

**ROCKAWAY VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AND THE REORGANIZATION
SCHEDULED
BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

The regularly scheduled meeting and the Re-Organization meeting of the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority was held on Thursday, February 8, 2024. The meeting started at 7:00 PM.

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act and guidance issued by the Department of Community Affairs. The regular meeting and Re-Organization Meeting of the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority will convene in person and on ZOOM Meetings, on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 7 P.M.

- **The agenda is available on the website of the RVRSA at <https://rvrsa.org/agenda/>**
- **This meeting was posted on the RVRSA website and on the public notice board in the main RVRSA building.**
- **This meeting was advertised in the Daily Record and the Star Ledger newspapers.**

Assistant Board Secretary, Janice Fox, read a statement that timely notice of the meeting had been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act to member municipalities, members of the Authority and designated newspapers.

The salute to the United States flag followed.

Roll Call Attendance was taken:

The following Board Members were present: Commissioners Andes of Town of Denville, Cegelka of Borough of Victory Gardens, Corbett of the Borough of Wharton, Howarth of Borough of Rockaway, Isselin of Town of Dover, Lavery of Town of Boonton, Potter of Township of Randolph, Schorno of Township of Rockaway and Zuppa of City of Jersey City.

The following member was absent: Farrell of Township of Boonton.

There was a quorum.

Also, present was Joesph Maraziti, Esq. Maraziti Falcon.

Authority staff present was JoAnn Mondsini, Robert Bocchino, and Janice Fox.

Joseph Maraziti, Esq. gave the Oath of Office to Hector Schorno of The Township of Rockaway, Thomas Andes of The Township of Denville, and William Isselin of The Town of Dover.

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

- Appointment of Temporary Chairman
- Election of Officers

1. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

Motion that John Cegelka be appointed **TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN** of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Schorno Second by: Commissioner Howarth

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion that Hector Schorno be elected as **CHAIRMAN** of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Isselin Second by: Commissioner Cegelka

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Motion that John Cegelka be elected as **VICE CHAIRMAN** of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Schorno Second by: Commissioner Howarth

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Motion that Glenn Corbett be elected as **TREASURER** of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Cegelka Second by: Commissioner Isselin

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (8) Andes, Cegelka, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (1) Corbett

Absent: (1) Farrell

Motion that Donald Farrell be elected as **SECRETARY** of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Schorno Second by: Commissioner Howarth

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Motion that Sandy Thai be elected as **ASSISTANT TREASURER of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Corbett Second by: Commissioner Howarth**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.
Nays: (0) None
Abstain: (0) None
Absent: (1) Farrell

Motion that Janice Fox be elected as **ASSISTANT SECRETARY of the Authority.
Moved by: Commissioner Schorno Second by: Commissioner Howarth**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.
Nays: (0) None
Abstain: (0) None
Absent: (1) Farrell

7:14 PM - Public Portion on Consent Agenda Items – Re-Organization Meeting

- **No Public Comment**

RE-ORGANIZATION CONSENT AGENDA

- **Resolution 24-006** – Establishment of a Cash Management Plan for RVRSA Funds and Investments
- **Resolution 24-007** – Designation of Official Newspaper
- **Resolution 24-008** – To Establish Time and Place for Regular Meetings and Notice Thereof
- **Resolution 24-009** – Designation of Public Agency Compliance Officer
- **Resolution 24-010** – Designation of S.E.D. Project Compliance Officer
- **Resolution 24-011** – Designation of a Qualified Purchasing Agent
- **Resolution 24-012** – To Authorize the Signing of Checks
- **Resolution 24-013** – To Authorize the Defense and Indemnification of the Members and Employees of the RVRSA
- **Resolution 24-014** – Authorizing Certain Payments by the CFO or Executive Director
- **Resolution 24-015** – The Executive Director and/or The Chief Financial Officer of the RVRSA to be Empowered to Initiate Telephone/Electronic/Facsimile Funds Transfers
- **Resolution 24-016** – The Executive Director and the Chief Financial Officer are Authorized to Open and/or Close Certificates of Deposit Accounts on behalf of the RVRSA
- **Resolution 24-017** – Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer as the Authority Official to Act With the E-Government for Government
- **Resolution 24-018** – Authorizing Chief Financial Officer to be the Custodian of the RVRSA's Petty Cash Fund
- **Resolution 24-019** – Designation of Persons to Represent RVRSA's Interests
- **Resolution 24-020** – Designating a Custodian of Government Records Pursuant to the Open Public Records Act

