

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 25, 2023**

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	Edward Machala	Present
Pamela Borek	Present	Richard Mathews	Present
Nicolas Carra	Present	Michael Pappas	Present
Gary DiNardo	Present	Philip Petrone	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Present
Michael Impellizeri	Present (Teams)	Joseph Lifrieri	Present

Authority Staff

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director	Present
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent	Present (Teams)
Michael Ingenito, Chief Plant Operator	Absent
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Manager of Engineering	Present
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)
Joseph Loughlin, A/P Clerk	Absent
Gerry Zielonka, Maintenance Supervisor	Present (Teams)

Professional Staff

Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
Brad Carney, 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 – August 28, 2023

Mr. Carra indicated that in the Open Session Minutes, at the top of page 5, the separate roll call vote for Resolution No. 23-0828-4 was missing. Mr. Anastasio stated that the Roll Call vote will be added into the final Minutes for the Open Session.

With the Motion of Mr. Mathews, Second of Mr. Carra, the Minutes of the August 28th, 2023 Meeting (Open Session), as amended, were approved, by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Abstain	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Abstain	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

2. Board Meeting Closed Session Minutes – August 28, 2023

With the Motion of Mr. Machala, Second of Mr. Carra, the Minutes of the August 28th, 2023 Meeting (Closed Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Abstain	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Abstain	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 6 – Public Hearings – NONE

Minute 7 – Public Participation -

Mr. Anastasio noted that we had a few members of the public in attendance.

In attendance via Teams was Nancy Wohlleb of Mott McDonald. Mr. Anastasio stated that the Board is considering the contract for the Residential Engineering Services for the Interceptor

Sewer Project and Ms. Wohlleb wanted to join in and say hello to the Board. Ms. Wohlleb stated that she is from Mott MacDonald, the Vice President and Account Manager at Mott MacDonald. Very briefly, she has served with the firm since 2000. Overall, she has over 25 years professional in the water and wastewater engineering business, mostly on the consulting side but she does have prior municipal engineering experience and did work for about a year at the United States Geological Survey during Graduate school. We are very happy to have been considered for this project as most of her work has centered around the wastewater side of the business, although with treatment plant work, largely with pipelines, assessments, repairs, rehabilitations, she is currently building up their hydraulic infrastructure evaluation team at Mott MacDonald, where we get involved with a lot of infiltration and inflow assessments. For an Authority like SRVSA, with a very large set of pipes, this is an interesting project which is going to have a lot of construction complexities. We will watch over the coming year or two years plus, as this project moves in design, how it actually shapes up into a construction project. If we are selected, we look forward to serving this Board and the Authority and working with your staff. Some of the staff are very familiar to them, just crossing paths and in new career paths, but also through the NJWEA and AEA. But it is nice to get to work with the staff on a project and we won't see much as the design work goes on, but as we get closer to construction, she is happy to participate, get caught up to speed and engage with the staff team to move the project towards the final steps of actual construction.

Mr. Anastasio thanked Ms. Wohlleb for virtually attending tonight and said it is a pleasure to see you and hear from you. We appreciate the background information.

Also in attendance via Teams are John Vicenti and John Keale, both of Level 10 Development. They are in attendance, in the event there were any questions regarding their application which is part of the Consent Agenda which is coming up. Mr. Vicenti stated that if any Board Members had any questions or concerns, just let him know.

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

Mr. Lifrieri stated that there are thirteen (13) resolutions that are offered as part of the Consent Agenda. Does anyone have any issues with any of these Resolutions? Mr. Carra stated that he needed to remove himself from the vote on Resolution No. 23-0925-7, which is in Raritan Borough at Raritan Crossing. He serves on the Planning Board and voted on the application so he asked to recuse himself. Mr. Carney indicated to pull Res. No. 23-0925-8 off the Consent Agenda and vote on it separately.

Upon a Motion by Mr. Machala and a Second by Mr. Mathews, the following Resolutions were approved by the following roll call vote:

- (1) **Res. No. 23-0925-1** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Wastewater Flow Metering System Maintenance, Calibration and Repair Services to Allied Control Services Inc.

