

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 19, 2022**

Minute 1 - Opening of Meeting

The Board Meeting of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Chairman Michael Impellizeri.

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	Philip Petrone	Present
Louis Esposito, Jr	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Joseph Lifrieri	Present	Gail Quabeck	<i>Absent</i>
Edward Machala	Present	Randy Smith	Present
Richard Mathews	<i>Absent</i>	Peter Stires	Present
Michael Pappas	<i>Absent</i>	Michael Impellizeri	Present

Authority Staff

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director	Present (Teams)
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent	Absent
Michael Ingenito, Chief Plant Operator	Present (Teams)
Dennis Smith, Supervisor Liquid Division	Present
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 (Teams)
Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer	Present (Teams)

Professional Staff

Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
Joseph 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 – November 28, 2022

With the Motion of Mr. Stires, Second of Mr. Machala, the Minutes of the November 28, 2022 Meeting (Open Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Abstain
Louis Esposito	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

2. Board Meeting Closed Session Minutes – November 28, 2022

With the Motion of Mr. Smith, Second of Mr. Lifrieri, the Minutes of the November 28, 2022 Meeting (Closed Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Abstain
Louis Esposito	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Minute 6 – Public Hearings - NONE

Minute 7 – Public Participation:

A Motion was made by Mr. Albano and Seconded by Mr. Esposito to open the meeting to the public.

All in Favor, none opposed.

Seeing no one from the public either in person or on the Teams meeting, Chairman Impellizeri asked for a Motion to close the Public Hearing.

A Motion was made by Mr. Albano and seconded by Mr. Esposito to close the public hearing.

All in Favor, none opposed.

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

- 1) **Res. No. 22-1219-1** – Resolution Authorizing a \$250.00 Cash Bonus to Anthony Tambasco for 25 Years of Continuous Service to the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority
- 2) **Res. No. 22-1219-2** – Resolution Authorizing a \$250.00 Cash Bonus to William Durdan for 25 Years of Continuous Service to the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority
- 3) **Res. No. 22-1219-3** – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Three (3) Accusonic Flowmeter Consoles

Hearing questions or comments, and upon the Motion of Mr. Stires, Second of Mr. Albano, the above Resolutions were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Minute 9 – Board Committees –

A. PLANNING COMMITTEE (MACHALA, Lifrieri, Smith, Stires, Impellizeri)

A. Planning Committee (MACHALA, Lifrieri, Smith, Stires, Impellizeri)

Mr. Machala indicated that the Planning Committee met last Thursday, December 15, 2022. We had a lengthy and productive meeting discussing the Engineering Proposals for a Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project and we decided to come up with a recommendation which we will move forward to the Finance Committee, and I'll let Mr. Anastasio elaborate further.

1) Report on the Review of the Engineering Proposals for the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that the bottom-line is that the overall proposals for the entire project including the field inspection (which is called the Resident Project Representative (RPR) or Task 7), where the overall difference was about a little over 1 million dollars between the two firms that submitted proposals, with CDM Smith being the lower proposal. One thing that did come out during our lengthy discussion is that the Planning Committee feels most comfortable having an inspector or the RPR from another firm rather than the design firm. What the Planning Committee plans to recommend to the Finance Committee is to award tasks 1 through 6 to CDM Smith. The design period for this project is at least two years. We can revisit the question of RPR's. We can always put out another RFP to get prices or like what came up during our discussion, or the Authority may decide to hire somebody to perform all of these at probably a lesser cost. But we don't have to worry about that now. Getting the tasks 1 through 6 to the Finance Committee and let them consider it. Our target will be to look to award at the January 23rd, 2023 meeting which we will talk about rescheduling to February 6th. Mr. Anastasio asked Mr. Machala if he missed anything. Mr. Machala stated that he hit all the key points for now.

2) Report on the Review of the Engineering Proposals for the Storm Control Pumping Station Relocation Project

Mr. Anastasio explained that last Thursday at the Planning Committee meeting, we received proposals for the Storm Control Pump Station Relocation Project. The lowest respondent to that bid was Moorhouse Engineering which we all have familiarization and experience with. Moorehouse was the designer for the Plantwide Electrical Rehabilitation Project which CDM Smith provided the RPR services for that project. That project went very well in no small thanks to Sherwin Ulep and Tony Tambasco's efforts.

What the Planning Committee discussed is again, spitting the RPR, only awarding Morehouse tasks 1 through 6. The second lowest bidder was a firm called R3M. Looking at the experience statement for the individual identified for Task 7, he only has a couple years of construction experience, as does the proposed RPR from Morehouse. The Planning Committee felt comfortable awarding it to the third-place respondent which is Hazen Engineering. The individual that they put in the proposal was a 20-years veteran of construction inspection which is definitely good to have. The net cost above Morehouse is about \$15,000 but the Planning Committee felt it was worth it. Again, Planning Committee is referring it to Finance Committee to award that project to Moorhouse and Hazen in that manner I just described.

