



The  
Somerset Raritan Valley  
Sewerage Authority

**MINUTES OF THE 822<sup>nd</sup> MEETING  
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
February 23, 2015**

**Minute 1 – Opening of Meeting**

The 822<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by the Chairman, Peter Stires.

**Minute 2 – Open Public Meetings Announcement**

The Open Public Meeting Announcement was read by the Executive Director, Ronald S. Anastasio.

**Minute 3 – Roll Call**

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Present
Richard DeLuca	7:31 pm	Michael Merdinger	Present
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph J. Lifrieri	Present
Edward Machala	7:35 pm	Michael Impellizeri	Present
Carolann Garafola	Present	Gail Quabeck	Present
Steven Mlenak	Present	Robert Albano	Present
		Peter Stires	Present

**Professional Staff**

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director  
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Facility Engineer  
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent  
Michael Ingenito, Supervisor-Wet End  
Thomas Laustsen, P.E., CDM Smith, Consulting Engineer  
Joseph Maraziti, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, General Counsel  
Peter Wozniak, Chief Financial Officer  
Linda Hering, Administrative Assistant

**Others**

Donna O'Shea, Secretary/Receptionist

**Minute 4 – Pledge of Allegiance**

All in attendance saluted the flag.

**Minute 5 – Oath of Office** - Administered to Carolann Garafola of Warren Township, by General Counsel Joseph Maraziti, Esquire, for a term to expire January 31, 2020.

**Minute 6 – Re-Election of Officers**

Attorney Maraziti administered the Oath of Office to the Treasurer: Gail Quabeck.

**Minute 7 – Approval of Minutes**

**A. 821<sup>st</sup> Meeting – February 2, 2015 (rescheduled from January 26, 2015) – Regular Session**

Upon motion of Richard Mathews, second of Richard DeLuca, the Minutes of the 821<sup>st</sup> Meeting (Regular Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Abstain
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Minutes are attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**B. 2015 Reorganization Meeting – February 2, 2015**

Upon motion of Michael Impellizeri, second of Steven Mlenak, the Minutes of the 2015 Organization Meeting were approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Abstain
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Minutes are attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**Minute 8 – Resolutions for Consideration and Possible Formal Action**

**A. Res. No. 15-0223-01 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds**

Mr. Albano raised a question with regard to the necessity of the transferring funds from one bank to another, versus one account to another. Executive Director Anastasio explained that all our checks are drawn from Magyar Bank but our accounts are at various other banks.

Upon Motion of Richard DeLuca, Second by Joseph Lifrieri, the above resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Minutes are attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**B. Res. No. 15-0223-2 – Resolution Appointing the Executive Director and Facility Engineer to Serve as Representative and Alternate, Respectively, on the Somerset County Wastewater Advisory Committee**

Upon Motion from Mr. Lifrieri, Second of Mr. Machala, the above resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Minutes are attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**C. Res. No. 15-0223-3 – Resolution Awarding Bid to Raritan Valve & Automation for the Purchase of Eight (8) New and Current Pneumatic Valve Assemblies**

Discussion ensued with regard to why the lowest bidder did not supply something obvious, like their Certificate of Insurance in their bid package. Executive Director Anastasio explained that they checked off that their Certificate was in their bid package but it was not there. It was on the list of mandatory items for the bid. A question was raised that if they are just supplying the valves, why

insurance would be needed. Executive Director Anastasio indicated that the issue of having their insurance was discussed and he felt that because they are delivering and offloading, something could happen during that process. This will also be offloaded by our staff so they'll be working together on it. There could be an injury during the offload process, so it is better safe than sorry. Mr. Merdinger stated that it could be packaged incorrectly at their facility, and could be damaged in route to our facility, and having a Certificate of Insurance in place is added protection.

