

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
THE SOMERSET RARITAN VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 15, 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 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	Present	Reinhard Pratt	Present
Vincent Dominach	Present	Frank Scarantino	Absent
Michael Impellizeri	Present	Edward Machala	Present
Joseph Lifrieri	Present (Teams)		

*Mr. Pappas arrived at the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Authority Staff

Ronald Anastasio, P.E., Executive Director	Present
Sherwin Ulep, P.E., Asst. Executive Director/Manager of Engineering	Present
Anthony Tambasco, Plant Superintendent	Present (Teams)
Timothy Wojcicki, Chief Plant Operator	Present (Teams)
Ellie Hoffman, P.E., Regulatory Compliance Engineer	Present (Teams)
Linda Hering, Human Resources Manager	Present
Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer	Present (Teams)
Gerry Zielonka, Maintenance Supervisor	Present (Teams)
Peter Wozniak, Chief Financial Officer	Present

Professional Staff

Thomas Schoettle, P.E., CDM Smith	Present
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 – November 24, 2025

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

2. Board Meeting Closed Session Minutes – November 24, 2025

Upon a Motion of Ms. Borek, Second of Mr. Impellizeri, the Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting (Closed Session) were approved, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 6 - Public Hearings -

A. New Sewer User Rate of \$2,934.61 for the Authority’s Sewer User Charge

Res. No. 25-1215-1 – Resolution to Establish a New Rate of \$2,934.61 Per Million Gallons for the Authority’s Sewer User Charge

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Ms. Borek, the hearing was open to the public by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Machala indicated that there was no one from the public present.

Mr. Anastasio stated that he is having some technical difficulties. I am asking that we close this hearing, open the other hearing, and then come back to this one. On second thought, I found it and we're ready to go. Everyone on teams indicated that they could see what is on the screen. ***(Please see the attached PowerPoint presentation regarding the Public Hearing for the FY 2026 Proposed 4% Billing Rate increase).***

Mr. Albano asked, the contingency, is that in the \$131M or is that in addition? Mr. Anastasio answered that it is in that number.

Mr. Pratt asked Mr. Wozniak if he prepared this and if it has his seal of approval. Mr. Wozniak didn't prepare it but the numbers are very large and they seem to be growing. A lot of this was active. We talked about this in the Finance Committee.

A question arose: we talked about annual increases of some kind. Is Phoenix's study going to be done in the near future so that we can have some idea what the magnitude of those might be? Mr. Anastasio stated that they were waiting for the FY2024 Audit which is up for formal consideration tonight. We got that done recently. Until then, I asked them for their opinion on this general approach and that's why they produced a memo for us stating that their opinion was that we are in the best possible way to do this where it is the least painful for the rate payers, to ratcheted it up slowly. Where it ends, that is what their rate study will speak to. We are 60% design with several of the areas of the large capital projects, mainly the Plantwide Mechanical Project. The farther we get into design, the less unknowns there are. The numbers are going to firm up and not move much as they have done in the past. All we can do is operate on the numbers we have at the time we're doing this study. The rate study should home in on about how much we need to generate. It is early in the process. This is only the second year in a row that we have ratcheted it up 4%. We will have to see where it ends. As you can see, these numbers are growing. The costs of these projects are staggering but at the same time, we really don't have a lot of choice in the matter. The plant needs the rehabilitation and the interceptor projects.

A comment is that we should have started 20 years ago, but 20 years ago we were building the outfall and the interceptor. The costs are just crazy.

Ms. Borek asked, will there be a factor in because on the one side you referenced weather and drought. We know it's been dry and you all prefer that it is rainy. Does Phoenix factor in, and I don't know how you do that. I'm trying to think of the ways you can put that in a spreadsheet with a little variable for weather, more flow, etc. Are they looking at that in a bigger picture for

the next couple year plan. Say in 2026 we get a tremendous amount of flow, are they going to look at it and level it out? Mr. Anastasio stated the way they may look at it; I don't know if they'll be able to do that that much. Also remember the window they are looking at is from now until we end the 4% steps, which is not 20 years because we're going to start making these debt payments. Our shock absorber for that is our rate stabilization account and also for the storm control treatment facility, we have a fund similar to this that we use to balance the budget. We'll take that debt service and plug that in to help balance the budget. In wetter years, we generate enough revenue where we haven't had to hit that yet. But we plan on it based on the estimate. Usually when we have a wet year, it is wetter than estimates so we end up with a surplus. This year it is the reverse. To speak to that rainfall question, I think it's just a matter of the existing shock absorbers we have in place, the debt service reserve for the SCTF and we have the rate stabilization. We'll talk to them about that but I'm not sure how they'll handle that other than taking funds out of the rate stabilization account when the times are lean and replenishing when we have a surplus. That's what we have done over many years where if we had a surplus and we were below the maximum amount for the rate stabilization account which has typically been ¼ of the budget, we fill that bucket back up. So, it is there for the dry days. We'll talk to them about it when we get rolling because we really haven't been through this before so it is a little different situation than a municipal budget type of situation.