Mr. Machala, anything to add? No, you did a good job summarizing that also so it will now be moved to Finance.

Minute 10 – Chairman –

Mr. Impellizeri stated that he wanted to thank Anthony Tambasco for 25 years of service. I know his job is not easy and we are lucky to have someone with his dedication.

And I would also like to thank William Durdan for his 25 years of service to the Authority.

I would also like to say that the Authority Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday, December 21st at noon.

Minute 11 - Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

1. Reschedule January 23rd, 2023 Regular Board Meeting to February 6th, 2023

As is our practice for quite a number of years now, we are rescheduling the January regular Board Meeting to coincide with the Reorganization Meeting night so that the Board and the staff only have to make one trip to knock out both meetings. We are proposing that again this year's unless the Board has any objections to that. The Board meeting would be on February 6th, 2023. As we get closer, I'll make note of it and let everyone know.

2. Report on Upcoming Emergency Procurement – Grit Collector Drive Units #1 & #2

We did not have much on the agenda tonight and I didn't have too much to talk about, so I wanted to inform the Board of a couple of other things, not that they are not important, they are critical, but it is a little premature.

This discussion is on the Grit Collector. I will share my screen with everyone, which is a PowerPoint presentation, but a picture is worth a thousand words. In Grit Collector #2, we had a failure of #2. There are 2 units in the Headworks Building. The Headworks Building is part of the upgrade in the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project. These 2 things are Grit Collectors #1 and #2. #2 stopped running. They are in very poor shape and are coming up on 40 years old. You can see from the picture that they are not in great shape. They looked like this when Mike Ingenito and I started working here. We probably replated this thing about 8 or 9 times, but they are severely corroded. #2 is not even running anymore and the frame is starting to collapse. It is just not serviceable in spite of the really great efforts that our Maintenance Department have done over a couple of decades now, keeping this thing running. What we will be coming to you for, in the January meeting, is an emergency procurement of these two units. Part of this units are located in large water channels. We are not looking to replace that portion at this time. We are just looking to replace the drive units. Tony Tambasco and Sherwin Ulep have been working on this and we got quotes for this equipment. Just these above-ground units are \$1M for two of them, which seems like a lot. They are rather simple units so we are exploring with fabricators to see if they can be built from the existing drawings. They are relatively simple. For a good fabricator, someone could reproduce them rather easily. We are

working on getting prices for that and hopefully we are going to get quotes in January. Our plan is to have a solution. If it turns out that nobody can fabricate them, then we will have to buy these, which means we are just accelerating a piece of the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project, but we just can't wait. The construction for that project is not going to start for around 2½ years. We need these units right now.

Mr. Machala asked if the new one will be made out of stainless. Mr. Anastasio stated yes, it would be made out of stainless. We all know materials are expensive but \$1M just seems kind of high for those. We are hoping they will come in around \$500,000-\$600,000 but we will see.

Mr. Maraziti stated that we have to talk about strict requirements of emergency procurement under the Local Public Contracts Law. We can talk about that before we go forward, and they are very rigid. This was duly noted, and Mr. Anastasio just wanted to give the Board a heads-up.

3. Aeration Basin No. 2 In-House Rehabilitation

You are familiar with our aeration basins, basins #5 and #6, which is what you see as you are coming up the steps to the office. If you look down the hill you see six large aerations basins. Basin #1 was converted to rectangular clarifiers almost 25 years. Basins #5 and #6 are in use. Basins #3 and #4 are spares and we use them for off-line storage during wet weather. When I started here in October of 2002, we were just finishing up a roughly \$1M construction that rehabilitated those basins. Basin #2 was laying out there and it had some problems, and we took it upon ourselves to pick away at this a little bit. We did some collective concrete repairs and installed new round valves and we did repairs to the aeration piping system down the center. Here are some photos of the concrete work which did not too long ago. We now got this unit online and it is currently in service for additional storage during storm periods. We picked away at it. Pictured is also a groundwater relief valve that we had installed throughout the Basin. We did some selective demolition and concrete repairs within funds in the operating budget. In addition to this work, the Maintenance Department put the air header in-shape and we got this thing operational. So now, pictured here is where are putting some water in it and we're putting a little air through it. That is the state that we leave them in standby. Units #3 and #4 also have several feet of water in them. They are ready for offline storage if we have a big storm. What we do is put flow into them rather slowly. The Operations staff makes those decisions, Mike Ingenito is at the top of that decision tree, and how we want to use them. They have been beneficial to have #3 and #4 and now we have Basin #2. I didn't check with Peter Wozniak on our total cost on this, but I believe we are at or a little less than \$100,000. That was a good value for getting that thing online. It's just been sitting there, and we own it, so now we can use it. We have been talking about Basin #2 for a long, long time, probably as long Mike and I have been here, which is 19 and 20 years.

