### Representative Policy Board **Finance Committee** South Central Connecticut Regional Water District 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut **\*\*Join the meeting now** Meeting ID: 263 160 944 855 Passcode: Kq2bN3DH

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### **AGENDA**

### Regular Meeting of Monday, May 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

- 1. Safety Moment
- 2. Approval of Minutes April 7, 2025 meeting
- 3. Discussion re Initiating FMA Compensation Study Upon 2/3 vote convene in possible executive session pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(5)(A), pertaining to trade secrets.
- 4. Proposed FY 2026 Budget discussion
- 5. Consider and act on completeness, mode, and date of public hearing for the Application to Construct Electrical Improvements at the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant and Lake Saltonstall Water Treatment Plant for recommendation to the Representative Policy Board
- 6. Attendance at Authority May 22, 2025 meeting J. Jaser
- 7. New Business
- 8. Next meeting on June 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
- 9. Adjourn

\*\* Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or by teams using the link at the top of the agenda. To view meeting documents, please visit <u>https://tinyurl.com/3dybtwy8</u>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or by email at jslubowski@rwater.com

## SAFETY MOMENT

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



Despite progress in mental health initiatives, more than 30 million people in the Regional Water Authority U.S. still lack access to comprehensive, high-quality care. According to the National Council for Mental Wellbeing:

- •<u>1 in 5</u> U.S. adults experience mental illness each year.
- •<u>1 in 20</u> U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year.
- •<u>1 in 6</u> U.S. youth have a mental health condition, but only half receive treatment.
- •50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24.
- •In 2023, <u>20%</u> of all high school students seriously considered suicide.

Take action by focusing on what you can control — your own wellbeing. Below is a link to access a free self-care checklist with simple, practical ways to support your mental health. You can request a checklist by visiting:

https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/mental-health-awareness-month/mhamtoolkit-checklist/

Safety is a core company value at the Regional Water Authority . It is our goal to reduce workplace injuries to zero.



### Representative Policy Board Finance Committee South Central Connecticut Regional Water District 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and Via Remote Access

### **MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of Monday, April 7, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

- **Present:** Vincent M. Marino(R), Thomas P. Clifford III, James X. DiCarlo(R), Jasper J. Jaser, Tim Slocum, M. Verderame(R), and Jamie Mowat Young(R)
- **RPB:** Robert E. Harvey, Jr.(R), Naomi Campbell(R), Brian Eitzer(R), Charles Havrda(R), Michael H. Horbal(R), Mark Levine(R), Greg Malloy(R), Carolyn Mancini(R), and Stephen Mongillo(R)
- FMA Members: David Borowy(R) and Kevin Curseaden(R)
- **RWA:** Sunny Lakshminarayanan, Rochelle Kowalski, Victor Benni, Prem Singh, and Charles DelVecchio

**OCA:** Atty. Jeffrey Donofrio(R)

Staff: Jennifer Slubowski

Chair Marino called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

Chair Marino stated it would be appropriate for management to begin its presentation of the FY 2026 Budget.

Mr. Lakshminarayanan, the RWA's Interim Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Benni, the RWA's Director of Engineering, provided an overview of the FY 2026 Capital Budget, which included:

- Historical information
- Major impacts
- Projects
- Assumptions
- Methodology
- Recommendations
- Project and highlights

They reported that the capital budget amounts to approximately \$59.4 million and encompasses 106 projects and programs related to Natural Resources, Treatment, Transmission and Pumping, and General Plant. It incorporates GHD's recommendations along with provisions for a project reserve and contingency. The budget projects RWA's proactive strategy aimed at safeguarding public health, promoting recreational activities, protecting watersheds and aquatic resources, enhancing water sources to

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improve raw water quality, minimizing water quality impacts, preserving historical attributes, mitigating dam failure risks, and addressing the challenges posed by increasing rainfall due to climate change.

Ms. Kowalski, the RWA's Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development, and Mr. DelVecchio, the RWA's Controller, provided an overview of the FY 2026 Operating Budget, which included:

- Historical information
- Debt leverage
- Capital funding

They reported that the operating budget is approximately \$136 million allocated for pump power, employee benefits, utilities and fuel, payroll, building space, IT licensing & maintenance fees, and outside services.

The presentation included an overview of water revenue assumptions, cost drivers, external pressures, employee-related expenses, efficiency improvements, maintenance test, and opportunities and vulnerabilities.

At 7:05 p.m., Mr. Clifford withdrew from the meeting, and on motion made by Ms. Young and seconded by Mr. Slocum, the Committee 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)(B), pertaining to commercial and financial information. Present in executive session were the Committee members, Messrs. Harvey, Borowy, Curseaden, Lakshminarayanan, Benni, DelVecchio, Eitzer, Havrda, Horbal, Levine, Malloy, Mongillo, Singh, and Atty. Donofrio, and Mss. Kowalski, Campbell, and Slubowski.

At 7:05 p.m., Messrs. Malloy and Mongillo withdrew from the meeting and the Committee came out of executive session. No votes were taken in or as a result of executive session.

On motion made by Mr. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Mongillo, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of its March 10, 2025 regular meeting.

Ms. Kowalski, the RWA's Senior Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development, reviewed the quarterly financial report for the 3rd quarter of FY 2025, which included:

- Balance Sheet
- Revenues, expenses, and changes in net position
- Operating and maintenance expenses and key variances
- FY 2025 capital expenditures and projections
- Investment earnings

Ms. Kowalski reviewed the RPB Dashboard Metrics for the third quarter ended February 28, 2025.

Chair Marino reviewed the Committee member meeting attendance for the April and May 2025 Authority meetings.

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He stated that a review of the FY 2026 Budget would also be presented to the Consumer Affairs and Land Use Committees at a joint meeting on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. All RPB members are invited to attend.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee is on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., via hybrid.

As there was no new business to report, at 7:43 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Jaser, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

Vincent M. Marino, Chair

# UNAPPROVED