Mr. Albano stated that he understands that they will do some sensitivity analysis based on the flow of revenue which is primarily tied to the growth and to the rainfall but all we can do is rely on historical data for that. It will be some analysis but nothing is cast in concrete.

Mr. Wozniak stated that we do have some tools in our toolbox besides the retained earnings. The State of New Jersey has about \$300M in retained earnings so they have nothing there to cushion against the recession. We do have funds and I would think we would want the rate stabilization and not use every penny we have towards these projects and prevent volatile rate spikes but we do have, at the end of the year, if we're out of funds and we have a deficit, we can levy an extra charge against the towns so that is in our bond covenants that to protect our bond holders, and the towns could get an extra bill. Ms. Borek asked when could that be? If you're a town going to receive that, when are you going to receive that? From the participants' point of view, my budget was done back in September, adopted in October, when would you be letting potentially an additional thing and does that then leave me to have to do a budget amendment? Mr. Wozniak stated that we would also have to do a budget amendment. Ms. Borek asked when would that be? Mr. Wozniak stated that it would be a chain of events. We would do a budget amendment if we had cash flow trouble or needed to pay our bills. Mr. Machala asked Mr. Wozniak, to be clear we've never done this before. Mr. Wozniak confirmed that. Mr. Dominach stated that we're talking about what could happen and it is the absolute worst-case scenario has never happened because this Authority is always kept the cushion and there would have to be an incredible change over a 30-year period. We have all the historical data which over any couple of years there are changes, but over that 30- or 50-year period, is relatively stable so we know the type of cushion to keep. I would be hesitant for us to go down the rabbit hole of talking about extra billing because that is something that could cause all of our municipality's consternation. Let's not go down that rabbit hole. It is something that could be done in extreme emergencies. Mr. Anastasio commented that we would see that coming and we are striving to be proactive to avoid that situation.

A question was raised; there are two numbers in the Power Point that anticipate \$7.4M in debt service for this and about \$1.42M would be coming off. So, we're talking about a \$6M debt

service difference. It would be interesting to have Phoenix come up with scenarios, worst case scenarios, if we had to rely on just the rate payer to cover that additional \$6M, and what would that equate to. It would be good for us to have that. Mr. Anastasio stated that it would be the subject of the study. This is the second 4% rate increase. We're not there yet. It is stepping up to a point and we'll have a few of these because we have to climb this mountain but if we do it in steps, it is easier.

Mr. Carney asked, before we close the Public Hearing, can we see if there is any public on the Teams? Mr. Anastasio confirmed that there were no members of the public on Teams.

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Impellizeri the public hearing was closed by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Impellizeri, **Resolution No. 25-1215-1** was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

B. Adoption of the Authority's FY 2026 Budget

Res. No. 25-1215-2 – FY 2026 Adopted Budget Resolution

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Mr. Impellizeri, the hearing was open to the public by the following Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

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

Mr. Machala indicated that there was no one from the public present, and there were no other questions from the Board.

Upon a Motion of Mr. Impellizeri, Second of Ms. Borek the public hearing was closed by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

Upon a Motion of Mr. Albano, Second of Ms. Borek, **Resolution No. 25-1215-2** was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 7 – Public Participation – None

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

Upon a Motion of Mr. Scarantino, Second of Mr. Albano, the following Consent Agenda was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

- 1) **Res. No. 25-1215-3** – Resolution Authorizing the Reissuance of a Non-Domestic Wastewater Discharge Permit to Lycored Corporation
- 2) **Res. No. 25-1215-4** – Resolution Authorizing Payment for Additional Cleaning of the Authority’s Inverted Siphon Pipes by Magnum Vac Services Through the Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System

Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 9 – Board Committees –

- A. Finance Committee:** (ALBANO, Machala, Scarantino, Pratt, Pappas, Dominach, Croson)

Mr. Albano stated that we got the audit. A lot of it was prepared by Peter and what I always look for in this is the history, but more importantly did the auditors find anything that we needed to address. Fortunately, the auditors believe that the operations are well done and there are no discrepancies and that is the good part. Other than that, I accept the audit for last year. It is always a year behind.

1. **Res. No. 25-1215-5** - Resolution Accepting the FY 2024 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Year End Audit

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

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

B. Personnel Committee

1. Report on the SRVSA – UWUA Local 423 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) Negotiations (**Closed Session – Contract Negotiations & Personnel Matters**)
2. Report on the Hiring of a Replacement Human Resources Manager (**Closed Session – Personnel Matters**)
 - a) **Res. No. 25-1215-6** – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Replacement Authority HR/Office Manager (**Closed Session – Personnel Matters**)

Minute 10 – Chairman: Designation of Nominating Committee for 2026 – 2027 Authority Officers.

Mr. Machala stated he is going to designate a Nominating Committee for the 2026 – 2027 Authority Officers. I would like to have Pamela Borek, Gary DiNardo, Vincent Dominach, and John Murphy on that Committee to handle that.

