



Paul Colangelo, Jr., Chair
B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., Vice Chair
Marlo Thomas Watson, Secretary/Treasurer
Jim Almond, Member
Dean E. Dickey, Member
Charles A. Grymes, Member
K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D., Member

Calvin D. Farr, Jr., P.E., General Manager/CEO

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF OCTOBER 10, 2024

Board Members Present: Jim Almond (via MS Teams/telephone), Paul Colangelo, Jr., Dean E. Dickey, Charles A. Grymes, K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D. (via MS Teams), B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., Marlo Thomas Watson.

Staff: Calvin D. Farr, Jr., Hari Kurup, Astrid Nelson, Don Pannell, Lyle Beefelt, Samer Beidas, Kathy Bentz (via MS Teams), Rachel Carlson, Doug Chapman, Drew Cockram, Lee-Anne Dandrea, Charles Egharevba, Michael Fox, Brett Gatlin, Sandra Hernando, Mamoud Kamara, Michael LoPorto, John Madaris, Mike Mayo, Michelle Miranda, Navdeep Nara, Maureen O'Shaughnessy, Glenn Pearson, Tony Piccione (via MS Teams), Shailaja Poluru, Ian Sansoni, Doug Shoop, Brian Sipes, Shannon Spence, Jayson Warren, Jeanetta Williams (via MS Teams), April Bean, and Kim Murray.

Legal Counsel: Mark Viani/Bean Kinney & Korman, P.C.

Guests: Meghann Quinn/Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; Dave Hyder/Stantec; Theo Spence; Alexandra Suarez.

Dr. Kooyoomjian joined the meeting at 3:58 via MS Teams (from Boston, MA, for personal reasons).

Mr. Almond joined the meeting at 4:00 PM via MS Teams (from Washington, DC, for business reasons).

1. CALL TO ORDER and GENERAL MATTERS

Chair Colangelo called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. He noted that since a quorum of five (5) members was not present in person, the Board would not conduct any action matters until a quorum is present.

Chair Colangelo referenced the Board's discussion at the September 2024 meeting to [posthumously] recognize Board Member Mrs. Joyce Eagles' nearly 35 years of service on the Board to Prince

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William Water and the community. The Board discussed ways to honor Mrs. Eagles. After discussion, Chair Colangelo recommended staff consider options related to the Neabsco Operations Facility and the Water Art Invitational.

a) Consideration of Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2024, Board Meeting

Since a quorum was not present, Mr. Viani noted that Chair Colangelo could not call for approval of the September 12, 2024 Board Meeting minutes. Approval was tabled until the November 14, 2024, meeting. [A quorum was established later in the meeting and the minutes were approved, as noted at that point in these minutes.]

b) Consideration of Announcements by Staff

- i. At Places: Mr. Farr noted the following items at Board Members' places: (1) Printed copy of the Final Comprehensive Water & Sewer Rate Study Presentation (the presentation will be provided during the meeting); (2) Revised Resolution and Service Connection Policy for item 3.a) to capture a technical clarification; and (3) Water and Wastewater Treatment Capacity Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

c) Citizens' Time

There were no citizens attending who signed up to speak.

2. PRESENTATIONS

a) Presentation: Virginia Environmental Excellence Program (VEEP) Sustainability Partner Award. Mr. Farr advised Prince William Water is pleased to have Meghann Quinn with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) present the award this evening. Mr. Farr noted the award fits Prince William Water's Environmental Leadership and Community Engagement Area of Excellence, which is an element of the Board of Directors' Vision – 2032. Ms. Quinn explained DEQ's VEEP Sustainability Partners program and congratulated Prince William Water for their commitment to environmental sustainability. She further described details of the program and its principles and noted a few of Prince William Water's specific projects. She presented the award to staff from the Environmental Services and Water Reclamation (ESWR) division and members of the Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability Committee.

b) Presentation: NACWA (National Association of Clean Water Agencies) Platinum 15 Peak Performance Award. Mr. Farr noted the H.L. Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility (Mooney) has achieved 15 years of perfect regulatory compliance with the Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit issued by the VDEQ. The Mooney facility is in the top one-half percent (0.5%) of all wastewater treatment plants in the country. Mr. Farr presented the award to Mr. Pearson, Ms. Carlson, and their staff on behalf of all the amazing men and women at the Mooney facility.

