

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 23, 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	John Murphy	Present
Pamela Borek	Present	Michael Pappas	Present
Daniel Croson	Absent*	Philip Petrone	Absent
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Frank Scarantino	Present
Edward Machala	Present	Joseph Lifrieri	Present

*Mr. Croson joined the meeting via Teams at 7:02 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
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)

Professional Staff

David Leun, P.E., CDM Smith	Present (Teams)
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 26, 2024

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 6 - Public Hearings - NONE

Minute 7 – Public Participation – Mr. Lifrieri indicated that there was no one present from the public.

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

Mr. Lifrieri indicated that we have a Consent Agenda consisting of nine (9) Resolutions and asked if there were any comments on any of the Resolutions.

Mr. Carney indicated that there were corrections or amendments to three (3) of the Resolutions.

In Res. No. 24-0923-3, there is typo in the first “Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved”. The last line on that page should state “Instrumentation, Maintenance, Calibration and Repair.” It is just a typo.

In Res. No. 24-0923-6, in the “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph, it should state N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5 (not 3.4).

In Res. No. 24-0923-12, in the “Be It Resolved” paragraph, the “R.S.” should be “N.J.S.A”. Also, in the “Be It Further Resolved” paragraph, on the second line after “Hillsborough Township Municipal Utilities Authority” and before “to connect,” add “for connection of the above referenced project”.

- 1) **Res. No. 24-0923-1** – Resolution Authorizing the Administrative Termination of the Non-Domestic Wastewater Discharge Permit 47H Issued to Rathgibson North Branch, LLC

- 2) **Res. No. 24-0923-2** – Resolution Authorizing an Extension to the Contract for Wastewater Flow Metering System Maintenance, Calibration and Repair Services - Contract B-24-2
- 3) **Res. No. 24-0923-3** – Resolution Authorizing an Extension to the Contract for Internal Instrumentation Maintenance, Calibration and Repair Services - Contract B-24-1
- 4) **Res. No. 24-0923-4** – Resolution Awarding the Contract for Furnishing and Delivery of Sodium Chlorite-Based Odor Control Chemical and Dosing System – Contract A-25-1
- 5) **Res. No. 24-0923-5** - Resolution Granting Permanent Status of Szabolcs Toth as Assistant Operator in the Incineration Division
- 6) **Res. No. 24-0923-6** – Resolution Consenting to the Proposed Revision to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plan - Hamilton Road (Block 183.05 Lot 35), Hillsborough Township
- 7) **Res. No. 24-0923-7** – Resolution Authorizing the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority to Enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission
- 8) **Res. No. 24-0923-8** – Resolution Authorizing an Energy Agent Contract with Gabel Associates, Inc., and Authorizing the Executive Director and in His Absence the Chief Financial Officer to Award a Contract and/or Reject Bids in Response to the Request for Bids for Electric Generation Service Issued on Behalf of the New Jersey Sewerage and Municipal Utility Authority Electrical Supply Aggregation
- 9) **Res. No. 24-0923-12** - Sewer Extension Resolution Approval - Proposed Nine (9) Single-Family Dwelling Subdivision - Subdivision at Hamilton Road - Hillsborough Township; Block 183.05 Lot 35

Upon Motion of Mr. Borek, Second of Mr. Albano the above nine (9) Resolutions, as amended above, were approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 9 – Board Committees – NONE

Minute 10 – Chairman – Chairman Lifrieri has no further comments at this time.

Minute 11 – Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

1. Update on Main Interceptor & Forcemain Rehabilitation Project.

Mr. Anastasio stated that we have just received the 30% design submittal. We looked over that and it is 30%. We don't have any serious comments on what we see so far. We've relayed that to CDM Smith, and they are proceeding along. We are also in talks with Duke Farms as it relates to the acquiring of the new easements. There will be discussions with the Federal government. The NRCS, which holds wetlands easements on Duke Farms property, and getting the new sewer line easement within their wetland's easements. We are working with Mr. Carney and CDM surveyors on that. It is moving forward, albeit slowly, but there is movement and Duke Farms is in favor of that change. The SRVSA staff is about to initiate the funding application for that project as well, with the New Jersey I-Bank. That is on our to-do list, to kick that off and then we can hand it over to CDM Smith to begin working on the funding application for that interceptor line project.

2. Update on the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio indicated that we have the 30% design in a couple of the work group areas. We are taking another look at the sludge storage tank option. We were originally looking to repurpose one of our aeration basins but there's proven to be some difficulties with that, that we are not able to overcome, but we're looking at some other options that may be more efficient, which would also mean less costly as well. We pressed pause on any further design work on the basin conversion and we are looking at a couple of options and talking with Dave Leun about that as well. We have progress meetings coming up on Thursday (September 26th) for both of these big projects.

We did just receive a proposal for the engineering services for the design of the new Headworks Building. We need to drill down further with that. Mr. Anastasio commented to Mr. Leun that he and Sherwin Ulep would like to have a meeting with you to walk through that proposal and look at it closely. We will schedule that shortly.