Minute 11 – Reports

A. Executive Director’s Report

1. Reschedule January 26, 2026 Regular Board Meeting to February 2, 2026

Mr. Anastasio stated that as we have been doing this for about eleven years now, is the Board ok with us rescheduling the January 26, 2026 Board Meeting to February 2, 2026, which is one more week, which is the night of the Reorganization Meeting and we do them back-to-back.

Mr. Carney suggested that we do a Motion to reschedule the meeting.

Upon a Motion of Ms. Borek, Second of Mr. Albano the Motion was passed by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

2. Update on the Plantwide Mechanical Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that Sherwin Ulep has detailed information in his report on the progress. A lot of the project is up to 60% design and 90% on the clarifiers. Things are moving along and we are getting updated construction costs as well.

3. Update on the Main Interceptor & Forcemain Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Anastasio stated that we have sent a letter out to the Federal Government, the National Resource Conservation Service and have received responses from them. We have now started a dialogue with them. They want to get a letter from Duke Farms affirming the application as well. We are working on getting that letter from Duke Farms and then getting it back to the NRCS. The NRCS got back to us very quickly. We're hoping that continues.

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

Mr. Anastasio stated that this is also moving along and we are making good progress. We're waiting on the IPA 2, which was released for production. Both IPA structures are being released now for production. It will take a little while to get those manufactured and delivered to the site. Where the contractor can make progress, they are making progress. We are about 17% of 18% complete. We have drawn down slightly over \$2.6M of our \$3.8M County American Rescue Plan funds grant. We haven't gotten it all because we haven't done enough work to get reimbursed for that amount. We should have that all drawn down in the next 6 months or so.

5. Update on the Design of the New Administration Building

We just received today the 90% design package. We distributed it to a few Board members on a thumb drive. We might have one available but if anyone else wants one, we can get more.

6. Discussion regarding the Proposed Judicial Consent Orders (JCO's) Related to PFAS with the 3M Company & DuPont (**Closed Session – Pending Litigation & Attorney/Client Privileged**)

7. Discussion Regarding the Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township (**Closed Session – Pending Litigation & Attorney/Client Privileged**)

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

Mr. Albano asked of Mr. Schoettle, on page 2 it talks about how to scope additional evaluations and designs being tracked. Mr. Schoettle stated that as things progress, we are keeping a side bar on things.

C. Attorney – Brad Carney, Esq., Maraziti Falcon, LLP

D. Department Reports:

1. Operations
2. Laboratory
3. Maintenance/Electrical
4. Special Projects

E. Engineering Department Engineer Reports:

- 1 Capacity Allocation
2. Capacity Assurance
3. Monthly Flow Report
4. Manager of Engineering - Engineer’s Monthly Report

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

Mr. Anastasio stated that he is going to pass around the Audit Affidavit for everyone to print and sign their names. I will make arrangements to get it to Mr. Lifrieri for his signature.

Minute 13 – Res. No. 25-1215-7 - Payroll

Upon the Motion of Mr. Impellizeri, Second of Ms. Borek, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Absent
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Edward Machala	Yes

Minute 14 – Res. No. 25-1215-8 - Bills

Upon the Motion of Mr. Scarantino, Second of Mr. Murphy, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Absent
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Edward Machala	Yes

Minute 15 – Res. No. 25-1215-9 - Adjourn to Closed Session

Resolution Authorizing Closed Session for the Purposes of Contract Negotiations & Personnel Matters Regarding the SRVSA – UWUA Local 423 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) Negotiations and for Personnel Matters Discussions Regarding the Hiring of a Replacement Human Resources Manager and for the Anticipated Litigation and Attorney/Client Privileged Discussions Regarding the Proposed Judicial Consent Orders Related to PFAS with the 3M Company and DuPont and Discussions Regarding Contract Negotiations and Attorney/Client Privileged Discussions Regarding the Anticipated Development of the Fox Hollow Golf Course in Readington Township

Mr. Carney added that as it related to PFAS, it is “pending” litigation.

Mr. Pappas stated that he will recuse himself from the last item. Mr. Carney indicated that it is a short item so he can just step out of the room and return when we’re done.

Upon the Motion of Mr. Albano, 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	Yes
Gary DiNardo	Yes	Philip Petrone	Absent
Vincent Dominach	Yes	Reinhard Pratt	Yes
Michael Impellizeri	Yes	Frank Scarantino	Yes
		Edward Machala	Yes

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:38 p.m.

Minute 16 - Reconvene in Open Session at 8:11 p.m.

Res. No. 25-1215-6 – Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Replacement Authority HR/Office Manager

Upon returning from Closed Session discussions, and upon a Motion of Mr. Dominach, Second of Mr. DiNardo, Resolution was approved by the following Roll Call Vote:

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

Minute 17 – Adjournment of Meeting

Upon a Motion of Mr. Impellizeri, Second of Mr. Scarantino, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

All in Favor Voice Vote:

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

NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 2, 2026