# South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority Minutes of the April 24, 2025 Meeting

The regular meeting of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority ("RWA" or "Authority") took place on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chair Borowy presided.

**Present:** Authority – Messrs. Borowy, Curseaden, Ricozzi, and Mss. LaMarr and Sack

Management – Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Benni(R), Hill(R), and Kelly(R), and

Mss. Kowalski and Calo(R) RPB – Atty. Marino(R) Staff – Mrs. Slubowski

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

#### 1.1 SAFETY MOMENT

He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Borowy offered the opportunity for members of the public to comment. There were no members of the public present.

# 3. MEET AS PENSION & BENEFIT COMMITTEE

At 12:31 p.m., on motion made by Ms. LaMarr and seconded by Mr. Ricozzi, the Authority voted to recess the regular meeting to meet as the Pension & Benefit Committee.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

At 1:41 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

#### 4. ACT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. LaMarr moved for approval of the following resolutions, as recommended by the Pension & Benefit Committee:

#### 1. Salaried

**RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves a contribution of \$2,350,784 to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Salaried Employees' Retirement Plan, effective for the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves the continued use of the PubG-2010 Above Median Employee and Annuitant with Scale MP-2021 generational improvements (M/F), effective for the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025.

#### 2. Union

**RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves a contribution of \$871,325 to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Union Employees' Retirement Plan, effective for the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves the continued use of the PubG-2010 Total Employee and Annuitant with Scale MP-2021 generational improvements (M/F), effective for the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025.

#### 3. VEBA

**RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves a contribution of \$1,570,423 to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Retired Employees' Contributory Welfare Trust, effective for the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Authority approves the continued use of the mortality table for the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's Retired Employees' Contributory Welfare Trust, the PubG.H.-2010 Employee, Healthy Annuitant, and Contingent Survivor with Scale MP-2021 generational improvements (M/F), effective as of the actuarial valuation of January 1, 2025.

Ms. Sack seconded the motion. Chair Borowy communicated that the Committee engaged in discussions and that the board unanimously supported the contributions following consultations with the actuary and deliberations regarding the RWA's position. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the Authority voted unanimously to approve the resolutions, as presented.



# 5. CONSENT AGENDA

On motion made by Ms. Sack and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Authority voted to approve, adopt, or receive, as appropriate, the following items in the Consent Agenda, as presented:

- 5.1 Minutes of the March 27, 2025 regular meeting and the March 31, 2025 special meeting.
- 5.2 Capital budget authorization for May 2025:

**RESOLVED**, that the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development is authorized to submit to the Trustee one or more requisitions in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$8,650,000 for the month of May 2025 for transfer from the Construction Fund for capital expenditures. Each such requisition shall contain or be accompanied by a certificate identifying such requisition and stating that the amount to be withdrawn pursuant to such requisition is a proper charge to the Construction Fund. Such requisitions are approved notwithstanding the fact that amounts to be withdrawn for a particular project may exceed the amount indicated for such month and year in the current Capital Improvement Budget but will not cause the aggregate amount budgeted for Fiscal Year 2025 for all Capital Improvement Projects to be exceeded. In the absence of the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development, the Controller is authorized to sign in her place.

- 5.3 Capital Budget Transfer Notifications for May 2025.
- 5.4 Monthly Financial Report March 2025.

- 5.5 Accounts Receivable Update March 2025.
- 5.6 FY 2025-2026 Application Schedule.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

#### 6. FINANCE

# **6.1 TYPE B3 AMENDMENTS**

Ms. Kowalski, the RWA's Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, reported on Type B3 Amendments for the Authority's approval to transfer funds from a capital account to another capital account or newly created capital account for the: 1) Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant HVAC & Electrical Improvements in the amount of \$1.5 million, 2) Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant HVAC Upgrades in the amount of \$630,000, 3) Derby Wellfield Facility Improvements in the amount of \$520,000, and 4) Municipal Pipe in the amount of \$500,000.

