

MOHAWK VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2025

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Dennis Bova, Bruce Brodsky, Deborah Burke, Vincent Coyne, Elis DeLia, Dale Dodge, Mark Ford, Richard Karam, and Frank Meola

Absent: Ronald Beach, Eugene Santa-Croce III and, Jef Saunders

Also Present in Boardroom: Patrick Becher, Jim Korfonta, Phil Tangorra, Dan Faldzinski, Anne Milograno, Jim Mack, Sandra Dare, and Ken Bobrow Esq.

Presentation of 2024 audit by D'Arcangelo & Co., LLP:

Nicole Chubbuck with D'Arcangelo & Co., LLP gave the annual presentation of the 2024 audit. The auditors gave MVWA an unmodified "clean" opinion which is the best and highest opinion that can be given. Ms. Chubbuck met with the audit committee prior to the board meeting and gave a thorough presentation, then gave a brief presentation to the full board with a handout.

Approval of the April 21, 2025 Minutes:

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

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (3) Absent Motion Carried.

Resolution and MOU: Adding a New Title to the MEA

Mrs. Dare stated that she and Mr. Korfonta had a position title reclassified by Oneida County Civil Service to Sr. Accountant. The MEA (Management Employees Association) would like to add the position title of Sr. Accountant to the Bargaining Unit.

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

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (3) Absent Motion Carried

Resolution: Award of Contract to Complete Lead Service Line Replacements

Mr. Faldzinski stated that The US EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements require water systems, including the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA), to replace all lead and galvanized steel service lines by year 2037. The MVWA applied for and received 2025 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Lead Service Line Replacement (BIL-LSLR) funding through the New York Environmental Facilities Corporation's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for up to \$8,918,000 in grants and \$3,822,000 in interest free financing. MVWA would like to award two contracts for the replacement of approximately 475 private or public side lead service lines per contract, within environmental justice and disadvantaged areas of the City of Utica. Bids were received from 2 contractors, of which Joseph J. Lane Construction of Liverpool, NY was the lowest bidder in the amount of 3,921,777.00 dollars and Carver Construction of Coeymans, NY was the second lowest bidder in the amount of 3,956,789.00 dollars.

The full discussion of the LSLI and replacements can be found on our website at www.mvwa.us under the Governance tab.

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

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (3) Absent Motion Carried

Reaffirmation of Policies:

Mr. Becher stated that under the Public Authorities Reform Act we are required to have certain policies reviewed and reaffirmed annually by the Board. These policies below are unchanged policies.

- Code of Ethics
- Investment Guidelines
- Procurement Policies and Procedures
- Surplus Property Disposition Policy

Motion made by Mr. Meola to reaffirm policies. Seconded by Mr. Karam.

Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (3) Absent Motion Carried

Committee Reports:**March Finance Report**

Mr. Korfonta said that March was a good month. Cash collections for water sales were the highest that we have had at \$2.8 million. Usually, we collect around \$2 million. Overall revenue compared to budget was up \$226K and \$496K compared to the prior year. Cash is good, we are up \$800K for the year. Consumption year to date is 2.8% above the previous year.

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Becher gave an update on the Hinckley Reservoir and said it is about 1 ½ - 2 ft below the top of the dam which is good for this time of year.

Something that came out today regarding the tax/budget bill that is heading to the senate, whether or not the tax-exempt bonds that we issue would remain tax exempt. There is nothing that's proposed in this legislation that would alter that. What that would mean for MVWA is that when we want to borrow money and sell bonds/revenue bonds, people that buy them do not have to pay taxes on the interest they are earning, by us borrowing that money from them. If they were taxable bonds then they would lose part of that as an income tax, then they may demand a higher interest rate because they would not want to lose that much money, and it would drive our borrowing costs up, Mr. Becher stated.

Mr. Becher talked about the discussion of the transmission line project that goes into the valley with Ilion, Herkimer, Schuyler and Frankfort. Waiting to hear from Herkimer, a letter has been sent with a deadline to respond. However, Mr. Becher received a call from the Director of The Bureau of Public Water Supply in Albany asking MVWA to delay the deadline so that they may speak with the Mayor in Herkimer regarding the water situation there.

Old Business:**New Business:****Executive Session:**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Passacantando, Secretary
Mohawk Valley Water Authority