

**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** held in the office, 295 Main Street, Room 350, Buffalo, New York, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

**PRESENT:** **Jerome D. Schad, Chairman**  
**Mark S. Carney, Vice Chairman**  
**Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority**  
**Karen A. Prendergast, Chief Financial Officer**  
**Margaret A. Murphy, General Counsel**  
**Russell J. Stoll, Chief Operating Officer**  
**Leonard F. Kowalski, Executive Engineer**  
**Daniel J. NeMoyer, Director of Human Resources**  
**Joyce A. Tomaka, Comptroller**  
**Lavonya C. Lester, Director of Administration**  
**Sabrina A. Figler, Director of Water Quality**  
**Matthew W. Barrett, Security Officer**  
**Richard J. Deren, Network Specialist**

**ATTENDEES:**

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

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

**II. READING OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Carney seconded by Mr. Schad and carried to waive the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, February 28, 2020.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Carney seconded by Mr. Schad and carried to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, February 28, 2020.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**IV. REPORTS****A) SECRETARY**

No Report

**B) LEGAL**

No Report

**C) FISCAL**

No Report

**D) OPERATIONS****1. RFP – Van de Water Treatment Plant Capacity Expansion**

Mr. Kowalski informed the Board the Authority recently issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the preliminary design of a series of improvements to increase the current 49.5 MGD capacity of the Van de Water Treatment Plant to support expansion of ECWA's northern and eastern service area, including a potential increase in bulk sales to Genesee County. RFPs were issued to four consulting engineers: Arcadis, GHD, Nussbaumer & Clark, and Hazen & Sawyer. Three firms chose to submit proposals for this project (Arcadis, GHD, and Hazen & Sawyer). After a review of these proposals the engineering staff is recommending a Professional Services Contract be negotiated with Hazen & Sawyer. Chairman Schad asked if Hazen & Sawyer was a local firm. Mr. Kowalski replied they are from New York City.

**2. RFP – Powdered Activated Carbon System Improvements  
Van de Water and Sturgeon Point Water Treatment Plants**

Mr. Kowalski reported to the Commissioners that the Authority recently issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for upgrades and improvements to the existing powdered activated carbon systems at the Van de Water and Sturgeon Point Water Treatment Plants. RFPs were issued to four consulting engineers: Arcadis, GHD, Nussbaumer & Clark, and Hazen & Sawyer. Two firms chose to submit proposals for this project (Arcadis and GHD). After a review of these proposals the engineering staff is recommending a Professional Services Contract be negotiated with GHD. Chairman Schad asked what the construction timeframe was for this project. Mr. Kowalski said fourth quarter of 2021 or first quarter 2022.

### 3. Bethlehem Steel Infrastructure Redevelopment Project

The Buffalo and Erie County Industrial Land Development Corporation (ILDC) is currently developing an application seeking funding from the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program to construct critical infrastructure improvements necessary to further develop the former Bethlehem Steel site. The improvements will include water and sewer construction necessary for the future advanced manufacturing park development. ILDC requested the two involved utilities (ECWA and Erie County Sewer District No. 6) to participate in the grant application process as co-applicants. There would be no financial involvement of the Authority. We would be the end user of watermain after installed. They would pay for it, install it, and we would take ownership operate it. Vice Chairman Carney asked if the Authority would be involved in the design phase, which Mr. Kowalski replied yes. Chairman Schad added that he is always in favor in helping people obtain grants. Mr. Kowalski added that once he receives the MOU, he will forward it to Legal for review.

#### **E) HUMAN RESOURCES**

No Report

#### **F) AUDIT COMMITTEE**

No Report

#### **G) GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

No Report

#### **H) FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No Report

#### **I) ETHICS COMMITTEE**

No Report

#### **V. COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS**

**C-1 FOIL FROM THE MEYER LAW FIRM RE PROPERTIES CURRENTLY WITHOUT WATER SERVICE RECEIVED AND FILED AND REFERRED TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-2 LETTER FROM ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE - RECEIVED AND FILED AND REFERRED TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-3 FOIL FROM TOTAL PIPING SOLUTIONS, INC. RE WATERMAIN MATERIALS PURCHASE CONTRACT - RECEIVED AND FILED AND REFERRED TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

**DISCUSSION**

Vice Chairman Carney noted that we have sent them the purchase information they are asking for. In addition, TPS stated that they are “demanding an explanation of why we select”. Mr. Carney further noted that it was our opinion last time that they are not entitled to how we make our management decisions. Ms. Murphy remarked that she has responded to both requests. The executive staff agreed that there was no reason not to tell them that their clamps do not work in the field, and therefore they were not on the list for approved manufacturer. Ms. Murphy will forward a copy of the letters to Commissioners Schad and Carney.

