Board Meeting of December 19th, 2024

A telephone/zoom conference meeting of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties was held on the above date. Chairperson Florio was in the chair.

The Executive Director read the following statement:

Pursuant to Section #5, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, notice of this meeting has been provided to the public by posting and maintaining the annual notice of the regular meetings of the Joint Meeting, on the bulletin board of the Maplewood Municipal Building, by mailing the annual notice of the regular meetings for 2024 to the Star Ledger, The Home News Tribune and to the offices of the Municipal Clerks of the 11 member municipalities of the Joint Meeting and to the City Clerk of the City of Elizabeth and to the County Clerks of the Counties of Essex and Union all on January 4th, 2024.

On roll call the following board members were present: Messrs. Petrosky, Leneus, Ramos, Vartan, Rios and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Romano, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Collum. Absent: Mr. Rutherford.

Also, in attendance were Director Johnson; Messrs. Bonaccorso, Akinokun, , Kelly, Barry, Volpe, Phillips, Pabst and Berkeley Esq. of the Joint Meeting; E. Webster, Esq., J. Noble, Esq. of Connell Foley LLP; J. Burke, Esq. of Antonelli Kantor Rivera; H. Johnsen, N. Towers and J. Bonaccorso of CME Associates; R. LaMendola of AVA Consulting; Julie Needham of Echo Valley Advisors; Everett Johnson of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer and Bob Butvilla of Suplee Clooney.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Adams, the minutes of the last meeting were adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Messrs. Petrosky & Florio, the Treasurer's report was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

The following verbal report was given:

Personnel & Procurement Committee: Chairman Ramos stated that the Committee met, discussed, and recommends authorization of the following: Resolution Awarding Contract for General Engineering Services (R-103/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Special Engineering Services (R-104/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for General Counsel (R-105/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Labor and Employment Counsel (R-106/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Special Counsel for Pretreatment Violations (R-107/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Special Conflict Counsel (R-108/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Auditing Services (R-109/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Insurance Broker Services (R-110/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Bond Counsel (R-111/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Financial Advisor Services (R-112/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Grant Writing Services (R-113/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for QPA Services (R-114/24), Resolution Awarding Contract for Acting Director of Finance and Administration -

Kelly and Kairu (R-115/24).

Chairman Florio requested to vote the following Resolutions as a group: Resolution (R-103/24) Awarding Contract to CME Associates for General Engineering Services, Resolution (R-104/24) Awarding Contract to AVA Consulting for Special Engineering Services, Resolution (R-105/24) Awarding Contract to Connell Foley LLP for General Counsel, Resolution (R-106/24) Awarding Contract to Antonelli Kantor Rivera for Labor and Employment Counsel, Resolution (R-107/24) Awarding Contract to Antonelli Kantor Rivera to serve as Pretreatment Violations Counsel, Resolution (R-108/24) Awarding Contract to Antonelli Kantor Rivera to serve as Special Conflict Counsel, Resolution (R-109/24) Awarding Contract to Suplee Clooney & Company for Auditing Services, Resolution (R-110/24) Awarding Contract to Fairview Insurance Agency for Insurance Broker Services, Resolution (R-111/24) Awarding Contract to Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer for Bond Counsel, Resolution (R-112/24) Awarding Contract to Echo Valley Advisor for Financial Advisor Services, Resolution (R-113/24) Awarding Contract to Colliers Engineering & Design, Inc. for Granting Writing Services, Resolution (R-114/24) Awarding Contract to Governance & Fiscal Affairs, LLC for QPA Services, Resolution (R-115/24) Awarding Contract to Kelly and Kairu to serve as Acting Director of Finance and Administration. On motion Mr. Ramos, seconded by Messrs. Leneus and Petrosky, Resolutions (R-103/24), (R-104/24), (R-105/24), (R-106/24), (R-107/24), (R-108/24), (R-109/24), (R-110/24), (R-111/24), (R-112/24), (R-113/24), (R-114/24) and (R-115/24) were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded by Messrs. Florio and Petrosky, Resolution (R-116/24) Awarding Contract to H2M Architects & Engineers for Bidding Support and Construction Administration for the Elevator Modernization/Replacement Project in the Sewer Digester Plant Building was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