- **Resolution 24-021** – Appointing Fund Commissioner
- **Resolution 24-022** – Re-Authorizing Incentives to Qualified Employees Who opt to Waive Health Benefits Under the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP)

These Resolutions were adopted on a **Consent Agenda** at a re-organization meeting of the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority on **February 8, 2024**, on the motion of Commissioner Corbett and second by Commissioner Howarth with the following roll call votes:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.
 Nays: (0) None
 Abstain: (0) None
 Absent: (1) Farrell

REGULAR MEETING started at 7:14PM

Correspondence - None

Public Portion -Agenda Items Only

- No Public. No Comments.

Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Minutes** of January 11, 2024 Board Meeting
- **Resolution 24-023** – Authorizing the Issuance of a Public Notice Prior to Renewal of an Industrial Sewer Connection Permit for Howmet Castings & Services, Inc.
- **Resolution 24-024** – Authorizing Execution of a Contract for Annual Generator Maintenance Services
- **Resolution 24-025** – Authorizing Execution of a Contract for Annual HVAC and Plumbing Services
- **Resolution 24-026** – Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with Mission Communications LLC, for the Procurement of Computer Services Relevant to Data Communications Technology
- **Resolution 24-027** – Awarding Contract to Pace Analytical Services, LLC in Response to Bid Specifications for Laboratory Services
- **Resolution 24-028** – Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with PVS Chemical Solutions, Inc. for Annual Supply of 38% Sodium Bisulfite Solution

Commissioner Corbett offered **the Minutes** and second by Commissioner Howarth and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (8) Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.
 Nays: (0) None
 Abstain: (1) Andes
 Absent: (1) Farrell
 Minutes passed on 8 yeas.

Commissioner Corbett offered **the Consent Agenda** and second by Commissioner Howarth and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Consent Agenda passed on 9 yeas.

Executive Committee – Hector Schorno, Chairman - Meetings held on Jan.17 & Feb 5, 2024.

- **Report – (Jan. 17th)** (1) Discussed retention payments and sick bank for non-union employees. **(Feb. 5th)** (1) Discussed Firemen’s Home Licensing Agreement and Date of Oral Arguments for JC Litigation Appeal and (2) Authorizing payment of costs under \$5,000.
- Joseph Maraziti advised that the resolution authorizing the license agreement of the Firemen’s home will resolve the issue that we have been discussing for many years. It will formalize the ability of the Authority to make improvements that are needed to access the siphon chamber and siphon lines. It also provides for restoration of the portion of the temporary easement for the construction. It provides for the payment of one lump sum payment to the Firemen’s Home for \$19,000.00 in exchange for all of these benefits that the Authority will have for as long as needed for these infrastructure improvements.

Commissioner Howarth offered **Resolution 24-029** – Authorizing Execution of License Agreement Between the New Jersey Firemen’s Home and Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority Relating to Authorized Location of Siphon Chamber, Interceptor Sewer, and Access Thereto on Lands Owned by the New Jersey Firemen’s Home and Second by Commissioner Cegelka and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Resolution 24-029 passed on 9 yeas.

Commissioner Schorno offered **Resolution 24-030** – Governing the Payment of Certain Uncontested Non-Discretionary Costs Incurred and Second by Commissioner Corbett and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Resolution 24-030 passed on 9 yeas.

Planning Committee – Donald Farrell, Chairman – No meeting held.

