



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 NOVEMBER 14, 2024

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

Staff: Calvin D. Farr, Jr., Hari Kurup, Astrid Nelson, Don Pannell, Lyle Beefelt, Najee Alleyne, Audrey Arnold, Samer Beidas, Kathy Bentz, Drew Cockram, Lee-Anne Dandrea, Michael Fox, Shani Goodson, Sandra Hernando, George Hoke, Ed Kovalchuk, Michelle Miranda, Jonathan Okafor, Glenn Pearson, Shailaja Poluru, Doug Shoop, Brian Sipes, Shannon Spence, Jeanetta Williams, April Bean, and Kim Murray.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Colangelo called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

a) Adoption of Water and Sewer User Rates and Fees, Availability Fees, and an Industrial User Class.

Chair Colangelo opened the Public Hearing at 4:01 PM and advised that any member of the public who wishes to speak would be allotted three minutes to do so.

Chair Colangelo advised the purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider the adoption of Prince William Water's rates and fees for 2025, 2026, and 2027, as well as a new industrial user customer class. An independent consulting firm conducted a rate study and made these recommendations to meet the objective of replenishing and sustaining the Replacement Fund to enable investment in future infrastructure improvements needed for maintenance and replacement of the water and sewer system and fulfilling Prince William Water's financing covenants and projected operating and maintenance expenses.

Notice of this Public Hearing was published in The Prince William Times, having general circulation in Prince William County (PWC), on Thursday, October 24, 2024, and Thursday, October 31, 2024.

Chair Colangelo advised a copy of the foregoing notice was also posted on Prince William Water's website and mailed to the PWC Executive, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, the Mayors of the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and the Mayors and Town Managers for the Towns of Dumfries, Haymarket, and Occoquan. All customers of Prince William Water and all other interested members of the public will have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed rate adjustments.

Your Water • Your Environment • Our Mission

Chair Colangelo asked for comments or questions from the public on this matter. No one signed up to speak. With no comments or questions, the Chair declared the Public Meeting closed at 4:04 PM.

Chair Colangelo called for a motion to approve the Resolution to adopt the proposed user rates, fees, and charges for 2025, 2026, and 2027, and the new industrial user customer class.

Motion: Mr. Almond
Second: Mr. O'Meara

Dr. Kooyoomjian shared his thanks to the Board for their fiduciary responsibility and the staff for their work on this matter.

Mrs. Thomas Watson joined the meeting at 4:05 PM via MS Teams (from New York City, NY for business reasons).

Ayes: Almond, O'Meara, Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via Teams)

3. GENERAL MATTERS

a) Consideration of Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2024, Board Meeting

Chair Colangelo asked if there were any edits to the October 10, 2024, Board Meeting minutes. Mr. Dickey moved, and Mr. O'Meara seconded, approving the minutes as presented. The Chair stated the minutes are approved as presented.

b) Consideration of Announcements by Staff

i. Mr. Farr sadly shared with the Board that employee Chris Spencer passed away recently. He began his career with Prince William Water on January 11, 2010, and was a Senior Inspector at the Wellington facility. Mr. Spencer will be greatly missed by his colleagues.

ii. Mr. Farr shared that Spittle Security Officer, Harold Daye, passed away on November 7. Mr. Daye served Prince William Water as the front desk security officer for several years. He, too, will be sincerely missed by staff.

Mr. Farr requested a moment of silence to remember and honor Chris Spencer and Harold Daye and reflect on their lives and the impact they had on us.

iii. At Places: Mr. Farr noted the following items at Board Members' places: (1) Staff Report on Community Outreach regarding Salt Smarts; (2) New Prince William Water Reusable Water Bottles; and (3) Printed copies of the October 10, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes, which were inadvertently left out of the electronic Board packages. (Ms. Murray also emailed the minutes to Board Members earlier in the afternoon.)

c) Citizens' Time

There were no citizens attending who signed up to speak.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Colangelo asked if any Board Members wished to pull any items from the Consent Agenda. Dr. Kooyoomjian asked to pull item 4.a) Approval of the Revised Prince William Water Service Connection Policy. Dr. Kooyoomjian suggested a few edits he felt should be made to sections of the policy. Discussion was held on the proposed edits; Dr. Kooyoomjian agreed to keep the policy as written.

