

**MINUTES of the SPECIAL BOARD MEETING of the ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** held in the office, 295 Main Street, Room 350, Buffalo, New York, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

**PRESENT:** Jerome D. Schad, Chair  
Peggy A. LaGree, Commissioner  
Michele M. Iannello, Commissioner (via teleconference)  
Jennifer L. Hiber, Secretary to the Authority  
Joyce A. Tomaka, Chief Financial Officer  
Mark S. Carney, General Counsel  
Charles E. Eaton, Chief Operating Officer  
Michael J. Quinn, Director of Distribution

**ATTENDEES:**

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. A quorum was present with three Commissioners.

**II. READING OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried to waive the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**IV. REPORTS**

## **A. SECRETARY**

### 1. Executive Session

Discussion relating to personnel matters of a particular person pursuant to Public Officers Law §105(1)(f) matters relating to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person

## **B. LEGAL**

### 1. Executive Session

Discussion with the Authority's General Counsel relating to the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property, where the value could be significantly affected by public disclosure, pursuant to Public Officers Law §105(1)(h)

The above Executive Sessions have been deferred to the end of the meeting.

## **C. FISCAL**

## **D. OPERATIONS**

### 1. RFP Recommendation – Project No. 202600009

Michael Quinn informed the Board that an RFP was recently issued for Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation. Mr. Quinn provided an overview of the project, summary of the RFP process, detailing the responses obtained and the Engineering Department's recommendations.

### 2. RFP Recommendation – Project No. 202600006

Michael Quinn informed the Board that an RFP was recently issued for Pump Vibration Investigations. Mr. Quinn provided an overview of the project, summary of the RFP process, detailing the responses obtained and the Engineering Department's recommendations. A brief discussion ensued.

### 3. RFP Recommendation – Project No. 202600005

Michael Quinn informed the Board that an RFP was recently issued for Conceptual Design Report and Drawings for Quonset Hut & Control Building Improvements at the Sturgeon Point Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Quinn provided an overview of the project, summary of the RFP process, detailing the responses obtained and the Engineering Department's recommendations. A brief discussion ensued.

### 4. RFP Recommendation – Project No. 202600013

Michael Quinn informed the Board that an RFP was recently issued for Secondary Containment Improvements and Underground Chemical Tank Replacements at the Sturgeon Point and Van de Water Water Treatment Plants. Mr. Quinn provided an overview of the project, summary of the RFP process, detailing the responses

obtained and the Engineering Department's recommendations. Mr. Quinn reported the project was formed from a recommendation made by the Department of Health. Chair Schad requested the Board receive the list of Department of Health recommendations.

5. Emergency Declaration – Project No. 202500146

Michael Quinn informed the Board that an extension is needed for an Emergency Declaration issued on July 11, 2025 regarding a 20-inch watermain failure in the town of Cheektowaga. Mr. Quinn noted that due to weather constraints and other delays, NYSDOT has not been able to complete the final restoration of the project and needs additional time for the completion.

**E. HUMAN RESOURCES**

**F. AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**G. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**H. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**I. ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**V. COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS**

**(Communications may be limited to items that are provided electronically. Every effort will be made to provide all communications at future meetings.)**

**C-1 FOIL FROM ROBERT JONES - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-2 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-3 FOIL FROM DODGE CONSTRUCTION NETWORK - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-4 FOIL FROM DODGE CONSTRUCTION NETWORK - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-5 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-6 FOIL FROM TRAVELERS - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-7 LETTER FROM PROGRESSIVE - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

- C-8 EMAIL FROM PITTSBURGH WATER - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-9 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-10 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-11 LETTERS FROM STATE FARM - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-12 LETTER FROM DODGE CONSTRUCTION NETWORK - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-13 LETTER FROM LIZ HERRLE - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-14 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-15 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-16 FOIL FROM MATTHEW KEHRER - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-17 FOIL FROM COAST 2 COAST - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-18 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-19 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-20 FOIL FROM MARK ZURADA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**
- C-21 FOIL FROM SMITH-BLAIR - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

## **VI. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to the Erie County Water Authority's Open Meetings Law Policy Section 10 Public Expression, as posted on its website, the Commissioners will hear the concerns of persons desiring to address the Commissioners on any Water Authority subject. No one appeared to speak.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****VIII. NEW BUSINESS****ITEM 1 - APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH INNOMOTICS, LLC FOR THE UPGRADE OF EXISTING VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVES AT STURGEON POINT WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND BALL PUMP STATION, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. ROB-010, PROJECT NO. 202400003**

Motion by Ms. LaGree and seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion made by Ms. LaGree, seconded by Ms. Iannello to go into Executive Session for the discussion relating to personnel matters of a particular person pursuant to Public Officers Law §105(1)(f) matters relating to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person at 10:28 a.m. Chair Schad invited Jennifer Hibit, Joyce Tomaka, Mark Carney, and Charles Eaton.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion made by Ms. LaGree, seconded by Ms. Iannello to exit Executive Session at 10:51 a.m.

**DISCUSSION**

Chair Schad reported that a productive discussion was held with Executive Staff.

Motion made by Ms. LaGree, seconded by Ms. Iannello to go into Executive Session for the discussion relating to the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property, where the value could be significantly affected by public disclosure, pursuant to Public Officers Law §105(1)(h) at 10:51 a.m. Chair Schad invited Jennifer Hibit, Joyce Tomaka, Mark Carney, Charles Eaton, and Michael Quinn.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Motion made by Ms. LaGree, seconded by Ms. Iannello to exit Executive Session at 11:16 a.m.

**DISCUSSION**

Chair Schad reported that a lengthy discussion was held with Counsel and the Board provided direction for follow-up.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello carried that the meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

Jennifer Hibit  
Secretary to the Authority

ALH