WARREN COUNTY (PEQUEST RIVER) MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

MINUTES September 18, 2013

Chairman Chamberlain called the regular meeting of the Warren County (Pequest River) Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Authority's Administration building located at 199 Foul Rift Road, Belvidere, New Jersey.

Roll Call:

Chad Chamberlain, Chairman Morris Scott, Jr., Vice Chairman Laurel Napolitani, Secretary Robert Piazza, Treasurer Sidney Deutsch Drew Kiszonak Everdina O'Connor Philip Rosenberg Donald Niece Absent

Also, in attendance were:

Charles L. Houck, Authority Chief Financial Officer; Stephen Donati, P.E., Authority Engineer; Brian Tipton, Esq., Authority Legal Counsel; Billy J. Wauhop, Authority Consultant; and Patricia Kaspereen, Administrative Assistant.

Chairman Chamberlain led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and then read the Introductory Statement.

MINUTES

Mr. Scott moved and Ms. O'Connor seconded to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2013 regular meeting, as presented. The motion passed; roll call was as follows:

Mr. Deutsch	Yes	Mr. Piazza	Yes
Mr. Kiszonak	Yes	Mr. Rosenberg	Yes
Ms. Napolitani	Abstain	Mr. Scott	Yes
Mr. Niece	Absent	Chairman Chamberlain	Abstain
Ms. O'Connor	Yes		

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Napolitani recapped the correspondence listed below:

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- 1. A letter dated August 26, 2013, from Mr. Garofalo, Esq., Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP to Integra Management concerning the Fairway Estates Pumping Station failure.
- 2. A letter dated August 27, 2013, from Mr. Wauhop, Authority Consultant, to the NJDEP submitting the annual Wastewater Beneficial Reuse Report for 2013.
- 3. A Public Notice dated August 29, 2013, from Mr. Chebra, P.E., Assistant Director, Municipal Finance & Construction Element, Division of Water Quality, NJDEP, with regard to the Environmental Decision Document for the Oxford Area WWTF Upgrade Project.
- 4. A letter dated September 1, 2013, from Mr. Guida, Collection System Operator for the Township of Oxford, submitting the township's monthly collection system report.
- 5. A letter dated September 4, 2013, from Mr. Betz, Acting Bureau Chief, Bureau of Environmental & Engineering Reviews, Municipal Finance & Construction Element, NJDEP, with Authorization to Advertise the Oxford Area WWTF Upgrade.
- 6. A letter dated September 5, 2013, from Mr. Mikulka, C.P.M., CP Engineers to Ms. Lyons, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity & Contract Assistance, NJDEP submitting anticipated dates for the bidding process for the Oxford Area WWTF Upgrade.
- A letter dated September 11, 2013 from Mr. Betz, Acting Bureau Chief, Bureau of Environmental & Engineering Reviews, Municipal Finance & Construction Element, NJDEP, enclosing one copy of certified plans and specifications for the Oxford WWTF Upgrade.
- 8. A letter dated September 12, 2013, from Ms. West, TD Wealth to Ms. Kaspereen requesting the annual Engineers Certificate per bond resolution.

CFO'S REPORT

Mr. Houck commented on the monthly financial reports. The Authority is still on course and he did not see anything that warrants concern.

He prepared the preliminary budget for FY2014 and reviewed it with the Finance Committee. Included in the budget are funds to support the second step of incremental increases, in anticipation of the increase in debt service. A few line items have modest increases; the rest are flat.

Hearing no objections from the Board on the preliminary FY2014 budget, Mr. Houck will prepare formal budget documents for introduction at the October meeting.

CP Engineers prepared the anticipated disbursement schedule for the upgrade. Mr. Houck stressed that the Authority should not borrow the full amount, because we have monies set aside

for the project. He suggested meeting with the county's financial advisor once the bids have been opened, and draft a cash flow plan to see how much we need to borrow. He will come back with a recommendation to the Board, who will ultimately make the decision. The Authority does not have to borrow the full amount approved by the Trust. The MUA spends about \$500,000 a year for its current debt service; the last payment for that debt service will be in 2015. When that final bond payment is made, the restricted funds are released and we will have access to part of that money. If the Authority were to borrow the full amount approved, the new debt service could be as high as \$800,000 a year, which is why Mr. Houck recommended meeting with the financial advisor so that we do not borrow more than necessary.