- **No Report**

Operations Committee – Hector Schorno, Chairman – No meeting held.

- **No Report**
- Operation and Maintenance and Trunkline Reports are in the packet.

Infrastructure Committee – Thomas Andes, Chairman – Meeting held February 2, 2024.

- **Report** – Status of Contract 41 and bids received for Emergency Generator Replacement Project

Commissioner Andes offered **Resolution 24-031** – (1) Authorizing Execution of Change Orders CM-009, CM-010 and CM-011; (2) Authorizing Issuance of Mott MacDonald Letter Setting Forth RVRSA's Claim for Damages, Remaining Work to be Performed and Demanding a Meeting with the Contractor; and (3) Subject to Conditions Set Forth Herein, Authorizing the Issuance of a Demand for Mediation Upon Coppola Services, Inc., Selection of Judge Ashrafi as Mediator, Execution of Voluntary Mediation Agreement and Payment of Mediator's Retainer in Connection with Contract No. 41 Phosphorus Removal and Filtration Facilities Project and Second by Commissioner Howarth and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (1) Farrell

Resolution 24-031 passed on 9 yeas.

Jersey City Committee – Glenn Corbett, Chairman – No meeting held.

- **Report**-The Oral Argument is set for March.
- Joseph Maraziti added we received a notice today from the court, it will take place virtually at 9:30AM. Anyone wishing to observe the Oral Argument can do so at our office, not individual joining of the link, or they can obtain the audio 24-48 hours after the Oral Argument.

Sewer Use Committee – Donald Farrell, Chairman – No meeting held.

- **No Report**

Finance Committee – Glenn Corbett, Chairman – No Meeting held.

- **No Report**
- CFO's Report is in the packet.

Commissioner Corbett offered **Resolution 24-032** – Resolution Authorizing Appropriation Transfer for the Fiscal Year 2023 and Second by Commissioner Howarth and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (9) Andes, Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.

Nays: (0) None
Abstain: (0) None
Absent: (1) Farrell
Resolution 24-032 passed on 9 yeas.

Commissioner Corbett offered **Resolution 22-033** – Resolution to Authorize Payment of Vouchers for **\$1,079,085.38** and Second by Commissioner Howarth and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Yeas: (8) Cegelka, Corbett, Howarth, Isselin, Lavery, Potter, Schorno and Zuppa.
Nays: (0) None
Abstain: (1) Andes
Absent: (1) Farrell
Resolution 23-033 passed on 8 yeas.

Executive Director's Report

- HR/Safety Coordinators Report is in the packet.
- Executive Directors Report is in the packet.
- Commissioner Howarth asked if there were any recommendations made on the Emergency Generator Contract from the bids received. JoAnn Mondsinì advised that we received one bid protest, and we are working with Brad and Kleinfelder to resolve it. The low bidder came in at 9.4 million and it looks like we will move forward with that one at our March 14th Board Meeting.

Engineers Report

- **Report**-Robert Bocchino updates: 1. Emergency Generator Contract updated with JoAnn Mondsinì's report. 2. We are working to close out Contract 41, the filter building. 3. Contract 43, the siphon chambers construction will begin in the Spring.
- Engineering Report is in the packet.
- Industrial Pre-Treatment Report is in the packet.
- Electrical Engineer's Report is in the packet.
- IPP Report is in the packet.

Lawyers Report

- **Report**- Joseph Maraziti thanked Joann Mondsinì for her tremendous work preparing the documents for the Jersey City Litigation. We will be submitting our responses next week.

Old Business

- **No Report**

New Business

- **No Report**

Public Portion

- The public portion was open at 7:28 PM. There was no public present. The public portion ended at 7:28 PM.

Closed Session

- None

Commissioner Corbett made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Commissioner Howarth and approved by all present.

Meeting ended at 7:28 PM.

The next scheduled meeting is March 14, 2024



Janice Fox
Assistant Board Secretary