- (2) **Res. No. 23-0925-2** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Removal of Incinerator Ash from Settling Basins and Loading into Containers and Ash, Grit, Screenings and Garbage Hauling Fees to Gary W. Gray Trucking, Inc.
- (3) **Res. No. 23-0925-3** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Furnishing & Delivery of Polymer to SNF Polydyne, Inc.
- (4) **Res. No. 23-0925-4** – Resolution Authorizing the Reissuance of a Non-Domestic Wastewater Discharge Permit to American Spraytech, LLC
- (5) **Res. No. 23-0925-5** – Resolution Authorizing Chief Financial Officer Wozniak to Attend the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Conference at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City, September 26th through September 28th, 2023
- (6) **Res. No. 23-0925-6** – Resolution Extending the Contract for Furnishing and Delivery of Sodium Chlorite-Based Odor Control Chemical & Dousing System to Evoqua Water Technologies LLC through 2024
- (7) **Res. No. 23-0925-8** – Sewer Extension Resolution - Branchburg Village; Proposed Combined 475-Unit Market Rate and Affordable Housing Development; Block 70 Lots 18, 18.01, 24 And 24.01; Township of Branchburg
- (8) **Res. No. 23-0925-9** – Resolution Consenting to the Proposed Revision to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plans for Inter-Basin Transfer of Portions of Block 96 Lots 19.07 and 20.01 in Warren Township
- (9) **Res. No. 23-0925-10** Resolution Consenting to the Proposed Revision to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plans for Inter-Basin Transfer of Block 72 Lots 4, 5, 6, 7.01 and 7.02 in Warren Township
- (10) **Res. No. 23-0925-11** – Resolution Granting Consent for 125 Crestwood Drive (Block 67 Lot 3.05) In Branchburg Township to be Added to the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority Service Area
- (11) **Res. No. 23-0925-12** – Sewer Extension Resolution - Township of Warren; Two (2) Proposed Single-Family Dwellings, Helen Street, Block 96 Lots 18.02 and 18.03
- (12) **Res. No. 23-0925-13** – Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the Local Control Panel Upgrade - Furnishing and Delivery of Replacement Grit Collector Equipment - Contract No. A-23-5

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Attorney Carney stated that due to the potential conflict of interest, he recommended that Mr. Carra leave the room during the vote. Mr. Carney stated that we now need someone to move Resolution No. 23-0925-7.

At that point in the meeting, both Mr. Vincente and Mr. Keale left the Teams meeting.

(13) **Res. No. 23-0925-7** – Sewer Extension Resolution - Raritan Crossing; Block 116.01 Lot 25, 26.01, 27, 27.01 And Block 112 Lot 3

Upon a Motion by Mr. Impellizeri and a Second by Mr. Mathews, the following Resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	No Vote	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 9 – Board Committees –

A. Finance Committee: (ALBANO, Impellizeri, Mathews, Machala, Scarantino, Pratt, and Carra)

1. Report on Award of Task Number 5 – Resident Project Representative Engineering Services for the Main Interceptor and Forcemain Rehabilitation Project to Mott MacDonald.

Mr. Albano stated that at the last meeting, we spoke about the interceptor project, but we decided to separate out the Resident Engineer from the rest of the project, which makes sense to have a different person than the main contractor. The Planning Committee recommended that we use Mott MacDonald. Although they were not the low bidder, and with the expertise of the Planning

Committee, we agreed that we should go with Mott MacDonald. The Finance Committee agreed with that, so the Finance Committee is recommending to the Commissioners that we approve this Resolution. Mr. Lifrieri added that he would like to point out that the difference in costs was not that great, only \$23,000 in a \$500,000 invoice.

