

**SOUTH MONMOUTH REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
MINUTES - CAUCUS MEETING – SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Caucus Meeting of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 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 has been mailed to the Clerks of our member municipalities on August 16, 2016; and to the Asbury Park Press and the Coast Star on August 18, 2016. The minutes of this meeting will be available after Board approval at a subsequent meeting.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:**

Commissioners Burne, Cory, Dempsey, Farrell, Lynch, Mattia, McLean, and Nicol.

Messrs. Bonello, Bujak, and Ruppel.

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT:**

Mr. Bonello reported he had nothing to report in addition to what the Executive Director will be reporting during his Executive Director Report.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

**SYSTEM STATUS**

**Belmar Pumping Station:**

Mr. Ruppel reported the Belmar Pumping Station continues to be operational and is better than anticipated in terms of capacity and efficiency.

**Outfall Maintenance Project:**

During the July 14, 2016 Regular Open Public Meeting, the Board of Commissioners rejected all bids received for the Outfall Maintenance Project. Mr. Ruppel reported after the feedback received from prospective bidders, staff restructured the bid. During the August 11, 2016 Open Public Meeting the Board of Commissioners unanimously authorized the rebidding of the project. The revised bid opening is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

**Co-Generation System Feasibility Study Update:**

Mr. Ruppel reported the Feasibility Study Application was approved by the Energy Resilience Bank (ERB). He stated the related Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was distributed and the Authority

received three prospective responses. A site meeting will be conducted on Thursday, October 22, 2016 with the Respondents.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Annual Procurement and Services Contracts:**

Mr. Ruppel reported the 2017 Procurement and Services contracts have been prepared with a bid opening scheduled for October 6, 2016 with the expectation of awarding contracts during the October 13, 2016 Board of Commissioner Meeting.

### **NJ-DCA Super Storm Sandy Non-federal Cost Share Funds:**

Mr. Ruppel reported the State of New Jersey is considering funding a portion of the 10% unfunded FEMA expenses for Category A and B damages resulting from Super Storm Sandy. He stated he learned this through his contacts within the state government and was surprised to discover Authorities will not be eligible for these funds. It is his belief that Authorities should not be singled out and he recommended to the Board of Commissioners that SMRSA make application for the fund relief, if only to discover why Authorities are not eligible.

### **Sewer Extension for Ramshorn Section II**

Mr. Ruppel reported a resolution has been placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda to approve a sewer extension for Halifax at Ramshorn Section II, for Board of Commissioner consideration and approval. The project consists of 1,868 LF of 3" PVC common force main and 15 privately owned grinder pump stations.

### **Issuance of SMRSA Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016A:**

Mr. Ruppel reported the Finance Committee met on September 13, 2016 and reviewed the Refunding of the Sewer Revenue Bonds and the 2016 Revised and 2017 Proposed Income and Appropriation Budgets. He stated the refunding of the Sewer Revenue Bonds took place in the market earlier in the day, noting the refunding will result in a savings to the Authority of \$497,000.00. A resolution has been placed on the Regular Meeting Agenda for Board of Commissioner consideration and approval confirming the details of this transaction.

### **2017 Proposed Income and Appropriations Budgets:**

Mr. Ruppel stated that it is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to increase the sewer use charge by 4.54%. He then discussed with the Board of Commissioners how it will be distributed and explained the reasons for the increase. He stated that 2017 will be the first year that the Authority will begin to repay principal and interest on the NJEIT borrowing for the Lake Como, Pitney Avenue and Belmar Pump Stations. In addition a portion of the rate increase includes a provision for long term borrowing as it relates to the Co-generation System Project. Lastly, the Authority will experience a significant increase in healthcare expense as a result of the recent retirements.

It is anticipated that the 2017 Income, Capital and Appropriation Budgets will be approved during the October 13, 2016 Board of Commissioner Meeting.

**BUSINESS:**

- Resolution of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority confirming the details of the Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority and the sale thereof to the Monmouth County Improvement Authority, and determining various related matters.
- Resolution to approve a Sewer Extension for the Township of Wall (Halifax at Ramshorn – Section 2).

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

It was moved by Commissioner Mattia 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 Mattia, and seconded by Commissioner Burne 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 Burne seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye.