

**MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

Minute 1 - Opening of Meeting

The Reorganization Meeting of The Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority, held at the Authority Administrative Office on Monday, February 3, 2025, was called to order at 7:55 P.M. by Chairman Lifrieri

Minute 2 – Open Public Meetings Announcement

The Open Public Meeting Announcement for the Reorganization Meeting 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	Present	Philip Petrone	Present
Gary DiNardo	Present (Teams)	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Frank Scarantino	Present
Edward Machala	Present	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 (Teams)
Ellie Hoffman, P.E., Regulatory Compliance Engineer	Present (Teams)
Peter Wozniak, Chief Financial Officer	Present
Linda Hering, Human Resources Manager	Present (Teams)
Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer	Absent
Gerry Zielonka, Maintenance Supervisor	

Professional Staff

Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon LLP	Present
Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present

Minute 4 - Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minute 5 – Oath of Office – Commissioner

- a. None

Minute 6 – Report from Nomination Committee & Nomination of Proposed Slate of Officers from the Floor

Mr. Petrone stated that the Nomination Committee, made up Mr. Dominach, Mr. Albano, Mr. Scarantino, Mr. DiNardo and me, made the following recommendations for the following slates:

Chairperson: Edward Machala
Vice-Chairman: Reinhard Pratt

Secretary: Joseph Lifrieri
Treasurer: Robert Albano

Minute 7 – Election of Officers:

- a. Chairman – Edward Machala
- b. Vice Chairman- Reinhard Pratt
- c. Treasurer – Robert Albano
- d. Secretary – Reinhard Pratt

Mr. Lifrieri asked for a motion to accept the nominations as stated by Mr. Petrone. Upon Motion of Mr. Petrone, Second of Mr. Dominach, the nomination of the above Slate of Officers was accepted by the following roll call vote:

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

Minute 8 – Oath of Office – 2024 Officers

- a. Chairman – Edward Machala
- b. Vice Chairman- Reinhard Pratt
- c. Treasurer – Robert Albano
- d. Secretary – Joseph Lifrieri

Mr. Carney then administered the Oaths of Office to Mr. Machala, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Lifrieri and Mr. Albano.

Mr. Machala thanked Joe for his service and everyone in this room knows how passionate Joe can be about his duties but a lot of us don't know how passionate he is. When he first came to the Authority, he came in very enthusiastic, wanting to hit the ground running and ran into a brick wall with our old Executive Director. He got up off the floor and kept running. There are a lot of things he does we don't see. He's been a part of the Planning Committee for a long time. The makeup of this Board, back when he came here, was different. We didn't have any engineers on the Board and we had Ron as our Authority Engineer and that was it. Joe came here, being an engineer, and had a different perspective. He brought a lot of things to light, that we lay people, weren't aware of. He really worked hard to lower our costs in many areas. He

volunteered his professional knowledge in internal meetings with Ron and then when Sherwin joined the staff. They would all brainstorm and come up with a lot of good ideas up front that didn't become problems down the road because they had the foresight to envision these things and deal with them before they became problems. Many times, there were conference calls and Joe would take the time to come down here and sit in on it. It is hard to put a dollar figure on it but Joe probably saved with Authority hundreds of thousands of dollars, with his personal knowledge and then he brought in another engineer from Branchburg. We had two working engineers that were familiar with the opposite sides of the coin, that we had just been customers to and they shared a lot of insight that we would never have known. They kept hammering away and they did a lot to save our long-term costs in that particular area.

Mr. Lifrieri stated that he likes the Board as it is now. We have a good, wide variety of expertise on this Board and we can discuss most any issue that comes up in what we do, and I think we come to the correct decision. Thank you all for volunteering your time on this Board.

Minute 9 - Resolutions for Consideration and Possible Formal Action

Chairman Machala indicated that there is a Consent Agenda for Resolutions No. 25-0203-1 through 25-0203-26. However, Mr. Carney recommended that we pull Res. No. 25-0203-10 and vote for that separate from the Consent Agenda.

- a. **Res. No. 25-0203-1** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of Maraziti Falcon LLP as the Authority's General Counsel
- b. **Res. No. 25-0203-2** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of Maraziti Falcon LLP as the Authority's Environmental Counsel
- c. **Res. No. 25-0203-3** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of Suplee, Clooney & Company as the Authority's Auditor
- d. **Res. No. 25-0203-4** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of CDM Smith Inc. as the Authority's Consulting Engineer
- e. **Res. No. 25-0203-5** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of Chavond-Barry Engineering Corp. As the Authority's Thermal Engineer
- f. **Res. No. 25-0203-6** - Resolution Appointing the Firm of Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, L.L.P. As the Authority's Bond Counsel
- g. **Res. No. 25-0203-7** - Resolution Appointing Matthew J. Giacobbe, Esq. of the Firm of Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri & Jacobs LLC as the Authority's Negotiator/Labor Attorney
- h. **Res. No. 25-0203-8** - Resolution Appointing James F. Cosgrove, Jr., P.E., of the Firm of One Water Consulting LLC as the Authority's Water Quality Engineering Consultant

