

**Minutes of the  
Annual and Regular Board Meeting  
Of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
Held on February 24, 2023**

This Annual and Regular Board Meeting of The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, having been duly advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Act, was called to order on Friday, February 24, 2023, at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL** – All members of the Board were present.

**Participants from PWSA:** Will Pickering, Jennifer Presutti, Ed Barca, Barry King, Frank Sidari, Debby Gibson, Giuseppe Sciulli, Monica Walaan, Rebecca Zito, Hali Hetz, Paul Spara, Lee Haller, Logan Carmichael, Amanda Castro, John Nagle, Kevin Pawlos, BJ McFaddin.

Also present was Solicitor Mark Nowak of Clark Hill.

A total of 36 participants were in attendance.

Solicitor Mark Nowak gaveled the Annual Meeting of the PWSA Board of Directors and presented the following resolution:

**No. 7 of 2023      Election of Officers of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Board**

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Solicitor Nowak entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. McCormick Barron seconded the motion.

No discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

Solicitor Nowak announced the new chairperson and former chairperson, Alex Sciulli, Vice-Chair Erika Strassburger, Secretary/Treasurer BJ Leber, and Assistant Treasurer Michael Domach. The gavel was turned over to the newly elected Chair of the Board, Alex Sciulli, who entertained a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Board.

No discussion held. Ms. Strassburger so moved, and Ms. Leber seconded the motion.

Chair Sciulli proceeded to begin the Regular Board of Directors Meeting for February 2023.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Executive Session was held prior to the Board Meeting, wherein legal and personnel matters were discussed. No votes were taken.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on January 27, 2023. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. McCormick Barron seconded the motion.

No discussion held. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ed Barca, Director of Finance, presented the details of the report through January 31, 2023. The new finance report format emphasizes 2023 actuals as compared to the 2023 budget rather than a year-to-date comparison to the prior year. This new format will provide more insight as we progress through the year. In addition to this enhancement, we plan to include quarterly reports in the Board packet that will provide a detailed narrative description of PWSA's financial status. Revenue collections for January were \$15.6 million, which is approximately \$2.0 million higher than anticipated. Expenses for the month, including debt, were \$12.4 million, which was in-line with budget. In addition, PWSA's cash balance remains at a near all-time high, with expectation that the cash balance will remain strong throughout the year.

### **ENGINEERING REPORT**

Barry King, Director of Engineering, presented the details of this report.

#### **Drinking Water Programs:**

Progress continues to be made on the Design and Construction efforts for the Water Reliability Plan Projects.

Construction continues on the Rising Main No. 4 Rehabilitation and Replacement Project, as well as the Highland Reservoir Supply and Rising Mains Project in Highland Park.

Design and permitting efforts continue with the balance of our WRP projects.

Design review meetings continue to refine the designs of the Aspinwall Pump Station and Bruecken Pump Station Improvements Projects, as well as the Clearwell Emergency Response Clearwell Bypass Project.

Reviews are all in progress for the Aspinwall Pump Station to Lanpher Reservoir Rising Main Project and the Lanpher Reservoir Improvement Project.

The Highland Reservoir Pump Station Project Design is being finalized for bid advertisement in March 2023.

Finally, Duquesne Light Company received their right of entry from the City of Pittsburgh today and will be commencing construction of the new 4.16 kv Power Substation at the Aspinwall Water Treatment Plant.

Dr. Murrell – I want to compliment the staff in their response to the recent boil water advisory that was precipitated by the power outage. The responsiveness in the communication was really noteworthy.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ETHICS OFFICER/ REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Frank Sidari, Chief Environmental Compliance and Ethics Officer, presented the details of this report. One of the functions of the Environmental Compliance Department is to prepare and submit required reporting for compliance with environmental permits and regulations. Reporting that has been completed or is in progress includes:

NPDES Stormwater Report is our Annual report submitted to DEP on the status of our industrial stormwater permit for the Water Treatment Plant.

NPDES CSO Status Report is the Annual report submitted to DEP documenting CSO occurrences and associated operation and maintenance activities.

Self-Monitoring Compliance Reports are the Annual and semi-annual reports submitted to ALCOSAN summarizing industrial wastewater discharges to their system. This year reports were submitted for the Water Treatment Plant, Howard Yard, Bruecken Pump Station, Herron Hill Reservoir, and Lanpher Supply Main.

