

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
APRIL 28, 2025**

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 Edward Machala.

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	Absent
Daniel Croson	Absent	Philip Petrone	Absent
Gary DiNardo	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Vincent Dominach	Absent	Frank Scarantino	Present
Michael Impellizeri	Present (Teams)	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	Present (Teams)
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Manager of Engineering	Present
Ellie Hoffman, P.E., Regulatory Compliance Engineer	Absent
Linda Hering, Human Resources Manager	Present
Peter Wozniak, Chief Financial Officer	Absent
Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer	Present (Teams)
Gerry Zielonka, Maintenance Supervisor	Absent
Timothy Wojcicki, Asst. Chief Plant Operator	Present (Teams)

Professional Staff

Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP	Present
Joseph J. Maraziti, Jr., Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP	Present (Teams)

Minute 4 – Pledge of Allegiance

All in attendance saluted the flag.

Minute 5 – Oath of Office

- a. Mr. Carney then administered the Oath of Office to Re-appointed Member (Warren Township) Mr. Gary DiNardo. Term 2/1/2025 through 1/31/2030

Minute 6 – Approval of Minutes:

1. Board Meeting Open Session Minutes – March 24, 2025

Upon a Motion of Mr. Pratt, Second of Mr. Impellizeri, the Minutes of the March 24, 2025 Meeting (Open Session) were approved, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 7 - Public Hearings - NONE

Minute 8 – Public Participation – Mr. Machala indicated that there was no one present from the public.

Minute 9 – Consent Agenda: Resolutions for Consideration and Possible Formal Action

Mr. Machala asked if anyone had any questions or comments about the Consent Agenda. Mr. Albano indicated that we spent \$1M transporting liquid and cake sludge, cake being cheaper to transport. Why is that? Mr. Anastasio indicated that we cannot get rid of all of it as cake because if we had a contract with another authority to ship all of the cake sludge to another authority, for instance we didn't have an incinerator and we only sent cake, that would be fine. These are contingency contracts so they accommodate us whenever we call but it is very difficult for them to have room and space for us all the time. They squeeze us in. It is not absolutely certain so they are contingency contracts. Though, Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority and Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners have always been able to accommodate us whenever we go down, which is not a scheduled shut-down. The cost for drivers for the increase is from 9 years ago. Why is 9 years ago significant? Because we started hauling a lot of sludge 9 years ago when we shut down for construction. We really became experts at it. The big cost increases are the liquid sludge trucking went up about 75% and the cake sludge trucking went up 48%. Even if we were getting rid of all the liquid and it was a daily contract, the price would still be the same. We got higher prices during the bid, that was the lowest price. It is very expensive but the truckers went through a lot of difficult times during COVID, they lost a lot of drivers and it was tough to find people. They still have a difficult time with drivers and CDL.

The disposal costs have stayed flat at PVSC and only went up 8% at Stony Brook. It is the hauling that went up, which is something we were always afraid of, even 10 years ago, thinking about hauling sludge and not incinerating, versus incinerating. All the reasons for needing to keep our incinerator going. Mr. Machala asked, is Stony Brook the only one able to take sludge from us? Mr. Anastasio responded that we have sent cake sludge to Atlantic County Utilities Authority, which is 110 miles one-way, because there were times when Stony Brook had difficulty and couldn't take it all. We have a will-call Local Service Agreement with Atlantic County Utilities Authority, same relationship. They'll try to accommodate us if we need it and we never know if we'll need them, and they are a remote fallback. It is just so far. Unless we do it for more than a month, they won't do the trucking for us. If they do the trucking for us, it is fairly reasonable, a little more than Stony Brook, but not like what liquid to PVSC is. If it is only a week, they are not able to accommodate us with the trucking and their routes. They also collect solid waste. Mr. Machala asked if this became a long-term thing, you would then shoot to get that in the mix because it's obviously cheaper. Yes, they want a guarantee we are going to go there every day, that's what they want. Back in the days when we were shut down for construction, we could make that guarantee for a year. Stony Brook has other customers that only haul sludge. They have no other choice. So, they are there every day. Without us, Stony Brook is full. They just manage to accommodate us for a short-term. It's worked out and it is a bit of a juggling act every time we have to do it, but we always manage to pull it off. Mr. Albano asked, can we store sludge here? Yes, but only 3 days' worth of liquid sludge. As for cake, the short answer is no. Sometimes we have to have a box that is waiting to go out for a couple of days, but it's not something that we really want to do as we're not really set up for it.

Ms. Borek asked, with regard to Resolution 25-0428-3, is \$500,000 enough? Mr. Anastasio answered yes. It pays the bills through April 7th and leaves us about \$119,000 buffer in case we have to shut down for a week or two. If we need to, we'll come back to the Commissioners for more money.

