

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 16, 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* (Teams)
Daniel Croson	Present (Teams)	Philip Petrone	Present
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Frank Scarantino	Present
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Present

*Mr. Pappas 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

Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP	Present
James Cosgrove, P.E., One Water Consulting	Present (Teams)

Minute 4 – Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance saluted the flag.

Minute 5 – Approval of Minutes:

1. Board Meeting Open Session Minutes – November 25, 2024

With the Motion of Ms. Borek, Second of Mr. Albano, the Minutes of the November 25, 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	Yes
Daniel Croson	Yes	Philip Petrone	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Abstain
Edward Machala	Absent	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

- 1) **Res. No. 24-1216-1** – Resolution Granting Permanent Status of Nicholas Boyle as Operator in the Liquid Division
- 2) **Res. No. 24-1216-2** –Resolution Granting Permanent Status of David Ciculya as Laboratory Technician in the Laboratory
- 3) **Res. No. 24-1216-3** – Resolution Rejecting the Bid from Rapid Pump and Meter Service Co., Inc. and Awarding the Storm Control Pumping Station Flood Mitigation Project – Contract No. C-24-1 to Coppola Services, Inc.
- 4) **Res. No. 24-1216-4** – Resolution Affirming the Emergency Installation of Temporary Supports for the Existing Headworks Building Roof Structure
- 5) **Res. No. 24-1216-5** – Resolution Appointing Brown & Brown Metro, Inc. as Risk Management Consultant

Mr. Lifrieri asked if there were any comments or questions about any of the Resolutions on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Albano asked when we are going to start working on the Headworks building. Mr. Anastasio indicated that we are in the process of getting prices.

Mr. Pratt stated that with regard to Res. No. 24-1216-3, he recalls that there is a possibility that Rapid Pump may take some action against us. Attorney Carney stated that they are not going to take any action. They have withdrawn their objection.

Ms. Borek had a question on Res. No. 24-1216-5. Why aren't your risk consultants' part of your special services for reorganization? Mr. Anastasio explained that it is part of the JIF By-Laws that we have to have a risk manager as part of that. They are paid through our insurance premium. Therefore, we do it independent of that and they are all paid the same.

With the Motion of Mr. Pratt, Second of Mr. Murphy, the Consent Agenda 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	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 9 – Board Committees –

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

1. Report on the FY2023 Audit (see front pocket of binder)

a. **Res. No. 24-1216-6** – Resolution Accepting the FY 2023 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Year End Audit

Mr. Albano stated that it is interesting to see the history and a couple of interesting points. The actuarial assumptions they use for ROI are too high. I had these discussions with Mr. Anastasio. The standard is 7% but we don't earn 7% from any of our investments so that is overstating what we can do. Looking at our utilities, which are our second greatest cost after salaries, I'm not sure we can do anything about it. We had discussions about cogeneration or solar. Mr. Anastasio stated that we are working on PSE&G energy projects. The blowers are the low hanging fruit, and we'll see where we are at after that plays out.

With the Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Scarantino, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 10 – Chairman – Chairman Lifrieri wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. He reminded everyone that the SRVSA Holiday Party is this Friday, December 20th at noon, here in the Conference Room.

Minute 11 – Reports

A. Executive Director’s Report

1. Reschedule January 27th, 2025 Regular Board Meeting to February 3rd, 2025

Mr. Anastasio stated that it is our customary practice to reschedule the January board meeting to the night of the Reorganization Meeting, which is the first Monday in February, usually one week apart. We typically do the January meeting the night of the Reorganization Meeting. We do January, close that meeting, then go right into Reorganization Meeting.

With the Motion by Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Pratt, to reschedule the January 27, 2025 meeting to February 3, 2025, to coincide with the 2025 Reorganization Meeting,

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

Before going into Closed Session, Mr. Anastasio indicated we will be circulating the original Affidavit for the Audit for all Commissioners to execute. He will then email a blank to Mr. Pappas and Mr. Croson for their signatures. The State requires original signatures, not photocopies

2. Update on NJDEP Proposed Surface Water Quality Standards for PFAS Contaminants – Water Quality Engineer James Cosgrove, P.E. – One Water Consulting LLC (**CLOSED SESSION – Attorney-Client Privileged & Anticipated Litigation**)

Mr. Anastasio stated that we are going into Closed Session for a briefing by our Water Quality Engineer, James Cosgrove, P.E., on some proposed surface water quality standard changes and also as they relate to PFAS contaminants.

Mr. Anastasio read into record **Resolution No. 24-1216-10 - Resolution Authorizing Closed Session for the Purposes of Attorney-Client Privileged and Anticipated Litigation Discussions Regarding the NJDEP Proposed Surface Water Quality Standards for PFAS Contaminants**

Upon a Motion of Ms. Borek, Second of Mr. Croson, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Open Session resumed at 7:45 pm.

Mr. Dominach suggested that this Resolution be amended to add that the distribution list includes our Legislators and the Governor's Office. On a secondary note, when we adopt a Resolution, can you send us all the Resolution. Our municipalities need to pass a similar Resolution. I will give it to Somerville and Franklin Township. Eventually, we are going to be in the same boat because we are going through that. Mr. Anastasio stated that he has a Word document that we can send. Mr. Dominach also requested a one-page memo that he can send to a few people who would be interested in this.

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

Res. No. 24-1216-7 - Resolution Requesting Reconsideration of Proposed Surface Water Quality Standards for PFAS Contaminants (AS AMENDED)

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

Mr. Anastasio indicated to let the record reflect that we distributed the Audit Affidavit for the 2023 Audit for signatures, while we were in Closed Session.

3. Update on Main Interceptor & Forcemain Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that work continues to be done on this. CDM Smith is working on the hydraulic model of this, and they are looking at some details of some existing gate chambers that we have. We provided them with some historical flow data as well. Due to a scheduling conflict, our team, Sherwin Ulep and Tony Tambasco, are not going to do the factory tour in December. We are looking to do that after the holidays. We really want to tie this into a pipe installation in Texas as well as a factory tour. We are working on coordinating that.

4. Update on the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio indicated that there is progress on a number of things. The wetlands delineation work is being done on this project. We'll be doing some surveying locating those flags. Also, we are looking at polymer dosing system for the reactor and the fire code requirements for the sludge loading building that is included in this project. It comes down to details, such as the new sludge loading building can't be attached to the existing building, or we have to do a lot of different upgrades whereas if it's a separate building separated by 5' or 8'. Then it is a stand-alone building. It will have its own fire suppression system or fire barriers. We are looking at a lot of architectural details. We are also finalizing the final clarifier design and aspects of the influent pump station design. We are still looking at procurement of those influent pump station pumps through the PVSC Co-Op. We are also working on some instrumentation schematics for the return activated sludge and waste activated sludge pumping system. Also, we are looking at the proposal for the multi-media filter upgrade or repairs.

There is progress on a lot of fronts with this project.

5. Update on Proposed New Administration Building Project

We had the kickoff meeting with the architect in mid-December. We have also finalized the contract with them and have given them a Notice to Proceed. They are off and running and are eager to get this going. We talked about some interesting ideas and there is a progress meeting scheduled on January 7th.

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

C. 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. 24-1216-8 – Payroll

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Murphy, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 14- Res. No. 24-1216-9 – 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Absent	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
Edward Machala	Absent	Joseph Lifrieri	Yes

Minute 15 – Adjournment of Meeting

Upon Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Ms. Borek, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

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

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 3, 2025
(RESCHEDULED FROM JANUARY 27, 2025)