

PRINCE  
WILLIAM  
WATER

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 FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Board Members Present: Paul Colangelo, Jr., Dean E. Dickey, Charles A. Grymes, K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D., B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., Marlo Thomas Watson.

Board Members Absent: Jim Almond

Staff: Calvin D. Farr, Jr., Hari Kurup, Astrid Nelson, Don Pannell, Audrey Arnold-Mitchell, Rony Avalos, Austin Bae, Lyle Beefelt, Samer Beidas, Kathy Bentz, Drew Cockram, Lee-Anne Dandrea (via MS Teams), Shani Goodson, Navdeep Nara, Glenn Pearson, Tony Piccione (via MS Teams), Shailaja Poluru, Doug Shoop, Shannon Spence, Zachary Waszczak, Jeanetta Williams, April Bean, and Kim Murray.

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

Guests: Doug and Ross Eagles; Virginia Douglas/Chief of Staff for Chair at-Large  
Deshundra Jefferson, Prince William Board of County Supervisors.

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER and GENERAL MATTERS

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

a) Consideration of Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2025, Board Meeting

Chair Colangelo asked if there were any edits to the minutes from the January 9, 2025, Board Meeting; hearing none, the minutes were approved as presented.

b) Consideration of Announcements by Staff

i. Mr. Farr wished Happy Birthdays to Vice Chair O'Meara, Mr. Grymes, and Mr. Dickey.

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ii. At Places: Mr. Farr noted the following items at Board Members' places: (1) Holiday Gift Bags (contain items with the new logo), and (2) FY25 Business Goals Mid-Year Status and Performance Measurement Report.

Chair Colangelo welcomed Virginia Douglas, who was attending the meeting from the Prince William Board of County Supervisors' Chair at-Large, Deshundra Jefferson's, office.

c) Citizens' Time

There were no citizens signed up to speak.

2. COMMENDATION

a) Commend Joyce P. Eagles.

Mr. Farr invited Dr. Doug Eagles and Mr. Ross Eagles to the lectern to join Chair Colangelo while he read the resolution commending Mrs. Eagles for her service. The Chair presented a commemorative plaque to Mrs. Eagles' husband and son, and both gentlemen addressed the Board. Board Members also shared comments and memories of being Mrs. Eagles' colleagues and friends.

Chair Colangelo called for a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion: Mrs. Thomas Watson moved that the Prince William Water Board of Directors: Express deepest condolences to the family of Mrs. Joyce P. Eagles; Commend Mrs. Joyce P. Eagles for her professional and unwavering dedication to service to the customers of Prince William Water and the citizens of Prince William County; Honor Mrs. Eagles for her dedication to the Water Art Invitational Program by renaming the highest award granted to students as the *Joyce P. Eagles Grand Prize*; and Honor the contributions of Mrs. Joyce P. Eagles to Prince William Water by renaming the Neabsco Maintenance Facility to the Joyce P. Eagles Operations Center.

Second: Dr. Kooyoomjian

Ayes: Thomas Watson, Kooyoomjian, Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, O'Meara

Absent: Almond

3. ACTION MATTER

a) Approval to Award Agreement SA-2509 to Nostos SS Contractors, LLC for Dominion Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation and Nottoway Water Storage Tank Partial Rehabilitation.

Motion: Mr. O'Meara

Second: Mr. Dickey

Ayes: O'Meara, Dickey, Colangelo, Grymes, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson

Absent: Almond

4. DISCUSSION

a) Proposed Amended Bylaws of Prince William County Service Authority and Revised Prince William County Service Authority Board of Directors' Public Meeting Policy.

Vice Chair O'Meara noted the current Bylaws require five members be physically present to attain a quorum, which is limiting since there is not a full Board seated at this time. The thought behind the amendment is to allow a quorum to be a simple majority. In accordance with the bylaws, Members cannot vote on the amendments at this meeting; Mr. O'Meara advised he looks forward to having the Board's full support [on the vote] at the March Board meeting. Mr. Dickey stated he supports the amendments and suggested more specificity on the definition of a quorum. Mr. O'Meara offered to work with Mr. Dickey and staff to make the edits and have the item ready for the Board's vote in March.