Mr. Pappas asked for more elaboration as to the rationale to not go with the lowest bidder. Mr. Albano stated that the rationale is if you look at the qualifications and experience of the two vendors, it was felt by the Planning Committee with their expertise, that a de minimus amount of money bought us a lot more experience specifically in this area. The Finance Committee agreed with that. Mr. Carney added that this is not a bid. This is a professional service which is exempt from bidding under the Local Contracts Law. It is a response to a Request for Proposals. Mr. Anastasio added that the resident engineer candidate from the lowest had only one year of experience versus the second lowest candidate had eight years of experience and an extensive list of projects that were similar. Mr. Pappas asked if the individual that is present on Teams, is she the person that would be responsible? Mr. Anastasio stated that not Ms. Wohlleb specifically, there is a named resident engineer which is in your Board book. The resumes of the two candidates are in there as well. It was extensive experience and also a licensed professional engineer, which we felt is important too.

With no further questions, and upon a Motion by Mr. Albano and a Second by Mr. Machala, the following Resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

Res. No. 23-0925-14 – Resolution Accepting the Proposal from Mott MacDonald for Task Number 5 for Resident Project Representative Engineering Services for the Main Interceptor and Forcemain Rehabilitation Project.

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	No
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 10 – Chairman – Chairman Lifrieri wanted to advise the Board that Commissioner Impellizeri has resigned from his position, and he wanted to take the opportunity to thank him for his many years of service. I, for one, will miss him and hope he will be happy in the home he has purchased away from the Authority’s area. Mike, thank you for being a commissioner. I appreciate your friendship and look forward to continuing our relationship. Mr. Impellizeri thanked Mr. Lifrieri and stated that being on this Board was the most rewarding thing he's ever done. He has been on school boards and planning boards and chaos can ensue. When it came to this Board, it was professional. We made progress, we made a difference, and we did things right. He wanted to thank everyone for letting him participate. Mr. Petrone also stated that it was a pleasure working with Michael all those years when he was on the Board with the Borough and

on this Board. He took a whole different look at things, and I have to thank Ron and Joe for taking him along. Mike, to you and Megan, enjoy your new homestead and we'll be down to see you.

Minute 11 - Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

1. SRVSA's 70th Birthday – September 21st, 1953 – September 21st, 2023

Mr. Anastasio stated that last Thursday was the Authority's 70th Birthday. It was formed on September 21, 1953. Somerville, Raritan, and Bridgewater passed parallel ordinances and the Authority was born. Each town appointed two members and they formed the Board. They met at the County Administration Building for about five or six years and they got together and worked out the terms of the Service Agreement which took about 3-4 years to get it done and lineup financing. They started design in 1957 and construction in 1958 and it went online in the 4th quarter of 1958 and has never been offline since. I thought it fitting that such a milestone be acknowledged. We have a cake with our SRVSA logo on it which we can enjoy later.

2. Update on the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio indicated that CDM Smith is moving along with their design. They are working on several aspects of the design, basically looking into specific aspects, and drafting technical memos. We have been meeting with them and discussing it in great detail. Sludge storage is one subject we've been studying. The configuration and sizing of the odor control system that we are going to put in place is another technical memo we've been working on with them. Also, the belt filter press configurations and also the location. We've been making some tweaks there. Sherwin is our point person on this. We've had interesting discussions and have many more to come. This is just our first month. Just last week, they had structural engineers from Boston come down here to do a structural evaluation of the Headworks Building, and we will get the report soon. Mr. Schoettle stated that Ron covered everything pretty well and there is more detail in his report in the Board book. Sherwin also had nothing further to add.

3. Update on the Main Interceptor and Forcemain Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that Nancy Wohlleb and her team will be a part of this project in the future. We had a kickoff meeting on that project and that was at the end of August. From that, we had very good discussions with the engineering team. There are a number of parties we need to talk to regarding that linear project. We have met with two of them already, one of which I was not available for. Sherwin, our team, as well as CDM met with Somerset County to discuss the various issues that our project will have and its impact on their facilities. We cross Finderne Avenue, North Bridge Street and River Road out by Duke Farms, which are all County roads. Plus, the other County lands that we will be working on are access issues, Green Acres issues,

recreational bike path issues, and other sorts of things like that, that run kind of parallel or directly parallel with our project. We had detailed engineering discussions with the County. We also had a meeting with Duke Farms representatives to talk about the work on their property. There are some complexities there. We have to begin discussions with the Federal government regarding some protected wetlands easements that are in place, that we are looking to work within. We asked, and Duke's representative is happy to be our partners in that discussion with the Federal government. They are happy with the proposal that we are putting forth where there is the existing sewer line that runs along the Raritan River in a grove of historical sycamore trees that run along the riverbank. We have a sewer line that runs through there and many of those trees will be impacted if we had to replace that line in-place or even line the line in-place, which is what our fallback would be up there. Instead, we want to construct a new cut and cover construction line along the path of our relief interceptor sewer which runs out in their farm fields and away from the river. We want to parallel that. That is in these protected easements.