**C-4 FOIL FROM TOTAL PIPING SOLUTIONS, INC. RE WATERMAIN MATERIALS PURCHASE CONTRACT (REQUEST #5) - RECEIVED AND FILED AND REFERRED TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-5 FOIL FROM MITCHELL KOTHLEITNER RE RESIDENTIAL RESIDENCES WITH DISCONNECTED SERVICE - RECEIVED AND FILED AND REFERRED TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**VI. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE AUTHORITY**

The Commissioners will hear the concerns of persons desiring to address the Commissioners on any Water Authority subject

No member of the public requested the opportunity to speak.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM 1 - MASTER PURCHASE ORDERS, RELEASES FROM MASTER PURCHASE ORDERS, PURCHASE ORDERS, AND AMENDMENTS OF SAME**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**IV. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE AUTHORITY**

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**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****ITEM 1 - MASTER PURCHASE ORDERS, RELEASES FROM MASTER PURCHASE ORDERS, PURCHASE ORDERS, AND AMENDMENTS OF SAME**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 2 - AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR BALL PUMP STATION PHASE 1 REHABILITATION AND CASTLE HILL PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT, PROJECT NO. 202000046**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 3 - AUTHORIZATION TO REJECT BIDS AND READVERTISE FOR THE FURNISHING AND DELIVERING OF DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PRESSURE MONITORING SENSORS, PROJECT NO. 202000010**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 4 - AUTHORIZATION TO REJECT BIDS AND READVERTISE FOR THE FURNISHING OF SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE TO THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY FOR USE IN THE BOOSTER STATIONS FOR TWO YEARS, PROJECT NO. 202000008**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Kowalski told the Board that the spec had the wrong volume, so to make it fair for everyone who bid on it they chose to rebid.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 5 - AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR HIGH VOLTAGE, SERVICE, SWITCHGEAR INSPECTION AND EMERGENCY ELECTRICAL WORK WITHIN THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S FACILITIES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS FROM JUNE 1, 2020 THROUGH MAY 31, 2022, PROJECT NO. 202000014**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Kowalaski explained that there will most likely be 2-3 bidders.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 6 - APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 OF 716 SITE CONTRACTING, INC. FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA, CONTRACT NO. CH-010, PROJECT NO. 201800075, CONTRACT NO. 19-17-05 - \$215,002.00**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

Leonard Kowalski informed the Board that the contractor ran into utilities not located properly during the design phase, old gas line, soils that were considered old landfill that needed to be disposed of. When we tied-in, we ran into pipe that was concrete pipe. Engineering believed it made more sense to extend the project 200 feet and go underneath the two culverts and tie-in at a better location.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 7 - APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 OF CHA CONSULTING, INC. TO PROVIDE CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA, NEW YORK, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. CH-010, PROJECT NO. 201800075 - \$38,400.00**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 8 - AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT LEAK ALLOWANCE REQUESTS - \$3,289.75**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 9 - AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT A ONE-TIME COURTESY REVERSAL OF DELINQUENT CHARGES FOR TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA (ACCOUNT NO. 72000680-1) - \$31,784.85**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

Karen Prendergast explained that this was a hydrant bill.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 10 - AUTHORIZATION FOR LEONARD KOWALSKI, EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, SABRINA FIGLER, DIRECTOR OF WATER QUALITY, JOHN CATANZARO, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, PAUL MIKLOS, WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR CREW CHIEF, TODD MEYERS, SR. WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR AND STEVEN DENZLER, DISTRIBUTION ENGINEER TO ATTEND THE 2020 NEW YORK'S WATER EVENT CONFERENCE IN SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 11 - AUTHORIZATION FOR LORI MOLINA, ACCOUNT CLERK TYPIST AND MARY ANN KURZDORFER, CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE SAMPO 2020 WESTERN CONFERENCE IN CORTLAND, NEW YORK**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**ITEM 12 - AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020**

Motion by Mr. Carney and seconded by Mr. Schad and carried

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Carney seconded by Mr. Schad carried that the meeting adjourn

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Two; Commrs. Schad and Carney

Noes: None

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. D. McCracken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Terrence D. McCracken  
Secretary to the Authority

PF