Mr. Grymes expressed his appreciation for the people who do the necessary work to get things done. Dr. Kooyoomjian complimented Mr. O'Meara and staff on their work, and he offered edits for consideration, which he will provide to staff. Chair Colangelo reiterated that Vice Chair O'Meara will work with staff to make the appropriate edits.

b) Occoquan Reservoir Protection.

Mr. Pannell provided a brief presentation on Occoquan Reservoir Stewardship and explained the One Water approach with respect to the Reservoir. Vice Chair O'Meara noted the Occoquan Reservoir Task Force has been meeting for more than a year; he asked if there are any meeting notes available for review. Mr. Pannell offered to assemble notes for the Board. Ms. Thomas Watson expressed the value of Community Outreach.

Mr. Grymes asked if staff could share the Task Force's action plan, as well as their meeting minutes, at a future Board Meeting; he feels it would be helpful to know progress is being made. Mr. Pannell noted the task force does have an action plan. There is the concept of a hosted One Water website where customers can review information from both Prince William Water and Fairfax Water. There is a heavy focus on action items to pull resources together so the information is available in one place.

Mr. Grymes encouraged staff to provide more information about the specific threats to the Reservoir so the community understands the importance of taking the situation more seriously (e.g., create communications objectives with a target audience in measures of success regarding outreach to the adult public about the threats to the Reservoir, with a particular emphasis on what the impact would be on our rates if these problems were not addressed). Dr. Kooyoomjian shared comments regarding educating and communicating with the community.

Mr. Grymes encouraged the Board and staff to look at the Strategic Plan where Prince William Water calls for being environmental leaders and a dynamic regional partner. "Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are pretty easy to meet in this particular Strategic Plan; I would suggest that we want to revisit the KPIs and establish something that is more of a challenge for us as environmental leaders who accomplish our objectives. We need to partner with a lot of people. There's not a lot of responsibility for us in land management, but there is a role for us in dealing with the threats to our reservoir, and if 80% of the pollution coming into the reservoir is

coming from stormwater, then we have a role to play if only to cheerlead what other portions of the county government are saying are necessary for us to address our stormwater management challenges. At the moment, we are not engaged in a lot of the discussions about decisions that will add further impacts to the reservoir; there has got to be some way in which we can participate constructively, working with the agencies that have the regulatory responsibility for things like the RPA. There are a lot of spaces where we might cheerlead perhaps an RPA replanting initiative done by the county arborist or whatever. But there are spaces in which we can be a positive constructive force above and beyond what we are today, and we ought to give ourselves credit for the effort we would make by acknowledging that in the KPIs in our Strategic Plan.”

Vice Chair O’Meara read a memo from Prince William Water’s Communications team from November 2024, which summarized the salt smart outreaches that had been done by Prince William Water last year: “Website rotator and web page promoting the Northern Virginia Regional Commission salt flyer. Participation in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MW COG) community engagement campaign (CEC), which conducted regional outreach. Pipeline Customer Newsletter tip. Posts on Facebook, Instagram, and ‘X’ pre-winter storm January 2024. That was last year. So what are we doing this year? A new Salt Smart web page with information about salinity in water sources. The regional SaMS program, and how individuals can reduce winter salt use. This page is also featured on the website’s new Learning Library that Mr. Pannell mentioned in his presentation. Continued participation with regional MW COG CEC outreach regarding salt. A Salt Smart bill insert which will be distributed to all customers in print and via email between mid-December and mid-January. This just happened. Social media posts with timely information about salt smarts; I think if you saw your Board package about social media outreach, the one post we boosted was for this item, and it got the most hits. A press release to the local news media. Now, why do I bring all this up? I bring all this up because we are not sitting on the sidelines. We’re not lacking in taking a leadership role. To insinuate that we are – I find that to be insulting. There’s an old saying that you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink. Now there is a group of individuals who are interested in using this organization as some sort of hammer to go against land use decisions across the street. That’s a bad idea. We need to keep our rate payers in mind first. And this exceptional staff second. The reason we keep them a close second is because they are the ones who interact with our rate payers. They are the ones that represent us on the front lines, and they do an exceptional job. And I take exception to someone characterizing it as we’re sitting on the sidelines. We are not. We can only do what PWC allows us to do, and right now they have their own view of RPA violations and all we can do is point these things out to them, which I am happy to do, but that’s all we can do. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