Mr. Donati explained the reason for originally requesting the maximum amount. Once approved, the Trust appropriates that amount and we want to avoid going for a supplemental loan, because we would have to start the process over again. He expects bids to be competitive.

Due to recent legislation, the county is going to mandate direct deposit for all its employees effective July 1, 2014. Local units are allowed to mandate the same policy. Mr. Houck said the decision is up to the commissioners, and a formal resolution must be passed if they wished to do so.

Mr. Houck said Ms. Reinalda, CFO for White Township and Belvidere contacted him and asked to meet with him. He asked Ms. Napolitani for clarification on the matter. Ms. Napolitani stated it was in reference to the billing of sewer treatment charges for the A&P and Augustinian Recollect Center. The MUA bills White Township, who in turn bills those users. However, the resident who recently connected to the system on the same line has an agreement with Belvidere to be billed directly by Belvidere. All these users are connected to the line that runs from the A&P in White Township to Belvidere's collection system. Ms. Napolitani is the finance liaison for Belvidere. They want to streamline the billing. She felt that Belvidere and White could meet and was not sure why Ms. Reinalda wanted the MUA involved. She does not believe that Mr. Houck needs to attend the meeting, but she will reconfirm matters with Ms. Reinalda.

Chairman Chamberlain asked Mr. Houck if there would be any changes to the NJSHBP due to the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Houck said that he and Mr. Olshefski would be attending a seminar on the issue. At this point, there are many unknowns.

Mr. Houck left the meeting.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

Mr. Tipton reviewed the Passaic Valley Sewage Commission/Russell Reid agreement. It is the standard agreement for everyone and not really negotiable. Reid had to sign it to dispose of our waste, and they need the MUA to sign the Consent of Generator form.

Mr. Scott made a motion for the Chairman to execute the Consent of Generator form, as part of the agreement between PVSC and Russell Reid for disposal of our waste at PVSC. Ms. O'Connor seconded. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Donati discovered that Oxford Textile was selling part of its property. The interceptor runs through that area. Part of the property may be sold to Green Acres, who might be flooding that area. There are already inflow and infiltration (I&I) problems in the area when the water comes up high. He will contact Finelli Engineering to get more information.

Oxford Upgrade Bid: We received Authorization to Advertise on September 4, and the Notice to Bidders for Contract No. 12-01 was advertised on September 8, 2013. The Notice was also distributed to a list of contractors and bid service firms. As of today, twenty-two sets of plans and specs have been distributed.

Oxford Upgrade Schedule: The pre-bid meeting will take place on September 24 and the last day for questions is September 26. The last day to issue an addendum to the Trust is September 30, but if something substantial occurs after that date, the bid opening date may have to be extended. The bid opening date is set for October 9, 2013. This would give our professionals at least a week to review the bids for recommendation for an Award of Contract at our October 16, 2013 public meeting. A few more weeks would be needed for miscellaneous tasks before a contract could be signed and Notice to Proceed issued. This would also be the time to schedule a meeting with the DEP to request an extension of compliance dates.

Oxford Upgrade Permitting: DCA is pleased with the documents. Any changes would be minor.

Oxford Upgrade Financing: There are still numerous tasks to complete in order to keep up with various requirements.

The Axford Avenue pump station rehab bid package is almost complete. It should be finished within the next couple of weeks.

Regarding correspondence no. 8, Mr. Donati will submit the Engineers Certificate after the FY2014 budget is adopted in December.

AUTHORITY CONSULTANT

Mr. Wauhop distributed his report before the meeting. He recapped some of the maintenance items performed in-house within the last month. For example, the painting of the storage room in the service building at the Belvidere facility has been completed.

Under general business, monitoring the performance of the Oxford plant continues. Mr. Wauhop displayed and explained the updated charts. PCFA would like us to accept more leachate, but they will have to take care of their TDS.

Mr. Wauhop continues to work on the rag issue at the Belvidere facility.

The White generator at the Belvidere STP has a leak. Mr. Wauhop obtained a quote to fix the leak for \$5,300.

Mr. Scott moved to have the generator repaired for \$5,300. Ms. Napolitani seconded. Mr. Wauhop clarified that the quote was \$5,347 and change. Mr. Scott amended his motion for the repair for \$5,347 and change. Ms. Napolitani seconded the amendment. All in favor, motion carried.