- i. **Res. No. 25-0203-9** - Resolution Appointing ALL 4 INC. as the Authority's Air Quality/Air Emission Monitoring/Regulatory Compliance Consultant
- j. **Res. No. 25-0203-11** - Resolution Establishing Meeting Dates for Regular Meetings and the Reorganization Meeting
- k. **Res. No. 25-0203-12** - Resolution Authorizing Mailing of Meeting Notices and Fees
- l. **Res. No. 25-0203-13** - Resolution Establishing Official Signatures Necessary to Conduct Authority Business
- m. **Res. No. 25-0203-14** - Resolution Establishing Official Newspapers
- n. **Res. No. 25-0203-15** - Resolution Establishing Official Hours and Holiday Schedule
- o. **Res. No. 25-0203-16** - Resolution Establishing a Cash Management Plan for Authority Funds and Investments
- p. **Res. No. 25-0203-17** - Resolution Authorizing and Establishing a Savings Account for the Revenue Account with The State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- q. **Res. No. 25-0203-18** - Resolution Authorizing and Establishing a Savings Account for the Connection/Capital Account with The State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- r. **Res. No. 25-0203-19** - Resolution Authorizing and Establishing a Savings Account for the General Fund Account with The State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- s. **Res. No. 25-0203-20** - Resolution Authorizing and Establishing a Savings Account for the Operating Account with The State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- t. **Res. No. 25-0203-21** - Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of an Indemnification Policy
- u. **Res. No. 25-0203-22** – Resolution Designating Chief Financial Officer, Peter Wozniak, as the Qualified Purchasing Agent
- v. **Res. No. 25-0203-23** – Resolution Establishing the Executive Director as Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)
- w. **Res. No. 25-0203-24** – Resolution Establishing Ronald Anastasio as Fund Commissioner for the New Jersey Utility Authorities Joint Insurance Fund (JIF)
- x. **Res. No. 25-0203-25** – Resolution Establishing the Authority's Policy Regarding Conference Attendance

- y. **Res. No. 25-0203-26** – Resolution Establishing the Authority’s Section 125 Cafeteria Plan

Upon Motion of Mr. Lifrieri, second of Mr. Albano, the above Resolutions (**Res. No. 25-0203-1 through 25-0203-9 and Res. No. 25-0203-11 through Res. No. 25-0203-26**), 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Mr. Carney read into the record, that **Res. No. 25-0203-10** – Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of Bylaws, had the following amendments:

The Title of the Bylaws should be amended to: “Bylaws of the Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority (as amended February 3, 2025)

In Article II, Meeting of the Authority and Quorum, Nos. 1 and 2, Six o’clock p.m. shall be amended to Seven o’clock p.m.

In Article II, No. 5, shall be amended as follows:

All meetings of the Authority shall be held at its main office or at such other place as a majority of the members of the Authority may expressly approve. Notice of any and all special meetings of the Authority shall be provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.

In Article IX, No. 1 shall be amended as follows: These Bylaws, as amended, shall take effect February 3, 2025.

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, second of Mr. Lifrieri, **Res. No. 25-0203-10**, as amended, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes

Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Mr. Albano wanted to make a comment about Resolution #11. He heard that as of yesterday, the Star Ledger will no longer be publishing a written version of their newspaper.

Mr. Anastasio stated that we will continue certain aspects of the Local Public Contracts Law and funded projects, Green Acres notices require two papers. One state-wide and the Star Ledger is the only state-wide paper. They've been digital for some time, and they had a paper version. Now the paper version goes away and they need to update the law to reflect that that it is not printed, but it is still out there.

Minute 10 – Chairperson’s Comments – Mr. Machala stated he made his comments before, but he concurs with Mr. Lifrieri that the makeup of this Board very good and he appreciates everyone’s efforts and participating not only as Commissioners at our regular meeting but also with whatever committees they are on. A lot of the committees take up a lot of time, but that helps these meetings move further by having people participate in those. Thank you, everyone, for your participation.

Minute 11 – Public Comments – There are no members of the public present at the meeting.

Mr. Carney asked that the minutes reflect that there are no members of the public present nor was there any public participation in the Reorganization Meeting.

Minute 12 - Adjournment

Upon Motion of Mr. Pratt, Second of Mr. Murphy, the Reorganization Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Yes	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes