South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority

August 28, 2025 Minutes

The regular meeting of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority ("RWA" or "Authority") took place on Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut and via remote access. Chair Borowy presided.

Present: Authority – Messrs. Borowy, Curseaden and Ricozzi, and Mss. LaMarr and Sack

Management - Ms. Kowalski and Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Hill(R), and

Singh

 $\mathbf{RPB} - \mathbf{Mr.}$ Levine(R)

Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund - Mr. Stone(R)

Staff – Mrs. Slubowski

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

1. SAFETY MOMENT

1.1 Chair Borowy reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Borowy offered the opportunity for members of the public to comment. There were no members of the public present.

3. MEET AS SOLE MEMBER OF THE CLAIRE C. BENNITT WATERSHED FUND (WSF)

3.1 REPORT OF THE WSF

Mr. Stone, President of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, reviewed the FY 2025 WSF update. He stated that the Fund had a good year and awarded \$190,000 in grants, including a \$50,000 grant to Common Ground for relief funding to assist with federal funding cuts and paid the third installment of five to Southern Connecticut State University for its Public Utilities Management Program. The WSF also awarded \$80,000 in scholarships in FY 2025.

Mr. Ricozzi thanked Mr. Stone and members of the WSF for work done in FY 2025. He noted the investment management fees charged by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven ("CFGNH"). Mr. Stone will follow up with the CFGNH and report back to the Authority.

3.2 ACT ON RECOMMENDATION OF WSF CHAIR FOR REAPPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Stone noted that the terms of Susan S. Addiss, Brian Kelahan, Martha Rice, and Amanda Schenkle, directors of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, would be expiring. All four have expressed an interest in continuing to serve. After discussion, Ms. LaMarr moved for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the following persons be, and hereby are, reappointed as Directors of the Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, Inc. to serve in such capacity until the annual meeting of the sole Member in 2028, or until they otherwise lawfully cease to hold such office: Susan S. Addiss, Martha Rice, Amanda Schenkle, and Brian Kelahan.

Mr. Ricozzi seconded the motion, and the resolution was adopted unanimously.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

4. MEET AS STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

At 12:38 p.m., Mr. Stone withdrew from the meeting and on motion made by Mr. Curseaden, and seconded by Ms. Sack, the Authority voted to recess the meeting to meet as the Strategic Planning Committee.

| Borowy | Aye |
|-----------|-----|
| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

At 1:05 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

5. MEET AS ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

At 1:05 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Borowy and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Authority voted to recess the meeting to meet as the Environmental, Health & Safety Committee.

| Borowy | Aye |
|-----------|-----|
| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

At 1:21 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

On motion made by Ms. Sack and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Authority voted to approve, adopt, or receive, as appropriate the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- **6.1** Minutes of the July 29, 2025 special meeting
- **6.2** Capital budget authorization for September 2025

RESOLVED, that the Vice President & Chief Financial Officer is authorized to submit to the Trustee one or more requisitions in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$4,400,000 for the month of September 2025 for transfer from the Construction Fund for capital expenditures. Each such requisition shall contain or be accompanied by a certificate identifying such requisition and stating that the amount to be withdrawn, pursuant to such requisition, is a proper charge to the Construction Fund. Such requisitions are approved notwithstanding the fact that amounts to be withdrawn for a particular project may exceed the amount indicated for such month and year in the current Capital Improvement Budget but will not cause the aggregate amount budgeted for fiscal year 2026 for all Capital Improvement Projects to be exceeded. In the absence of the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development, the Controller is authorized to sign in her place.

- **6.3** Monthly financial report for July 2025.
- **6.4** Accounts receivable update for July 2025.
- **6.5** RWAY/CIS Update for August 2025.
- **6.6** Bis Property OSWA 660 Resolutions:

I, Catherine E. LaMarr, do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (the "RWA"), a non-profit public corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut having its principal place of business at 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Connecticut, that I am the keeper of the corporate records and seal. That the following is a true and correct copy of resolutions duly adopted by the RWA on August 28, 2025 in accordance with the constituent charter of the RWA and that the same has not in any way been modified, repealed or rescinded, but is in full force and effect.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Sunder Lakshminarayanan, RWA's Interim CEO, is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the RWA a Grant Agreement and Conservation and Public Recreation Easement and Agreement under the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to acquire a permanent interest in land known as the former Bis Property – OSWA 660 (77.97+/- acres located at Mountain Road in Cheshire) and to manage said land as open space land pursuant to Section 7-131d of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED, that Sunder Lakshminarayanan was appointed as Interim CEO on December 2, 2024 with his appointment to remain in effect indefinitely. Sunder Lakshminarayanan serves as the Interim CEO for the RWA and has both the authority and the office to execute on behalf of the RWA a Grant Agreement and Conservation and Public Recreation Easement and Agreement for financial assistance to purchase permanent interest in land under the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program.

Borowy Aye Curseaden Aye LaMarr Aye Ricozzi Aye Sack Aye

7. FINANCE

7.1. NORTH BRANFORD TANK PROJECT APPLICATION – FINANCING RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Kowalski, the RWA's Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development, reported that the Financing Resolutions associated with the North Branford Tank Project Application, approved for recommendation to the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") last month, are before the board. The resolutions are conditional upon RPB approval of the project.

Mr. Ricozzi, upon RPB approval, moved for approval of the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That the Authority hereby establishes the general terms and provisions of the Authority's Bonds which may be issued as Project Loan Obligations delivered to the State of Connecticut (the "Bonds") which are to be issued under its Water System Revenue Bond Resolution, General Bond Resolution adopted by the Authority and

approved by the Representative Policy Board on July 31, 1980, as amended (the "General Bond Resolution").

