

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**
held in the office, 295 Main Street, Room 350, Buffalo, New York, on the 15th day of May 2025.

PRESENT: Jerome D. Schad, Commissioner
Peggy A. LaGree, Commissioner
Michele M. Iannello, Commissioner
Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority
Joyce A. Tomaka, Chief Financial Officer
Mark S. Carney, General Counsel
Charles E. Eaton, Chief Operating Officer
Leonard F. Kowalski, Executive Engineer
Sabrina A. Figler, Director of Water Quality
Jessica R. Brown, Comptroller
Katherine A. Gillette, Senior Associate Attorney
David W. Aubertine, Director of Cybersecurity and Information Technology
Matthew W. Barrett, Security Officer

ATTENDEES: Earl Wells III, e3 Communications

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. A quorum was present with three Commissioners.

ITEM 1 - NOMINATION OF TEMPORARY SECRETARY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to appoint Joyce

A. Tomaka as Temporary Secretary for the Annual Meeting.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 2 - NOMINATION OF TEMPORARY CHAIR

Motion by Mr. Jerome Schad seconded by Ms. Michele Iannello and carried to appoint Peggy

A. LaGree as Temporary Chair for the Annual Meeting.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 3 - NOMINATION OF CHAIR

Nominations were opened for the office of Chair.

Motion by Ms. Peggy LaGree seconded by Ms. Michele Iannello and carried to nominate Jerome D. Schad as Chair of the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Peggy LaGree seconded by Ms. Michele Iannello and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Jerome D. Schad as Chair.

At this point, Ms. Peggy LaGree turned the meeting over to the newly elected Chair.

ITEM 4 - NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR

Nominations were opened for the office of Vice Chair.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Mr. Jerome Schad and carried to nominate Peggy A. LaGree as Vice Chair of the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Mr. Jerome Schad and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Peggy A. LaGree as Vice Chair.

ITEM 5 - TREASURER

Nominations were opened for the office of Treasurer.

Motion by Ms. Peggy LaGree seconded by Mr. Jerome Schad and carried to nominate Michele M. Iannello as Treasurer of the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Peggy LaGree seconded by Mr. Jerome Schad and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Michele M. Iannello as Treasurer.

ITEM 6 - SECRETARY

Nominations were opened for the office of Secretary.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to nominate Terrence D. McCracken as Secretary to the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Terrence D. McCracken as Secretary to the Erie County Water Authority.

ITEM 7 - ASSISTANT TREASURER

Nominations are open for the office of Assistant Treasurer.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to nominate Lavonya C. Lester as Assistant Treasurer to the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Lavonya C. Lester as Assistant Treasurer to the Authority.

ITEM 8 - ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Nominations are open for the office of Assistant Secretary.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to nominate Joyce A. Tomaka as Assistant Secretary to the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to move that nominations be closed.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion carried to elect Joyce A. Tomaka as Assistant Secretary to the Authority.

ITEM 9 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S INVESTMENT GUIDELINES

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve the amended Erie County Water Authority's Investment Guidelines.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 10 - AUTHORIZATION OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S INVESTMENT GUIDELINES

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize and continue the Erie County Water Authority's Investment Guidelines, adopted on March 24, 2022, as amended on May 15, 2025.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 11 - AUTHORIZATION TO DESIGNATE DEPOSITORIES FOR FUNDS

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried that the Erie County Water Authority designate the financial institutions listed below as depositories for funds collected by the Treasurer:

JP MORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.
JP MORGAN SECURITIES LLC
KEY BANK OF NEW YORK
M&T BANK
MANUFACTURERS & TRADERS TRUST COMPANY/
WILMINGTON TRUST, N.A.
NBT BANK, N.A.
UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

And furthermore, the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to execute all necessary signature cards and other financial institution documents necessary for funds collected by the Treasurer to be deposited in the named institutions. This resolution incorporates by reference any resolution

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required by a financial institution to be adopted by the governing board of a depositor.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 12 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TO EXECUTE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY CHECKS ON BEHALF OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the following to execute Erie County Water Authority checks on behalf of the Authority:

Chief Operating Officer
Director of Administration
Secretary to the Authority
Treasurer

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 13 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TO ORIGINATE WIRE TRANSFERS OR TRANSFERS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS ON BEHALF OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the following to originate wire transfers or transfers between accounts on behalf of the Erie County Water Authority:

Cash Manager
Comptroller
Manager of Accounting Services

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 14 - AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FOLLOWING TO APPROVE ORIGINATED WIRE TRANSFERS BY TELEPHONE OR ONLINE ON BEHALF OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the following to approve originated wire transfers by telephone or online on behalf of the Erie County Water Authority:

Assistant Business Office Manager
 Business Office Manager
 Chief Account Clerk
 Senior Account Clerk

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 15 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TO ORIGINATE DIRECT DEPOSITS AND APPROVE DIRECT PAYMENTS THROUGH THE AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) ON BEHALF OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the following to originate direct deposits and approve direct payments through the Automated Clearing house (ACH) on behalf of the Erie County Water Authority:

Cash Manager
 Comptroller
 Manager of Accounting Services

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 16 - AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CASH MANAGER TO MANAGE ONLINE INQUIRY ACCESS TO AUTHORITY BANK ACCOUNTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF VIEWING DEPOSITORY, COLLATERAL AND INVESTMENT ACTIVITY AND RESEARCHING AND REFUNDING CUSTOMER PAYMENTS

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve the authorization for the Cash Manager to manage and permit others inquiry access to depository, collateral and investment activity and to research and refund customer payments online on behalf of the Erie County Water Authority.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 17 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TO EXECUTE ALL FEDERAL AND STATE TAX RETURNS ON BEHALF OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the following to execute all Federal and State Tax Returns on behalf of the Erie County Water Authority:

Cash Manager
Chief Financial Officer
Comptroller
Manager of Accounting Services

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 18 - AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE AND FORWARD PURCHASE ORDERS AFTER DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve the Director of Administration and, in the absence of the Director of Administration, the Comptroller, to issue and forward purchase orders after departmental approval.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 19 - AUTHORIZATION TO APPOINT A LABOR-MANAGEMENT HEALTHCARE COALITION REPRESENTATIVE

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to appoint Jennifer Hibit, Director of Human Resources, as the Authority's representative for the Labor-Management Healthcare Coalition, Inc. for the ensuing year.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 20 - COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Members of the Authority following committee and board assignments for the coming year be made and that the Chair of the Erie County Water Authority will continue to be empowered to name new committees and assign members. The Members of the Authority's Board of Commissioners shall be voting members of each standing committee. In addition, the Governance Committee will include the Secretary to the Authority and the Attorney as the non-voting ad hoc members. The Audit

Committee will include the Secretary to the Authority, Executive Director/COO and the Attorney as the non-voting ad hoc members. The Finance Committee will also include the Secretary to the Authority, Deputy Director/CFO and the Comptroller as the non-voting ad hoc members. The Ethics Committee shall include Raymond C. Herman, Robert C. Freeman and Anne E. Joynt as the non-voting ad hoc members. The three (3) ad hoc members appointed to the Ethics Committee shall also comprise the Authority's Independent Ethics Panel.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 21 - RULES OF ORDER

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners adopt parliamentary Rules of Procedure using the publication based on Robert's "Rules of Order," Jones, O.G., (1990) *Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance*. New York, Penguin Books.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 22 - REAUTHORIZATION OF THE DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION POLICY (POLICY NO. 94)

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize and continue the Defense and Indemnification Policy No. 94.0, adopted on March 26, 2019, and re-adopted as Policy No. 94 on September 20, 2023, without amendment.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

ITEM 23 - REAUTHORIZATION OF THE TRAVEL AND TRAINING POLICY (POLICY NO. 8)

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize and continue the Travel and Training Policy No. 8.0, adopted

on February 7, 2019, and re-adopted as Policy No. 8 on September 20, 2023, without amendment.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 24 - REAUTHORIZATION OF THE TIMEKEEPING POLICY (POLICY NO. 29)

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize and continue the Timekeeping Policy No. 29.0, adopted on February 7, 2019, and re-adopted as Policy No. 29 on September 20, 2023, without amendment.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 25 - AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN THE VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to authorize the Director of Administration, or in her absence the Comptroller or Chief Financial Officer, to transfer ownership of sold vehicles by signing the title after confirming receipt of payment and signing necessary Department of Motor Vehicles' documents to register new Erie County Water Authority vehicles.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 26 - AUTHORIZATION TO READOPT THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S MISSION STATEMENT

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners authorize to readopt the Erie County Water Authority's Mission Statement adopted on April 29, 2024, without amendment.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 27 - REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S PROCUREMENT POLICY

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize and continue the Erie County Water Authority's Procurement Policy adopted on April 29, 2024 and re-adopted on April 17, 2025.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 28 - REAUTHORIZATION TO ADOPT THE RETENTION AND DISPOSITION SCHEDULE FOR NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS (LGS-01) AND APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICER

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve that the Board of Commissioners reauthorize to adopt the Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-01) and the appointment of Terrence D. McCracken to the position of Records Management Officer of the Erie County Water Authority for the ensuing year.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 27 - AUTHORIZATION TO FILE A RECERTIFICATION OF THE RECORD OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY COMMISSIONER JEROME D. SCHAD

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to approve the authorization to file a recertification of the record of activities for the Erie County Water Authority Commissioner Jerome D. Schad..

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

ITEM 28 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Michele Iannello seconded by Ms. Peggy LaGree and carried to adjourn this annual organization meeting at 9:47 a.m. until the next organization meeting to be held on the first regularly scheduled board meeting after the 27th day of April 2026.

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello
Noes: None

Terrence D. McCracken
Secretary to the Authority

ALH