

MINUTES of the **MEETING** of the **ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** held in the office, 295 Main Street, Room 350, Buffalo, New York, on the 18th day of July 2024.

PRESENT: Jerome D. Schad, Chair
 Peggy A. LaGree, Vice Chair
 Michele M. Iannello, Treasurer via teleconference
 Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority
 Joyce A. Tomaka, Chief Financial Officer
 Charles E. Eaton, Chief Operating Officer
 Leonard F. Kowalski, Executive Engineer
 Jennifer Hibit, Director of Human Resources
 Lavonya C. Lester, Director of Administration
 Sabrina A. Figler, Director of Water Quality
 Jessica R. Brown, Comptroller
 Katherine A. Gillette, Senior Associate Attorney
 Michael W. Wymer, Senior Production Engineer
 David W. Aubertine, Director of Cybersecurity and Information Technology

ATTENDEES:

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. A quorum was present with three Commissioners.

II. READING OF MINUTES

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried to waive the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

IV. REPORTS**A. SECRETARY****B. LEGAL****C. FISCAL**

1. Proposed 2025 Budget Schedule

Joyce Tomaka distributed a proposed budget schedule. A discussion was held with the Commissioners regarding the proposed schedule and previous budget schedules.

2. May 2024 Investment Report

Joyce Tomaka distributed the May 2024 Investment Report along with a brief explanation of the report.

3. May 2024 Financial Report

Jessica Brown distributed the May 2024 Monthly Financial Report and briefly reviewed the data. A discussion was held.

D. OPERATIONS

1. Corrosion Control Treatment Program Update

Michael Wymer gave the Board an update on the Corrosion Control Treatment Program – Pipe Loop Demonstration Project. Mr. Wymer presented an overview and the current status of the pipe loop study being conducted by the Authority's consulting engineers, Hazen and Sawyer with assistance from faculty and students from Washington University and the State University of New York at Buffalo. Mr. Wymer noted the pipe loop study will help the Authority to proactively reduce lead release to drinking water and prepare for compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Revisions and forthcoming Lead and Copper Rule Improvements. Topics discussed with the Board included the following:

- Pipe Loop Demonstration Study Work Plan
- Pipe Loop Demonstration – Washington University
- Pipe Loop Demonstration – Van de Water Treatment Plant
- Orthophosphate Impacts on Wastewater Treatment

2. Projects advertised for Bidding – Short Form Contracts

Leonard Kowalski reported to the Board two Short Form Contracts that have been advertised for bidding since the last Board Meeting: Furnish and Deliver Liquid Chlorine in One-Ton Containers to the ECWA for Use in the Treatment of Water for One Year, Project No. 202400124 and Furnish and Deliver Caustic Soda (50% Solution of Sodium Hydroxide) Membrane Grade to the ECWA for Use in Treatment of Water for One Year, Project No. 202400125.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. LMHF – Health Insurance Medical Carrier

Jennifer Hibit reported to the Board that the Labor Management Health Care Fund will be changing the health insurance medical carrier from Highmark to Univera Healthcare, effective January 1, 2025. Ms. Hibit noted that there will be no changes to the benefits.

F. AUDIT COMMITTEE

G. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

H. FINANCE COMMITTEE

I. ETHICS COMMITTEE

V. COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS

(Communications may be limited to items that are provided electronically. Every effort will be made to provide all communications at future meetings.)

C-1 NOTICE OF CLAIM – MAPP V ECWA – RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP

C-2 NOTICE OF CLAIM – FIRE V ECWA – RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP

C-3 FOIL FROM JON ANDREESSEN - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

C-4 FOIL FROM CYNTHIA BROCKMAN - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

C-5 FOIL FROM HOLLADY PROPERTIES - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

C-6 FOIL FROM DOLCE PANEPINTO - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

C-7 FOIL FROM LATESHA MCDONALD - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

C-8 FOIL FROM COFORGE - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP

VI. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the Erie County Water Authority's Open Meetings Law Policy Section 10 Public Expression, as posted on its website, the Commissioners will hear the concerns of persons desiring to address the Commissioners on any Water Authority subject. No one appeared to speak.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 1 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT RELATIVE TO THE WOHLHUETER TANK, TOWN OF BOSTON, PROJECT NO. 199300453

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 2 - AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TIME WARNER CABLE NORTHEAST, LLC D/B/A SPECTRUM ENTERPRISE RELATIVE TO INTERNET SERVICES, STATE CONTRACT NO. PS68706

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 3 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DRESCHER & MALECKI, LLP TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL AUDIT AND ACCOUNTING ADVISORY SERVICES FOR EACH OF ITS FISCAL YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, 2025 AND 2026

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 4 - APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 OF UNION CONCRETE AND CONSTRUCTION CORP. FOR STURGEON POINT WATER TREATMENT PLANT SHORELINE STABILIZATION, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. GZA-001, PROJECT NO. 202200039 - \$53,379.44

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner LaGree noted the correct amount of Change Order No. 1, as listed in the resolution, is \$53,379.44.

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 5 - APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 OF KANDEY COMPANY INC. FOR LARGE SERVICES CONTRACT, PROJECT NO. 202300003, CONTRACT NO. 23-01-02 - \$151,150.00

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

ITEM 6 - APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE CONTRACT WITH BISON LABORATORIES, INC. FOR THE FURNISHING AND DELIVERING OF SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE TO THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY FOR USE IN THE BOOSTER STATIONS, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. 22-25-07, PROJECT NO. 202200139

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

ITEM 7 - AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – CONFINED SPACE VEHICLE - \$85,000

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

On the question, Chairman Schad thanked David Iafallo and expressed the importance of this precaution.

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

ITEM 8 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SYSTEMS PERSONNEL, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

DISCUSSION

On the question, Commissioner Iannello expressed her support for using these services.

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello carried that the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Terrence D. McCracken
Secretary to the Authority

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