Chairman Florio requested to vote the following Resolutions as a group: Resolution (R-117/24) Authorization to Bid Various Services, Equipment & Materials for 2025, Resolution (R-118/24) Authorization to Bid Various Services, Equipment & Materials -- Digester Elevator Modernization/Replacement, Resolution (R-119/24) Awarding Contract to Marubeni America Corporation for Furnishing and Delivering Potassium Permanganate, Resolution (R-120/24) Awarding Contract to Foley Power Systems through Sourcewell, Resolution, (R-121/24) Rejecting all Bids Submitted for Repairing and Delivering Centrifuge Rotating Assembly, Resolution (R-122/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Morehouse Engineering, Inc. for Providing DWF High Solid Pump Control Panel Upgrades, Resolution (R-123/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Airgas USA, LLC for the Leasing of Gas Cylinders, Welding Supplies and Gases, Resolution (R-124/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Ineltech Corporation for Providing Preventive Maintenance Services, Parts, Repairs and Emergency Repairs for the ANVIC Controllers of MSP1 and MSP3 and the VFD Controllers of MSP2, MSP4 AND MSP5 for 2025, Resolution (R-125/24) Extending Contract to Polydyne Inc. for Furnishing and Delivering Bulk Liquid Polymer, Resolution (R-126/24) Extending Contract to Montana Construction Corporation Inc. for Providing Excavation & Repair Services on an "As Needed" Basis to the Joint Meeting's Wastewater Treatment Facility & Biosolids Facilities, Resolution (R-127/24) Extending Contract

to Montana Construction Corporation Inc. for Providing Excavation & Repair Services on an "As Needed" Basis to the JMEUC Trunkline Collection, Manholes & Flow Monitoring Systems, Resolution (R-128/24) Extending Contract to All American Sewer for Providing Cleaning Equipment Rental and CCTV Inspection Services to the JMEUC Wastewater Treatment Plant & Sludge Dewatering Facilities on an "As Needed Basis", Resolution (R-129/24) Extending Contract to Catalytic Combustion Corporation for Furnishing and Delivering Exhaust Catalyst Elements, Resolution (R-130/24) Annual State Purchasing Contracts, Resolution (R-131/24) Authorizing the participation in the Financial Incentive Program (SHBP). On motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Mr. Florio, Resolutions (R-117/24), (R-118/24) (R-119/24), (R-120/24), (R-121/24), (R-122/24) (R-123/24), (R-124/24), (R-125/24), (R-126/24), (R-127/24) (R-128/24), (R-129/24), (R-130/24) and (R-131/24) were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Ms. Frederic, Resolution (R-100/24) Payment of Bills was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Adams, seconded by Ms. Romano, Resolution (R-102/24) Annual Notice of Meetings was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded by Ms. Frederic, Resolution (R-134/24) Appointing Nathan N. Rogers as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for 2025 was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Mr. Ramos, Resolution (R-135/24) Pay Increase for Non-Union employees were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Adams, seconded by Ms. Frederic, Resolution (R-136/24) Pay Increase for Board Members was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Romano, Resolution (R-101/24) Approving the 2025 Budget was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Ms. Frederic, Resolution (R-133/24) Audit Report Resolution -2023 was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Ms. Romano, Resolution (R-132/24) Approving a Capital Improvement Plan and Authorizing the Issuance of Capital Assessments to the Member Municipalities and the City of Elizabeth was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, Vartan and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Frederic and Ms. Romano; nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Ramos, seconded by Ms. Frederic, the Treatment Plant Report, the

Industrial Pretreatment Report and the Financial Report having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Romano, the General Counsel Report, (Connell Foley, LLP), the Labor and Employment Counsel Report (Antonelli Kantor Rivera), the Special Conflict and Pretreatment Violations Counsel Report(s) (Antonelli Kantor Rivera), the Engineering Report (CME Associates), and the CSO Report (CDM Smith) having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

There was no correspondence.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any Joint Meeting matter with a five-minute limit. On motion to open public comments by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Mr. Ramos, the public comment portion of the meeting was opened. Hearing no one, the Public Comment Session was declared closed. On motion to close public comment by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Romano. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, the next meeting date will be on January 16, 2025.

In accordance with Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permitting the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances and as the Joint Meeting is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist as the general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is **Employees/Personnel** and it is anticipated at this time that this subject matter will be made public at a later date. The Board entered into close session at 5:10pm and exited closed session at 5:35 pm and open back up meeting to the public.

The Board requested a 60 day extension for current Contract for the Executive Director of the Joint Meeting on the same terms and conditions as presently exist. On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Mr. Florio, Executive Director of Joint Meeting contract extension was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Ramos, Rios, and Florio; Ms. Adams and Ms. Collum; nays, none.

There being no further business on motion by, Mr. Florio and Ms. Adams, seconded by Ms. Collum, the meeting then adjourned at 5:39 pm to meet again on January 16, 2025, unless called earlier by the Chair. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary
Anibal Ramos Jr.