Mr. Curseaden moved for approval of the following resolutions:

1. Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant HVAC & Electrical Improvements:

**RESOLVED** that the Authority approves the transfer of \$366,000 from the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Ozone & DAF Controls capital budget account, \$592,000 from the Seymour Wellfield Generator Replacement capital budget account, \$200,000 from the St. Joseph's Street Water Main Installation capital budget account, \$342,000 from the York Hill Service Area Hydraulic Improvements capital budget account to the Lead Service Line Replacements capital budget account.

2. Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant HVAC Upgrades:

**RESOLVED** that the Authority approves the transfer of \$532,000 from the Pump Station Generator Replacements capital budget account, and \$98,000 from the Lake Gaillard Pavilion capital budget account to the Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant HVAC Upgrades project capital budget account.

3. Derby Wellfield Facility Improvements:

**RESOLVED** that the Authority approves the transfer of \$175,000 from the Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant Improvements - Gravity Thickener capital budget account, \$110,000 from the West River Water Treatment Plant Salt Storage capital budget account, \$115,000 from the West River Water Treatment Plant Air Handling Unit capital budget account, and \$120,000 from the Future Regulatory Treatment Compliance capital budget account to the Derby Wellfield Facility Improvements project capital budget account.

4. Municipal Pipe:

**RESOLVED** that the Authority approves the transfer of \$500,000 from the Beach Avenue Right-of-Way capital budget account to the Municipal Pipe project capital budget account.

Mr. Ricozzi seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote:

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

#### 7. REPORTS ON RPB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Authority members reported on recent Representative Policy Board committee meetings.

# 8. BUSINESS UPDATES

#### 8.1 RWAY/CIS UPDATE

Mr. Lakshminarayanan, the RWA's Interim President and CEO, provided an update on the RWAY/CIS project. He reported that after 14 days into the project launch, progress is on schedule for a 90-day stabilization period. Notable improvements during this period include reduced wait times and enhanced user navigation within the system, supported by onsite vendor assistance. Approximately 4,000 calls have been processed by Customer Care, and 1,000 via the customer portal. Auto-pay registrations are being monitored and an uptick is anticipated with the new system. Next steps include continuous monitoring and internal validation of billing. He reported that the launch associated with collection processing (e.g., dunning and other delinquency procedures) is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### 8.2 MONTHLY BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Lakshminarayanan reported:

- that the RWA is progressing with its commercial business strategy through both organic growth
  and strategic acquisitions. Ongoing discussions are taking place with a potential target in lab
  services, and further updates will be shared at the upcoming Authority board meeting.
- on meetings with Aquarion town leaders and state representatives to present the Aquarion Water Authority (AWA) framework and address concerns. Additionally, regulatory filings to public utility commissions in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire have been submitted.
- on the fiscal 2026 strategic plan; the Leadership Team has initiated employee town hall meetings to communicate the strategic initiatives for the upcoming fiscal year. The practice aligns with prior strategic planning efforts and aims to engage employees in the planning process and gather diverse perspectives.
- that the RWA's Operations and Safety & Risk teams partnered with the state's Department of Labor's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CONN-OSHA) to perform safety audits of the RWA's facilities and safety programs with the aim of improving overall workplace safety. Administrative recommendations for improvement identified by CONN-OSHA and are being addressed.
- on the recent Annual Meeting and Business Leadership Awards ceremony, attended by Liz Calo, who presented Jessica Teta, Senior Development Director at the United Way of Greater New Haven, with a Larry Bingaman Leadership Center Award. The Chamber graciously renamed its Alumnus of the Leadership Center Award in Larry's memory given his years of service and leadership. This award is presented annually to an exemplary community leader and graduate of the Chamber's Leadership Center.
- That the RWA sponsored and participated in the March 2025 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, organized by the Connecticut Land Conservation Council. Employees from the RWA's Environmental Planning and Real Estate groups contributed to the conference, which focuses on training, networking, and information sharing among participants, including board members, staff, and volunteers.

At 2:13 p.m., Atty. Marino withdrew from the meeting.

[BREAK FROM 2:13 P.M. TO 2:25 P.M.]

