

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

Minutes of May 23, 2024 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District took place on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chair Harvey presided.

PRESENT

RPB

Ansonia	Thomas P. Clifford, III(R)
Beacon Falls	Peter Betkoski
Bethany	Brian Eitzer(R)
Cheshire	Timothy Slocum
East Haven	Michelle Verderame(R)
Guilford	Charles Havrda
Hamden	Stephen Mongillo(R)
Killingworth	Jamie Mowat Young(R)
Madison	Joseph A. Oslander
Milford	Richard Smith(R)
New Haven	Naomi Campbell
North Haven	Anthony Rescigno(R)
Orange	Jasper J. Jaser
Prospect	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Seymour	Michael H. Horbal(R)
West Haven	T. Gregory Malloy
Woodbridge	Mark Levine(R)

Absent

Branford	Vacant
Derby	Frank Pepe
North Branford	Peter DeSantis
Governor’s Rep	Vincent M. Marino

Regional Water Authority

David Borowy
Kevin Curseaden(R)
Catherine LaMarr
Mario Ricozzi

Management

Larry L. Bingaman
Rochelle Kowalski
Elizabeth Calo(R)
Charles DelVecchio
Jim Hill(R)
Sunny Lakshminarayanan(R)
Premjith Lakshman Singh(R)

Counsel

Bruce McDermott(R)

Office of Consumer Affairs

Jeffrey Donofrio(R)

Staff

Jennifer Slubowski

Call to Order

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

Safety Moment

He reviewed the Safety Moment handout distributed to members.

Public Comment

Chair Harvey 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, and seconded by Mr. Slocum, the RPB approved the minutes of its April 25, 2024 meeting, with 77 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Ansonia (3)	Aye	Guilford (4)	Aye	No. Haven (5)	Aye
Beacon Falls (0)	Aye	Hamden (10)	Aye	Orange (3)	Aye

Bethany (5)	Abstain	Killingworth (2)	Absent	Prospect (1)	Aye
Branford (6)	Vacant	Madison (6)	Aye	Seymour (1)	Aye
Cheshire (4)	Aye	Milford (10)	Aye	West Haven (8)	Aye
Derby (2)	Absent	New Haven (13)	Aye	Woodbridge (3)	Aye
East Haven (6)	Aye	No. Branford (8)	Absent	Gov. Rep. (1)	Absent

Communications

Chair Harvey stated that certain RPB member term expirations are up on June 30, 2024. Members recently reappointed for another three-year term are Messrs. Harvey, Havrda, Levine, Oslander, and Ms. Campbell. Reappointments for Mr. DeSantis, Malloy, Rescigno, Marino and Ms. Verderame are pending. The RPB is still awaiting an appointment to the board from the Town of Branford.

Items for Consideration and Action

Mr. Slocum moved for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board, attached hereto, with respect to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority’s Application for approval of the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Chemical Improvements Project, dated January 25, 2024, be and hereby is approved in the form submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Jaser seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 82 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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

Mr. Slocum moved for approval of the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“Authority”) requested the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) review the Authority’s FY 2025 proposed Capital, Operating and Commercial Budgets (“Budgets”); and

WHEREAS, the RPB held workshops on April 8, 2024 and April 15, 2024, at which time management and the Authority presented the proposed Budgets and responded to questions from RPB members; 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 2025 proposed Budgets; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the RPB also agrees with the recommendations contained in the OCA’s Budget review letter dated April 22, 2024; 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 and execution of its long-term plan provide for financial health required to achieve its overall mission of providing high quality water, products, and services to consumers at reasonable prices.

Mr. Malloy seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 82 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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

Ms. Havrda, Chair of the RPB Nominating Committee, moved for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the following officers are hereby elected to serve for the year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified:

Chairperson:	Robert E. Harvey, Jr.
Vice Chairperson:	Stephen Mongillo
Secretary:	Jamie Mowat Young
Treasurer:	Timothy Slocum

Mr. Malloy seconded the motion. After discussion, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 82 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

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

Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Slocum reported on the meeting held earlier in the month. The Committee met to discuss comments to the FY 2025 Budget. The committee also discussed changing the date of its July meeting, but after discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to keep the date on Tuesday, July 9, 2024. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 10, 2024.

Land Use Committee – Mr. Betkoski, Chair of the Land Use Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the month. The Committee met at Lake Saltonstall in Branford to receive and update on Oak tree species, receive land updates, and an invasive species update. He commented that his term as Committee chair is up in July, any committee members interested in the position may contact him, Chair Harvey, or the board office.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., with the site to be determined.

At 6:47 p.m., Ms. Mowat Young entered the meeting.

Consumer Affairs Committee – Mr. Levine, Chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, reported on the Committee meeting last week and received an update from management on an organization-wide training called Delivering Service Excellence. The Committee also received a report from the Office of Consumer Affairs.

Nominating Committee – Mr. Havrda, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier in the month to consider RPB officer appointments. He commented that the Committee surveyed the membership of the RPB for interested candidates and did not receive any replies. He also contacted incumbent officers, and all were interested in continuing to serve. The Committee ended up voting to recommend the current slate of officers to the RPB.

Mr. Borowy, Chair of the Authority, congratulated RPB officers on their reappointment and thanked the RPB for its support of the FY 2025 Budget.

He stated that Authority met earlier in the day and also met as the Audit-Risk Committee and the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee.

Ms. LaMarr, Chair of the RWA's Audit-Risk Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day. She stated that the Committee received a cybersecurity update and a risk management update. The discussions took place in executive session, so she was unable to disclose details. Ms. LaMarr also shared that she reported on a master class she attended given by the National Association of Corporate Directors regarding Technology and Innovation that focused on artificial intelligence. She also reported that the Committee reviewed and approved its FY 2025 work plan.

Mr. Riconzi, Chair of the RWA's Environmental, Health & Safety Committee, reported on the meeting earlier in the day. He stated that the Committee received an update on the recent legislative session and also an update on the RWA's Enterprise Work and Asset Management Roadmap.

He also acknowledged Mr. Lakshminarayanan, the RWA's Vice President of Engineering & Environmental Services, for his new role as chair of the Connecticut Water Works Association. Members of the RPB congratulated Mr. Lakshminarayanan.

Mr. Bingaman, the RWA's President and Chief Executive Officer, thanked members of the RPB for approval of the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Chemical Improvements Project application.

He acknowledged Ms. Calo, the RWA's General Manager & Head of Human Resources, who reported on RWA's revised remote work policy that will be effective June 3, 2024. The lobby will also be open to the public.

Mr. Bingaman reviewed revenues, operating and maintenance expenses for the month ended April 30, 2024, and stated the projected maintenance test for FY 2024 is 127%, with no shortfall. Contributing to the higher coverage is interest income due to the higher interest rate climate as well as water revenues being only slightly under budget and other contributing factors.

He also reported that raw water storage levels as of May 20, 2024, were 97%, compared to the long-term average of 94%.

At 7:12 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Clifford, the RPB voted to adjourn the meeting, the Chair called for the vote and the RPB adopted the motion with 84 total weighted votes cast in the affirmative.

Representative Policy Board, May 23, 2024

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

Jamie Mowat Young, Secretary

Attachments:

1. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board for approval of the Authority's Application for the Lake Whitney Water Treatment Plant Chemical Improvements Project.

(R) = Attended Remotely.