- 1) **Res. No. 25-0428-1** - Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director/ Manager of Engineering, Plant Superintendent, Chief Plant Operator, Assistant Chief Plant Operator, Regulatory Compliance Engineer and Solid Division Supervisor to Attend The 110th New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA) Annual Conference in Atlantic City, NJ to be Held on May 5-9, 2025
- 2) **Res. No. 25-0428-2** – Resolution Authorizing Permanent Status of Jeffrey Wilkes as Assistant Operator in the Incineration Division
- 3) **Res. No. 25-0428-3** – Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Expenses Related to the Offsite Hauling and Disposal of Sludge Associated with the Repair of the R2 Incinerator to be Paid from the General Fund
- 4) **Res. No. 25-0428-4** – Sewer Extension Application Re-Approval - Hillsborough Mixed Use Project - 871 Route 206 North - Hillsborough Township - Block 202 Lot 4
- 5) **Res. No. 25-0428-5** – Resolution Authorizing a Connection Fee Refund to Rega Construction (Three Plus Two Enterprises) for the Proposed Duplex at 145-147 South 10th Avenue - Block 105, Lot 45-48 - Borough of Manville

- 6) **Res. No. 25-0428-6** – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a New 6-Inch Solids-Handling Portable Utility Pump from Pumping Services, Inc. Through the Sourcewell Cooperative Pricing System

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Lifrieri, the Consent Agenda above, was approved by the following Roll Call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

*Mr. DiNardo left the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Minute 10 – Board Committees – None

Minute 11 – Chairman – No Comments other than ex-Commissioner Rich Mathews said to say hello to everyone.

Minute 12 – Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

1. Presentation from DRG Architects on the Design of the New Administration Building (approx. 30 minutes)

The folks from DRG Architects are here to show you the new Administration Building plan. Pat Seiwel and each of the other individuals in attendance introduced themselves. They indicated that they had the pleasure of interacting with the Authority, the culmination of what you are going to see tonight, probably about two and a half months of work. We've had great communication, and our teams have worked very well together. Victor Rodriguez, Director of Design for DRG, Kristin Haase, Sr. Interior Designer, another project manager and interior designer. We have a handful of slides here to give you an idea and vision of what the building will look like, then we'll talk a little about the finishes.

Victor took over and spoke about the location of the building on the site, as well as locations of the entries, the walkways, handicap accessibility on both sides, parking spaces. The floor plan shows the vestibule and the main lobby and goes on to show the location of the offices, the conference room, meeting room, kitchen, the mechanical and utility rooms, storage rooms,

printing rooms. All of the offices have windows. The restrooms and kitchen will be in the center of the building.

The building is a wood framed building with a simple pitched roof gable, with metal roofing. The exterior of the building will be metal panel and will be insulated. The main entry has a large window, and it has a higher ceiling. It then drops down to about 9' ceiling height for the main floor. As an aside, the tv screens aren't rendering the color too well, but hard copies are on the walls in the rear of the room. The exterior color choices are gray with a green trim and roof, beige with a tan trim roof, gray with a darker gray trim and roof, beige with a blue trim and roof, and light blue with a darker blue trim and roof. The metal finishes are a baked powder coat, at the factory, which are used in skyscrapers everywhere. It is a baked finish that you don't need to wash or clean. It has a 30-year guarantee. It is not an anodized or painted finish; it is powder coated. The panels are aluminum, not steel, so they will not rust. It is an expensive way to do it. The office windows are operable and can be opened. There is a patio area on the south side of the building where we can put a picnic table outside. We recommend the gray and green color scheme because it works nicely here, but the final decision ultimately is yours.

We move on to the interior designs, finishes, and colors. The main lobby, reception desk and waiting rooms on both sides of the vestibule. The corridors on both sides will be carpeted. There is a lot of natural light in the front lobby. There is room in the main area for a graphic design of sorts, maybe showing a photo of the plant. The conference room will also be carpeted to help with these acoustics in the room. On the side walls where the transoms are, we are proposing a fabric wall covering, very neutral but with a slight pattern. Regarding the smaller walls, we are proposing acoustic wall wood panels, similar to the ceiling in the lobby. On either side of the acoustic wall panel, we would have a more textured fabric. There would also be a wooden chair rail. The proposed conference room is about 4' wider than the room we are currently in. There are also four monitors in the conference room. We will continue to work the authority on the audio and video aspects of the conference room. Christine showed a large graphic of the service area of the authority, which can be used as on the one wall. She then spoke about the color combinations of the corridors. There also could be a word wall or an "inspirational graphic", utilizing words that would speak to what we do here, sustainability, dedication, etc. The office doors would be wood with maple finish. We already went over the interior colors with Ron, Sherwin and the team. The lunchroom/kitchen has a seating counter, and they are proposing a "pop art map" and is like an aerial view of a city. We are proposing a quartz countertop because it is very durable but at the last meeting, you mentioned just using plastic laminate so we found an option that is similar to the quartz, but a laminate. In the main entry into the vestibule, we will have a sample of the mat that would catch any dirt or water and is very durable. It has carpet inserts to really catch anything that comes in on people's shoes. The flooring in that area will be a luxury vinyl. It is comparable to typical VCT tiles but will provide a more welcoming experience. There are a couple of leftover rooms that can be used for storage. There will be acoustic wood ceiling panels above the reception area and the logo will be on the wall behind the receptionist. They are proposing the general wall base throughout the corridors to be a more millwork style base which is durable and gives a nice aesthetic look. The

