

Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Consumer Affairs Committee

Minutes of the February 27, 2023 Meeting

The regular meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee (“CAC”) of the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RPB”) took place on Monday, February 27, 2023, via remote access.

Committee members present: S. Mongillo, N. Campbell, M. Levine, A. Rescigno, and R. Smith

Committee members absent: F. Pepe

RPB: R. Harvey

Authority: C. LaMarr

RWA: L. Bingaman, R. Kowalski, J. Hill, S. Lakshminarayanan, P. Singh, and N. Smith

Office of Consumer Affairs: Attorney Donofrio (“OCA”)

RPB Staff: J. Slubowski

Chairman Mongillo called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

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

On motion made by Mr. Rescigno, and seconded by Ms. Campbell, the committee voted to approve the minutes of its January 23, 2023 meeting, as presented.

Ms. Smith, the RWA’s Natural Resources Analyst, provided a Deer Hunt Update, which included:

- Historical review of the program
- Hunting areas
- Regeneration
- Application process and survey reports
- Changes made in 2022
- Harvest totals
- Impact, analysis, and reporting

Committee members discussed scouting, vegetation, regulations and restrictions, program effectiveness and impact, safety precautions, and humane hunting requirements.

At 6:05 p.m., Ms. Smith withdrew from the meeting.

Atty. Donofrio, OCA, provided reasoning for his request for an increase in the OCA’s hourly rate. He stated that his last increase was in 2018 when an increase of \$25 per hour was approved by the RPB. The amount requested by the OCA would continue to remain under budget for the upcoming fiscal year with an anticipated exposure of 150 hours.

At 6:07 p.m., Atty. Donofrio withdrew from the meeting.

Committee members discussed the OCA's attention to detail and felt that he was organized and conscientious and were in favor of supporting an increase.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President & Chief Executive Officer stated management's support for an increase to the OCA's hourly rate.

After discussion, on motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Mr. Smith, the committee voted to recommend to the RPB an increase in the OCA's hourly rate from \$225 per hour to \$300 per hour. 5-1-0.

At 6:18 p.m., Atty. Donofrio entered the meeting.

Attorney Donofrio reported that much of his time in January was spent reviewing the 2023 Rate Application and preparing his memorandum and comments for the public hearing that took place on February 23, 2023. He also stated that he has been reviewing the updated plan for the Lead & Copper Rule Program from the Department of Public Health ("DPH"). Both the RWA and the OCA have concerns about the implementation process and will be preparing testimony for submission to the DPH.

On motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Ms. Campbell, the Committee approved the OCA's January 2023 billing for \$2,195.00.

There was no new business to report.

The next regular meeting is on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:24 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the committee meeting adjourned.

Stephen Mongillo, Chairman