

Representative Policy Board

September 22, 2022

Meeting Transcription

- Mario: We're at 6:30. So without the delay, welcome everyone to the regular meeting. September 22, 2022 of the Representative Policy Board, it's 6:30. I'm Mario Ricozzi, chair, let's get right into the agenda.
- The first item is the safety moment on fall driving dangers and tips. Remember, in addition to the darkness, and the animals, and leaves and tires, children are out and about much more than they may have been during the summer with school being in session and people on teams late at night, so keep your eyes open for them and drive defensively. Thank you, Jen. First action item it is the approval of minutes from August 25, 2022.
- Mike: So moved.
- Charles: Second.
- Mario: Thank you. Thank you for the second. Any corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, all those in favor. Say "Aye".
- Group: Aye.
- Mario: Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Thank you very much. The minutes have been approved. We have a couple of communications. One is the Nominating Committee's recommendation, criteria to be utilized for the appointment of a candidate for the Five Member Authority, beginning December 31st of 2022. Jennifer had sent out a request for comments. I'm not sure if you heard back from everyone, Jennifer?
- Jennifer: No, I think the only response was yours. I didn't hear back from anybody else and I don't think Brian did either.
- Mario: Okay. So if you have any suggestions, corrections, I think the deadline is either fast approaching or has passed. So please get Jennifer your comments on this. It's very similar to past ones, if I read it correctly.
- Charles: Jennifer, is the deadline, this meeting? It's my understanding that it was this meeting.
- Jennifer: Yes, they should be in by today, but the Nominating Committee is meeting again on the third.
- Charles: Right. I just wanted to report back to Brian. Okay.
- Mario: Yes. So-

- Charles: I guess we could actually take comments up to the third then if there were any.
- Mario: Okay, it gives everybody an extension of a couple of days, if you haven't gotten any comments, please read through it. It's a pretty quick read if you've done this before, you've probably read these same words. So just let Jennifer know if you have any comments. Thank you. And then there's also the municipality reports, which are in your packet. So just draw your attention to that. I'm sorry to say that the boating at Saltonstall is... In October, that was under the Branford report. So get your boating in this weekend. All right. Any other communications, Jen?
- Jennifer: The United Way Campaign is going to be kicking off in late September, early October. Just a heads up.
- Mario: Okay. So we may be receiving communications about that. Thank you. All right, we have item for consideration and action, which is the final decision on Customer Information System Solution application. Mr. Levine?
- Mark: How you doing everybody?
- Mario: Presiding member? Would you please...
- Mark: Read the resolution? I got it in my hand. 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 which... You have it in your files there be, and hereby is approved, in the form submitted to the meeting.
- Mario: And the form of a motion, Mark?
- Mark: I make a motion.
- Mario: Okay. And a second?
- Jay: Second.
- Mario: Thank you, Jay. Any comments, questions?
- Stephen: Hey Mario, it's Steve.
- Mario: Yes, Steve.
- Stephen: I just want to say, I mean, I think you all know, I asked a lot of questions. I listened to the OCA. I reluctantly am planning to vote for this, as necessary evil, but I really wish there were some way of avoiding this amount of money for the functions that we have to cover. I hope it meets the expectations that everybody expects. I have every faith in the current IT staff to do it so hopefully it all goes well.

Mario: Okay. Thank you Steve. Anyone else? I want to take the opportunity to thank Jeff for just a real thorough job and report. You always seem to delve into issues where the layman may not be quite fully comprehended. And you explain them well. So I really appreciate that. And I know that everyone else on the board does also. And Steve, I think one of the things to your point about the cost and that's one of the reasons I'd asked for to make sure he pulled out and identified what the costs were of staff time, which was just below half, I think the total cost. So that made me feel a little bit more comfortable about what we were spending cause it's internal costs.

Stephen: Okay.

Mario: Although I always wish we could find our most cost effective solution. I think this is one of them because it'll go along. Anyone else hearing none. I'll try your minds. All those in favor. Say "Aye".

Stephen: Aye.

Mario: Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Thank you very much. Thank you Mark, for being the presiding member and doing good job.

Mark: I just want to... One other thing and give a "Here, here!" To what you said about Jeff's in depth study of that proposal. "Here, here!"

Mario: Okay. It moves us to the reports. We have the Finance Committee, Mr. Slocum.

