

MOHAWK VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY
Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2024

Chairman DeLia called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
Chairman DeLia presided, and Amy Passacantando prepared the minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Bruce Brodsky, Vincent Coyne, Elis DeLia, George Haskell, Richard Karam, Eugene Santa-Croce III, and Bette Szesny

Absent: Carl Annese, Dennis Bova, Mark Ford, Frank Meola, and Board Secretary Amy Passacantando

Also Present in Boardroom: Patrick Becher, Jim Korfonta, Jim Mack, Phil Tangorra, and Sandra Dare

Approval of the October 28, 2024 Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Karam to approve the Minutes. Seconded by: Mr. Haskell
Vote: (7) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (4) Absent Motion Carried.

Re-affirmation of Employee Travel Policy:

The Employee Travel Policy has been reaffirmed with some edits. Mrs. Dare stated that it has been reorganized and is easier to follow and some terminology has been updated. There are some changes to the meal reimbursement.

Motion made by Ms. Szesny to approve the Policy. Seconded by: Mr. Coyne
Vote: (7) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (4) Absent Motion Carried

Approval of Employee Disciplinary Record Foil Request Notification Policy:

Mrs. Dare stated that as of September 4, 2024, Governor Hochul signed into law and effective immediately this policy is going into effect stating that employee disciplinary records can be foiled if such a request arises and that the employee will be notified of such foil within a practical amount of time.

Motion made by Mr. Brodsky to approve the Resolution. Seconded by: Mr. Coyne
Vote: (7) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (4) Absent Motion Carried

Disaster Recovery Certification:

Mr. Mack stated that this test is performed annually, and everything went as it should.

Committee Reports:

October and November Finance Report

Mr. Korfonta stated that consumption is down only about 1/2% year-to-date, which is a good recovery from being down approximately 2% earlier in the year. Water sales are down about \$500K compared to budget, however we are up \$1.3 million compared to the prior year. Cash flow is down slightly in November, but year to date we are up about \$330K. A large retirement payment of over \$800K was made in December.

Mr. Becher stated that the workers comp payment increased 3%, which is figured on a 5 year rolling scale and next year a bad year (for claims) will fall off the scale. This year MVWA had no reportable injuries so we are hopeful that the premium will go down or stay the same next year.

Mrs. Dare added that part of the reason for the 3% increase is due to the fact that we are currently fully staffed.

Mr. Brodsky asked to get a detailed full report of the delinquent accounts.

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Becher and Mr. Korfonta spoke with the financial consultants in NY regarding bonding. They did an RFP for underwriters, which most likely be Raymond James again. A Finance Authority Meeting is being set for December 23rd as long as there is a quorum. The bond closing should take place in early February 2025.

Mr. Becher stated that the Hinckley Reservoir was down to just under 1198 ft about three and a half weeks ago which was a cause for concern, however as of this morning (December 16, 2024) it is at 1212 ft and by Thursday the projected level should be around 1215 ft., which puts us in a much better position going into the winter.

Mr. Becher stated that the MVWA typically applies for as much as we can from the State Revolving Fund, Mr. Faldzinski works with Lori Reed at Ramboll Engineering to apply for grant funds. Mr. Tangorra said he received a letter today and they have awarded us almost \$9 million to replace lead service lines beginning in 2025 and almost \$4 million in zero percent interest loans.

We were also notified that the president of AWWA intends to file a complaint in the Federal Courts in the DC District for a regulatory review of the revised lead and copper rule. One reason being that it is not a feasible timeline that has been set and another reason is that definitions that are contrary, clarifications need to be made between ownership and access. Also, utilities are not able to afford the completion of the project in the timeline given. It is also possible that the incoming administration might possibly slow down this process.

Old Business: NA

New Business: NA

Executive Session: NA

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Passacantando, Secretary
Mohawk Valley Water Authority