

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
MARCH 25, 2024**

Minute 1 - Opening of Meeting

The Board Meeting of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Joseph Lifrieri.

Minute 2 - Open Public Meetings Announcement

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

Minute 3 - Roll Call

Robert Albano	Present	Richard Mathews	Present
Pamela Borek	Present	John Murphy	Present
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Present (Teams)**
Gary DiNardo	Absent*	Philip Petrone	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Edward Machala	Present	Frank Scarantino	Present
		Joseph Lifrieri	Present

**Mr. Pappas joined the meeting via TEAMS at 7:02 p.m.

*Mr. DiNardo joined the meeting via TEAMS at 7:15 p.m.

Authority Staff

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director	Present
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent	Present (Teams)
Michael Ingenito, Chief Plant Operator	Present (Teams)
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Manager of Engineering	Present (Teams)
Ellie Hoffman, P.E., Regulatory Compliance Engineer	Present (Teams)
Linda Hering, Human Resources Manager	Present
Peter Wozniak, Chief Financial Officer	Present
Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer	Present (Teams)
Gerry Zielonka, Maintenance Supervisor	Present (Teams)
Joseph Loughlin, Accounts Payable Clerk	Present (Teams)

Professional Staff

Dave Leon, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
Joseph J. Maraziti, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP	Present

Minute 4 – Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance saluted the flag.

Minute 5 – Approval of Minutes:

- 1. Board Meeting Open Session Minutes – February 26, 2024

With the Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Mathews, the Minutes of the February 26, 2024 Meeting (Open Session) were approved, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 6 - Public Hearings: NONE

Minute 7 – Public Participation

Mr. Glen Denys, Somerville Borough Councilman was in attendance as a liaison with Somerville Borough.

Minute 8 – Consent Agenda: Resolutions for Consideration and Possible Formal Action

Mr. Lifrieri asked if anyone had any issues with or comments about any of the Resolution on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Scarantino asked that because Resolution #24-0325-6 involves Hillsborough MUA, should they abstain. Mr. Maraziti stated that the Hillsborough Commissioners to not have to abstain. Mr. Pratt asked, also regarding this Resolution, the Sunnymead Pump Station, who does that belong to? Is it the Authority or Hillsborough MUA? Mr. Anastasio stated that it belongs to Hillsborough MUA. He also clarified that their Authority would pay for their pump station, and we would pay for our pump stations and improvements. They own and operate it and will pay for it. We are just approving it like a sewer extension of a development. In the eyes of the State, it is the same approval.

- 1) **Res. No. 24-0325-1** – Resolution Authorizing the Reissuance of a Non-Domestic Wastewater Discharge Permit to Amneal Pharmaceuticals, LLC – 65 Readington Road
- 2) **Res. No. 24-0325-2** – Resolution Appointing Brown & Brown Metro, Inc. as Risk Management Consultant

- 3) **Res. No. 24-0325-3** – Resolution Appointing Executive Director Ronald Anastasio to Serve as Representative on the Somerset County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee
- 4) **Res. No. 24-0325-4** – Resolution Endorsing a Federal Community Funding Grant Request with Representatives Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ-12) and Thomas Kean, Jr. (NJ-7)
- 5) **Res. No. 24-0325-5** – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase Including All Labor and Materials Necessary for the Repair of Influent Pumping Station Pump Nos. 1 & 2 Through the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System
- 6) **Res. No. 24-0325-6** – Treatment Works Approval Resolution - Sunnymeade Pump Station Upgrade/Relocation; Hillsborough Township; Block 112 Lot 3 and Block 111 Lot 2
- 7) **Res. No. 24-0325-7** - Resolution Authorizing the Emergency Procurement for the Repair of the Three Existing 10,000-Gallon Sodium Hypochlorite Storage Tanks
- 8) **Res. No. 24-0325-8** - Resolution Authorizing the Emergency Procurement for the Repair or Replacement of the Aeration Basin North Blower Electrical Transformer
- 9) **Res. No. 24-0325-9** - Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with Wyeth Holdings, LLC for the Transfer of Stockpiled Soil Fill Material to the American Cyanamid Superfund Site
- 10) **Res. No. 24-0325-10** – Resolution Rejecting All Bids for the Repair of the Hankin Fluidized Bed Incinerator Primary Heat Exchanger Tube Bundle – Contract B-24-7 (Re-Bid)

With the Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Mathews, the above Resolutions were approved, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 9 – Board Committees – NONE

Minute 10 – Chairman – No comments.