Tim: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Finance met on September 12th of this month and probably the most interesting aspect of our meeting was actually something that we did in executive session. So there can't be a very full idea of what went on there. But in essence, what's posted in our minutes would indicate we discussed real estate strategy and negotiations. I want to thank Larry and staff for giving us the update. I think it was significantly helpful. And beyond that, we went into just the report on the business of the past few months with our capital projects, notably additional legal proceedings related to the Derby tank project scheduled for late November. But we think we're going to be able to move ahead anyway in October, which is good.

The West River project is anticipated now for completion in August of 2023. Again, so many of the projects have their delays brought about by supply chain issues and other issues that most businesses and entities, whether it's a grocery store or a utility, find themselves in these days, despite the threat of a recession. So the bottom line is it was a good meeting and our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 3rd. And that's my report.

Mario: Okay. Thank you. Any questions for Tim? Thank you very much. Mr. Betkoski?

Peter: Can you hear me, Mr. Chairman?

Mario: Yes.

- Peter: Okay. Good evening. All our meeting was September 14th at 4:30. We met at 151 Roosevelt Drive in Seymour, and one of our big discussions was the Aquifer Protection by Steve Vitko. I recommend that you get the minutes and read through them. He did a thorough study. I believe a little bit of an engineer at grade two. So he explained the whole topic and how it works, John gave his update there on the properties on invasive species. And that was about it, our next meeting's going to be October 12th, Lake Saltonstall at 4:30. Any questions?
- Mario: Questions for Peter? Okay. Thank you very much, Peter. Appreciate it.
- Peter: You're welcome.
- Mario: October 12th you said, 4:30, Saltonstall. The boats will not be allowed. They will be brought in.
- Stephen: And Peter's getting the pizza.
- Peter: And I'm getting the pizza. Larry you coming?
- Stephen: Larry's coming.
- Peter: Larry's coming?
- Stephen: Yeah, he's coming. Yep.
- Mario: All right.
- Stephen: In fact, spend some money on the pizza and get the good stuff.
- Mario: The Consumer Affairs Committee, Mr. Mongillo.
- Peter: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, give Jennifer a headcount, whoever's coming so I can figure how many pizzas to get.
- Mario: Okay. Everyone let Jennifer know if you're going to attend the next Land Use Committee meeting. Mr. Mongillo?
- Stephen: Good evening, Mario. Consumer Affairs met on Monday. We had an important update on the Consumer Care Business activities because Laura Gonzalez, who was the Customer Care Director, retired as of the end of August. Dana Bochan will be moving into that position. So she has spent about four months with Laura to make sure that there's a smooth transition going over some of the key functions of that position, which she shared with us. We also went over business activities that have been going on. They have open positions to fill. She talked a little bit about the collection strategy. Collections were paused during the pandemic. Internally, they are active again. They're currently not asking for outside collections people at this point. And we spent a lot of time on the interactive voice response telephone system, asking about how customers

are received, what the queuing priorities are, who calls go to, what the qualifications are for people from there, and also some metrics. How many calls per day, et cetera. So that was a pretty robust discussion.

She also went over a dashboard, really good piece of work that they have to track customer escalation issues. And their target is to close any escalated issue within five days. Currently they're closing about 71% in that time, which is good considering there's probably a lot of interaction with other people and other information that needs to be gathered to resolve those things. So it was a good discussion on kind of what's happening currently with our business system.

Jeff reported that he's been mostly working on CIS. There were no customer issues per se. However, he was invited to the New Haven Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, which I also attended. Naomi and Catherine were also on that call. And Steve Vitko from the Water Authority was there to address an issue they had with a piece that RWA put out on clearing the sidewalks with leaf blowers instead of hosing them down. So he did a pretty good job of responding to that, but they did have some other issues which Catherine is taking back to the Authority and were kind of waiting for that to get resolved so that the proper people within the Authority can address their concerns. There was a lot of misinformation in that group and we did try to supply what we could to ease their concerns. So that was our meeting. Our next meeting is October 17th. Any questions?

Mario: Any questions for Steve? All right. Thank you very much. Steve. Moving on to the Nominating Committee and pinch-hitting is Mr. Havrda.

Charles: Good evening, everyone. We met on August 29th. Brian opened the meeting with Larry and David to have a general discussion of the board and its needs and desires and operations and that type of thing. We not only had discussion regarding the incumbent candidate, but also in general where the board is, where it stands. The biggest point that came out of that was that we are lacking at this point in time, some engineering experience, not that it's critical at this point in time, but it's something to keep in mind going forward, that that would be the one area that could be helpful in the future. After that, we continued to review the criteria and it was decided to not make any changes and forward them to the RPB, which is what, earlier in the meeting, Mario pointed out. Our next meeting is October 3rd. So if anybody has any comments or insights, let Brian or Jennifer know, and we could take them into consideration. On the 3rd, we will be meeting with Kevin and we will come back to you with our results. Anyone have any questions?

