

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Minutes of February 22, 2024 Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut, and via remote access. Chair Harvey presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford III (R)
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski (R)
Bethany	Brian Eitzer (R)
Branford	Vacant
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
East Haven	Michelle Verderame (R)
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo (R)
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young (R)
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith (R)
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Haven	Anthony P. Rescigno (R)
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser (R)
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Mike Horbal (R)
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine (R)
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino (R)

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden (R)
Catherine LaMarr
Mario Ricozzi
Suzanne Sack (R)

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Elizabeth Calo (R)
Jim Hill
Rochelle Kowalski
Premjith Lakshman Singh (R)
Sunny Lakshminarayanan

Absent

Derby	Frank Pepe
North Branford	Peter DeSantis

Office of Consumer Affairs

Louis J. Dagostine

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

Call to Order

Chair Harvey called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment handout distributed to members.

Public Comment

Chair Harvey offered the opportunity for members of the public to comment. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Ms. Campbell, the RPB approved the minutes of its January 25, 2024 meeting as distributed, with 85 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye

Branford (6)	Vacant	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Communications

Chair Harvey stated no ethics compliance violations for the period ended November 30, 2023.

He also noted the upcoming special joint meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee and Land Use Committee meeting is on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., via hybrid.

Items for Consideration and Action

Mr. Slocum moved for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, on January 25, 2024, filed an Application with the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) for approval of the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Chemical Improvements Project (the “Application”); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee of the Representative Policy Board reviewed the Application and recommended that the Application be accepted by the RPB as complete; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommended that a public hearing be conducted by a Presiding Member; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee proposed a public hearing date of March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm., in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the RPB Bylaws and Rules of Practice.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB accepts the Finance Committee’s recommendation to consider the Authority’s Application and determined to hold a public hearing, to be conducted by a Presiding Member, on March 28, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the RPB Bylaws and Rules of Practice; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson is hereby directed to give notice of said hearing in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules of Practice, as amended.

Mr. Oslander seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote and the motion was approved with 85 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Vacant	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Chair Harvey noted that the date of the public hearing, as stated on the resolution, was incorrect. He reported that the public hearing date would be on April 25, 2024. On motion made by Mr. Slocum, and seconded by

Mr. Oslander, the RPB voted to approve the resolutions with a corrected public hearing date of April 25, 2024.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Vacant	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Chair Harvey solicited volunteers to act as presiding member for the April 25, 2024 public hearing.

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Marino, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the committee meeting earlier in the month. The Committee met and received a commercial business update. The Committee also voted accept the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Chemical Improvements Project Resolution for recommendation to the RPB.

The next meeting is on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., via hybrid.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported on the Committee meeting earlier in the month. The Committee held a walkthrough of Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant in Hamden, received land updates, and an invasive species update.

The Committee will hold a special joint meeting with the Consumer Affairs Committee on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 5:00 pm for a business update.

The Committee’s next regular meeting is on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Mongillo reported that he attended the Lake Whitney Environmental Update earlier in the week, which provided information on the operation of the plant.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Levine, Chair of the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the next Committee meeting is on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., via teams.

Authority/Management – Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Authority also met as the Audit-Risk Committee, Pension & Benefit Committee, and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the Audit-Risk Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day. The Committee met with RWA’s external auditor, CliftonLarsonAllen, to review the 2024 audit plan.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the Pension & Benefit Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day, the Committee met to discuss changes to the RWA’s Investment Policy Statement to reach its goal of a fully funded pension plan. She stated the meeting was productive and she received positive feedback and input (e.g., taking into consideration the construction, operational needs, and impact on ratepayers).

RPB members discussed market conditions, long-term obligations, and actuarial recommended levels.

Ms. Sack, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day. She stated that the Committee met to receive an update of the RWA's six-month action plan and global metrics and receive a presentation on internal business processes and technology roadmap.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President and Chief Executive Office, reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month ended January 31, 2024, and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2024 is 119%, with no shortfall. Contributing to the higher coverage is prudent cost management and the RWA's reduction to some discretionary spending to help offset the lower revenues due to the wet summer this past year.

He also reported that raw water storage levels as of February 20, 2024, were 95%, compared to the long-term average of 80%.

He also reported on the status of proposed changes to the enabling legislation. It is currently in the planning and development phase and has been assigned an unofficial number in the committee; house bill #5277. The bill will be scheduled for a public hearing.

Mr. Bingaman reported on a meeting that took place earlier in the month with S&P and Moody's rating agencies. S&P was enthusiastic about the progress of the organization's debt leverage, health of reserve funds, and its progress on funding the pension plan. Despite the positive comments, S&P's rating of the RWA did not change. Moody's rating is expected in the next few days.

He also reported on the Authority meeting earlier in the day. The Authority approved an acquisition application for recommendation to the RPB. The application process will be expedited. Mr. Bingaman stated that this would require a special meeting of the RPB Finance Committee to review the application for completeness, mode and date of public hearing to be accepted by the RPB Chair. As the owner would like to complete the sale, the Authority is requesting an expedited public hearing date of Thursday, March 28, 2024.

Chair Harvey acknowledged Atty. Dagostine of the Office of Consumer Affairs who had nothing to report.

The next RPB meeting is on Thursday, March 28, 2024, which may include a public hearing.

At 7:04 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Malloy, and seconded by Mr. Levine, the RPB voted to adjourn, with 85 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye
Bethany (5)	Aye	Killingworth (2)	Aye	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Vacant	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (11)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Policy Board
February 22, 2024

Jamie Mowat Young, Secretary

(R) = Attended remotely.