

**MOHAWK VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 17, 2026**

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, Elis DeLia, Dale Dodge, Mark Ford, Ryan Gilroy, Richard Karam, Anthony Lucenti, Eugene Santa-Croce III (arrived at 5:05), Jef Saunders and John Wallace

**Absent:** N/A

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

**Approval of the July 20, 2026 Minutes:**

Motion made by Mr. Bova to approve the Minutes. Seconded by: Mr. Saunders  
Vote: (10) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain-Mr. DeLia, (1) Absent Motion Carried.

**Resolution: Award of Contract to Brady Fence Co. for 2026 Southern Fencing Improvements Project**

Mr. Faldzinski stated the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) requires assistance in installing 2,500 feet of chain link fence along the southern property line of the MVWA Southern Reservoir property located at 724 Pleasant Street, in the Town of New Hartford, NY. The advertising for bids, bidding and evaluation for this contract has been conducted in accordance with MVWA's procurement policy and bids were received from 7 contractors, of which Brady Fence Company of Cold Brook, New York was the low bidder in the amount of \$144,510.00.

Motion made by Mr. Brodsky to approve the Resolution. Seconded by: Mr. Ford  
Vote: (9) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstain-Mr. Gilroy (1) Absent Motion Carried

**Resolution: Award of Contract Extension to Ramboll Engineers for Services to Prepare Contract Documents and Administrator Construction for the Decommissioning of Southern Reservoirs**

Mr. Tangorra explained that the stand-by reservoirs are subject to the DEC's Dam Statutes. Several years ago, the MVWA decommissioned and opened up the reservoir on Cavanaugh Rd. Deerfield reservoir is still there. Under the most recent inspection by the DEC they found that the southern reservoir had deficiencies that need to be addressed to comply with the statutes. Mr. Faldzinski and his team met with Ramboll Engineers to do an evaluation and make recommendations. Mr. Tangorra and Mr. Faldzinski discussed that the dam has not been used in over 25 years. Mr. Faldzinski did cost comparisons with rehabilitating the reservoir vs. decommissioning it and it was much more cost efficient to decommission the reservoir.

Mr. Faldzinski said the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) desires to decommission the (3) three existing reservoirs at the MVWA Southern Reservoir property located at 724 Pleasant Street, Town of Hartford, New York. The existing reservoirs have not been used in over 20 years, are not required for emergency back-up purposes, as confirmed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the water these reservoirs contain would require significant treatment to meet water quality regulations prior to entering into the water distribution system. Ramboll Engineers was retained by the MVWA in 2025 to complete NYSDEC required Engineering Assessments for Southern Reservoirs #2, #4 and #5 which identified deficiencies that require improvement. As part of their service, Ramboll also prepared a preliminary work

plan for the desired reservoir decommissioning and completed the NYSDEC grant application on MVWA's behalf. On January 20, 2026, the MVWA received notice from the NYSDEC of a grant award, in the amount of \$2,500,000 to decommission the Southern Reservoirs. Utilization of these funds requires the MVWA to provide a 20% match in funds or in-kind services. On August 6, 2026, a change order proposal was received from Ramboll Engineers of Utica, New York to complete hydraulic modeling for the desired decommissioning, to prepare engineering plans and contract documents for the work and administration of the construction contract for a lump sum fee of \$446,910.

Board Members asked what this reservoir would look like once it has been drained. Mr. Tangorra said that part of the design work would be to open up the front side of it. He and Mr. Faldzinski have talked with the City of Utica and the Town of New Hartford to see if there might be something that can be done jointly with the property. There will be some limitations as MVWA will still have some assets on the property. There was a short discussion regarding the use of the reservoir once it is decommissioned.

Motion made by Mr. Brodsky to approve the Resolution. Seconded by: Mr. Karam  
Vote: (11) Ayes (0) Nays (0) Abstain (0) Absent Motion Carried

### **Committee Reports: July Finance Report**

Mr. Korfonta stated that consumption was down 6% previously and is now down only 1.6% which is good. Water sales are above budget by \$149K. The cash balance is high due partly to the grant MVWA received in the amount of \$4.5 million from the EFC and money received from other projects this year. There is currently \$9-10 million in capital funds in the cash figure that we will be using to pay bills.

### **Executive Director's Report:**

Mr. Tangorra said that Hinckley Reservoir hit the trigger level last week for a call today with the Canals and NYPA. They have been maintaining a level of 1211 ft. above sea level for about a month, and they have reduced flows for the past 30 days. Hinckley is currently losing about 1/10 of a foot per day. We will continue to monitor the situation.

The tank is being constructed this week for the orthophosphate chemical feed system. Mr. Tangorra stated that MVWA will soon begin to push out information to the public so that customers are aware that we are adding a different chemical to the water (maybe by the end of October). Soon after that we will begin sampling for the new lead and copper rule compliance.

Congratulations to Jim Mack, our IT Director and his team, for putting together a submittal for a SECURE Grant through NYS. MVWA was awarded \$154K to replace hardware and assets for our cyber security system.

Mr. Tangorra said he recently talked about the perfluorinated settlement that was received from TYCO for around \$106K and most recently we received about \$43K from BASF. MVWA does not have an issue but participated in the class action suit.

On July 28<sup>th</sup> Mr. Tangorra said MVWA had its first annual employee picnic. Mr. Tangorra talked about successes this year while Mr. Beck the Safety Officer talked about safety successes and safety issues we need to work on. Mrs. Dare provided input from the Human Resource standpoint. Overall feedback received was very positive. MVWA board member Dennis Bova attended the picnic, and he agreed that it was great for morale. Thank you to PERMA who supported the picnic for the safety focus and providing lunch.

Back in the spring MVWA implemented a summer hours pilot program. MVWA closed half an hour early and lunches were for one half hour (Memorial Day through Labor Day). The employees affected by this change were recently polled and 85% prefer the shorter lunch and leaving half an hour earlier. MVWA will

extend this until further notice, it will continue to be tracked. Mr. Tangorra stated that it has had no impact on customer service or the lab sales. Many services are available online as well.

Mr. Tangorra talked about the AMI system from Neptune that MVWA currently uses. Mr. Tangorra says that the system never lived up to what we thought it would be. MVWA is evaluating Neptune's upgrade as well as a couple other systems, he has a team evaluating these systems. Eventually MVWA will be coming to the board with a recommendation.

MVWA is excited to announce that they have hired a new Director of Water Quality, Eric Best, who will begin on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Tangorra asked Chairman DeLia that in the near future meetings with the finance committee and the capital committee take place to talk about next years budget and the next round of bonding.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amy Passacantando, Secretary  
Mohawk Valley Water Authority