Mario: Any questions for Charles? Okay. Thank you, all. Moving on from the Nominating Committee. Appreciate that important work.

Stephen: Hey Mario, this is Steve again.

Mario: Yes, Steve.

- Stephen: I just want to mention one other thing. I don't have any numbers right now, but Mark had asked about past due accounts. And the Authority's getting that information for us, but it's a significant amount and I will bring that back forward. So everybody can be aware of that. Compared to accounts past due now versus pre pandemic.
- Charles: Were there... On past due accounts. We're not in any situation where, because of the pandemic, we can't collect them, right? That got a winter thing or anything like that.
- Stephen: I don't know, if Rochelle is on maybe Rochelle can comment.
- Mario: Rochelle?
- Rochelle: You're correct. We don't have a winter moratorium.
- Charles: Okay.
- Mario: The moratorium was lifted on collecting.
- Rochelle: Yeah. Quite a while ago.
- Charles: Do you think we have more accounts because of the new billing system being more accurate?
- Rochelle: No, I don't think so.
- Charles: No, just the trend right now. Probably more pandemic related than anything.
- Rochelle: Yeah. I think that our trend is down from what it was at the sort of the height, but yes, we still have elevated receiving goals versus pre pandemic and we're working on a collection strategy.
- Charles: Okay.
- Mario: So perhaps... because I know you suggested you would collect that data. Perhaps you can share that at both finance and consumer affairs next month, once you have it available.
- Charles: Wasn't one of the pluses though, of the new billing system, to potentially increase the accuracy and/or loss water sales. Let's put it that way. Was that one of the purposes of moving forward with the new billing system?
- Rochelle: One of the aspects, I think the accuracy is more like AMI and the meters, but part of the business case for monthly billing did have to do with the speed of cash collections. And we are seeing, even though we still have elevated receivables, we are seeing more monies come in the first couple months of billing, which was what was incorporated into the business case.

- Charles: Okay.
- Mario: Any other questions along those?
- Peter: Yeah, I have a question Mario for Rochelle.
- Mario: Yes.
- Peter: Rochelle, are we incorporating payment plans with some of our customers?
- Stephen: Currently, and others can chime in, but currently we do have on a case by case basis, payment plans. We also still have our program with Dollar Energy. And we also participated in the low income water assistance program with the funding coming in from the state. But I do expect that with the CIS project that will be able to even offer more payment plans to customers.
- Prem: I would add the same color to it, Peter, right? So it was one of the pieces in the business case to look at making it more automated fashion for the in installment plans. Today, we do it based on a case by case basis for the customers. And we do create those plans manually. So it's part of the new CIS system, but that's correct.
- Stephen: Thank you. Mario, this is Steve. I have one more question of Rochelle.
- Mario: All right.
- Stephen: We're in a time where... Probably the last couple of months have been the higher bills on monthly bills over the summer. So if they're past due, do you get any payment on it or do they just not pay it at all?
- Rochelle: I think there's actually some combination. So you might not be able to pay all your past due. So it depends on the particular situation with the customer.
- Larry: Steve, this is Larry. When a customer does go on a payment plan, they're required to make a payment on their prior past due balance, but keep their current balance up to date. So there is a requirement in order for them to be doing both in order to stay on that payment plan, but it is handled on a case by case basis as Prem and Rochelle pointed out.
- Stephen: Thank you.
- Mario: Thank you very much. We'll move to the Authority and management report. Pinch hitting is Mr. Curseaden.
- Kevin: Yes. Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the board, sitting in for Mr. Borowy tonight. The Audit Risk Committee was one of our committee meetings today and Catherine we'll be discussing her committee's meeting. Catherine?

Catherine: Good evening. The Audit Risk Committee met today and really the totality of the meeting was a report of the audit by Clifton, Larson, Allen... CLA. As a reminder, BlumShapiro was acquired by CLA in January of 2021. CLA reviewed the fiscal 2022 audit scope and results, the fiscal 2022 financials, and provided the required auditor communications. We received a clean or unmodified opinion that was given to the Authority on the Authority's financial statements. RWA Well Services and the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund have been consolidated entities within the fiscal 2022 financial statements and associated notes. Just so you know, a federal audit was not required for fiscal 2022. As the RWA did not receive federal funds in excess of \$750,000. It will be required in 2023, based upon the drinking water SRF funds and grants already received in this fiscal year and additional federal monies that are anticipated. Are there any questions?