c) Presentation: Prince William Water Comprehensive Water & Sewer Rate Study. Mr. Farr noted this presentation is a briefing on the study that was completed based on discussions with the Board during the

Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) planning process. He introduced rate consultant Dave Hyder, Senior Principal with Stantec. He turned the presentation over to Mr. Beefelt, who provided background on the rate increases over the past five (5) years. Mr. Beefelt noted that during the 2025 Annual Business Planning (ABP) process, staff and Mr. Hyder discussed with the Board the need to adopt new rates and provided several options at that time. The Board's preferred option was incorporated into the ABP, and staff worked with Stantec to complete the study. Mr. Beefelt invited Mr. Hyder to present the results of the study. Mr. Hyder explained the need for user rate increases and shared the impact on customers and rate affordability. He also discussed the need to create an industrial user class based on consumption data from such users. Finally, Mr. Hyder reviewed increases in the cost of providing new water and sewer capacity and the recommended availability fees. Chair Colangelo thanked Mr. Hyder for the excellent and very clear presentation. Mr. Hyder and Mr. Beefelt answered Board Members' questions.

Mrs. Thomas Watson arrived at 5:22 PM.

With a quorum now present, Chair Colangelo asked if there were any edits to the September 12, 2024, Board Meeting minutes. Hearing none, the Chair stated the minutes are approved as presented.

3. ACTION MATTERS

- a) Authorize a Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Water and Sewer User Rates and Fees, Availability Fees, and an Industrial User Class.

The Chair called for a motion to approve this item.

Motion: Mr. O'Meara
Second: Mr. Almond
Ayes: O'Meara, Almond (via MS Teams), Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, Kooyoomjian (via MS Teams), Thomas Watson

- b) Construction Contract, Construction Administration, and Construction Management Services for the Belmont Sewage Pumping Station, L17 and Force Main Project:
 - i. Approval of Agreement SA-2407 with Archer Western Construction, LLC for Construction of the Belmont Sewage Pumping Station, L17 and Force Main Project.
 - ii. Approval of Task Order No. 38 with GHD Inc. to Provide Construction Administration and Construction Management Services for the Belmont Sewage Pumping Station, L17 and Force Main Project.

Motion: Mr. O'Meara
Second: Mr. Dickey
Ayes: O'Meara, Dickey, Almond (via MS Teams), Colangelo, Grymes, Kooyoomjian (via MS Teams), Thomas Watson

4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Mr. Farr reported the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a major revision to the lead and copper regulation in 2021. Prince William Water staff has determined it owns no lead service lines; however, staff has found fewer than 20 customer-owned lead or galvanized steel service lines.

b) Mr. Farr advised the EPA plans to designate PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) as hazardous substances under CERCLA (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act). Staff continues to advocate for liability protections for water and sewer utilities under CERCLA in treatment and disposal of PFAS. Mr. Farr sent letters to Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, and Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton, urging a tailored legislative exemption from liability for water and wastewater systems for PFAS-related cleanups.

c) Mr. Farr explained that in February, staff updated the Industrial Pretreatment Survey to include questions specifically related to PFAS. The survey was recently expanded to include all data centers, and staff is beginning to receive the responses.

d) Mr. Farr reported that for decades, the City of Manassas and Fairfax Water have added fluoride to our drinking water supply as recommended by the VDH. In September 2024, a U.S. District Court judge in California ruled that community water fluoridation poses an unreasonable risk to public health under the Toxic Substances Control Act and ordered the EPA to review the regulations. Fairfax Water and the City of Manassas are awaiting any updated guidance from EPA and VDH on this matter, but for now they continue to add fluoride. Staff updated website FAQs on this subject to acknowledge the recent court ruling and will continue to monitor this issue closely.

e) Mr. Farr reminded Members that Mr. Dickey asked a question at the October Board meeting about grandfathered water withdrawals. Mr. Farr explained that DEQ is revisiting this issue, although they seem to be taking a much more collaborative approach and have engaged some of the affected utilities, including Fairfax Water, in conversations about possible solutions. Mr. Farr offered to keep Board Members updated as this issue develops. Mr. Grymes asked if Prince William Water is dealing with the groundwater study that Prince William County (PWC or the County) is supposedly conducting. Mr. Farr stated staff is aware of the study but is not participating. Mr. Pannell offered to check the status of the County's action on the study.

