

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District**

Minutes of May 25, 2023 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chairman Ricozzi presided.

PRESENT

RPB

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Ansonia | Thomas P. Clifford, III |
| Bethany | Brian Eitzer |
| Branford | Mario Ricozzi |
| Cheshire | Timothy Slocum |
| East Haven | Michelle Verderame |
| Guilford | Charles Havrda |
| Hamden | Stephen Mongillo |
| Madison | Joseph A. Oslander |
| New Haven | Naomi Campbell |
| North Branford | Peter DeSantis |
| North Haven | Anthony Rescigno |
| Orange | Jasper J. Jaser |
| Prospect | Robert E. Harvey, Jr. |
| Seymour | Michael H. Horbal |
| West Haven | T. Gregory Malloy |
| Woodbridge | Mark Levine |
| Governor’s Rep | Vincent Marino |

Absent

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Beacon Falls | Peter Betkoski |
| Derby | Frank Pepe |
| Killingworth | Jamie Mowat Young |
| Milford | Richard Smith |

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden
Catherine LaMarr
Suzanne Sack

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Rochelle Kowalski
Dennis Donovan
Elizabeth Calo
Jim Hill
Sunny Lakshminarayanan
Premjith Lakshman Singh
Amrik Matharu
John Triana
Kevin Watsey

Counsel

Bruce McDermott

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey Donofrio

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

Call to Order

Chair Ricozzi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Safety Moment

He reviewed the Safety Moment handout distributed to members.

Public Comment

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

Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the RPB approved the minutes of its April 27, 2023 meeting, with 83 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3) Aye Guilford (4) Aye No. Haven (5) Aye

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|------------------|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Absent |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Aye | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (10) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Absent |

Communications

Chair Ricozzi:

- Stated that RPB member term expirations are coming up on June 30, 2023. The following members are still awaiting reappointment: Mss. Campbell, Verderame, and Messrs. Betkoski, Eitzer, and Jaser.
- Commented that the RPB Nominating Committee for RPB officers is established. If members are interested in a position, the Chair position will be vacant. Interested candidates should contact Ms. Campbell or the board office.
- Noted that the June municipality report was distributed to members.
- Reminded members that at the June RPB Committee meetings there will be board training. Members may attend any of the committee meetings. The training will cover topics such as governance, Freedom of Information, and other items.

Items for Consideration and Action

Mr. Slocum, Chair of the RPB Finance Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month to review the Authority's Application for completeness, mode and date of public hearing of the Authority's Application for the Derby Wellfield Chemical Improvements Project. He moved for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, on April 28, 2023, filed an Application with the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") for approval of the Derby Wellfield Chemical Improvements Project (the "Application"); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee of the Representative Policy Board reviewed the Application and recommended that the Application be accepted by the RPB as complete; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee recommended that a public hearing be conducted by a Presiding Member; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee proposed a public hearing date of June 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm., in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the RPB Bylaws and Rules of Practice.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB accepts the Finance Committee's recommendation to consider the Authority's Application and determined to hold a public hearing, to be conducted by a Presiding Member, on June 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., in accordance with Special Act 77-98, as amended, and the RPB Bylaws and Rules of Practice; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson is hereby directed to give notice of said hearing in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules of Practice, as amended.

Mr. Havrda seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 83 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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|------------------|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Ansonia (3) | Aye | Guilford (4) | Aye | No. Haven (5) | Aye |
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Absent |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Aye | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (10) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Absent |

Chair Ricozzi stated that Mr. Eitzer would act as presiding member at the public hearing.

At 6:37 p.m., Mr. Jaser and Mr. Marino entered the meeting.

Mr. Harvey reported that the Land Use Committee met earlier in the month to review the Authority’s Application for completeness regarding the non-substantial Land Use Plan Amendment for the relocation of the New England Trail on Authority property in Guilford. The Committee found the application to be complete and Non-substantial, not requiring a public hearing, and voted to recommend the application to the RPB for approval. He moved for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA”), on April 28, 2023, filed an Application to the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) for the approval of a Non-substantial Land Use Plan Amendment to the Land Use Plan for the Relocation of the New England Trail on Authority property in Guilford (“Application”); and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Committee of the RPB reviewed the Application and recommends that it be accepted as complete and considered non-substantial without a public hearing required; and

WHEREAS, the RPB concludes that the Application is non-substantial and the proposed action is consistent with and advances the policies and goals of the RWA, has no expected impact on the public water supply, no conflict with the trail and the existing Land Use Plan designation of “Non-water System Land,” and no financial impact on the Authority.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB hereby accepts the Application as complete and approves, without a public hearing, the RWA’s Application for a Non-substantial Land Use Plan Amendment for the Relocation of the New England Trail on Authority property in Guilford, filed April 28, 2023, in accordance with Section 18 of Connecticut Special Act 77-98, as amended.

Mr. Harvey stated that the Land Use Committee talked about the potential changes to the Land Use Plan. After discussion, the committee determined that the trail was only slightly moving and it did not appear that there would be any substantial difficulty. As a result, the Committee deemed the Application non-substantial.

