**PRESENT**

**RPB**

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Branford	Mario Ricozzi
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
East Haven	Michelle Verderame
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Haven	Anthony Rescigno
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal
Woodbridge	Mark Levine
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

**Absent**

Bethany	Brian Eitzer
Derby	Frank Pepe
Milford	Richard Smith
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy

**Regional Water Authority**

David Borowy  
Kevin Curseaden  
Anthony DiSalvo  
Catherine LaMarr  
Suzanne Sack

**Management**

Larry L. Bingaman  
Rochelle Kowalski  
Dennis Donovan  
Jim Hill  
Sunny Lakshminarayanan  
Premjith Lakshman Singh  
Donna Verdisco  
Tara Augur  
Dana Bochan  
Rita DelVasto  
Robert Olejarczyk  
Paul Ruggiero

**Counsel**

Raquel Herrera-Soto

**Office of Consumer Affairs**

Jeffrey M. Donofrio

**Staff**

Jennifer Slubowski

**Call to Order**

Chair Ricozzi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Safety Moment**

Chair Ricozzi reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

**Minutes**

On motion made by Mr. Horbal, seconded by Mr. Levine, the RPB approved the minutes of its August 25, 2022 meeting as distributed, with 67 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Absent	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Absent	West Haven (8)	Absent
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

### Communications

Chair Riconzi stated that members should have received the updated Criteria from the Nominating Committee for Authority member. Since the next meeting of the Nominating Committee is scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2022, the deadline for suggested edits and comments will be extended until that day. Members should contact the board office with comments prior to October 3, 2022.

He stated that members should have received a copy of the municipality report for October.

Ms. Slubowski stated that the United Way campaign is scheduled to kick off in late September/early October. Members will be receiving communications in the upcoming weeks.

Mr. Levine moved for adoption of the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board, with respect to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Application for approval of a Customer Information System Solution, which copy is attached hereto, be and hereby is, approved in the form submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Jaser seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 67 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Absent	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Absent	West Haven (8)	Absent
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

### Reports

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month in executive session to discuss matters related to real estate strategy and negotiations. Management also provided an update on RPB approved capital projects. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 3, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**Land Use Committee** – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month at the Seymour Wellfield to receive an update from management on RWA's aquifer protection. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 4:30 p.m., at Lake Saltonstall in Branford and will include the annual pizza dinner. All RPB members are invited to attend.

**Consumer Affairs Committee** – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported on the committee meeting that took place earlier in the week. The committee met with management to receive a Customer Care Business update. The Office of Consumer Affairs reported no pending complaints. The committee also received an update of the New Haven Environmental Advisory Council meeting held on September 7, 2022. The committee's next meeting is on Monday, October 17, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Members discussed pre and post covid past due accounts and the monthly billing system. Chair Ricozzi requested data to be shared with the Finance Committee meeting and the Consumer Affairs Committee in the future.

At 6:43 p.m., Ms. Young entered the meeting.

**Nominating Committee** – In Mr. Eitzer’s absence, Mr. Havrda reported on the committee meeting that took place at the end of August. The committee met with the Authority Chair and RWA’s CEO to discuss Authority needs. The committee discussed the lack of members with engineering experience and will discuss this need in the future. The next meeting is on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at which time the committee will meet with the incumbent.

**Authority/Management** – In Mr. Borowy’s absence, Mr. Curseaden, Vice Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority Meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Authority met as the Audit-Risk Committee and as the Commercial Business Committee.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the Audit-Risk Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day and met with the RWA’s auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA), to review and receive a clean and unmodified opinion of the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2022. She stated that no single federal audit was required due to being under the threshold requiring such an audit but a single federal audit will be required in fiscal year 2023.

Mr. Curseaden, Chair of the Commercial Business Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day in executive session to discuss the budget, commercial strategy, efficiencies and actions, goals, and metrics.

Chair Ricozzi stated that the annual budget presentations would also include a commercial business update.

Mr. Curseaden also reported that Ms. LaMarr, Authority member, provided an update of her attendance at the New Haven Environmental Advisory Council meeting and is working with the Authority to educate the community on RPB oversight and regulatory structure.

Ms. LaMarr stated the community’s need to better understand the RWA’s regulatory structure and needs to be aware of RWA’s public meetings and opportunities for members of the public to be heard.

Mr. Curseaden stated that discussions are taking place regarding a standing agenda item for a public comment. More information to follow.

Ms. Verdisco, the RWA’s Chief Human Resources Officer & Head of Corporate Services, provided an update on the status of COVID at the RWA.

Mr. Bingaman, RWA’s President and Chief Executive Officer, reviewed revenues, and operating and maintenance expenses for the month ended August 31, 2022, and stated that the projected maintenance test for FY 2023 is 116%, with no draw from the Rate Stabilization Fund. He stated that there is still uncertainty due to the state of the economy and the pandemic.

Mr. Bingaman reported that as of September 12, 2022 raw storage levels are at 75%, compared to the long-term average of 71%.

Discussion took place regarding first quarter water revenue vs. long-term water use decline, water emergency system for water utilities in need, status of remote working conditions, and RWA’s resiliency measures for climate change.

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At 7:13 p.m., Mss. Augur, Bochan, DelVasto, and Mr. Olejarczyk withdrew from the meeting, and on motion made by Ms. Young, seconded by Mr. Betkoski, the RPB voted to go into executive session to discuss security strategies and implementation, with 67 votes cast in the affirmative. Present in executive session were RPB members, Five Member Authority, Office of Consumer Affairs, RWA Sr. management, Sgt. Ruggiero, and Ms. Slubowski.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Absent	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Absent	West Haven (8)	Absent
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

At 8:00 p.m., the RPB came out of executive session. No motions or votes were taken in, or as a result of, executive session. On motion made by Mr. Mongillo, seconded by Mr. Slocum, the RPB voted to adjourn the meeting, with 67 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Absent	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Aye	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Absent	West Haven (8)	Absent
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles Havrda, Secretary

Attachment:

1. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board for the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Application for approval of a Customer Information System Solution,