Upon Motion of Ms. Garafola, Second of Mr. DeLuca, the above resolution was then approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**D. Res. No. 15-0223-4 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 2 of the Sodium Hypochlorite Tank Replacement Project to Ray Palmer Associates, Inc.**

Upon Motion of Ms. Garafola, Second of Mr. DeLuca, the above resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto and made part of the Official Minutes.

**Minute 9 - Board Committees**

**A. Planning Committee (LIFRIERI, Garafola, Impellizeri, Machala, Merdinger)**

**(1) Res. No. 15-0223-5 – Resolution Approving the Selection of Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) as the Control Technology for Mercury Emissions from Incinerator No. 2.**

Mr. Lifrieri indicated there was a Planning Committee meeting held via phone conference on February 18, 2015. As we discussed at the last Board meeting, we really wanted to try the Gore Technology as their cost was almost exactly the same to that of the carbon system. Some of the

problems the Planning Committee had regarding the carbon units have been remediated by the early carbon system operators. As a result of Gore not being willing to budge on their guarantees or their cost, the Committee recommends the tried and true method of the granular activated carbon unit. We had hoped the Gore system would be much cheaper but unfortunately it is not.

Executive Director Anastasio indicated that for the users with smaller amounts of mercury, the Gore is good alternative to the GAC system. But for our situation, carbon is a safer bet. A question was raised that if Gore would have given us an incentive to try their unit, would it have gone that way. Mr. Anastasio stated that although they are helpful and nice to deal with, they understand that they are not sure what kind of market is out there for the higher levels of mercury. So they see the writing on the wall too. If for some reason it doesn't work, Gore doesn't want to get a bad name. Mr. Anastasio indicated that everyone he's talked to has less mercury than we do. That doesn't necessarily mean that we're at the top. Our levels of mercury are typical for our level of industry within our service area. The site we visited in Virginia is mainly a bedroom community with shopping centers so it was a different situation.

Ms. Quabeck thanked the Planning Committee for all their time and efforts spent on this project.

Upon Motion of Mr. Lifrieri, Second of Mr. Machala, the above resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto and made part of the official Minutes.

Executive Director Anastasio indicated that we would now be moving towards obtaining quotes for design. Once we know what some of the costs are and we progress, we will meet with the Finance Committee and talk about the financing of this project. If there are any surprises in the costs, the Planning Committee will meet again and will keep the Board apprised. For instance, if the carbon system is twice the amount that we thought, we will revisit this, especially in light of the fact that right now, the costs for both are so close. A question was raised if there are any grants for this project and Mr. Anastasio indicated there are none that we are aware of. We are required to do this by the Federal government and no monies are available for it.

Mr. Maraziti commented that the procurement of the Gore process sounds like a proprietary product. If that is correct, that would be a complication. It could be dealt with, but by using the GAC system, it alleviates the legal complications.

#### **B. CHAIRPERSON**

No further report.

## **Minute 10 – Public Participation - NONE**

### **Minute 11 – Reports**

Executive Director Anastasio started by introducing Donna O’Shea, our new Secretary/Receptionist. She is going to attend a few meetings to get familiar with the process of our Board Meetings.

#### **A. Executive Director’s Report**

##### **(1) Update on SCTF (Storm Control Treatment Facility)**

Executive Director Anastasio indicated that our reports were submitted to the NJDEP back in December 2014, as required under the ACO. We met all our dates and obligations. The first meeting with the NJDEP to discuss this was Friday, February 20, 2015, which was the earliest they could accommodate us for a meeting. They asked for an overview presentation of what they had received, and we obliged. We went over what the studies were all about and the materials that they had in front of them, and what our selected alternative was. We gave them a head start and they now want to analyze what we’ve given them and then they want to work on setting preliminary discharge limits for what this treatment plant would have to report. They will then get back to us to see if it changes the answers at all. They want a fresh look at what the plant has to do and the level it has to treat to. The next meeting, the Technical Meeting, will be just Jim Cosgrove meeting with them, discussing the treatment plant design, the wastewater limits and the assimilative capacity of the Raritan River for different pollutants. The ACO also requires bi-weekly status phone calls between us and the DEP. Even though the ACO is scheduled to time out three (3) months after the submission of those reports, as long as those bi-weekly calls and meetings take place, the ACO continues. There are provisions in there we want to continue. Overall it was a very good meeting and they were very receptive.