Minute 11 – Reports

A. Executive Director’s Report

1. Update on the Storm Control Pumping Station Flood Mitigation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that we have the construction specifications completed. We are also on the cusp of also getting our wetlands and flood hazard area permit from DEP. We thought it was coming a couple weeks ago and they asked for a 30-day extension from us, and we agreed. We are hoping to get that permit in the next weeks. We were worried that that could take up to a year or longer. We haven’t got it yet but we understand we are very close. We were going to phase the construction project contingent upon the receipt of this permit. We were going to put it in the bid document that the contractor could procure all the materials, but they could not mobilize on-site and start digging until they got that permit. Hopefully that hurdle will go away once we get that in hand. We are also applying for a BRIC Grant (Federal Grant) (Building Resilience Infrastructure for Communities). We are submitting an application in early January. You cannot start construction until it is approved, and it usually takes about 18 months. We may still phase the project for the BRIC Grant, meaning we don’t let them put a shovel in the ground until we know we have the Grant, which should be September of 2025. It will take a solid year to get all of these requirements. We have to structure it properly in the bid documents. All the design is done, and we are just waiting to figure out how we should do the next couple steps, so it all falls in place properly.

Also, we may elect to do a pre-purchase of the pumps, similar to what we did with the generator. We may come to the Board in April to make a purchase under the PVSC Co-Op as well, to get that moving separately from the project. We are very close to getting that on the street.

2. Update on Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Things are moving along well, and we are having conversations with CDM Smith. Dave Leon is here sitting in for Tom Schoettle tonight. A couple of hot points that we are focused on, part of this project is our tertiary filter, or a gravity filter. It is a glorified pool filter for the treatment plant. Sand and coal are the media. About three years ago we got a quote from the original manufacturer to purchase replacement parts for it. It is shot, everything is rotted and it is beyond repair. We found out recently that they do not support this filter any longer. Three years ago, when we got a quote, they were iffy if they were going to sell us the parts then. A couple of people who worked on putting the quote together were around when that was first installed in the 70’s. They were close to retirement, and they were in favor of wanting to support the project at that time, and we got that quote in September of 2020. They no longer support it. They won’t even sell us the drawings for it. We asked for a meeting with one or two of the retirees who work on a contract basis with the manufacturer. We want to meet with them to get some ideas to see what we can do to salvage this. We are looking at our options with this. Another thing that is on the table, but we need to discuss and explore further, is that we can possibly rebuild it by having

a fabricator come in and disassemble it and reverse engineer it. The filter is made up of 2 filters and works in tandem. It is like 2 units that are linked together. Theoretically, we can take one apart and leave the other one in service, reverse engineer it and figure out what the dimensions are and make parts for 2 filters and rebuild one at a time. American Cyanamid built that filter, and we have plans from Cyanamid, but we don't have the cut sheets. We have plans from Cyanamid but not those plans. In 1988 or so, the Authority paid this company (Graver Water Systems) to rebuild it. They made some upgrades and changed some troughs that were fiberglass and made them in stainless steel. They replaced a number of parts, but they don't have those fabrication drawings. Even if they did, they won't sell them as they don't want any liability for this. Their lawyers advised them against selling us any information regarding the filters. We know it works; we need to repair it. They don't make an upgrade of this either. Another alternative is that we may have to look for a completely different filter which means we would have to demolish it and build something in its footprint. It is a major wrinkle, and we will keep you posted. We don't have an answer as to how to figure it out yet. We think a good mechanical contracting firm could handle it, but we haven't had any discussions with them about it.