3. Update on the Storm Control Pumping Station Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that as you know, we are out to bid for that. We were slated to receive bids on September 27th, which is this Friday. However, the electrical switch gear equipment vendor asked for more time to finalize their prices to the contractor. They asked for one week and we gave them two (2), October 18th. We issued Addendum #2, and it was sent to all bidders in accordance with Local Public Contracts Law, so everyone is aware that they have a few more weeks to finalize their proposals.

4. Update on the Architect RFP issuance for the New Administration Building Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that we have the RFP's issued, and we are receiving them on October 11th. Mr. Ulep indicated that there were six (6) proposals picked up. This should be the final configuration of the building and location of the building. The theme of October seems to be "proposal and bid opening month." We are eagerly awaiting the results of all of these things and will report back.

Mr. Pratt asked, that in regard to the New Administration Building Project, we had somebody program the space, we have an idea of how many offices we need? Mr. Anastasio stated that it is in the RFP.

Mr. Albano commented that although it was not touched on, but there was a tour to a filter place in New York state. Mr. Anastasio stated that we went to tour another treatment plant in New York State that has a multi-media filter, very similar to what we have and what we need to rebuild. The brand of our filter was a company called Graver and they were predominantly sold to the industrial wastewater treatment plant market, which that originally was. It was built by American Cyanamid and that was an industrial wastewater treatment plant, even though American Cyanamid had a symbiotic relationship with SRVSA and took our primary effluent into their treatment plant, which was food for their bugs. Fast forward to 1983, SRVSA buys that portion of the treatment plant and now it is all SRVSA's plant, and we get that filter along with it. In 1988 and 1989, the SRVSA revamped that filter. It didn't change the way it works so much, but they had to change some parts out. There was fiberglass that was changed to stainless steel, etc. We used it all those years for domestic wastewater treatment, and here we are needing to rebuild it completely. It is beyond the end of its service life. We understand from our tour, that back in the 50's or 60's, there was a company called General Filter which copied the Graver design and sold their filters to the municipal treatment market. We went to see these filters and that company will match exactly what we have. Because they patterned their designs after the Graver filters, with some small modifications that work better for domestic treatment. They operated and sold those filters all over the country and probably outside, for decades. That company was acquired by Westech which is one of these large conglomerate wastewater companies and General Filter is under their banner. Westech can provide that design, and that

would be the vendor that we are looking at as the model in the specifications. It does exist but we couldn't get it from Graver, who exited the market. They didn't want to rebuild it and wanted no part of it. At least we have another option with General Filter. We were happy with what we saw.

Mr. Pratt also asked if we are having a prebid meeting with the 6 architects? Mr. Anastasio explained that we have a prebid meeting last year. The layout of the space is essentially the same, but the location is different. It was going to be added on to the Admin Building and now we've done away with that, and it will be a stand-alone building. We haven't had another prebid meeting because there is nothing to talk about. It is actually cleaner because now there is no meddling around in an existing 60-year-old building that it would have to connect to. It is a clean-sheet design.

Mr. Carney stated that everyone is talking about a pre-bid meeting, but it is not a pre-bid meeting. It is a pre-proposal submission meeting. There is a significant difference between a Request for Proposal and a Bid. There is a legal distinction between a pre-bid meeting and a pre-RFP response meeting. Mr. Anastasio commented that it was just an update to the previous one and we are way beyond it. This should be the last iteration of seeking prices.

Mr. Ulep stated that we did receive questions from architects last week and I sent out Clarification #1 to all the architects. Mr. Lifrieri stated that it may be a good idea to have a pre-proposal meeting because it is a new location. Mr. Anastasio said it is very straightforward and at this point, the complexities of tying into this building are gone. It is a very clean sheet design.

On October 11th, we should have the responses.

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

Mr. Leun stated that he really had nothing further to add since the report the prior month but has a few things he can touch on. CDM Smith did complete the onsite annual inspection. We started that in late August and had a second visit to cover the new Stormwater Treatment Facility in early September. The Authority should be seeing a draft of that coming your way by the end of the week.

In terms of the Main Interceptor project, it is my understanding that the 30% should be finalized by the end of this week. The anticipation is that the modifications from the survey and finalized documents would be coming to the Authority either tomorrow or Wednesday. We are looking to have that done before our progress meeting on Thursday.

In terms of the Phase 1 project, our team is focused on the influent pump station. As our team has discussed with the Authority, it's our priority at this point and we are looking to see what our package would contain and what everything would need to be brought in line to use the PVSC Co-Op. Looking at what components would be needed for that. That has been the main thrust of the discussions internally here lately.

Mr. Anastasio really touched on everything that we've covered since last week, including that visit with the filter company. I would agree that everything that Ron pointed out, it looks like a respectable copy of the Graver filter and from what we hear from Westech, it is not going to need customization to fit into our structure, which is good to hear.

C. Attorney – Mr. Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP – No report this evening.

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. 24-0923-9 – Payroll

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 14- Res. No. 24-0923-10 – Cancellation of Checks

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

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

Minute 14- Res. No. 24-0923-11 – Bills

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

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

Minute 15 – Adjournment of Meeting

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Murphy, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

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

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
OCTOBER 28, 2024**