Also in regard to this project, the final Archeological Report is available. We provided that to CDM Smith and they will submit it to the DEP for us. We will send an electronic copy to all Board members.

We are starting on the appraisal process of the lands that are needed for the site. Once completed, we will begin talks with the County about some ideas for the land. We need to get a little further with the DEP and work towards their buy-in first. Everything else is on hold. There is no design work being done until we know that we have a facility that has been approved to be built and what levels it has to treat down to, etc.

##### **(2) Update on Hypochlorite Tank Replacement Project**

Facility Engineer Sherwin Ulep indicated that the contractor is continuing with the installation of the tanks, level sensors, pipes and handrails. We are currently performing the hydrostatic testing of the tanks and anticipate it will pass the test. After that, we will continue with the installation of the discharge pipes. With cooperation from the weather, we will continue with the installation of the brick walls around the building and will hopefully complete the project in a few weeks.

Executive Director Anastasio added that we had discussions with the contractor concerning the adverse weather we are having and that they shouldn’t fight with the weather to start constructing

the masonry wall. Next week looks a little warmer. We're not all that concerned about them losing a few days here and there with the weather. They are doing very good work so far and we're happy with their progress.

**(3) Update on Polymer Tank Replacement Project**

Facility Engineer Ulep stated that we are still waiting for the tanks. Justin Tanks indicated the tanks would be delivered by mid-April. Once we receive the tanks, the construction will commence. Until that point, we will not start any demolition. We wrote into the contract documents, that they are not allowed to start any demolition until the tanks are on-site. We have to get the old tank out and the new tank in so that we won't have too much temporary polymer storage. This schedule works out really well because the temperatures will be much warmer and we can work out of smaller totes of polymer rather than having to take care of keeping it warm. The polymer will start to gel at 52° so April works out good for us.

**(4) Update on ACCO Demolition Project**

Mr. Ulep indicated that the contractor completed the hazardous materials survey and started with the asbestos remediation. Unfortunately, they found additional amounts of asbestos in the project area so we are waiting for them to provide us with a summary of their findings and the additional cost of the removal. There are a couple of tanks above the sludge incinerator which were covered with asbestos. It is more like a tar coating that turns out to be asbestos. Executive Director Anastasio explained that during our cursory inspection before the bid, we didn't pick it up. Now that they are working on it, they discovered that it is non-friable but asbestos material. The hoppers that Mr. Ulep refers to are 112' up and we inspected them when we removed the carbon. We are favoring cutting the legs out from under them, cut it off the structure, bring them down on the ground then take care of the removal. There are other tanks and carbon absorbers that all have the same kind of material. There are also cones on the bottom of the tanks that are made of this same material. We did add a line item for hazardous abatement, unspecified, in the amount of \$50,000 in the bid spec so we did anticipate there may be something. They are also having a hard time with the weather but they are moving forward regardless. We will see what they come up with in a proposal and we will report to the Board at the next meeting.

**(5) Update on Receipt of Rebuilt Tube Bundle**

Executive Director Anastasio indicated that the tube bundle is ready to be shipped back to us. It is rebuilt, completed, tested and certified and we should receive it soon.

**(6) Update on FEMA Claim Payment – Hurricane Irene**

Executive Director Anastasio stated that we have an update on our FEMA claim. Chief Financial Officer, Peter Wozniak has been in touch with the FEMA Coordinator. They came in about 3 weeks ago to see Norma Smullen as they needed some payroll data. They also needed an explanation as to why a portion of the claim is for the magnetic flow meter that is in the IPS building. They want to know why that work was later than all the other work at the Storm Control. I sent them a letter and they were happy with our answer. We are now just waiting for the OEM to make a determination.

