



# SARATOGA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

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ED HERNANDEZ, P.E., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## SARATOGA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019 @ 3:30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Vice Chair Anita Daly, Treasurer Tom Cumm, Deputy Treasurer Tim Szczepaniak, Supervisor Art Johnson, Supervisor Darren O'Connor; also, Executive Director Ed Hernandez, General Counsel Mark Schachner, Esq. **ABSENT:** Chairman John Lawler, and Board Member Jim Smith.

Ms. Daly welcomed all to the meeting and inquired if there were any requests for changes to the meeting minutes of July 25, 2019.

**Motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak and seconded by Mr. O'Connor to adopt the draft minutes of the July 25, 2019 meeting minutes as the official minutes of that meeting. Motion passed.**

(As is the practice of the Board, the Board waived a reading of the draft minutes and the adopted minutes include the long form resolutions that were passed at said meeting and the Board waived the reading of the long form resolutions.)

### **Reports:**

**Production:** Mr. Hernandez reported that production data for the month of July was 7.96 MGD, which was a increase over the prior year. Rolling annual average was 5.67 MGD.

**Financial:** Mr. Hernandez discussed the financial reports through July 31, 2019. Revenues for the year were budgeted at \$3.15 Million while actual revenues were \$3.62 Million. Budgeted expenses for the year were \$1.17 million while actual expenses were \$933,000. Estimated cash available for operations at September 1, 2019, after the next debt service payment of \$1,454,272, is \$1.672 million.

**Capital Projects:** The Halfmoon Project is moving along well. Mr. Hernandez stated that pressure testing had been completed and next would be chlorination of the line.

The Water Plant Expansion Project continues with an updated Engineering Report recently completed and sent on to the Dept. of Health for their review. Mr. Hernandez stated a meeting was forthcoming with Pall Corporation to discuss options for the membranes.

**Legal Update:** Mr. Schachner was pleased to report that there were no legal matters handled during the prior month with the exception of some minor email communications.

### **Motions & Resolutions:**

**Motion was made by Mr. Cumm and seconded by Mr. Johnson to authorize the payment of the monthly vouchers at a cost of \$104,115.57 in operating costs, \$57,969.65 in Halfmoon Project Costs, and \$22,736.25 in Phase II Expansion Costs.. Motion carried unanimously. (2019-0032)**

The next matter was to adopt the 2020 Operating Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. Mr. Hernandez stated that the Committee was recommending a .5% increase in water rates for municipal customers and a 1% increase in water rates for industrial/commercial customers for fiscal year 2020. **Motion was made by Mr. O'Connor and seconded by Mr. Szczepaniak to adopt the 2020 Operating Budget with the recommended water rate increases. Motion carried unanimously. (2019-0033)**

Upon adoption of the 2020 Operating Budget, Mr. Hernandez requested approval for a motion to make up to \$2mil in repayments to Saratoga County for the Service Fee debt for this fiscal year. **On a motion from Mr. Cumm and a second from Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Hernandez was authorized to make payments up to \$2mil by December 31, 2019 to Saratoga County in repayments of the Service Fee. Motion carried unanimously. (2019-0034)**

The next agenda item was for the Board to consider Readoption of the Investment Policy as recommended by the Finance Committee. **Motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak and seconded by Mr. O'Connor to readopt the SCWA Investment Policy with no changes. Motion carried unanimously. (2019-0035)**

### **New Business:**

The next meeting of the Saratoga County Water Authority Board of Directors was scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. at the Water Plant site. The Audit Committee will meet prior to that meeting at 3:15 p.m. Members of that committee are: Daly, O'Connor and Johnson.

Mr. Hernandez then brought up the idea of a strategic planning meeting for the Board to be held at a separate time and location to be determined. Mr. Johnson felt it was timely. Ms. Daly stated she would like to see some forecasting achieved. Mr. Szczepaniak inquired how far in advance should cover such as 5, 10 and 15 year implements. He indicated sizeable equipment replacements should be part of that discussion. Ms. Daly instructed the Confidential Secretary to reach out to the Chairman for his input on time and location and to report back to the rest of the Board. Counsel recommended that it be held as an open meeting to the public. Ms. Daly also discussed the possibility of doing some positive PR for the water authority in the form of some materials and a possible mini documentary. She stated that the County Water Authority has had such a positive impact on the quality of life for Saratoga County that it was a shame more was not done to promote it.

**With no further action, motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cumm and seconded by Mr. Szczepaniak. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Carol A. Alden, Confidential Secretary**