Mr. Albano asked what happens if Basin #2 Grit Collector fails. Mr. Anastasio said it has already failed. We cannot run it. What happens if the other one that is working fails. It will be an emergency. We will have grit work its way through the primary clarifiers and could cause equipment failures and break some equipment. Those long cantilever rakes in the clarifiers move slow in flow and are not designed to move a heavy load. They move sludge. They are not

really for moving grit. This is why I feel that this qualifies as an emergency procurement because we have to go get this. We cannot wait until the Plantwide Mechanical project goes out to bid. We have to do it now. This just came up about 1-1 ½ week ago that grit collector #2 is done. If they can't be fabricated, what is the delivery on the brand-new ones. The delivery is on the order of more than 6-9 months. But even those schedules slip a little bit too. For those reasons, we don't have a backup. That is why I felt we need to talk to the Board about this qualifying as an emergency. We will come back to the Board later.

Mr. Lifrieri asked how they operate, what do they do? I know they remove grit, but how. Mr. Anastasio stated that he did not include pictures of the water channel because those would be approved in the Plantwide project. They are a chain and sprocket kind of thing, where there is a series of buckets that go up the chain and the chain works its way around and goes along the top of the channel and then at the far end of the channel, it goes down to the bottom and scrapes the grit, corrals it, into the buckets and when it gets back to the head of the channel where the grit collector is, it lifts up and then dumps it into a hopper that ends up dumping into a dumpster. They are pretty simple, but they are really shot. That is a testament to our Maintenance Department, much of which was under Tony's watch keeping these things running. We should have replaced them 5 or 10 years ago. We did the bar screens which was one of Sherwin's earlier projects, which was about 2016. We talked about doing the grit collectors next and in that time, we updated the incinerator and built the Storm Control Treatment Facility. We've been kicking the can down the road a little bit, not that we haven't been planning for it, but there's only so much bandwidth. Now we're at this point. If we buy the new units we could purchase them through the PVSC Co-Op directly, but we are going to explore the fabrication side. Mr. Anastasio asked Mr. Ulep if the contractors may be Co-Op contractors as well. Mr. Ulep indicated that the contractors that can fabricate these are not part of the Co-Op.

Mr. Impellizeri asked, that considering how important these are, and the amount of time it takes to get one, conservatively 6-9 months, should we wait to see if the fabricator can help us because it may end up being 1 or 1 ½ years before we can get them by purchasing. Mr. Anastasio stated that we are expecting to get prices in January. People have told us it takes a few weeks to get prices back and Tony will be following up these contractors through the holidays. Let's aim for the February 6th meeting and let's see if we can get our ducks in a row and possibly award this. If not, then there is always the late February meeting. I would say to buy both and not wait for #1 to fail. Mr. Lifrieri asked what the dimensions are. From the picture it looks like a box from the picture. That is a cover. What is in there are sprockets, chains, axles and a drive motor. Essentially, it is like an escalator. The dumpster you see in the picture is about 5' wide, so they are not huge. They are about less than 8' wide and square and the cover just covers it. We've replaced the chain so many times. We've done so much work to these things in addition to strengthening the frame. There is also a screw auger that loads the dumpster off to the side. It is nothing that complicated. Our plan was to replace in-kind anyway so we're not doing anything different, and we would want them to bolt in. We were hoping to wait but after that, it was a real eye-opener so I figured we would talk to the Board. Usually when we're in this situation, even though we have it planned, we've declared an emergency procurement because if we lose the other one, we're in big trouble. In that case, we might even have to pay for some temporary grit collection which won't be free. The best thing is to replace them.

- B. Engineer/Consultants – Mr. Schoettle stated that he had nothing further to add.
- C. Attorney – Maraziti Falcon, LLP – Mr. Maraziti indicated he had nothing further to add, unless anyone had any other questions of him.
- D. Department Reports:
 - 1. Operations
 - 2. Regulatory Compliance
 - 3. Laboratory
 - 4. Maintenance/Electrical

- 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. 22-1219-10– Payroll

Upon Motion of Mr. Stires, Second of Mr. Albano, the above Resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Mr. Albano stated that earlier they were talking about PFAS, but we don't have any results so there is nothing to report. Everything was reasonable, low and nothing that would get us upset. Mr. Anastasio said it is relatively low, but it is a fast-moving issue and if a limit would come down, we would probably have some issues, but it is a moving target, and we really don't know yet. The numbers could be a lot worse, and we plan to talk to some targeted industries and see if

we can get them down even further. From what the DEP is saying that those kinds of measures could possibly stave off getting a limit, but we'll see. I'm sure there is something we will have to monitor and report but we were not totally unhappy with the numbers. Ms. Hoffman said she wouldn't go as far as "pleasantly surprised".

Minute 14 - Res. No. 22-1219-11 – Bills

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

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Minute 15 - Adjournment

Upon Motion of Mr. Esposito, Second of Mr. Machala, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Absent
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Absent	Peter Stires	Yes
Michael Pappas	Absent	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

(Prior to the Reorganization Meeting)