**(7) Update on 2015 Budget**

On Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, we received the final signoff from the State on our Adopted Budget.

**(8)** A question was raised regarding the estimated cost to replace the blowers with the new variable frequency drive. Executive Director Anastasio indicated he had discussions with Tom Laustsen, P.E. of CDM Smith about having a study done to do the blower replacement as an energy project since there is money available through the SmartStart program and possibly the Energy Resiliency Bank (ERB). CDM Smith can do that study for us for \$15,000. We'd like to have Tom do the proposal and we'll take that up next month. This will kick start that project so we can study it to see what monies are available, what we can expect for savings, what we are looking at for capital costs. Off the cuff, we expect the energy savings for that project to finance itself over not too long of a period of time. One of the blowers runs all the time and uses 63% of our electricity at the plant, so there should be some savings there.

- B. Engineer/Consultants** – Thomas Laustsen, P.E. (CDM Smith) Engineer's Report for January, 2015– No additional comments.
- C. Attorney** - Joseph J. Maraziti, Jr., Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP – No additional comments.
- D. Department Reports** – See comments below regarding Operations Report.
  - (1) Operations                      (3) Maintenance/Electrical
  - (2) Laboratory                      (4) Special Projects
- E. Facility Engineer Reports** – No additional comments.
  - (1) Capacity Allocation
  - (2) Capacity Assurance
  - (3) Monthly Flow Report
  - (4) Facility Engineer's Monthly Report

**Minute 10 – Communications** – No additional comments.

- A. NJDEP, Division of Water Quality; Residual Transfer Report; Re: Reporting Period: 12/1/14-12/31/14
- B. NJDEP, Division of Water Quality; Surface Water Discharge Monitoring Report; Re: Reporting Period: 12/1/14-12/31/14
- C. NJDEP, Division of Water Quality; Residuals DMR; Re: Reporting Period: 12/1/14-12/31/14
- D. NJDEP, Sludge Production; Residuals Waste Characterization Report; Reporting Period 1/1/2014-12/31/2014



**Minute 11 – Payroll (Res. No. 15-0223-6)**

Upon motion of Mr. Mlenak, second of Ms. Quabeck, the above Resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto and made part of the official Minutes.

**Minute 12 – Cancelled Checks – None**

**Minute 13 – Bills (Res. No. 15-0223-7)**

Upon motion of Mr. Mlenak, second of Ms. Garafola, the above resolution as amended, was approved by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto and made part of the official Minutes.

**Minute 14 - Adjournment**

Upon a motion of Ms. Quabeck, second of Mr. Mathews, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. by the following roll call vote:

Todd Hay	Absent	Richard Mathews	Yes
Richard DeLuca	Yes	Michael Merdinger	Yes
Philip Petrone	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes
Carolann Garafola	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Steven Mlenak	Yes	Robert Albano	Yes
		Peter Stires	Yes

OATH OF OFFICE

OF

TREASURER


THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

I, Gail Quabeck, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of **Treasurer** of The Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority according to the best of my ability.

I do further solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and to the Governments established in the United States and to this State under the authority of the people and will defend them against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to  
before me, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day  
of February, 2015.

  
Joseph S. Macziti Jr.  
Attorney at Law, State of  
New Jersey

  
Gail Quabeck

OATH OF OFFICE

MEMBER

OF


THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

I, CAROLANN GARAFOLA, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of **Member** of The Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority according to the best of my ability.

I do further solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and to the Governments established in the United States and to this State under the authority of the people and will defend them against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to  
Before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of  
February 2015

  
Joseph S. Marzotto Jr.  
Attorney at Law, State of New Jersey

  
Carolann Garafola

Expires January 31, 2020

Township of Warren