On Wednesday, we are having our presentation about the pump station model. We will hear from the modeling firm that is working on the pump station. They built a model of our pump station but there are problems and the pumps vibrate. We want to prevent them from vibrating or cavitation in the future. We modeled it to install whatever devices we need to make everything work smoother. The pumps are mounted separately on separate bases in the basement of the pump station. Mr. Lifrieri commented that there is a lot of work in dynamic design of foundations. What they do is separate the foundation from the slab and vibrations are designed for that individual footing. Mr. Anastasio stated that we are hoping that the pumps are not generating enough vibrations where that is a problem. We had vibration monitors over the years and the vibration of one was not picked up by the other. We want to keep them barely vibrating when they're operating. They had assumed some operating conditions and we had made changes over the years to mitigate the vibrations. They plugged in our operating numbers, but they didn't get a different answer. The conclusion is the same. The fix is the fix, no matter what the levels are.

3. Update on Main Interceptor & Forcemain Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that CDM is working on some things internally. The surveying is just about finished but we have the eagle on Duke Farms and there is a restriction there and we can't go in there and do all the surveying. We are waiting until April 1st to get in there then they can wrap up the survey.

Dave Leon commented that it appears we do not have a mussels problem for the interceptor. He also answered Mr. Lifrieri's question that the surveyor on this project is Colliers.

4. Termination of the USEPA/USDOJ/NJDEP Consent Decree (CLOSED SESSION – PENDING LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED).
5. Discussion of Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township (CLOSED SESSION – PENDING LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED).

These last two items are Closed Session items so we can move on.

B. Engineer/Consultants – Mr. Dave Leon, P.E., (CDM Smith)

Mr. Leon stated that unless anyone had questions, he had nothing further to add. We have our meeting on Wednesday meeting so we should be able to put that next element into design.

C. Attorney – Mr. Joseph J. Maraziti, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP – No report this evening and will wait until Closed Session to answer everyone’s questions.

D. Department Reports:

1. Operations
2. Regulatory Compliance
3. Laboratory
4. Maintenance
5. Special Projects

E. Facility Engineer Reports:

1. Facility Engineers Monthly Report
2. Capacity Allocation
3. Capacity Assurance
4. Monthly Flow Report

Minute 12 – Communications – Standard monthly communication submittals to the State are in the Board book.

Minute 13 - Res. No. 24-0325-12 – Payroll

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Mathews, the above Resolution was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 14- Res. No. 24-0325-13 – Bills

Upon Motion of Mr. Machala, Second of Mr. Mathews the above Resolution was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 15 – Res. No. 24-0325-14 - Adjournment to Closed Session

Mr. Anastasio read the formal name of the Resolution to go into Closed Session.

At this time, Mr. Denys from Somerville left the meeting.

Mr. Pappas commented that there are two items to discuss in Closed Session. The second item regarding Fox Hollow, I am going to recuse myself but would like to participate in the first portion of the session if there is no objection. Mr. Lifrieri had no objection.

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Mathews, the meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 7:19 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

At 7:25 p.m. the meeting was returned to Open Session.

Minute 16 – Res. No. 24-0325-11 - Resolution Authorizing Execution of Joint Stipulation to Terminate Consent Decree with USEPA/USDOJ and NJDEP Relevant to SRVSA Incinerators

With the Motion of Mr. Mathews, Second of Mr. Machala, the above Resolution was approved, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 17 – Adjournment to Closed Session

Mr. Anastasio read the formal name of the Resolution to go into Closed Session omitting the portion regarding the Pending Litigation and Privileged Discussions regarding the termination of the Consent Decree and only for the purposes of the Contract Negotiations and Attorney/Client Privileged Discussions regarding the Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township.

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Mathews, the Resolution was approved to adjourned back to Closed Session at 7:25 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Absent
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 18 – Adjournment of Meeting

Upon Motion of Mr. Dominach, Second of Mr. Mathews, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	John Murphy	Yes
Daniel Croson	Absent	Michael Pappas	Absent
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
APRIL 22, 2024