Mario: Any questions for members?

Catherine: Thank you. Okay. That concludes the report.

Mario: Thank you Catherine.

Kevin: Thank you Catherine. The Commercial Business Committee also met today and had a discussion with Prem, Rochelle, and Dennis primarily in executive session. We discussed the results of the Commercial Business Committee and the strategy exceeding budget. The commercial strategy for revenue growth and other efficiencies going forward. And we discussed commercial business actions and measurable goals to meet the target and the stretch targets. And that was our meeting. If there's any questions?

Mario: Thank you. And Kevin, just one question.

Kevin: Sure.

Mario: So I believe we left it that at the annual budget presentation, we would still have executive sessions to discuss the commercial business enterprises? I think we're still on track for that. Is that correct?

Kevin: Yes.

Mario: Okay.

Kevin: Yes.

Mario: Thank you.

Kevin: Thank you for that comment, Mr. Chairman.

Mario: If on a quarterly basis we get a thumbs up or a thumbs down... you could do that on the QT.

Kevin: Absolutely understood.

Mario: Okay.

Kevin: We also did hear a report from Ms. LaMarr on the New Haven Environmental Council Committee meeting. She was also the attendee and were formulating either a response or some type of plan of action to maybe better educate the community on the oversight that the RPB gives to the Five Member Authority in the rate cases among other things. And I don't know, Catherine, if you wanted to expand on that at all, but...

Catherine: I think you've covered it Kevin, but I do think it's important to make sure that the community understands our regulatory structure and they understand the fact that we do have public meetings. They're welcome to come and listen, make public comments, actually, do we have a public comment section? I'm not sure, but there is an opportunity for people to make their voices heard. The misinformation was frustrating. I'll just leave it at that. And we do need to correct that.

Kevin: Yeah. Thanks Catherine. I actually had a conversation with Dave earlier today about putting a public comment section at the beginning of our Five Member Authority agendas, where there's things that aren't on the agenda. The public can come and comment, and I think he's interested in proceeding ahead with that. So I think that's a great idea.

Catherine: Thank you. I do think it's a good idea.

Kevin: Yeah. And that was the Five Member Authority meeting. We did have a financial report from Rochelle, the quarterly as well. And I'll be followed by Larry.

Mark: On an average, how many people come to your meetings that are not on the board?

Kevin: Well, if you don't count presenters, Mark, from either consultants, including management, maybe nine or 10. We rarely get public attendees, just very occasionally, but I think it would be good practice like they do at a lot of town council meetings where they have an opportunity for the public to comment at the beginning of the session.

Mark: I think it's a great idea.

Kevin: Yeah. Thank you. Got it.

Mario: And Kevin, in your thought process today, considering keeping that to agenda items?

Kevin: We hadn't got that far into it. I'd have to think about it and talk with the rest of the Five Member Authority about whether it should be limited to agenda items or, my personal preferences is that somebody can come and speak about anything and we give them three to five minutes to talk about it, whether it's on the agenda or not. I don't know

whether that's something that the rest of the members are interested in or whether it should just be limited to agenda, but that's still for discussion.

Mario: Okay. Thank you. Yeah. Keep me posted. I think it would be helpful even though we also don't get public members coming and you do have a point, we don't really have a spot on the agenda for them. So I appreciate that discussion.

Kevin: Yeah. Thank you. Absolutely. Any questions? Okay, Larry?

Larry: Okay. Thank you. Before I get in and give my comments. If Donna's on the line, I'll have her do the COVID update.

Donna: Sure. Thank you. And good evening everybody. As of August 31st, we had 105 confirmed cases. This is an increase in five new cases since our last board report. Our vaccination rate remains at 85%. And as you know, we're continuing all of the regular cleaning that we've been doing since the pandemic. The positivity rate is 9.44% and the RWA has discontinued contract tracing as of early July. In addition to that, we recently sent out a communication to all employees, letting them know to continue remote work due to COVID trends on employees wanting more flexibility. So we are going to continue to monitor the COVID trends, track our performance metrics and visit our remote policy as we continue down this path. Any questions? Back to you, Larry.

Larry: Thank you.

Donna: Thank you.

Larry: I'd like to report on the results after three months ending August 31. So operating revenues are over budget by about \$4.5 million or about 12%. And that's due to total water revenues, which is wholesale, fire, and of course our metered customers. That's over budget by about \$4.3 million, about 13%. And our other revenues, which is includes outside lab services, our pipe safe, and jobbing is over budget by about \$170,000. So we're doing well there.

Operating and maintenance expenses are about \$2.4 million under budget. Excuse me. And most of that is due to timing at this point, about \$2.2 million is due to timing with only about 225,000 permanent or deferred net savings.

When you do all the puts and takes on that, we are projecting coverage of about 116% at this point in time. That projection reflects higher anticipated interest earnings. Also we are attributing the higher coverage to slightly lower pilot and lower debt service expense. We're still somewhat cautious in terms of the outlook because of the continuing impact of COVID on the economy and some of the uncertainties around the pandemic and inflation, but we are being conservative, but projecting 116% coverage by the end of the year. And that will probably change over time. If we continue with the present trends in a positive direction. As of September the 12th, raw water storage was at 75% and that compares to a long term average of about 71% for this time of the year. And that concludes my management report.

Jamie: Larry, this is Jamie. I have question. With respect to... You said that, and I don't remember the number that you just said, but it sounded pretty high in terms of revenue from water usage. Do you attribute that the drought and just increase yards being watered? What do you think is the reason?

Larry: Yeah, I think there's a multiple things going on there. Certainly it's increased water. We still have, as you know, a good number of people, not as many as at the height of the pandemic, but we still have more people at home than usual that are using the water. Wholesale water is up as well. And when you combine that with the warmer weather, we always see spikes in water usage on the weekends. So I think it's a combination of factors related to the drought and more people and more people being home than normal in the past.

Jamie: So do you think that's going to change? Cause we've seen up until maybe this last year, year and a half, we've seen an overall decline, steady decline in usage of water and reduction of income as a result. And it sounds like it's going in the opposite direction. Do we think that's going to be a continued trend or do we have no idea? Is it just sort of an open variable at this point?

Larry: Well, I think it's a bit of an open variable at this point, but at least for the foreseeable future, I think as long as we have a larger number of people at home than what we normally have in the past, I think we'll continue to see that higher spike. But I think the long term decline is going to probably continue, that's that 1% a year that we've always talked about that will probably continue for the next three to seven years based on a consultant report that we had a few years ago that came in and was projecting lower water use for about seven or eight years of that particular point in time. Although we've not had that updated, I think that's still an appropriate assumption to make longer term. And we base our financial modeling on that as well.

Jamie: Thank you. I have another sort of an odd question that has to do with Mississippi. John Triana shared the article with us about more information about what was going on with the water in Georgia. And I wondered... The article talked about other water companies from around the country coming in to give advice and being called. And I wondered if the RWA has participated in any of those conversations and trying to give them a hand, are you waiting for them to figure out the political framework first? Have we heard from them or are we chipping in any way?

Larry: At least I've not heard from them. And I'm pretty certain that none of the other leadership team members have heard from them yet. And I think given the distance and things, we're just kind of waiting to see if they reach out and need us. There is an emergency system called Warn, W-A-R-N, in which water utilities can reach out to other water utilities for help. We're a member of that organization. While that's a more regional group, it could come through that as well, but we've not been contacted.

Jamie: Thank you.

Tim: I had a question for Larry if I may.

- Larry: Yes.
- Tim: Okay. Larry, I noticed you did mention the impact of COVID as an ongoing business concern, obviously inflation and supply chain stuff and dearth of workers are things that we've all been hearing about. But do you have any meat on the bone for that? I only ask that because, how many workers in our state, and you may not be able to provide this, but what percentage of workers are still home bound workers as a consequence of this? I know we can speak to our workforce, but is this an ongoing thing that's just going to, never go away or...
- Larry: Well, there's sort of two answers to that. One, I can't turn to you and say, I have a report that says 35%...
- Tim: But you said it. And that's why I was curious. And there's nothing wrong with saying it, but...
- Larry: I know I understand that, but just anecdotally, we hear that there are more people at home now than there used to be. Matter of fact, I attended a meeting today of leaders in the New Haven area. And many, many of those companies, whether it's a hospital or a university, are having more of their people that they can afford to, to stay home and do work because that's the trend. And of course, as you know, everything that you read, employers are saying that either they can't hire people if they don't allow more remote work, or people are quitting and changing jobs to go to work for another company that will allow remote work. So it's not based on hard data, but it's what we're seeing kind of around and anecdotal information.
- Tim: Well, I think I would also agree that it's probably correct. I mean, I encounter it myself, know people that are working remotely. I just didn't know if that was a hard and fast fact. That's all. Okay. Thank you.
- Jamie: The wall street journal did an article about the state of Connecticut and they moved to permanent telecommuting for all of their employees.
- Tim: Oh our state. I know about the state.
- Jamie: Not a full picture, that's tough. I can say, but for state employees. I was quickly trying to find a number and I couldn't.
- Tim: Yep. Thank you.
- Mark: Larry? The recent storms with these hundred year rains that come every five years, what would happen if we got 20 inches of rain?
- Larry: Well, our dams, as I recall, and Sunny should step in on this. But as I recall, our dams had been designed in the past to withstand a hundred year storms. And I think probably a 20 inch storm rainfall may be in that category, but we are building, when we redo the Whitney dam, the new standard is to look at thousand year storms. So we'll certainly

