

**South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority
Minutes of the January 23, 2025 Meeting**

The regular meeting of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA” or “Authority”) took place on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, and via remote access. Chair Borowy presided.

Present: **Authority Members Present** – Messrs. Borowy, Curseaden and Ricozzi, and Mss. LaMarr and Sack(R)
 Management – Mss. Kowalski, Calo(R), and Smith, and Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Hill(R), Marcik, Savoy(R), and Singh
 RPB – Mr. Betkoski(R)
 Staff – Mrs. Slubowski

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SAFETY MOMENT

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

3. PENSION & BENEFIT COMMITTEE

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

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Absent
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

At 12:34 p.m., Mr. Curseaden entered the meeting.

At 1:23 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

4. ACT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETING

No actions were taken as a result of the Pension & Benefit Committee meeting.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5.1.** Minutes of the December 10, 2024, December 15, 2024, and December 17, 2024 emergency meetings, and the December 19, 2024 regular meeting.
- 5.2.** Approved the Capital Budget Authorization for February 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 \$4,700,000 for the month of February 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shall contain or be accompanied by a certificate identifying such requisition and stating that the amount to be withdrawn pursuant to such requisition is a proper charge to the Construction Fund. Such requisitions are approved notwithstanding the fact that amounts to be withdrawn for a particular project may exceed the amount indicated for such month and year in the current Capital Improvement Budget but will not cause the aggregate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. Monthly Financial Report – December 2024.

5.4. Accounts Receivable update for the period ended December 2024.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

6. REPORTS ON RPB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Authority members reported on recent Representative Policy Board committee meetings.

7. UPDATES

7.1. RWAY/CIS UPDATE

Mr. Singh, the RWA’s Chief Information Digital Officer & Vice President of Customer Care, provided an RWAY/Customer Information System Update. He reported that the RWA engaged an independent Quality Auditor’s to conduct an assessment to ensure the organization is ready for the go live date in early spring. Mr. Singh highlighted several positive areas identified in the overall assessment that reflect the organization’s commitment to excellence. Key timelines have been established to address immediate priorities and enhance overall readiness. The auditor also provided actionable recommendations to help streamline efforts moving forward and ensure the successful implementation of the project.

7.2. MONTHLY BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Lakshminaryanan:

- Reported that the regional supply strategy is progressing. Commercial business is proceeding in a positive direction and meeting targets.
- Provided an update on the bond ratings recently received for RWA and earlier for Blue Drop. Meetings took place with S&P and Moody’s resulting in affirmed RWA’s ratings. He highlighted a comment in a rating report that stated after most sizable capital needs are addressed, combined with continued growth of liquidity, an upgrade could be considered. He also shared positive feedback regarding preliminary ratings for Blue Drop.

- Highlighted the RWA’s recent Strategic Planning update and employee engagement. He stated that 130/140 employees attended. The star performer was announced and was from Prem’s group and the kickoff of *60 with Sunny* was well received. The program is voluntary and held twice a week with employees to discuss blue sky matters.
- Reported that DSX has begun rolling out mini training modules.
- Highlighted a meeting with the mayor of New Haven to discuss phase two of the lead pipe inventory refinement to identify unknowns.
- Provided updates on key partnerships including the ClimateHaven Initiative and the Northeast Mid-Atlantic partnership for forest.

7.2.a. DEER HUNT UPDATE

At 1:45 p.m., Ms. Smith, the RWA’s Natural Resources Analyst, entered the meeting. She provided an update on the 2024 Deer Hunt, which included:

- Historical review
- Deer density and reduction
- 2024 season overview and technology
- Permits and harvest totals over time
- Future considerations and survey reporting

At 2:08 p.m., Ms. Smith and Mr. Betkoski withdrew from the meeting.

[BREAK 2:08 P.M. TO 2:18 P.M.]

7.3. BLUE DROP UPDATE AND DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION

At 2:18 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Rizzo and seconded by Ms. LaMarr, the Authority voted to go into executive session to discuss matters pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(E) for 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, Hill, and Singh, and Mss. Kowalski, Calo and Slubowski.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Rizzo	Aye
Sack	Aye

At 3:13 p.m., the Authority reconvened. No votes were taken in, or as a result of executive session.

8. LAKE WHITNEY DAM UPDATE

At 3:13 p.m., Mr. Marcik, the RWA’s Capital Program Lead, and Mr. Savoy, the RWA’s Sr. Project Engineer, entered the meeting. On motion made by Mr. Curseaden and seconded by Mr. Rizzo, the Authority voted to go into executive session to discuss matters pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(E) for matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(19)(i)(ii), pertaining to security risk. Present in executive session were

Authority members, Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Hill, Marcik, Savoy, and Singh, and Mss. Kowalski, Calo and Slubowski.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

At 3:34 p.m., Mr. Benni, the RWA’s Director of Engineering, entered the meeting.

At 4:00 p.m., the Authority reconvened and Messrs. Benni, Marcik, and Savoy withdrew from the meeting. No votes were taken in, or as a result of executive session.

7.2. CONTINUED

At 4:02 p.m., Mr. Borowy stated it would be appropriate to add an executive session to discuss the RWA’s union contract. On motion made by Mr. Ricozzi and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Authority voted unanimously to convene in executive session pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(E) for matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(9), pertaining records, reports and statements of strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining. Present in executive session were Authority members, Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Hill, and Singh, and Mss. Kowalski, Calo and Slubowski.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

UNAPPROVED

At 4:06 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 Mr. Curseaden the Authority voted to adjourn the meeting.

Borowy	Aye
Curseaden	Aye
LaMarr	Aye
Ricozzi	Aye
Sack	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. LaMarr, Secretary

(R) = Attended remotely.