

THE CAMDEN COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 16, 2024

The Regular Meeting of The Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority was called to order by Chairman Michael G. Brennan at 6:03 P.M. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom. On roll call, the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

PRESENT: Commissioners Bresch (*arrived 6:23pm*), Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz & Sytnik
Chairman Brennan

STAFF PRESENT:

Scott Schreiber, Executive Director	Jason Fry, Asst. Director of O&M
Stephanie Madden, Gen. Counsel/Chief Comp. Ofc.	Dan Lose, Asst Comptroller
Kim Michelini, Authority Secretary	Alisa Smith, Secretary
Dhaval Shah, Chief Financial Officer	
Oleg Zonis, Deputy Executive Director/Dir of Engineering & Process Systems	
Len Gipson, Director of O&M - Main Plant	

CONSULTANTS:

Michael Watson, Esq., Brown & Connery (Solicitor)
Marge DellaVecchia, PS&S
Robert Fischer, PS&S

OTHERS PRESENT:

Elliott Pomeranz
Joseph Theisen

Chairman Brennan read the 'Chairperson's Commencement Statement' acknowledging that proper notice of this Regular Meeting setting forth the date, time and place of the meeting has been prominently posted on (1) a public bulletin board located in the lobby of the Administration building (2) mailed to the Courier-Post and Inquirer and (3) filed with the Clerk of Camden County as set forth in its annual schedule of meetings, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Cuffee to adopt the minutes of the Emergency Meeting held on December 7, 2024. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz & Chairman Brennan	-	YES
Commissioner Sytnik	-	ABSTAIN
Commissioner Bresch	-	ABSENT

The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stokes and seconded by Commissioner Sytnik to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 18, 2023. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik & Chairman Brennan	-	YES
Commissioner Bresch	-	ABSENT

The motion was carried.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

D) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A) Administration:

1) Environmental Management System (*oral report by staff*)

Mr. Schreiber noted that the staff will report on several issues: Odors, Air Emission Violation, Dissolved Oxygen (DO) Rule, and River Rise/Flooding.

Odors

Mr. Schreiber reported that there have been zero odor complaints in the last 30 days. He praised the O&M staff for their efforts given the last three storms/wet weather events. They were historical storms and the plant systems operated well.

Air Emission Violation

Mr. Schreiber reported that the staff continues to work on resolving the air emission violations received on the combined heat and power facility. Since Anaergia, the CHP contract operator, did not schedule an emission test until February 19th, the CCMUA retained a certified vendor (Air Nova) to perform a non-regulatory stack emission test on January 12th. Prior to the test, the vendor reviewed the previous test reports and discovered possible issues- the samples were held much longer than the standard detention time which may cause them to degrade. This would then result in the results being unreliable. The good news- the results of the non-regulatory test showed emission levels well under permit. A regulatory compliance test is still needed, and will be performed once the NJDEP approves the CCMUA’s compliance plan. Mr. Schreiber noted that no rehabilitation work was performed to the CHP prior to the January 12th test.

D.O. Rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) issued a proposed rule to revise the aquatic life designated use and dissolved oxygen water quality criteria to ensure that the aquatic life designated uses and dissolved oxygen criteria are set at levels that protect all life stages of oxygen-sensitive species in those zones of the Delaware River, including two species of sturgeon that are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. There is a 60 day comment review period. The EPA denied the requests for an additional 30 days to comment. The proposed rules, if adopted, could result in the CCMUA having to expand the plant at a cost of \$82 per user for many years to come.

Delaware River Flooding

Regarding Delaware River flooding, the Camden County area has recently seen several historical storms/wet weather events. The last storm that occurred on January 10th resulted in the Delaware cresting at 10.66 feet. The CCMUA’s sewage treatment plant sits at 11 feet. It was thought that there’d be more time to tackle sea level/river rise and flooding. However, given these recent storms CCMUA staff is planning on tasking its consultants with determining the possible options, costs, etc.

- B) Engineering:
- C) Legal:
- D) Operations & Maintenance:
- E) Finance:

II) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

A) Administration:

- 1) Organizational Chart

B) Engineering:

- 1) Projects Update

Mr. Zonis reported on a several ongoing construction projects. The Admin and Services buildings rehabilitation project is well underway, with a completion date of May or June 2024. The sludge piping job is also well underway and on schedule. Notice to Proceed was issued for the Cleaning of Camden City Sewer System project.

Commissioner Bresch joined the meeting at approximately 6:23pm.