Mr. Grymes asked for clarification on the number of gallons per day as referenced in the Service Connection Policy. Mr. Beefelt explained the gallons per day of water and sewer for one ERU (equivalent residential unit).

Hearing no further questions, the Chair called for a motion to approve item 4.a) Approval of the Revised Prince William Water Service Connection Policy.

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

Chair Colangelo called for a motion to approve item 4.b) Approval of Agreement SA-2406 with WGK Construction, LLC for Construction of the Manassas Southside Tank Residual Control System Project.

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

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Mr. Farr reminded Board Members he is presenting to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, on PFAS, Salinity, and Water Supply. He noted County Supervisor Kenny Boddye also invited Dr. Stanley Grant from the Virginia Tech Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory to discuss water quality from an academic perspective. Mr. Farr also referenced the staff report provided at places which covers the many ways staff reaches our customer base on how they can be Salt Smart.

b) Mr. Farr provided an update on the Occoquan Crossing Project, which achieved a major milestone this week. The tie-in of the second 42" main in the tunnel under the Occoquan River was completed yesterday; by this weekend, the transition over to the new pipes will be completed. This project accomplishes a major improvement in the reliability of service from Fairfax Water to eastern PWC. Mr. Farr expressed his appreciation of the Board's support for this project and the high level of coordination between the Fairfax Water staff and our Operations teams.

c) Mr. Farr noted the latest on the Town of Quantico is that the Town's consultant has prepared a draft Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and asked Prince William Water to provide input. The PER covers water and sewer improvements needed within the town, as well as possible connections to Prince William Water. Staff will provide comments on the report in the next couple of weeks. It appears the Town is making progress to use the grant funds set aside in the State budget to improve their water and sewer system.

d) Mr. Farr reported on staff's partnership with the Prince William Public Library System to celebrate "Imagine a Day Without Water" (as noted in the monthly Communications Report). During October, the libraries held a water-themed reading challenge and our staff taught 133 children about the value of water, the role of the water industry, and how kids can care for our planet.

e) As part of Prince William Water's ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental leadership, Mr. Farr noted the organization recently donated 20,000 reusable water bottles to PWC School students. The school staff members shared their gratitude for their students receiving these bottles.

f) Mr. Farr provided an update for how staff plans to honor Board Member Joyce P. Eagles. Her husband, Doug, and son, Ross, will be invited to a future meeting to receive Mrs. Eagles' commendation. He shared that the *Neabsco Maintenance Facility* will be renamed to honor Mrs. Eagles. Also, due to her dedication to the Water Art Program over her many years of service, the highest award in the program will now be called the *Joyce P. Eagles Grand Prize*, in her honor.

g) Mr. Farr referenced the tragic situation in the Piedmont neighborhood last month where a home exploded due to a gas leak. He shared that one of our technicians, Zack Angell, was on site at the time of the explosion, and had just completed marking the water and sewer lines in response to an Emergency Locate ticket. Mr. Farr considered this a reminder of the dangers that our staff face every day. The safety of our staff is always our top priority and we do not take it for granted.

h) Mr. Farr shared with the Board that members of the Human Resources and Organizational Development division recently participated in a Workforce Development Task Force kickoff meeting. The Task Force is being spearheaded by the US Water Alliance. The team is working with five other water and wastewater utilities from across the country, discussing workforce challenges and the role that community partnerships can play in addressing some of those challenges.

i) Mr. Farr reported that National Customer Service Week was celebrated with employees in October with doughnuts and coffee. Stories of employees who have gone above and beyond in their service to customers were featured in the Communications Report (which was included in the Board's November package).