Mr. Grymes responded, “Actually, we’re not that much in disagreement. I concur that we should stay within our wheelhouse; I concur that we should focus on what’s significant for Prince William Water. I think that we are doing quite a bit; I’m also suggesting that we could do even more, and that much of what we can do is done through partners, done through other organizations, and especially for RPA regulation and enforcement – that’s not us. That’s a different organization in the county. And we can assist and cheerlead that organization in performing their function, but that’s not to suggest that we’re not doing anything; I am suggesting that while we are stellar at what we do, and deservedly award-winning, that the threat to the reservoir is not going to go away. The challenge we face is not going to get less, and that if we need to address the threat by doing more, let’s figure out what “more” is appropriate for us as Prince William Water.”

In response to a question from Mr. Dickey, Mr. Pannell shared that Fairfax Water is evaluating carbon adsorption technology for PFAS removal.

Mr. Farr wanted to make sure the topic regarding Mr. Grymes' push to have Prince William Water be more involved in the County's land use decision process was discussed. Mr. Farr mentioned there have been periodic verbal conversations from Mr. Grymes to staff that were not presented to the board as a whole as well as written correspondence to Mr. Farr from Mr. Grymes regarding involvement in land use decisions. Mr. Farr said the matter has not been resolved. He requested further discussion from the Board to bring the consideration to an end. Mr. Farr said he prefers closure on this matter, so it will no longer be a topic of discussion regularly. Chair Colangelo agreed.

Mr. Dickey advised that Prince William Water is not involved in land use decisions and the presentation today reflects that staff coordinates, communicates, and works with other agencies on what should be done to help improve the Occoquan. The Chair agreed.

Mrs. Thomas Watson asked for clear directive from the Board that "we are not land use."

Mr. Dickey mentioned existing policy on this matter. Dr. Kooyoomjian discussed that Prince William Water is a reviewing agency and weighs in on water and sewer connections and such of that matter. He explained Prince William Water reviews staff reports and provides comments to the Planning Office, keeping the big picture in mind.

Mr. Grymes stated, "So, to address your concerns, I have a desire for us to be an effective communicator regarding the threats to the reservoir. The Occoquan Reservoir Task Force might be the best mechanism for us to share those concerns, to make sure that the other decision makers within the county who do have the regulatory authority for land use, transportation, and other decisions hear the concerns of Prince William Water and address the concerns that are leading to the increasing pollution of the reservoir. There's a variety of different ways to get there from here, one of which might be to weigh in directly and publicly on land use decisions. I don't sense there's a desire on this Board to do that – it's certainly not your desire – and part of our Code of Ethics is to support the General Manager, so we need to be working in a manner that works for you, as our General Manager. I'm not suggesting we try to give you direction that is uncomfortable for you to work with; I'm trying to suggest that we are an organization with a resource at risk, and we need to be doing something to address that threat to our resource. It is a financial threat as well as an environmental threat and we need to find that effective way for us to communicate so that other county agencies and other organizations that have direct responsibility hear our concerns and somehow get back to us that they are addressing our concerns. I would like to reassure you that there are a lot of different ways to get there from here, and that does not require us to be waving a flag and inviting ourselves to be a political target. But, the more effective that we can be, the better our reservoir will be in 50 years."

