

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 26, 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	<i>Absent</i>
Louis Esposito, Jr	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Joseph Lifrieri	Present	Gail Quabeck	Present (Teams)
Edward Machala	Present (Teams)	Randy Smith	Present (Teams)
Richard Mathews	Present	Peter Stires	<i>Absent</i>
Michael Pappas	Present (Teams)	Michael Impellizeri	Present

Authority Staff

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director	Present
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Facility Engineer	Present (Teams)
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent	Present (Teams)
Michael Ingenito, Chief Plant Operator	Present (Teams)
Dennis Smith, Supervisor Liquid Division	Present
Ellie Hoffman, P.E., Regulatory Compliance Engineer	<i>Absent</i>
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
Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP	Present (Teams)

Minute 4 – Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance saluted the flag.

Minute 5 – Approval of Minutes:

1. Board Meeting Open Session Minutes – August 22, 2022

With the Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Esposito, the Minutes of the August 22, 2022 Meeting (Open Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

2. Board Meeting Closed Session Minutes – August 22, 2022

With the Motion of Mr. Lifrieri, Second of Mr. Pratt, the Minutes of the August 22, 2022 Meeting (Closed Session) were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 6 – Public Hearing – NONE

Minute 7 – Public Participation: NONE

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

Mr. Pratt had question regarding Resolution 22-0926-1 but upon further review, he answered his own question.

Mr. Albano asked, don't we have the right to extend the current contract? Mr. Anastasio indicated that the current suppliers did not accept the terms to extend the current contract. We had to then go back out to bid again for 2023.

Mr. Albano also had a question regarding Resolution Res. No. 22-0926-5. He stated that in no way is he objecting to it but wanted to know how there was water in the aeration secondary blower and we didn't see it for a long time. Mr. Anastasio stated that we did not know that the water was lying in the lower part of the air-header, which is below grade. That has never happened before. Once we get this problem resolved, we have to see where this leak is and that won't be an easy task. Tony Tambasco has been here through Hurricane Floyd and Hurricane Irene, and we've never had that happen before. With Hurricane Ida, some water got in. It is not uncommon for us to have one of the blowers off for a long period of time, 6 months is typical. We might switch them, but not very often. We usually leave well enough alone. One year is on about the max and it was eleven months, but we've never had that problem before, and we did not expect it. Now it is a new thing, and we are going to have to look at and see where the water is coming in. I included a photo of the flood waters around the blower building in the memo. There is a lot of pressure there with all that water. This one just got by us.

Mr. Pappas asked that Res. No. 22-0926-6 be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

1. **Res. No. 22-0926-1** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Furnishing and Delivery of Liquid Sodium Bisulfite to Southern Ionics, Inc.
2. **Res. No. 22-0926-2** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Furnishing and Delivery of Sodium Chlorite-Based Odor Control Chemical and Dosing System to Evoqua Water Technologies
3. **Res. No. 22-0926-3** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for the Liquid Sludge Hauling Service to Russell Reid Waste Hauling and Disposal Service Co., Inc.
4. **Res. No. 22-0926-4** – Resolution for Renewal of Membership in The New Jersey Utility Authorities Joint Insurance Fund
5. **Res. No. 22-0926-5** – Resolution Affirming the Authorization of the Emergency Repair of the Aeration Blower #2 Main Shaft Assembly
6. **Res. No. 22-0926-7** – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a New Backhoe Loader Through the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing System

Mr. Impellizeri asked there were any further comments or questions with regard to the resolutions. Hearing none, and upon the Motion of Mr. Lifrieri, Second of Mr. Albano, the above Resolutions were approved by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Res. No. 22-0926-6 – Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 8 for the Closeout of Contract C-17-1 – Storm Control Treatment Facility Construction Project

Mr. Albano asked Mr. Pappas why he requested that it be removed from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Pappas indicated that he has not been comfortable with the way the Close Out happened and the result.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Robert Albano	Yes	Philip Petrone	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Yes	Peter Stires	Absent
Michael Pappas	No	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Minute 9 – Board Committees - None

Minute 10 – Chairman – Mr. Impellizeri has nothing to report.

Minute 11 - Reports

A. Executive Director’s Report

1. Report on the Close-Out of the Plantwide Electrical Rehabilitation Project.

Mr. Anastasio stated that in addition to closing out the Storm Control Treatment Facility Construction Project, we have also closed out the Plantwide Electrical Rehabilitation Project. At the last Board meeting, we cut the check for the final payment and held it until we received all of

the Close Out Documents; the Maintenance Bond, Environmental Maintenance Bond, documentation regarding that there are no outstanding liens with any vendors and also that the Contractor waived any future claims against the Authority for the project. It is now closed out, they got their final payment, they have demobilized, and we are done with that project. I thought it would be nice to let the Board members know that that project is done.