Air Quality Reports are the Semi-annual reports submitted to ACHD on maintenance and operation of the gas-fired boilers and engine-driven generators at the Water Treatment Plant and Bruecken Pump Station.

Air Quality Certification is the Annual report submitted to ACHD with a certification for boilers and engine-driven generators at the Water Treatment Plant and Bruecken Pump Station.

Residual Waste Report is the Biennial report submitted to DEP on odd-numbered years with information on residual waste disposal at the Water Treatment Plant.

Source Reduction Report, also known as a 25-hour source reduction report, is only to be updated every 5 years and kept on file documenting waste source reduction approaches at the Water Treatment Plant.

Wasteload Report is the Annual report submitted to Penn Hills and ALCOSAN on discharges to the sewer system, for those organizations to report to DEP.

SARA Tier II Report is the Annual report to PA Department of Labor and Industry providing an inventory of chemical storage at PWSA facilities.

We are on schedule with the submittal of all these reports to the various agencies.

Finally, I would like to recognize the support of our Engineering Department in the roll-out of two new technical specifications that began to be incorporated in bid documents at the end of last year. These specifications include one on Environmental Compliance and Conduct and

another on Temporary Environmental Controls. The specifications establish requirements for contractors to appoint a Project Compliance Manager and comply with compliance and conduct codes and policies that the Authority has in place. Contractors are also required to submit project-specific plans for environmental protection and waste management. These topics are all part of a conference held in conjunction with the project kick-off meeting, several of which began to be held this week.

### **Report of the Chief Executive Officer**

Will Pickering, Chief Executive Officer, presented the details of this report. I was invited to the White House to represent PWSA. I had the opportunity to serve on a panel with Federal Officials, as well as industry stakeholders, to talk about our Lead Service Line Replacement Program and in particular how we are utilizing different sources of federal funding and assistance to fund the program and the way we are equitably rolling it out. EPA has seen us and is using us as a model. We are going to participate in a technical assistance relationship among other state utilities to share our lessons learned. Today marks the ten thousandth lead service line replaced on the public side since we started this in 2016. We have been to thousands more sites to determine whether there is lead or not. Over \$270 million has been invested to date for this work. We are over halfway there. I want to thank the Board of Directors, present and past, for setting us on the path where we have a program that is now a national model. There will be an event later on today where we are going to share this recognition with state, federal, and local partners because it has taken a village for us to get to this point. You may have noticed in our performance report that our Customer Service metrics in the past month are getting close to where they were. You may recall some of the metrics declined during our transition to our new customer portal and our customer information system SAP. We are making progress and we thank our customers for bearing through some longer than typical wait times. I also want to recognize our electricians and our operations and production staff who responded quickly in the middle of the night to the boil water advisory triggered by a Duquesne Light power outage. We always look to see how we can improve and the way that we communicate with customers and also how quickly we respond. Finally, I want to end by providing a warm welcome to Jim Martin who is the Vice Chancellor of Pitt for Innovation and Research. He's joining our Board for his first meeting this morning. We are very excited to have him round out the team here for our volunteer Board of Directors. His expertise in civil engineering will certainly be a compliment to the Board. We look forward to getting to know him and working with him in the future. I want to thank our re-elected Executive Committee of the Board and thank them. Their leadership to date has been tremendous and being a sounding board for us in the leadership team, as well as providing oversight and guidance and a tremendous amount of time. So, we appreciate you taking that on again for another year. We are forever grateful for your contribution to PWSA and its customers for that.

Ms. Strassburger – I want to congratulate the engineering team for their awards at the ASCE award ceremony. Barry King and many others on his team received deserved recognition for

their work. Yet another way that the PWSA team is being recognized throughout the region and throughout the country.

Mr. Sciulli – I should note that our Highland 2 project received an Award of Merit and at the upcoming Engineers Banquet, we’re also going to be recognized. It is nice to be acknowledged for the work that PWSA is doing and appreciate the Board support. I also wanted to add my welcome to Jim Martin as well. Jim brings a wealth of experience and knowledge. It is apropos that Jim is coming on board as well when we’re really in the midst of this water reliability plan. So, it is great to have Jim on board and have him give a fresh look at some of the things we are doing.