#### **8.3 BLUE DROP UPDATE**

At 2:25 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Curseaden and seconded by Ma. LaMarr, the Authority voted to go into executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1- 200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1- 210(b)(5)(A)(B), pertaining to trade secrets and commercial and financial information. Present in executive session were Authority members, Messrs. Lakshminarayanan and Hill, and, Mss. Kowalski, Calo, and Slubowski.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

At 3:15 p.m., the Authority came out of executive session.

# 8.4 CONSIDER AND ACT ON GENERAL BOND RESOLUTION AND SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTIONS

Board members noted that this motion is being acted upon on behalf of the Aquarion Water Authority (AWA) for the purpose of approving the general bond resolution for AWA, and the supplemental resolutions for reasons discussed in executive session. After discussion, Ms. LaMarr moved for approval of the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, Section 37 of Public Act 24-1 of the June 2024 Special Session of the Connecticut General Assembly, (the "Act") provides, that the members of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (the "Regional Water Authority") board shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Aquarion Water Authority (the "Authority") board, as described in the Act, until such time as the members of the Authority board are appointed; and

WHEREAS, Section 36 of the Act provides, that the Representative Policy Board of the Regional Water Authority (the "Regional Water Authority RPB") shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Representative Policy Board of the Authority (the "Authority RPB"), as described in the Act, until such time as the members of the Authority RPB are appointed; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 55 of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that the Authority has the power to issue its bonds, subject to the approval of the Authority RPB and that such bonds shall be authorized by a resolution of the Authority which shall provide for the terms and conditions of the bonds, and may provide for any matter which in any way affects the security or protection on the bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 56 of the Act provides that the Authority has the power to issue notes that shall be paid from among other sources, the proceeds of bonds or refunding notes; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 42 of the Act provides that the Authority may delegate to one or more of its members, officers, agents or employees, such powers and duties as it may deem proper; and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2024 the Regional Water Authority, acting on behalf of itself and the Authority, adopted and on September 5, 2024 the Regional Water Authority RPB, acting on behalf of itself and the Authority RPB, approved the resolutions which, among other things, established the general terms and provisions of the Authority's bonds, notes or other obligations (the "Bonds") in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed the amount as set forth in the Application for the Approval

for the Acquisition of the Aquarion Water Company, dated July 26, 2024 with information provided on August 22, 2024 and August 27, 2024 during executive sessions of the public hearings held by the Regional Water Authority RPB acting on behalf of the Authority RPB (the "Maximum Amount") to finance or refinance the cost of the acquisition of the Aquarion Water Company in accordance with resolutions approved by the Authority, to provide funds for deposit to reserve funds, as necessary and as permitted by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and to pay costs of issuance (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, on November 11, 2024 the Regional Water Authority, acting on behalf of itself and the Authority, adopted a resolution to approve the term sheets for the Bonds to finance the Project and authorized the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority to execute certain documents; and

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to provide for the issuance, sale and delivery of the Authority's bonds to be secured and issued under a general bond resolution which shall be a contract with the holders of the Authority's bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, in anticipation of the Bonds previously authorized as set forth above, the Authority wishes to provide for the issuance, sale and delivery of its bond anticipation notes; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to refund its bond anticipation notes, in the event that no other refinancing options are available to the Authority, the Authority wishes to provide for the issuance of its refunding bridge notes.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Regional Water Authority, acting on behalf of the Authority hereby adopts the following.

- 1. The General Bond Resolution attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby approved.
- 2. The issuance of notes in anticipation of the Bonds are authorized and the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority are authorized to (i) to issue, sell and deliver the Water System Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes 2025 Series (the "Notes") in one or more series in an amount which is equal to or less than the Maximum Amount previously authorized for the Project and (ii) to determine the principal amount, priority, date, date of maturity, interest rate, form and other details of any such series of the Notes, pursuant to the Act and the Water System Revenue Bond Resolution, General Bond Resolution as amended and supplemented (the "General Bond Resolution") or any other provisions of law thereto enabling; and
- 3. The Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of the Water System Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes 2025 Series in one or more series substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, with such changes, omissions, insertions and revisions as the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority shall deem advisable and which shall be as set forth in a Certificate of Determination attached thereto is hereby approved; and