There are discussions to be had there and we had a very good discussion with Dukes, and also regarding the threatened and endangered species that they have been encountering on their property. I'm sure everyone has heard about the Dukes Farms eagle. There are a lot of nuances and things to work through. There will be a monthly update on this project.

4. Update on the Storm Control Pumping Station Rehabilitation and Relocation Project

Mr. Anastasio indicated that we are beyond the 50% mark on this project. We are very happy with the shape of the plans as they are right now. We've had a lot of discussions with Morehouse Engineering. It is going very well and so far, so good. We had a meeting with NJDEP on September 5th regarding our wetlands and flood plain applications. This went well and they understand the criticality of the project. They hear that all the time, but they are going to do whatever they can for us to expedite things. Morehouse Engineering's subconsultant, One Water, are doing the environmental application work for the permits. It would take a year to get this permit. We are going to craft a bid document where we can go out to bid for the equipment procurement portion of this project. Those long-lead items also take a year. Maybe we can thread the needle where, while we're waiting for the permits, we award the contract to have the equipment constructed. We will start working on that this Fall.

Mr. Albano asked if there is any risk involved with beginning procurement of equipment pending permit approval? Mr. Anastasio said yes. It depends on how that bid document is written. You have to put all those risks in there so you tell them up front and they will put it into their price. We did this a couple times before. When we constructed the tunnel under the railroad, we had an administrative phase which involved the contractor obtaining permits from CSX. They didn't want to hear from us, they wanted to hear from the contractor. The one that is more similar is the incinerator, where we awarded the equipment procurement contract first where all of the details of the specific design of the equipment were worked out. While the stuff was being made, we take the fabrication drawings from that contractor, incorporate them into the

construction documents of the other contract and you have to intertwine the two contracts to get along. It all worked out. This one is one contract with two phases. There will be some milestones in there that they know ahead of time, that they can't break ground until we get the permits. As long as they know ahead of time, it will be fine. We will put anticipated expectation dates in there. The generator for instance, it may take a couple of months to review the shop drawings for the pumps; the generator, the electrical equipment which are called independent power assemblies, it could easily take 3 months to get through the switchgear. That drawing process takes place, then it is a year to make it. We hate to do that in series and waste that time because the American Rescue Plan Funds are going to get stale. We think we can pull this off. We haven't really started working with Brad on this. We will get our team's input, including Tom Schoettle's.

Mr. Schoettle stated that this is the right way to go, based on delivery and supply chain issues with switchgear and electrical systems. There are always delays on construction projects. Mr. Albano said that he is always worried about anything having to do with getting any kind of environmental permit. We lived through it with some of the treatment plant. Mr. Anastasio added that if it is handled right, all the bases can be covered but it depends on specific general conditions in that bid document. If you tell them up front, that is what you're buying, where you are buying the contractor waiting and getting inconvenienced. We have to start brainstorming this. No two things are exactly the same, so we have to pay attention to the nuances.

B. Engineer/Consultants – Mr. Thomas Schoettle, P.E., (CDM Smith) stated that he has nothing further to add.

C. Attorney – Maraziti Falcon, LLP – Mr. Carney stated he had no report.

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. 23-0925-15 – Payroll

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	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 14- Res. No. 23-0925-16 – Cancellation of Checks

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	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 15- Res. No. 23-0925-17 – Bills

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

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 18 – Adjournment

Upon Motion of Mr. Carra, Second of Mr. Mathews, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Edward Machala	Yes
Pamela Borek	Yes	Richard Mathews	Yes
Nicolas Carra	Yes	Michael Pappas	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
OCTOBER 23, 2023**