- 1. The Bonds shall not exceed Eleven Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$11,200,000) in aggregate principal amount.
- 2. The Bonds may be issued as obligations in one or more series pursuant to the General Bond Resolution and a supplemental resolution to be adopted by the Authority for each series of Bonds, each of which shall specify the amount of the Bonds, the purposes for which the Bonds are to be issued, the date or dates, maturities, sinking fund installments if any, interest rates, series, denominations, form, redemption prices, security provisions and such other details of the Bonds as the Authority shall determine in accordance with the limits established by the General Bond Resolution and hereby.
- 3. The purposes of the Bonds shall be (I) to finance or refinance the cost of certain capital improvements to the water system of the Authority including the replacement of the North Branford Water Storage Tank; (II) to provide funds for deposit to the Capital Contingency Fund and the Debt Reserve Fund, as necessary pursuant to the General Bond Resolution and as permitted by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and (III) to pay costs of issuance (the "Project").
- 4. The Bonds may be sold by negotiation as serial or term bonds with stated maturities and may be sold in a private or direct placement to a bank or the State of Connecticut.
- 5. The Authority reasonably expects to incur expenditures (the "Expenditures") in connection with the Project of which a general functional description is provided above. The Authority reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the cost of Expenditures with respect to the Project with the proceeds of tax-exempt debt to be issued by the Authority within eighteen (18) months after the date of any Expenditure or the date the Project is placed in service or abandoned, whichever is later. The maximum principal amount of such debt with respect to the Project is not expected to exceed \$11,200,000.
- 6. The form of this resolution entitled "Resolution Approving the Proposed Issuance of Bonds for the Replacement of the North Branford Water Storage Tank" a copy of which shall be filed with the records of the Authority, shall be submitted to the Representative Policy Board for its approval in accordance with Section 22 of Special Act No. 77-98, as amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- 1. Temporary notes of the Authority which may be issued as Interim Funding Obligations delivered to the State of Connecticut may be issued by the Authority in the amount of \$11,200,000 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such Bonds.
- 2. The President / Chief Executive Officer, the Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development or any one of them may apply to the State Department of Public Health for eligibility and funding of the Project or any part of the Project and sign such application and any other documents which may be necessary or desirable to apply for eligibility of and to apply for and obtain financial assistance for the Project from the State's

Drinking Water Fund Program and that any such action taken prior hereto is hereby ratified and confirmed.

3. For the purpose of providing to the Authority the loan and grant from the State, the Authority hereby approves the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement by and between the State and the Authority related to the Replacement of the North Branford Water Storage Tank Project substantially in the form as the President/Chief Executive Officer or Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Head of Corporate Development shall deem advisable and the approval of the Authority shall conclusively be determined from any of their signatures thereon.

Mr. Lakshminarayanan noted that the project will consist of a replacement tank for the existing tank. The replacement will reduce the cost of operating and maintaining the North Branford tank.

Ms. LaMarr seconded the motion. The Chair called for the vote, and the Authority approved the resolutions unanimously.

| Borowy | Aye |
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| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

8. REPORTS ON RPB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Authority members reported on recent RPB committee meetings.

9. BUSINESS UPDATES

9.1 MONTHLY BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Lakshminarayanan reported:

- Commercial businesses are on target for FY 2026;
- The FY 2025 audit is underway; and
- The RWA participated in OSHA Safe & Sound week earlier in the month. Employee celebrations took place throughout the week to raise awareness of the importance of safety in the work environment.

Authority members discussed updates to the PipeSafe program, including the status of enrollments.

Mr. Levine, RPB Woodbridge representative, inquired about steps for program in memory of the RWA's former CEO, Mr. Bingaman. Steps are underway and will be subsequently reported to the RPB.

9.2 AWA UPDATE

At 1:37 p.m., Mr. Levine withdrew from the meeting, and on motion made by Ms. Sack, and seconded by Mr. Ricozzi, the Authority voted unanimously to convene in executive session pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(E) to discuss matters covered by Section 1-210(b)(5)(A)(B), pertaining to trade secrets and commercial and financial information. Present in executive session

were Authority members, Messrs. Lakshminarayanan, Hill, and Singh, and Mss. Kowalski and Slubowski.

| Borowy | Aye |
|-----------|-----|
| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

At 3:58 p.m., the Authority came out of executive session. No votes were taken in, or as a result of executive session.

10. MEET AS COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

At 3:58 p.m., Mss. Kowalski and Slubowski, and Messrs. Hill, and Singh withdrew from the meeting. On motion made by Ms. Sack, and seconded by Mr. Curseaden, the Authority voted to recess the meeting to meet as the Compensation Committee.

| Borowy | Aye |
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| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

At 4:30 p.m., Mr. Lakshminarayanan withdrew from the meeting.

At 4:32 p.m., the Authority reconvened.

11. ACT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

On motion made by Ms. Sack and seconded by Ms. LaMarr, the Authority voted unanimously to approve the Compensation Committee's salary and bonus recommendations for the senior executive team, conditional upon receipt of information from Mr. Lakshminarayanan, as discussed in executive session.

| Borowy | Aye |
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| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

At 4:35 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Ricozzi, and seconded by Ms. LaMarr, the Authority voted to adjourn the meeting.

| Borowy | Aye |
|-----------|-----|
| Curseaden | Aye |
| LaMarr | Aye |
| Ricozzi | Aye |
| Sack | Aye |

Catherine E. LaMarr, Secretary