

**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** held in the office, 295 Main Street, Room 350, Buffalo, New York, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

**PRESENT:** Jerome D. Schad, Chair  
 Peggy A. LaGree, Vice Chair  
 Michele M. Iannello, Treasurer  
 Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority  
 Karen A. Prendergast, Chief Financial Officer  
 Mark S. Carney, General Counsel  
 Leonard F. Kowalski, Executive Engineer  
 Joyce A. Tomaka, Comptroller  
 Daniel J. NeMoyer, Director of Human Resources  
 Lavonya C. Lester, Director of Administration (via teleconference)  
 David W. Aubertine, Director of Cybersecurity and Information Technology (via teleconference)  
 Matthew W. Barrett, Security Officer (via teleconference)  
 Susan Rinaldo, Cash Manager  
 Grayson P. Myers, Intern

**ATTENDEES:**

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:53 a.m. A quorum was present with three Commissioners.

**II. READING OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello and carried to read the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, May 19, 2022.

**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, May 19, 2022.

#### **DISCUSSION**

None

#### **VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

### **IV. REPORTS**

#### **A. SECRETARY**

Secretary McCracken informed the Board that Item No. 9 is added to the agenda for the Board's consideration. It is relative to extending the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Brotherhood of Western New York Water Workers, AFL-CIO until 2027. This item also authorizes the negotiating team to execute the CBA. Mr. McCracken thanked Daniel NeMoyer and the president of the Union Daniel Rusin for facilitating the extension.

#### **B. LEGAL**

##### **1. Insurance Renewals**

Karen Prendergast recapped Patrick Quinn's (Lawley Insurance) presentation relative to the insurance renewals. She noted that an overall 13% increase over the 2021/2022 premiums was anticipated. A resolution is on the agenda approving the renewals and authorizing the CFO to bind coverage as renewing some policies is still in process. The resolution states that next month the CFO must update the Board on the results. Commissioner Schad requested that along with the update, he would like to see what the Authority is doing on the Worker's Comp side as far as training interventions to reduce the number of work-related incidences.

##### **2. April 2022 Investment Report**

Karen Prendergast distributed the April 2022 Investment Report along with a brief explanation of the report.

### 3. April 2022 Financial Report

Joyce Tomaka distributed the April 2022 Monthly Financial report which includes operating revenue, investment income, operating expense and net income, and briefly reviewed the data. A brief discussion was held relative to Genesee County.

## C. OPERATIONS

### 1. Engineering Dept. Contracts for Advertisement

Leonard Kowalski informed the Board that since the last meeting bids were received for the watermain materials purchase contract which is now a six-month contract, and Contract No. HS-002, Pipe Loop – Corrosion Control Treatment Program Pipe Loop Equipment is out for bid. Chairman Schad asked if Mr. Kowalski had any feel for how much of an increase the watermain materials purchase contract might be. He replied he has not seen the numbers yet, but when we reached out to every single supplier for an extension, they all turned it down, which means they were probably seeing increases. Mr. Kowalski believes it could be more than 10%.

### 2. RFP Water Distribution System Hydraulic Model (CCII)

Mr. Kowalski advised the board that an RFP for the creation of a new all-pipes hydraulic model was issued. The primary objective is to create a new distribution model that accurately reflects the Authority's current distribution system. The focus of the project is to develop the hydraulic model that is a one-to-one match with the Authority's existing GIS system. The RFP was issued to three consulting firms. It was not posted on the website due to the confidential nature of the project. After a review of the proposals, it was determined that Brown and Caldwell would be the best suited for the project. Commissioner Iannello asked what the budget for this contract is, and Executive Engineer Kowalski answered that the overall project is approximately \$700,000. Chairman Schad inquired as to how much information does the hydraulic model give in which we then make decisions. Mr. Kowalski explained that there is not much confidence in the current model as sometimes discrepancies are found when used. The new model will be one-to-one match with the GIS system. Anytime a new subdivision or anything is added to the GIS, it will automatically then be generated in the hydraulic model. Also, the Authority will be able to start construction studies on storage capacity. He believes in 2023 it will be up and operational.

## D. HUMAN RESOURCES

## E. AUDIT COMMITTEE

**F. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE****G. FINANCE COMMITTEE****H. 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 NOC: MARY KAY SCHAUB VS. ECWA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-2 NOC: ALLAN KEOHANE VS. ECWA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-3 NOC: TINA LODESTRO VS. ECWA - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO LEGAL FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-4 FOIL FROM DIYA RE PAST DUE PAYMENTS - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-5 FOIL FROM SMARTPROCURE RE PURCHASING RECORDS - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-6 FOIL FROM FIRMOGRAPHS BID TEAM RE BID RESULTS - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-7 FOIL FROM CYNTHIA FRAME-ENDRES RE WATER SERVICE - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

**C-8 SUSAN RINALDO, CASH MANAGER RETIREMENT - RECEIVE AND FILE AND REFER TO SECRETARY FOR FOLLOW UP**

The Commissioners congratulated and thanked Ms. Rinaldo for her service.

**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 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HEALTHWORKS-WNY, LLP TO RENDER COMPREHENSIVE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, PROJECT NO. 202200063**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 2 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS OF NEW YORK, INC., TO RENDER CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATING TO EPA LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. MP-091, PROJECT NO. 202200135**

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

**DISCUSSION**

On the question, Commissioner Iannello asked what the budget for this contract was. Mr. Kowalski replied that close to \$250,000 was earmarked for this year with a remainder falling into 2023, and the overall project cost is approximately \$650,000.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 3 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA AND CMH COMPANY, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH ANDREWS AVENUE WATERMAIN RELOCATION PROJECT IN THE TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA, NEW YORK, PROJECT NO. 202200066**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 4 - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER AND 4<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH PAC WAY WATERMAIN PROJECT IN THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER, NEW YORK, PROJECT NO. 202200112**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 5 - APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS OF NEW YORK, INC. TO PROVIDE CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR BALL PUMP STATION PHASE 1 REHABILITATION, IDENTIFIED AS CONTRACT NO. MP-086, PROJECT NO. 202000177**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 6 - 2022-2023 INSURANCE COVERAGE AND AUTHORIZATION TO BIND AND PAY INSURANCE INVOICES**

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

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Schad thanked everyone who worked on this project.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 7 - CREATION OF TWO POSITIONS OF PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 8 - SALARY INCREMENTS - JULY 1, 2022**

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

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**ITEM 9 - AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF WESTERN NEW YORK WATER WORKERS, AFL-CIO**

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

**DISCUSSION**

The Commissioners thanked everyone who made this happen.

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. LaGree seconded by Ms. Iannello carried that the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

Ayes: Three; Commrs. Schad, LaGree and Iannello

Noes: None

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T.D. McCracken', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Terrence D. McCracken  
Secretary to the Authority

PG