

**SOUTH MONMOUTH REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES - CAUCUS MEETING – DECEMBER 8, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Caucus Meeting of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

**Moment of Silence and Salute:** Led by Chairman Nicol

**Announcement:** This meeting was called in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act in that an announcement of the same was mailed to the Clerks of our member municipalities on February 22, 2016; and to the Asbury Park Press and the Coast Star on February 25, 2016. The minutes of this meeting will be available after Board approval at a subsequent meeting.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Burne, Cory, Farrell, Lynch, Mattia, McLean, and Nicol.

Mr. Bujak and Mr. Ruppel

**Excused:** Commissioner Dempsey and Mr. Bonello

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

**SYSTEMS**

**Outfall Project**

Mr. Ruppel reported the Ocean Outfall Rehabilitation Project has been awarded and staff is awaiting the signed contract from the contractor, Seaward Marine Corporation.

**Cogeneration Resiliency Upgrades**

Mr. Ruppel reported the Cogeneration Feasibility Study has been completed and staff is now in the design stage of the project. He stated there was an issue with the contract in that after its award to T&M, the ERB and the Economic Development Authority advised staff that an addendum would need to be issued which is a standard requirement for all federally funded projects in order to provide for liquidated damages. Staff is currently negotiating an addendum and does not believe this will result in any delays.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Operations & Maintenance**

Mr. Ruppel reported during a review of the year end budgets and work yet to be completed, staff discovered the impending wet well cleaning required but the contract had not yet been awarded. Staff selected one particular contractor for its favorable quote and are recommending awarding the

contract to Root 24 of Camden, New Jersey. However, due to the project's unspecifiable quantity of well to be cleaned (cannot be determined until actually inside the well), the costs of the project could exceed the \$17,500.00 Pay to Play statue and in anticipation of this a resolution has been placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda for Board consideration and authorization to award a non-fair and open contract to Root 24.

### **Authority Staffing**

Mr. Ruppel reported staff continues to work diligently to find qualified people to staff. He stated that 50% of his time is being spent on Human Resource related items. During a recent Human Resource Meeting, staff and Commissioners reviewed candidates who had been interviewed which resulted in employment offers to two candidates. Mr. Kevin Wuchter, will be joining the SMRSA at an elementary level. Mr. Wuchter's father was a valued employee for many years and he recently retired. To Mr. Wuchter's credit, he was hired on his own merit and not as a result of the family name. The second offer was to Mr. William Apuzzo, who is a 15 year veteran from the Brick Utilities Authority of which he resigned in 2013 to work for Con Ed as a Lead Maintenance/Mechanic/Welder. He is newly married and wants to work in the New Jersey area and believes he will be an excellent addition to the SMRSA staff. Coincidentally, the existing openings are due to staff retirements, as Mr. Charles Willever, Systems Support Manager currently plans to retire in one and a half years. Staff recommends placing Mr. Apuzzo into an interim Systems Support Manager position in order to take advantage of Mr. Willever's job knowledge and be ready to fill the position when Mr. Willever retires.

### **BUSINESS:**

- Ratify the Establishment of Temporary Interim System Support Manager Position
- Ratify the Hire of Mr. William Apuzzo as Temporary Interim Systems Support Manager
- Ratify the Hire of Mr. Kevin Wuchter as Apprentice II
- Authorize a Non-Fair and Open Contract for Required and Unexpected Wet Well Cleanings

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

It was moved by Commissioner Burne and seconded by Commissioner Farrell to open the public portion of the meeting. On voice vote, all voted aye. A motion was made by Commissioner Burne, and seconded by Commissioner Lynch to close the public portion of the meeting. On voice vote, all voted aye.

### **ADJORNMENT:**

Commissioner Mattia made the motion to adjourn the Caucus Meeting. Commissioner Lynch seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye.