Board Meeting of June 18, 2026

A telephone/zoom conference meeting of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties was held on the above date. Chairperson Ramos 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 2026 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 December 26, 2025.

On roll call the following board members were present: Messrs. Leneus, Serruto, Petrosky, Crisafulli, Krakoviak, Joyner and Ramos. Ms. Adams, Ms. Collum and Ms. Frederic. Absent: Mr. Florio

Also, in attendance were Director Johnson; Messrs. F. Bonaccorso, A. Akinokun, J. Volpe, J. Kelly and L. Berkeley Esq. of the Joint Meeting; J. Noble McDonnell Esq. and E. Webster Esq., of Connell Foley LLP; J. Burke Esq. of Antonelli Kantor Rivera; H. Sicknick and J. Bonaccorso of Artheon -Formerly CME Associates; J. Needham of Echo Valley Advisors, LLC and D. Leun of CDM Smith.

On motion by Ms. Collum, seconded by Mr. Joyner, May 21, 2026, minutes were adopted. On motion, all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Serruto, seconded by Mr. Joyner & Ms. Adams, the Treasurer's report was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the Board or any additions from the staff for the following reports:

Staff Reports –The Treatment Plant, Industrial, Pretreatment, 403 Annual Report and Financial Reports.

The Chairperson then asked if there were any questions from the Board or any additions from the professionals for the following reports:

Professionals Reports - 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 (Artheon - Formerly CME Associates), and the CSO Report (CDM Smith).

Ms. Collum requested a follow-up on the odor complaint by a concerned community

member of the City of Elizabeth at the May 21, 2026, Regular Board meeting. Director Johnson provided a detailed update on the response to the complaint and the next steps that are being taken to address the odor concerns.

On motion by Ms. Collum, second by Mr. Petrosky, all Staff and Professional Reports having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed were adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

In the absence of P&P Committee Chair Mr. Florio, Chairman Ramos stated that all the P&P Agenda Resolutions (R-063/26 – R-069/26) have been reviewed by the Committee and are recommended for approval by the Board as part of a consent agenda. A brief explanation of each resolution will be given before the conclusion of this meeting.

Chairperson Ramos read the following statement:

All agenda items with an asterisk (*) are considered to be non-controversial by the Board and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for separate roll call vote, in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

The following verbal report was given (A brief explanation of each resolution was provided by Director Johnson): Resolution (R-063/26) Third Quarter Assessment, Resolution (R-064/26) Awarding a Contract to Pace Analytical Services, LLC for Providing Certified Laboratory Services, Resolution (R-065/26) Awarding a Contract to Environmental Protection and Improvement Company, LLC (EPIC) for Hauling and Beneficial Dewatered Biosolids, Resolution (R-066/26) Authorizing an Emergency Purchase Order to Hi Volt Electric for Emergency Pole Support, Resolution (R-067/26) Amending Contract with Smartest Energy US, LLC for the Sale of New Jersey Clean 1 Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), Resolution (R-068/26) Authorizing the Extension of Contract with PVS Chemical Solutions Inc. for Furnishing and Delivering Sodium Bisulfite, Resolution (R-069/26) Authorizing the Executive Director to pay all bills for work performed between June 19 through August 20, 2026.

Ms. Collum seeks brief clarification on Resolution (R-065/26) & (R-069/26). Director Johnson explained how the evaluation of the bid review for the one bid received was conducted to ensure the numbers presented were acceptable and standard for the industry. It was also confirmed that a July Board meeting packet will be distributed with the bills list included for review and comment.

Mr. Krakoviak asked if there was anything else that can be done to get more suppliers to bid on Hauling and Beneficial Dewatered Biosolids. Mr. J. Volpe explained that most of the other companies that would bid on this particular contract would need to subcontract EPIC for transport resulting in their bids being higher than EPIC. Mr. J. Bonaccorso added that EPIC established its own transportation system through the design of their own railcar. These railcars are what other companies are using to haul the biosolids they collect. Director Johnson reported that four (4) bids

were received for the previous bid in 2021, and EPIC was the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

On motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Petrosky, Resolutions (R-063/26 – R-069/26) were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Leneus, Crisafulli, Serruto, Krakoviak, Joyner and Ramos; Ms. Collum, Ms. Adams and Ms. Frederic; nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Mr. Serruto, Resolution (R-062/26) Payment of Bills was adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Leneus, Crisafulli, Serruto, Krakoviak, Joyner and Ramos; Ms. Collum, Ms. Adams and Ms. Frederic; nays, none.

There was correspondence for in the form of Board Member Appointment letter from South Orange.

On motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Serruto, Board Member Appointment letter from South Orange was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none

The Chairperson asked for a motion to go into public comment. On motion to open public comments by Ms. Collum, seconded by Mr. Joyner, the public comment portion of the meeting was opened. The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any Joint Meeting matters with a five-minute limit. Hearing no one, the public comment session was declared closed. The Chairperson asked for a motion to close public comment. On motion to close public comment by Ms. Adams, seconded by Mr. Joyner. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

There was no closed session.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, Next Meeting date is September 17, 2026.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Adams, the meeting then adjourned at 4:28 pm. The next meeting scheduled is September 17, 2026, unless the Chair provides other notice. On motion all in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Florio

Secretary
Joseph M. Florio