2. Update on Discussions with Somerset County Regarding Request of Funds from the American Rescue Plan

Mr. Anastasio stated that as you know, after the last Board meeting, we did receive the funds at the August 23rd Somerset County Commissioners Meeting. Chairman Impellizeri, Commissioner Albano and I attended the meeting. We did receive the award and it was a photo opportunity and nice things were said. We also gave them a short rundown of the project and I have a big, fake check in my office for \$3.8M made out to the SRVSA.

A couple of weeks ago, I reached out to the County Engineer to see if there was anything we had to do and what the next steps are. He said to just sit tight, and we'll get an award letter and then we can talk about the logistics of the funds. In the meantime, we are roughing out the scope of this project and we will bring up at the next Board meeting, what we are looking at. Sherwin Ulep already started working on the Request for Proposals for Engineering for that project.

3. Update on the Conclusion of the Arbitration with Terminated Employee Jozef Sudnik (Closed Session – Personnel Matters)

Mr. Anastasio stated that we will discuss this in Closed Session.

Mr. Anastasio indicated he had nothing else to add unless anyone has any questions.

B. Engineer/Consultants – Mr. Schoettle stated that he had nothing further to add.

C. Attorney – Maraziti Falcon, LLP – Mr. Carney indicated he had nothing further to add.

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

Mr. Albano asked that in the Operations Report, he noticed that our flow is down to like 14 million gallons/day. That doesn't affect our cost of operations, so we are going to be billing out less than we anticipated, which is not good. Mr. Anastasio stated that we are running in the red as of right now. He asked Sherwin Ulep, what was the number at your last tally at the end of August? Mr. Ulep stated that we are about \$150,000 in the red. When we state, "in the red", we are below the estimated flows for 2022. The bills are based on the estimate and after the end of the year, we true up. We either give them a credit towards next year's charges or they are short and have to pay the overage.

Mr. Albano also asked that in Ellie Hoffman's report, I noticed that we are doing some PFAS sampling. When do we expect to see the results? Mr. Anastasio stated that we are still waiting for the results to come in. We haven't received anything from Mr. Cosgrove yet, but they should be any day. Essentially, we took a peek under the rug and did sampling in one day. I took the technician out to all the sites. We have some residential sites to compare too, as well as industrial sites. We'll see what we got. Mr. Impellizeri said that he read that they found a way to remove it. Is that genuine? Basically, it has to be heated up, as if they are boiling it, to break the bonds. That takes a few hours at that temperature. These are incredibly strong chemical bonds

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

Minute 13 - Res. No. 22-0926-8– 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	Philip Petrone	Absent
Louis Esposito, Jr	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Joseph Lifrieri	Yes	Gail Quabeck	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Randy Smith	Yes
Richard Mathews	Yes	Peter Stires	Absent
Michael Pappas	Yes	Michael Impellizeri	Yes

Minute 14 - Res. No. 22-0926-9 – Bills

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 15 –Res. No. 22-0926-10 - Resolution Authorizing Closed Session for the Purposes of Personnel Matters Discussions Regarding the Conclusion of the Arbitration with Terminated Employee Jozef Sudnik

Upon Motion of Mr. Lifrieri, Second of Mr. Mathews, the meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:17 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:17 pm.

Open Session reconvened at 7:19.

Mr. Pappas had a question. He missed last month’s meeting and there was some discussion in reference to Bond Counsel’s letter concerning Somerville’s sale of their sewer utility. He’s wondering if that can be a discussion for next month. Mr. Anastasio asked if everyone is ok with that. He asked Mr. Pappas if he got the Bond Counsel’s Memo that was sent to him, and he did. Mr. Carney asked Mr. Pappas if the nature of the questions would be something that should be done in Closed Session. Mr. Pappas indicated that it should probably be held in Closed Session. Mr. Carney stated that if it concerns Attorney/Client privilege, it should be held in Closed

Session. Mr. Anastasio stated that he will arrange for Mr. Beinfield to join the meeting in October.

Minute 11 - Adjournment

Upon Motion of Mr. Esposito, Second of Mr. Lifrieri, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
OCTOBER 24, 2022**