j) Mr. Farr wished a belated Happy Veterans Day to the veterans on our Board and staff and thanked them for teaching us the real meaning of patriotism.

k) Mr. Farr reminded Board Members of the Continuous Improvement and Innovation Exhibition and Awards Expo on Wednesday, November 20th at the Grubbs Environmental Center.

l) Mr. Farr stated Prince William Water's Holiday Luncheon is set for Wednesday, December 4th at the Dale City Boys' and Girls' Club.

m) Mr. Farr noted that there are no action matters scheduled for December, and there is not a staff need for a December Board meeting (barring any emergencies that may arise). Regular monthly reports will be sent to Board Members in December.

n) Mr. Farr noted a closed meeting is needed this evening.

6. ATTORNEY'S TIME

Mr. Viani confirmed a closed meeting is needed this evening under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A19, Cybersecurity. He reported sad news that his colleague and friend, Pam Pelto, who has attended some of these meetings in his absence, passed away recently.

Chair Colangelo requested a motion to authorize a closed meeting to discuss an item under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A19, Cybersecurity.

Motion: Mr. O'Meara

Second: Mr. Dickey

Ayes: O'Meara, Dickey, Almond, Colangelo, Grymes, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via Teams)

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chair Colangelo asked Board Members to provide any comments on the Administrative Reports to staff. Mr. Beefelt presented on the FY2025 first quarter financial reports.

8. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

Mrs. Thomas Watson shared her condolences on the losses of Mr. Spencer and Mr. Daye. She also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Mr. Almond stated he is proud to be involved with an organization that shows compassion and love in how it cares for its employees.

Dr. Kooyoomjian expressed his sympathy to employees for the recent staff losses. He reported the Audit Committee met today; members of the committee elected him as the committee chair. He stated he is looking forward to the Continuous Improvement & Innovation Awards event, as well as the holiday luncheon. Dr. Kooyoomjian wished everyone a happy holiday season. He suggested staff commemorate the 100,000th connection when that occurs. He also thanked Mr. Beefelt for his presentation. Dr. Kooyoomjian suggested it may be instructive to educate Board Members about the decision-making process on capital expenditures and the smart things staff does in that area.

Mr. Dickey shared his sorrow in the recent staff losses; he spoke highly of both Mr. Spencer and Mr. Daye. He asked about loop closures related to new construction; Mr. Pannell explained staff continues to look at every new development to determine if there is an opportunity for a loop closure or other system improvements. Staff is leveraging Utility System Improvement Opportunities where appropriate.

Mr. Grymes echoed what Mr. Almond stated about being associated with an organization that cares for its people. He noted that says good things about the culture of the organization. He asked how this high performing organization can reach even higher, associated with dealing with the threats to the Occoquan Reservoir. Mr. Grymes thanked staff for the "salt smart" information on the website; he also commented that the data center information provided on the website is superlative. He suggested the organization should step up its game/involvement to be more proactive in public outreach regarding threats to the Occoquan Reservoir. Mr. Grymes noted the assets (both groundwater and the reservoir) need to be protected. He stated as the highest performing organization in the county, Prince William Water should be the leader in ensuring that elected officials, federal and state partners, and local government agencies are aware of the activities they are doing that may be of concern over the long term (i.e., salinization of the reservoir and other threats). He stated he wants to have a discussion about the things that the organization thinks are appropriate for the organization to do above and beyond all the good things that staff is already doing.