Inspectors with PEOSH visited the site earlier today. A report will be forthcoming in about 10 days. Paperwork and Confined Space will be the biggest issues. Currently there is no one here that is certified for Confined Space. We will have to either send an employee for training or get someone who is certified if we need to go into a manhole. We need to develop a Confined Space Program. Ms. Napolitani offered to bring the matter up with the liaison to the fire department and rescue squad in Belvidere, as well as its DPW. Mr. Rosenberg suggested Mr. Wauhop check with Lou Accetturo, the DPW supervisor in Oxford.

FINANCE (TREASURER)

The Finance Committee met with Mr. Houck and Mr. Wauhop to review the proposed FY2014 budget, line item by line item. The committee is in agreement with the budget, as presented to the Board, and recommended that it be approved when formally presented at the October meeting.

Mr. Piazza moved that Resolution #13-33 (Certificate No. 334: \$34,576.14) be approved to pay all bills from the Capital Improvements Fund. Ms. O'Connor seconded. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Piazza moved that Resolution #13-34 (Certificate No. 326: \$39,689.68) be approved to pay all bills from the Operating Fund. Mr. Scott seconded. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Chamberlain reminded everyone of the lengthy discussion last December about insurance and appointment of our risk manager. Mr. Daly is our risk manager for 2013. A risk manager is appointed at our December meeting for the following year, and it is a one-year appointment. Our agreement with the NJUA JIF is a three-year agreement and expires at the end of 2014. Chairman Chamberlain recommended reappointing Mr. Daly as our risk manager for 2014 at our December 2013 meeting, to be concurrent with our agreement with the JIF. He also recommended that at the February 2014 reorganization meeting, the Board establish an insurance committee. Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Piazza had previously expressed interest. The committee could sent out RFPs and interview agents, and have those agents obtain proposals for insurance, and determine if we are better off remaining with our current JIF or going elsewhere for insurance. Then have at least three recommendations, and the Board would make the final decision regarding insurance and the risk manager for 2015. He asked for other suggestions.

Ms. Napolitani felt it was a good idea.

Mr. Piazza had no objection to serve on the insurance committee with Mr. Rosenberg, but he would like to see at least one more member.

No decision has to be made now regarding the committee, said Chairman Chamberlain. He just wanted to have a plan in place to save time at our December meeting. There were no objections from other members.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

Chairman Chamberlain thanked Mr. Scott for running the meeting last month.

As there was no more business to come before the Authority, Mr. Scott moved and Ms. Napolitani seconded that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Patricia Kaspereen

Patricia Kaspereen Administrative Assistant

RESOLUTION RE:

EXPENDITURES FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2013.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the bills listed for CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS are in

accordance with the Authority's September 2013 budget.

Chad Chamberlain, Chairperson

solitane Laurel Napolitani, Secretary

Certificate No. CI 334

Dated: September 18, 2013

Moved by: Mr. Piazza

Seconded by: Ms. 0'Connor

Yes <u>8</u>

No <u>0</u>

Abstain 0

Absent 1

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BILLS LIST September 18, 2013

1.	CP Engineers, LLC Period: August 2013 Engineering Services Construction Services Oxford WWTP Upgrade		\$26,662.64
2.	CP Engineers, LLC Period: August 2013 Engineering Services Axford Ave. Pump Station Rehab		7,507.50
3.	Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader Period: August 2013 Legal Services Oxford WWTP Upgrade		<u>406.00</u>
		Total	\$34,576.14

EXPENDITURES FROM THE OPERATING FUND DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2013.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the bills listed on the attached Resolution of September 18,

2013, regarding payment of bills from the Operating Fund were for the operating expenses and

were in accordance with the Authority's 2013 budget.

Chad Chamberlain, Chairperson

Laurel Napolitani, S

Certificate No. OF 326

Dated: September 18, 2013

Moved by: <u>Mr. Piazza</u>

Seconded by: <u>Mr. Scott</u>

Yes <u>8</u>

No <u>0</u>

Abstain 0

Absent 1

APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE OPERATING FUND

Meeting: September 18, 2013

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following bills are approved by the Authority for payment

from the Operating Fund in accordance with the Authority's Bond Resolution:

Vendor Invoices:

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Date:

Check # 15748 -15758

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