change the design to that dam to be able to stand that kind of a rainstorm, but all of our dams are built to handle, like I said, hundred year plus storms.

Mark: Well you, in the recent downpours that we've had in the gushes of rain of two inches in an hour, how are our dams holding up? Have you heard?

Larry: They've been-

They've been doing fine. We've had spillage. What happened was, is that the reservoirs were below the dam, even though we're ahead of last year. And when we had these heavier rainstorms, we started getting spillage over the dam. So they were handling it without any difficulty and Sunny, do you want to supplement that?

Sunny: Yeah, sure. I think pretty much hit all the points that I think typically I would say with regard to the design. And going forward too, we will look at, I would say, thousand year, I would say storm events with the climate change and all that. We are doing a lot of modeling to see what the risk is and what kind of resiliency measures we need to take. There is also tabletop exercises, which we conduct, I would say, on many these dams. Just to see whether we need to be prepared for such storm events. And that is an ongoing exercise, Mark, which is being done. I would say pretty much we have... I would say an external consultant along with, I would say internally with the resources we do that. And even with this recent event, typically we go around the next stage. So to go and do all the inspection of all the dams, that pretty much we manage.

So I think so far so good, knock on wood. And I think we continue to, I would say, do this inspections periodically to make sure that they are, I would say, meeting the structural stability factors, the hydraulic hydrologic factors, seepage issues. So many of these, I would say, are factors we regularly check and some of the high hazard dams we have, I would say, even the state comes and, I would say, the dam safety comes and checks. So it is, I would say, an ongoing exercise. We continuously keep an eye on it, depending on, I would say... And if there is any seepage issues that could overall cause, I would say, spillage, we will, I would say, we attack it right away. So it is something that we continuously watch excellent.

Mark: I know that, but I think we're really lucky that the reservoirs were so far down. If I think if there were at full capacity, we may be, the spillage would be a lot with the amount of rain that we've been getting. But lucky we're not getting 20 inches of rain like Puerto Rico had. Anyways, thank you.

Mario: Okay. Thank you, Mark. Any other questions? Okay. So you saw in addition to the agenda for possible executive session after we had our discussion last month, and there were questions about the security report and all that was done and questions about input. So if the RPB is in favor, we could do an executive session and receive some more detailed information than what would be available in a public session since it does involve security from management on the strategies that they hope to use. And it would allow us to ask some questions. So if you wish I'll accept a motion to move into executive session to discuss matters of security and strategy,

Jamie: I'll make that motion.

Mario: Thank you, Jamie. Is there a second?

Tim: I'll second it.

Mario: Okay. Thank you. I think that was Tim. This requires a two third majority to go into executive session. So we'll try and do it by a voice vote all in favor of going into executive session, say "Aye".

Group: Aye.

Mario: Okay. Anyone opposed? Anyone abstaining? Okay. Well, we'll move into executive session and by all members of the RPB, the OCA, obviously Jennifer, otherwise we can't have an executive session. Members of the Five Member Authority and senior management team. Larry, I will allow you to identify who on the management team you wish in executive session. I don't know if we have a member from Murtha.

Jennifer: Yeah. Raquel is here. Raquel Herrera-Soto.

Mario: Okay. Larry, identify who from the senior management you wish to be in the executive session?

Larry: Well, I would like to have the leadership team here for this particular discussion and I think it would be good to have our legal counsel as well.

Mario: Okay.

Catherine: And Larry, I did invite John Triana, and Paul, if they're on, just in case any questions come up. If that's okay with you?

Mario: There... okay. All right.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 7:13 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.]

Mario: We are out of executive session. There being no further business, now we will accept a motion to adjourn.

Stephen: So moved.

Tim: Second.

Mario: Thank you Tim. We stand adjourned at 8:00 o'clock.