Mr. O'Meara conveyed his condolences to the Spencer family and the Daye family. In response to an email from the Chair on October 24, 2024, regarding potential discussion items, Mr. O'Meara provided several documents to the Board [emails from Mr. Grymes and Mr. Colangelo in October 2024; IRS 990 Forms for 2018 and 2022 of the Prince William Conservation Alliance; and media and opinion articles, and a letter from Prince William County Department of Public Works. Mr. O'Meara expressed disagreement with comments in an email from Mr. Grymes on how to counter misinformation, that Prince William Water should be more engaged in land-use and transportation proposals, and should ask for mitigation for development. Mr. O'Meara stated it is not the lane given by the Prince William Board of County Supervisors forty years ago. Mr. O'Meara wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Colangelo thanked Dr. Kooyoomjian for accepting the role of Chair of the Audit Committee. He offered his prayers for the Spencer and Daye families. He noted this is a season that he is grateful for members of the Board, the leadership team, and the staff who “make it all happen” on a day-to-day basis. He shared that he’s built his career on three principles: trust, transparency, and communication. He believes this Board, the leadership, and the staff exhibit those principles very well. Mr. Colangelo stated it will be great to recognize Mrs. Eagles and her civil service in the coming months.

Dr. Kooyoomjian concurred with Mr. Grymes’ remarks and suggested the team keep the conversation going on stewardship.

Mr. Almond noted Prince William Water should be careful sometimes in how it aligns itself and what stance(s) the organization takes while doing what is in the best interest of the public, customers, and the organization.

Mr. Farr reiterated that he is all for protection of the reservoir. He clarified that the spirit of collaboration and partnership with the county and other partners is important. He noted there are different roles, and right now staff is trying to align all the roles to protect the Occoquan.

Mr. Grymes reemphasized that he has the same objective as Mr. Farr. He wants Prince William Water to step up and do what it thinks it needs to do to ensure that 50-100 years from now, that asset will be there for Prince William Water to take advantage of.

Mr. Dickey suggested staff make a list of what the organization can and cannot do to clarify and decide where best to place its efforts. He added that generalized statements can be nebulous, and specifics should be discussed. He believes everyone wants clean, quality water in the Occoquan. He suggested talking about the specifics and where staff’s efforts should be focused.

Dr. Kooyoomjian stated that science needs to be the driver of the organization’s actions. He agreed with Mr. Dickey’s approach. He added that UOSA (Upper Occoquan Service Authority) technical staff could write pre-treatment requirements that will protect the reservoir. He noted he would be encouraged to see the local water companies approach UOSA staff about the impact they can have on pre-treatment and the reservoir.

Mr. Farr explained that many of the things discussed are already in motion. He explained they take time and will require some patience.

Mr. Colangelo noted there is a lot of collaboration happening with the local water authorities, and he appreciated the context.

Mr. Dickey asked to revise the original motion to authorize a closed meeting to add the option to discuss an item under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation (as specified by Mr. Viani).

Motion: Mr. O’Meara moved that the Board amend the original authorization for a closed session to include the Code section cited by Mr. Viani.
Second: Mr. Almond
Ayes: O’Meara, Almond, Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via Teams)

The closed meeting is now authorized to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation, and § 2.2-3711A19, Cybersecurity.

9. CLOSED MEETING

Chair Colangelo announced a closed meeting at 5:24 PM to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation, and § 2.2-3711A19, Cybersecurity.

Upon conclusion of the closed meeting at 5:57 PM, and in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a motion was made by Mr. Almond and seconded by Mr. O'Meara to return to an open meeting certifying that to the best of the Members' knowledge, the only matters considered were those that were appropriate to be discussed under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation, and § 2.2-3711A19, Cybersecurity.

CERTIFICATION FOR CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Prince William Water Board of Directors has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and,

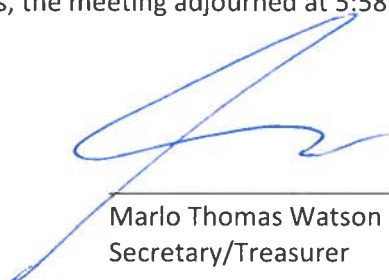
WHEREAS, § 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Prince William Water Board of Directors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Water Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting.

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM. Mrs. Thomas Watson disconnected from MS Teams at 5:58 PM.



Marlo Thomas Watson
Secretary/Treasurer