Mr. Martin – I would like to say it is certainly a pleasure and great privilege to serve. This is a terrific Board. I’ve noticed the leadership and the responsiveness. It’s a great opportunity to be able to serve the City, but most importantly in a national way and certainly a regional way to solve challenges, increase reliability and to provide the best services possible. I can see that this is a forward-focused Board and it’s a great city. This was the center of the Industrial Age, and I think this is the best place to actually show how it is done.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**No. 8 of 2023**

**Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services (CM/CI) Services for 2022 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement to Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc. Capital Budget \$6,998,000.**

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This project involves the relay of water mains including valves, fire hydrants, and service lines as required for three separate construction contracts for the 2022 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement program.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. Strassburger seconded the motion.

Dr. Murrell – I want to recognize the effort being made on minority participation and WDBE participation through all of the resolutions that have been brought to the Board. The diligence of the team to be able to make sure that we’re being inclusive in terms of spend is acknowledged.

No further discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

**No. 9 of 2023**

**Approving an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for Project Management Services for the Aspinwall Pump Station to Lanpher Rising Main Project to Mott MacDonald. Capital Budget \$469,230.93**

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This amendment addresses the cost for additional project management services associated with the current design phase, as well as future bidding and construction phases of the project through the end of 2024.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. McCormick Barron so moved, and Ms. Leber seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciulli – What are the reasons for the request for an amendment?

Mr. King – This Resolution came before the Board in 2020 and work had been anticipated to begin in 2021. Delays are the result of the additional permitting requirements and the increased stakeholder negotiations that we have going on with adjacent authorities.

No further discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 10 of 2023**

**Approving the Award of Operating Contracts for the Construction of the 2023 Surface Restoration Contract to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc., and A. Folino Construction, Inc., and a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services (CM/CI) to Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc. Cumulative Operating Budget \$11,093,160.11**

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These contracts will address necessary surface restoration for sites completed by PWSA Operations, including any open site yet to be restored to date, and sites that will be completed in the 2023 construction season.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. McCormick Barron seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciulli – Of the surface restoration work in these two contracts, approximately how much is associated with the lead line replacement program?

Mr. King – There's probably a minor amount. It is only those instances where it is an emergency lead line replacement. I would assume that it is probably under 5% of the contracts that directly address those sites.

Ms. Cristello – I see that 17 firms requested solicitation, but we only got 3 proposals. If I can just get information as far as the ones who didn't submit a proposal. I just want to understand that process more.

Mr. Sciulli – I think that is a good question Rosamaria. The firms that obviously won the award have done work for PWSA previously and have had a long history with PWSA. Barry if you wouldn't mind going back and finding out why the other firms did not bid and get back to Rosamaria and also other Board members.

No further discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 11 of 2023      Approving a Change Order of a Capital Contract for Construction of the Highland No. 2 Reservoir Liner and Cover Replacement to Layfield Corp. Capital Budget \$973,965.**

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The project was completed in December of 2022. Actual installed final quantities for some of the bid items exceeded the quantities identified in the bid contract documents. PWSA would have had to pay these final amounts, whether correctly quantified in the bid or not. This apparent design error is a separate matter being addressed directly with the Engineering Consultant, Arcadis and does not involve the contractor, Layfield.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Strassburger so moved, and Ms. Leber seconded the motion.

Mr. Domach – For the sake of the learning curve, what can the engineers learn from this?

Mr. King – This one takes us back to basic geometry.

Mr. Domach – Sidewalls?

Mr. King – You got it. Estimating a 2-dimension world when accounting for a 3-dimension world they would go with the perimeter. It turns out it was a 9.35% difference in quantities which translates to a \$900,000 change order.

Mr. Sciulli – As a former consultant, I've been on both sides of this type of issue. A shame that we didn't get the quantities correct. These are not unforeseen conditions. I understand that we would have had to pay for these items anyway as a result of the work that needed to be done by Layfield, and of course this is an award-winning project for PWSA. I think there are some lessons there that both internally and externally we ought to investigate a little bit more as to what can be done to prevent that type of error in the future.

Mr. Martin – When was the original design completed and when was the original estimate done for the quantities needed and errors found? How long ago was that?

Mr. King – These quantities go back to 2019. In February 2022 during the process of the manufacturing the original placement of the order with Layfield and trying to define the exact segments that would be cut for the liner was when they identified this discrepancy.

No further discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**ADJOURNMENT OF THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Ms. McCormick Barron so moved, and Ms. Strassburger seconded the motion.

The next scheduled Regular Board Meeting will take place on Friday, March 24, 2023.

*BJ Leber*

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BJ Leber, Secretary