- 4. The issuance of refunding bridge notes to refund the Notes are authorized and the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority are authorized to (i) to issue, sell and deliver the Water System Revenue Refunding Bridge Notes Series 202\_ (the "Bridge Notes") in one or more series in an amount which is equal to or less than the Maximum Amount previously authorized for the Project and (ii) to determine the principal amount, priority, date, date of maturity, interest rate, form and other details of any such series of the Bridge Notes, pursuant to the Act and the General Bond Resolution or any other provisions of law thereto enabling; and
- 5. The Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of the Water System Revenue Refunding Bridge Notes Series 202\_ in one or more series substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C, with such changes, omissions, insertions and revisions as the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority shall deem advisable and which shall be as set forth in a Certificate of Determination attached thereto is hereby approved; and
- 6. The Chairperson or Vice Chairperson and the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of the Regional Water Authority or any one of them, are hereby authorized to appoint an underwriter or underwriters, a purchaser or purchasers and a financial advisor and execute and deliver such documents as may be necessary or desirable to issue, sell and deliver the Notes and the Bridge Notes, including but not limited to, the Purchase Contracts, the Tax Regulatory Agreements and the Continuing Disclosure Agreements and to take such actions or to designate other officials or employees of the Regional Water Authority to take such actions and execute such documents, including, but not limited to, any fee letters or amendments to fee letters in connection with the issuance, sale and delivery of the Notes and Bridge Notes in one or more series as are determined necessary or advisable and in the best interests of the Authority and that the execution of such documents or letters shall be conclusive evidence of such determination.

Mr. Curseaden seconded the motion, and the Authority voted unanimously to approve the resolutions, as presented.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

#### 9. APPLICATION PRESENTATION

# 9.1 REVIEW AND DISCUSS APPLICATION

At 3:29 p.m., Messrs. Benni and Kelly entered the meeting. They provided an overview of the Application for approval of a project to complete Electrical Improvements at the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant and the Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment plant, which included:

- Project background
- Approach

- Scope and need
- Alternatives Analysis
- Project cost
- Schedule and permitting

#### 9.5 RECOMMENDATION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE RPB

After discussion, Mr. Ricozzi moved for approval of the following resolutions:

**RESOLVED** that the Authority hereby accepts the new Application, dated April 24,2025, for a Application to the Representative Policy Board for Approval of a Project to Construct Electrical Improvements at the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant and Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant, located in North Branford and East Haven, Connecticut, as a completed Application, substantially in the form submitted to this meeting, and authorizes filing said Application with the Representative Policy Board ("RPB"); and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, if approved by the RPB, the interim President and CEO, and the Vice President of Engineering and Environmental Services, is authorized to take any and all actions necessary to complete the electrical improvements at the Lake Gaillard and Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plants in North Branford and East Haven, Connecticut; and

**RESOLVED,** that upon acceptance of the new Application, the Authority authorizes its Interim President and Chief Executive Officer, and the Vice President of Engineering and Environmental Services, to file a motion and related materials with the RPB to request issuance of a protective order to maintain confidential the information to be contained in the Application's appendices A, B, C, D, E, F, I, J, and K, inclusive.

Ms. LaMarr seconded the motion, the chair called for the vote:

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

At 4:15 p.m., Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Benni, Hill, and Kelly, and Mss. Kowalski, Calo, and Slubowski withdrew from the meeting.

# 10. DISCUSSION REGARDING STRATEGY

At 4:15 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Ricozzi and seconded by Ms. LaMarr, the Authority voted to convene in executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(5)(A), pertaining to trade secrets. Present in executive session were Authority members.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

At 4:44 p.m., the Authority came out of executive session. No votes were taken in, or as a result of executive session. On motion made by Ms. LaMarr, and seconded by Ms. Sack, the meeting adjourned.

Borowy Aye

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority April 24, 2025

> Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

> > Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. LaMarr, Secretary

(R) = Attended remotely.

# UNAPPROVED