

MOHAWK VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY
Board Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2024

Vice Chairman Coyne called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
Vice Chairman Coyne presided, and Amy Passacantando took the minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Carl Annese, Dennis Bova, Bruce Brodsky, Vincent Coyne, Mark Ford, Richard Karam, Frank Meola, Eugene Santa-Croce III, and Bette Szesny

Absent: Elis DeLia, George Haskell

Also Present in Boardroom: Patrick Becher, Jim Korfonta, Dan Faldzinski, Jim Mack, Anne Milograno, Sandra Dare, Geralynn Powers, Scott Gorgas, Timothy Beck, and Ken Bobrow Esq.

Approval of the August 19, 2024 Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Ford to approve the Minutes. Seconded by: Mr. Meola

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (2) Absent Motion Carried.

Resolution: Award of Contract to Carver Construction to Complete Ph 2 Raw Water Main Improvements Project

Mr. Faldzinski stated that this resolution is for the re-bid of the Phase 2 Raw Water Main Improvements Project. Three bids were received, and the contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, Carver Construction in the amount of approximately \$9.4 million.

Mr. Becher added that MVWA has funds set aside from previous bonding and will not need to bond for any more funds for this project.

Motion made by Mr. Meola to approve the Resolution. Seconded by: Mr. Brodsky

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (2) Absent Motion Carried

Change in the Collective Bargaining Unit: Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution

Mrs. Dare presented and MOU (memorandum of understanding) and a resolution for the collective bargaining unit to add a title. The current position of Meter Service Person changes out meters including in confined spaces. The law states that there needs to be an entrance attendant and a supervisor present. Rather than pull a supervisor off of another crew MVWA is adding the title of Senior Meter Service Person. This person is a meter service person and will perform the same daily duties however when there is confined space work they will be the supervisor in the hole. This title was already created by civil service, allocation has already happened, and salary has been set. MVWA would like this title put into the bargaining unit.

Motion made by Mr. Karam to approve the MOU and Resolution. Seconded by: Mr. Annese

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (2) Absent Motion Carried

Committee Reports:

August Finance Report

Mr. Korfonta said the consumption has recovered a little bit. We were down 1.2% in July and now we are down around one-half percent, almost breaking even for the year compared to the previous year. MVWA is still down in revenue, overall, a little over \$300K. Cash flow is down, we are putting out funds for FEMA projects and waiting to get reimbursed.

Mr. Brodsky briefly discussed the past, present and future financial situation of MVWA, the decrease in consumption recent years and what our budget needs are and will be going forward. This full discussion can be heard/viewed on the MVWA website.

Resolution and Letter to Initiate Sale of Water Revenue Bonds

Mr. Becher talked about the Capital Committee Meeting that was held Friday. There was a discussion that we have an opportunity to begin the next phase of the RWM improvements project, which is the transmission line that runs from Hinckley Dam, a couple miles down to the water treatment plant. This construction work has been awarded. Phase 3 has been divided into 2 parts. Financial assistance was applied for through the EFC (a lending institution of the state government). They have tentatively awarded a \$3 million grant towards that. Phase 3A is roughly an \$8.5 million job. The state will give \$3 million, and we will have to borrow the remaining \$5.5 million. The state would like a commitment by the end of the month that we will proceed.

Mr. Becher explained how the water levels work at the Hinckley Dam and how this raw water main project will affect the levels at Hinckley Dam (this conversation can be heard/viewed on our website). If the Board approves this letter and resolution to bond, Mr. Becher will proceed with the bond sale. Mr. Becher then explained the process of bonding.

Motion made by Mr. Meola to approve the Resolution and Letter for Bonding. Seconded by: Mr. Brodsky

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (2) Absent Motion Carried

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Becher introduced Timothy Beck, the new Safety Officer for MVWA.

Mr. Becher mentioned that MVWA received a certificate of achievement from PERMA for no reportable accidents/injuries since January 1, 2024. In recognition of our maintenance yard employees PERMA had a luncheon at the maintenance yard last week.

On October 16, 2024, the LSLI (Lead service line inventory) will be due. MVWA has hired B&L Engineering to help with this and they are subbing out some of the work as well. MVWA is doing some predictive modeling, there was a brief meeting today and things are on track to meet the 10/16 deadline. This report will be continuously updated for years to come.

Mr. Brodsky spoke about lead service lines and the initiative the government is implementing to replace all lead service lines and how costly and time consuming this will be for home owners and for water utilities all across the US (the full conversation is on our website www.mvwa.us).

Old Business: NA

New Business: NA

Executive Session: NA

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Passacantando, Secretary
Mohawk Valley Water Authority