Board Meeting of July 18th, 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, Rios, Ramos, Rutherford, Florio and Leneus (joined @ 4:11pm); Ms. Adams, Ms. Romano, Ms. Collum and Ms. Frederic (joined @ 4:13 pm). Absent: Mr. Vartan.

Also, in attendance were Director Johnson; Messrs. Phillips, Akinokun, Kairu, Barry, 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, David Leun of CDM Smith and Everett Johnson of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded by Mr. Ramos, the minutes of the last meeting were adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded by Mr. Rutherford & Mr. Florio, the Treasurer's report was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

The following verbal report was given:

Personnel & Procurement Committee: Chairman Florio stated that the Committee met, discussed, and recommends authorization of the following: Resolution Authorization to Award Miscellaneous Building Rehabilitation Construction Admin – CME Associates (R-072/24), Resolution Authorization to Award Effluent Pumping Station-Construction Admin – CME Associates (R-073/24), Resolution Authorization to Award Furnishing and Delivering of Sodium Bisulfite (R-074/24), Resolution Authorization to Award Providing and Delivering Aqueous Dispersants for Struvite Control (R-075/24), Resolution Authorization to Award Furnishing, Delivering and Providing Start-up for Main Sewage Pump No. 5 Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) (R-076/24), Resolution Authorization to Award a Purchase Order for Main Substation Lightning Arrestors (6) Installation (R-077/24), Resolution Authorization to Award a Purchase Order for DWF Centrifuge Parts (R-078/24), Resolution Authorization to Award a Purchase Order for Hazardous Disposal (Yearly) (R-079/24), Resolution Authorization to Terminating the Contract with Max Stuidios LLC for the Disposal of Surplus Property (R-080/24.

Chairman Florio requested to vote the following Resolutions as a group: Resolution (R-072/24) Amending contract with CME Associates for Miscellaneous Building Rehabilitation Construction Admin, Resolution (R-073/24) Amending Contract with CME Associates for Effluent Pumping Station-Construction Admin, Resolution (R-074/24) Awarding Contract to PVS Chemical Solutions, Inc for Sodium Bisulfite, Resolution (R-075/24) Awarding Contract to Polydyne Inc. for Struvite Control, Resolution (R-076/24) Awarding Contract to Pumping Service, Inc. for Main Sewage Pump No. 5 Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), Resolution (R-077/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Hi Volt Electric for Main Substation Lightning Arrestors (6) Installation, Resolution (R-078/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Alfa Laval Inc. for DWF Centrifuge Parts, Resolution (R-079/24) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc for Hazardous Disposal (yearly), Resolution (R-080/24) Terminating the Contract with Max Stuidios LLC for the Disposal of Surplus Property. On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Mr. Ramos, Resolutions (R-072/24), (R-073/24), (R-074/24), (R-075/24), (R-076/24), (R-077/24), (R-078/24), (R-079/24), (R-080/24) were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Rios, Ramos, Rutherford and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Romano, and Ms. Frederic; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Romano, seconded by Ms. Collum, 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. Adams & Mr. Petrosky, 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 correspondence in the form of a Board Member Appointment letters from the Township of Irvington and City of Newark and the Elizabeth Second Quarter Adjustment.

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 Mr. Rutherford, seconded by Ms. Frederic, 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. Collum, seconded by Ms. Romano. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

There was no closed session.

On motion by Ms. Adams, seconded by Mr. Rutherford, Resolution (R-071/24) Payment of Bills was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Rios, Ramos, Rutherford and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Romano and Ms. Frederic; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Mr. Rios, Resolution (R-081/24) Authorizing the Executive Director to pay all bills for work performed between July 19 through August 15, 2024,

was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Leneus, Petrosky, Rios, Ramos, Rutherford and Florio; Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum, Ms. Romano and Ms. Frederic; nays, none.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, the next meeting date will be on September 19, 2024, and Director Johnson reminds the Board of the upcoming WEFTEC Conference held on October 5th -9th, 2024, in New Orleans.

Also under new business, Ms. Collum inquired if the Joint Meeting Employees are covered under the State Health Benefits Plan and stated that there will be a meeting of the commission that will approve a new rate, with a considerable increase that will impact the cost on the Joint Meeting's budget. Ms. Collum brings the awareness ahead of time for budget discussions for next year and recommends possibly leaving the State Health Plan.

There being no further business, on motion by, Ms. Adams, seconded by Ms. Frederic and Mr. Florio, the meeting then adjourned at 4:32 pm to meet again on September 19, 2024, unless called earlier by the Chair. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary
Anibal Ramos Jr.