f) Mr. Farr shared the Hammerheads team's results from the Virginia AWWA (American Water Works Association) Utility Rodeo held earlier this week. We will invite them to a future Board meeting to celebrate their victories.

g) Mr. Farr noted October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. The Information Technology division will provide employees cybersecurity training and resources covering several topics, as well as how to handle and report suspicious incidents.

h) Mr. Farr reported the WEFTEC Conference (Water Environment Federation's annual conference and exhibition) was held this week in New Orleans. Jonathan Okafor, Deputy Director of Operations & Maintenance, and Shannon Spence, Director of the Project Management Office, both gave presentations at this prestigious conference.

i) Mr. Farr reminded Board Members that Prince William Water is hosting its second annual Trick-or-Treatment event at the Mooney Facility on Saturday, October 26. A flyer was included in Board packages.

j) Mr. Farr invited Board Members to the 2024 Continuous Improvement & Innovation Exhibition and Awards Expo on Wed, November 20 (8:30-10:30 AM) in the Grubbs Environmental Center. This program recognizes employees for implementing creative innovations and continuous improvements that benefit Prince William Water and our customers. The flyer was included in Board packages.

k) Mr. Farr noted the holiday luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2024 (12:00-2:00 PM); the location is to be determined. He asked Board Members to save the date; the invitation will be sent soon.

l) Mr. Farr advised he will present to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors at their meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, on Salinity, PFAS, and Water Supply. The meeting begins at 2:00 PM; Ms. Murray will notify Board Members where the presentation is placed on the agenda when it is posted.

m) Mr. Farr stated the presentation on Enterprise Resource Planning will be provided at a future meeting; staff is still in the Procurement process.

n) Mr. Farr noted a closed meeting is not needed this evening.

5. ATTORNEY'S TIME

Mr. Viani confirmed a closed meeting is not needed this evening.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chair Colangelo asked Board Members to provide any comments on the Administrative Reports to staff.

7. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

Mr. Dickey complimented Mr. Hyder and Mr. Beefelt on the Rate Study briefing. He asked if anyone minded if Board Members shared the information with their respective county supervisor; Ms. Nelson advised the notification will be sent to the BOCS tomorrow.

Mr. Grymes noted he looks forward to Mr. Farr's briefing on salinization at the BOCS meeting. He asked that staff continue to put more focus on how to reduce the saline contribution to the Occoquan Reservoir. He stated that he hoped Mr. Farr would make some recommendations (in his presentation) for actions the BOCS could take implementing the community energy and sustainability master plan and addressing other actions he may recommend. He noted Prince William County (PWC) will conduct a stream restoration project at Mayhew Park, a place where Prince William Water installed pipe protection structures on Ben Lomond Trail after erosion had blocked access to the trail. He understands staff has reached out to the county's watershed management staff with respect to that project. He encouraged staff to reach out to the PWC Parks and Recreation staff as well to restore the trail. Mr. Grymes noted he appreciates the FAQs that staff prepared with respect to dealing with data center water supply. He suggested staff consider incorporating information from the Master Plan Addendum's projected demands from data centers. He believes the facts would be helpful for citizens who are concerned about the water supply being drained by data centers.


Mr. O'Meara noted at the September Board meeting the Board approved design services for a maintenance facility on the back side of the English Gardens site [aka Route 234 Dumfries Road Maintenance Facility]. He asked staff to propose options for the 5.6 acres in front of the site, which is zoned "office flex," prior to or as part of the next capital planning cycle. He noted the community and Prince William Water's focus on educational outreach should be considered. He asked if any Board Members had objections. None were expressed.

Dr. Kooyoomjian commented on several items. He thanked Mr. Shoop for his response to Dr. Kooyoomjian's inquiry regarding odors from the Hooes Run Sewage Pumping Station area. He thanked Mr. Pannell for providing a document that provides low salt strategy elsewhere in Virginia. He thanked Ms. Quinn for presenting the DEQ VEEP Award. Dr. Kooyoomjian also thanked Mr. Hyder for his presentation on the Rate Study. He noted he is proud of the Hammerheads.

Chair Colangelo congratulated staff for all the awards and recognition. He expressed prayers for the safety and health of the victims of the recent hurricanes.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM. Mr. Almond and Dr. Kooyoomjian disconnected from MS Teams at 5:34 PM.


For _____
Marlo Thomas Watson
Secretary/Treasurer