

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

September 16, 2024

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee (“CAC”) of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RWA”) took place on Monday, September 16, 2024, via remote access. Chair Campbell presided.

Members present: N. Campbell, C. Havrda, M. Levine, S. Mongillo, and R. Smith

Members absent: F. Pepe

RPB: R. Harvey

Authority: S. Sack

RWA: R. Kowalski, P. Singh, S. Lakshminarayanan, T. Barger, J. Hill, and D. Bochan

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

RPB Staff: J. Slubowski

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. She reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

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

Mr. Barger, the RWA’s Water Quality Manager, provided an update on the Lead & Copper Rule Revisions. He reported that the vacuum excavation process is yielding valuable information for inventory development to meet regulatory requirements. To date, approximately 2,500 to 3,000 excavations have been completed in several district towns, with Branford and North Branford expected to begin soon. Training on the use of LeadCast, the predictive modeling platform, has been provided to Field Service and Cross Connections to enable real-time inclusion of service line information.

With the initial submittal of the inventory to regulators approaching, progress is being made to identify unknowns and initiate phase two of service line replacement. Focus on outreach, customer satisfaction, and economic benefits remain a priority.

He also stated that the RWA has been approved, and are securing, funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The funding will include both grants and loans for the lead service line replacements.

The RWA will submit the initial inventory to the Connecticut Department of Public Health by October 14, 2024. The initial round of vacuum excavations, predictive modeling, inventory development, and finalizing the report will also be completed. Inventory refinements will continue through FY 2025.

Committee members discussed lead and source identification process, testing sample requirements and data, line replacement, source identification, and estimated program cost.

On motion made by Mr. Mongillo and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of its August 19, 2024 regular meeting, as presented.

Attorney Donofrio reported that he has been working on the 2025 Rate Application memorandum in preparation for the public hearing on September 26, 2024. He expects to distribute the memorandum to the RPB by the end of the week.

He also reported that he met last month with consultants to discuss valuations related to the Aquarion Application, but due to the cost estimates and time constraints, it was determined that he would do the research himself.

On motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Mongillo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the OCA's July invoice for \$24,286.00.

Chair Campbell confirmed the Authority meeting assignment for September 26, 2024.

Chair Campbell stated that she is working with Mr. Singh, the RWA's Chief Information Digital Officers & Vice President of Customer Care, to generate a list of special topics for upcoming meetings. Any members interested in submitting suggested topics should contact her or Mr. Singh.

The Committee's next meeting is on Monday, October 21, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

At 5:54 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Mongillo, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

N. Campbell, Chair