rest of the corridor wall paint would be white. The office walls would also be white. The doors to the offices will have a glass panel on the side, which could have a privacy film on it. The offices would have one accent wall with three walls one color and the fourth is a different color. Then went over the colors for both of the restrooms, as well as the Corian countertops, finishes, etc.

Victor stressed that there really isn't anything shiny that would portray something expensive. We feel it is sophisticated look but not something that people would think you are spending an exorbitant amount of money on. Everything is toned down with muted colors.

A question arose about the provisions for solar. Solar will be included, where one side is facing south and would have solar panels on it. The north facing side is not a good location for the panels. As

Some discussion ensued about the bathrooms and the kitchen area. To make the kitchen area larger would end up making the conference room smaller. The bathrooms that are shown on the plans are the minimum square footage allowed by code so they cannot be made smaller.

Mr. Anastasio asked the Commissioners to look at all of the building colors and see if anything stands out as their favorite. Everyone was provided with a Post It notes to place on their favorite color. They would need the color choice soon so it could be ordered. We will send the board members the renderings and get their color choices. In the end, there were no votes for the beige/beige, gray/green, beige/blue. The gray/gray had 3 votes and the blue/blue had 4 votes. Sherwin prefers gray/gray or gray/green. Ron prefers gray/gray, gray/green or beige/blue. Linda likes beige/blue or gray/gray. Because 2 had no votes, we will narrow it down to the remaining 3 and send it to the board members not present and get their opinions. All of the colors are stock and are the same price.

2. Update on Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that we are working on design for odor control. The incinerator area where the belt filter presses are, the clarifiers, the return activated sludge pumps in the basement of the 600 building, the IPS multi-media filter. We have our hands in everything with the project. We had the kickoff meeting with PS&S so they are getting started on the Headworks Building design and we'll continue to work through everything. CDM and PS&S will coordinate as well.

3. Update on Main Interceptor & Forcemain Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that the big thing right now is working on Duke Farms. We've had a lot of communication over the last week so we are close to having a meeting with them so that Brad Carney can contact their attorney and they can start talking about easement terms. In the meantime, Dukes was very concerned about us reaching out to PSE&G. We filled out the application for the easement with them and are waiting to hear back from them. We initiated the application for funding with the NJ I-Bank (NJIB) and we got an email today that they ranked

the project in the intended use plan so that it locks us in with the Ibank. This is the first step, but we are on the list.

4. Update on the Storm Control Pumping Station Flood Mitigation Project

Mr. Anastasio indicated that we are working on some early coordination things, the schedule of values is getting worked out. We are waiting on shop drawings for the submittals. The way we designed it is like a shipping container with all the electrical circuit breakers built-in at the factory. However, we are talking about building the electrical equipment on-site in a separate container, and they install the switchgear on-site, which is how it was done for decades. That might speed up the project. Our pumps got shipped from Sweden about 2 weeks ago. We don't know of any tariffs but they are still on the ship. This summer, we will receive the generator so we anticipate getting the contractor out there to construct the foundation so that generator can be picked up and placed on its final resting spot.

5. Discussion of Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township **(CLOSED SESSION – (CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS & ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED))**

We will go into Closed Session to talk about an update on Fox Hollow.

B. Engineer/Consultants – Thomas Schoettle, P.E. (CDM Smith) Engineer's Report for March 2025

Mr. Schoettle indicated he had nothing more to add unless anyone had any questions.

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

Mr. Albano commented that we are about \$142,000 below our revenue estimate probably due to our reduced rainfall. He just wanted to point that out.

Minute 14 - Res. No. 25-0428-7 – Payroll

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 15 - Res. No. 25-0428-8 – Cancellation of Checks

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

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

Minute 16- Res. No. 25-0428-9 – Bills

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

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

Minute 17 – Adjourn to Closed Session

Res. No. 25-0428-10 – Resolution Authorizing Closed Session for the Purposes of Contract Negotiations and Attorney/Client Privileged Discussions Regarding the Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township

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

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

Minute 18 - Reconvene in Open Session at 8:32 p.m.

Minute 19 – Adjournment of Meeting

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Impellizeri, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

All in Favor Voice Vote:

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

NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
MAY 19, 2025