C) Finance:

- 1) Cash Flow & Actual to Budget Analysis & NW Cash Flow Report – November 2023 & YTD Supporting Reports
 - a. Collections Report
 - b. Budget Review Report

Mr. Shah reported that through January through November 2023, we are approximately 10% below budget and the transition in the Department is going well.

c. Cash Management Report

D) Operations & Maintenance:

1) Del. No. 1 WPCF- Operations Report- November 2023

Mr. Gipson noted that for the recent heavy rain/wet weather events, additional operations and maintenance staff were brought in. While there were no full power outages, the power did blip/flicker several times and, because the staff was already on site, they were able to quickly reset equipment. He complimented the Plant Operators for their efforts, noting that the plant performed well. He mentioned that the Mastery Charter High School co-op/intern program that began last summer has the potential to not only allow the CCMUA to grow the staff internally, as the students have the ability to learn about the wastewater treatment process from the ground up; learn a trade, such as operations, maintenance, electrical, etc.; and obtain the training, etc. but to also provide a great career opportunity for those students.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Bresch to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-1, adopting a late budget resolution. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-1 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Stokes to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-2, adopting a temporary budget FY 2024. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-2 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Bresch to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-3, authorizing the execution of an agreement between the CCMUA and Solutionwerks, Inc., of Emmaus, PA for supply of technical services for the Authority’s air products vacuum swing absorber plant in accordance with Specification #23-32. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-3 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sytnik and seconded by Commissioner Cuffee to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-4, authorizing an agreement between the CCMUA and Bowman and Company for annual auditor services For Year 2023 in accordance with Specification #2023-15. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-4 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-5, authorizing modification to the purchase order between the CCMUA and Deere & Company for the purchase of utility vehicles. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-5 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-6, authorizing change order #3 to the agreement between the CCMUA and Newport Construction Corp. for Contract #606, renovations to the CCMUA's administration and services buildings. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-6 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-7, authorizing rejection of bid received for Specification #23-26A, Flygt/Godwin Pumps, parts and accessories for various Flygt and Godwin Submersible Pumps, and authorizing contract procurement through negotiations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(3). There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-7 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Swartz to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-8, authorizing the rejection of all bids received for Specification #23-31, hauling and beneficial reuse of dewatered sludge cake and authorizing readvertisement of bids. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-8 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bresch and seconded by Commissioner Cuffee to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-9, renaming the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority's Wastewater Treatment Facility. Mr. Schreiber noted that the naming trend when the CCMUA's sewage treatment plant was constructed in the mid-1980's was to recognize pollution control. Today, the focus is on resource recovery, as water resource recovery refers to using wastewater streams to produce clean water, energy, and other valuable resources. Since the CCMUA does more than just pollution control- it generates electricity through solar panels, and a combined heat and power facility and the solids generated are used as fertilizer. Therefore, it is recommended to change the name of the CCMUA's wastewater treatment plant from Delaware #1 Wastewater Treatment Facility to Camden County Resource Recovery. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik	-	YES
Chairman Brennan	-	YES

Resolution #R-24:1-9 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Sytnik to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-10, authorizing the execution of a purchase order between the CCMUA and Barton & Cooney for print and mail services under the New Jersey State Cooperative Purchasing Program. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik - YES
Chairman Brennan - YES

Resolution #R-24:1-10 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-11, ratifying approval of expense vouchers as approved by the Executive Director under Authorization granted by CCMUA Resolution #R-97:3-60 dated March 18, 1997. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik - YES
Chairman Brennan - YES

Resolution #R-24:1-11 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-12, authorizing payment of \$5,971,394.43 for expenses disbursed from the revenue account. There being no question on the motion, a roll call vote was taken, and the Commissioners responded to their names as follows:

Commissioner Bresch, Cuffee, Johnson, Stokes, Swartz, Sytnik - YES
Chairman Brennan - YES

Resolution #R-24:1-12 was adopted.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cuffee and seconded by Commissioner Bresch to adopt Resolution #R-24:1-13, authorizing that the Authority hold a closed session meeting to discuss legal matters pertaining to litigation, contract negotiation and matters falling within the attorney client privilege. There being no question on the motion, all Commissioners responded "Aye" in favor, none opposed.

Resolution #R-24:1-13 was adopted.


The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 6:44pm
The meeting returned to Open Session at 6:54pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: NONE

There being no further business, Chairman Brennan entertained for a motion of adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz and seconded by Commissioner Johnson. There being no question on the motion, all Commissioners responded "Aye" in favor, none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

Minutes of this meeting were approved on 2/20/24

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Michelini, Authority Secretary