Mr. Malloy seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 87 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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|------------------|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|-----|
| Ansonia (3) | Aye | Guilford (4) | Aye | No. Haven (5) | Aye |
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Aye |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Aye | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (10) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Aye |

Mr. Slocum, Chair of the RPB Finance Committee, moved for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“Authority”) requested the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) review the Authority's FY 2024 proposed Capital and Operating Budgets (“Budgets”); and

WHEREAS, the RPB held workshops on April 17, 2023 and April 19, 2023, at which time management and the Authority presented the proposed Budgets and responded to questions in a professional, concise and articulate way; and

WHEREAS, the RPB has a duty to review the Budgets and to comment, but has no other statutory obligations or authority.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB wishes to express its appreciation to management and the Authority for the professionalism of their presentation and express its overall support of the FY 2024 proposed Budgets; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the RPB also agrees with the recommendations contained in the OCA’s Budget review letter dated April 26, 2023; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the RPB consensus regarding the proposed Budgets is that they are reasonable and supported; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the RPB believes that the Authority’s overall financial plan provides for stable finances and the essential funding of capital projects and the flexibility of reduced operating expenses will support the steps necessary to address financial obstacles during the fiscal year.

Mr. Jaser seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 87 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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|------------------|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|-----|
| Ansonia (3) | Aye | Guilford (4) | Aye | No. Haven (5) | Aye |
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Aye |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Aye | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (10) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Aye |

Mr. Slocum expressed his thanks to management and for providing the RPB with a full understanding of the proposed FY 2024 budget. He stated his appreciation and full support.

At 6:44 p.m., Chair Ricozzi withdrew from the meeting.

Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the RPB Nominating Committee for Authority member, reported on a memorandum distributed to the RPB with the Committee’s recommendation for Authority member. He stated that the committee worked hard and put a lot of effort to find the right candidate. Mr. Mongillo reported that the committee met several times. The members revised the ad for the position to indicate experience in engineering, utility regulatory experience, and strategic planning. The ad was published in two newspapers, as well as various electronic formats. They received approximately 15 candidates who resided within the district. After thorough review and discussion, the committee chose to interview three candidates. At its last meeting on May 12th the committee met to discuss the interviews and after long and thoughtful consideration voted unanimously to recommend Mr. Ricozzi based on his experience in engineering in several areas, regulatory and utility experience, and extensive board experience.

Mr. Mongillo stated that Mr. Ricozzi's term would begin on July 1, 2023 after the expiration of his term as Chairman of the RPB.

He moved for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Mario Ricozzi, be and hereby is, appointed as a member of the Five Member Authority of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, effective for the term beginning July 1, 2023, with his term to extend until December 31, 2023, or until his successor is appointed and has qualified.

Mr. Havrda seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 87 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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|------------------|---------|------------------|--------|----------------|-----|
| Ansonia (3) | Aye | Guilford (4) | Aye | No. Haven (5) | Aye |
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Aye |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Abstain | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (11) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Aye |

At 6:50 p.m., Chair Ricozzi entered the meeting. He thanked RPB members for the vote.

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the month. The Committee met to review the Application for the Derby Wellfield Chemical Improvements Project and discuss the FY 2024 budget. The June meeting will include a review of the auditor's proposal and the committee will have training related to RPB member roles and responsibilities, Freedom of Information and other related items.

The next meeting is on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Harvey reported on the Land Use Committee meeting earlier in the month. The Committee met at Lake Gaillard in North Branford to receive a presentation from management on invasive species management at Lake Gaillard and discuss the Non-substantial Land Use Plan application for the trail location in Guilford. The Committee also received Land Updates from management. He reported that month-end reservoir levels were at 99% with no drought status.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met last week and, at the committee meeting, met the new Process Excellence Director at the RWA. The Committee received a Business Improvements update from management. The OCA reported on work done in April and May and a meeting he attended earlier in the month with the New Haven Environmental Advisory Council. The OCA reported no customer complaints.

Nominating Committee – Mr. Mongillo, Chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that due to restrictions in the RWA's enabling legislation, there might be a need to discuss changes in the future. He thanked Committee members for all their hard work.

Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, stated that Authority met earlier in the day and also met as the Audit-Risk Committee to discuss the FY 2024 Work Plan and receive a Risk Management Update memorandum from management.

The Authority also met as the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee and met with management to discuss the RWA's Water Supply Plan, receive a Legislative Update, and receive an Environmental Compliance Update.

The Compensation Committee also met earlier in the day and received an update on RWA's employee engagement.

Mr. Borowy also reported that at the Authority meeting, the Authority voted to approve management's recommendation to forward to the RPB an Application for the asset purchase of Target Two, a Confidential Plumbing company.

He thanked the RPB for the appointment of Mr. Ricoszi to the Authority and its approval of the Non-substantial Land Use Plan Amendment and positive comments to the FY 2024 Budget.

Mr. Bingaman also reviewed revenues, and operating and maintenance expenses for through the period ended April 30, 2023.

At 7:01 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Clifford, seconded by Mr. Rescigno, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

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| Ansonia (3) | Aye | Guilford (4) | Aye | No. Haven (5) | Aye |
| Beacon Falls (0) | Absent | Hamden (10) | Aye | Orange (3) | Aye |
| Bethany (5) | Aye | Killingworth (2) | Absent | Prospect (1) | Aye |
| Branford (6) | Aye | Madison (6) | Aye | Seymour (1) | Aye |
| Cheshire (4) | Aye | Milford (11) | Absent | West Haven (8) | Aye |
| Derby (2) | Absent | New Haven (13) | Aye | Woodbridge (3) | Aye |
| East Haven (6) | Aye | No. Branford (8) | Aye | Gov. Rep. (1) | Aye |

Charles Havrda, Secretary