Mr. O'Meara referred to the development review policy amended at the January Board meeting. He noted it was approved unanimously and the language was very strong that Prince William Water does not do land use. Mrs. Thomas Watson thanked Mr. O'Meara and stated she wanted to be clear that Board Members are not engaging staff or pushing an agenda for something that falls outside of what they have already established a policy for.

Mr. Farr expressed his appreciation for the discussion. He disagreed with Mr. Grymes' statement that the organization is not engaged. Mr. Farr stressed that although the organization does not get involved in the County's land use decisions, Prince William Water leadership is aware of those decisions. Mr. Farr said he has no problem weighing in on those decisions if they negatively impact the watershed and reservoir in a significant way.

The Chair reinforced that there is a policy in place and Prince William Water should continue to follow the policy.

Dr. Kooyoomjian stated Prince William Water's primary mission is to look out for its rate payers and safety and the primary mission. He expressed confidence that Prince William Water will communicate quickly and effectively with other [county] departments if something happens that will directly add to our cost to provide clean water to our customers. Mrs. Thomas Watson agreed.

The Chair stated the directive is clear to continue down the path of the policy that is in place.

#### 5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Mr. Farr referred to the FY2025 Business Goals Mid-Year Status and Performance Measurement Report that was provided at Members' places. He explained our teams continue to make good progress on the business goals and most Key Performance Indicators are on target to meet both the benchmarks and the stretch goals. He noted Prince William Water continues to achieve high performance ratings in nine out of 10 attributes. Mr. Farr shared that on February 6, he was the keynote speaker at the VWEA (Virginia Water Environment Association)/VA AWWA (Virginia Section American Water Works Association) Utility Management Conference on "leading Change and Sustaining Excellence." In the presentation, he spoke about the need to have a Culture of Excellence from the Board to the front line. He also talked about needing the right tools – like the effective utility management (EUM) framework and AWWA benchmarks.

b) Mr. Farr advised that Prince William County (PWC) is in the midst of developing their next four-year Strategic Plan. Prince William Water staff has reviewed the draft plan and supports the direction PWC has laid out. He was particularly pleased to see strategies about stormwater management, reducing salinization, and addressing forever chemicals, as well as an emphasis on green infrastructure in the plan.

c) Mr. Farr provided brief legislative updates on several bills that staff have been following.

d) Mr. Farr referred to the letter he sent to Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) Chair Jefferson (which was sent to Board Members) as a follow up to the presentation he gave to the BOCS in December 2024. In the letter, he highlighted staff's extensive emergency preparedness measures. He also mentioned Mr. Pannell's recent podcast interview where he spoke about the planning that is required for staff to be ready for emergencies, as well as preventive maintenance programs, emergency generator backup capabilities, and staffing plans which ensure that we are always well prepared, and the importance of reinvesting in infrastructure and maintaining successful regional partnerships.

e) Mr. Farr highlighted several items that were in the Communications Report (which is included in the monthly Board packages). Topics included the most visited web pages, views and "likes" on social media posts, and two informative articles on a recent winter storm and the heat shield repair at the plant.

f) Mr. Farr noted he was recently featured in an article in the January 2025 edition of *Journal AWWA* titled, "Waves of Change: African American Leaders Transforming the Water Sector." (Ms. Murray

emailed the article to Board Members.) Staff hope to leverage the information in recruiting efforts and continue to attract a diverse pool of applicants to be a part of the Prince William Water workforce.

g) Mr. Farr shared that Prince William Water's employee resource group, "Women of Water" (WoW), is sponsoring several activities in March to recognize Women's History Month. The activities include a March 6 panel discussion, "Local Women Making History and Building the Future," which includes Board Member Marlo Thomas Watson, along with mammogram and other health screenings offered at both the Spittle and H.L. Mooney complexes.

h) Mr. Farr reminded Board Members of the Service Awards Luncheon on February 26. Thirty-nine employees will be recognized for service milestones.

i) Mr. Farr also noted the annual Water Art Invitational is set for March 5 at Unity Reed High School. A flyer was included in Board Members' packages.

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

## 6. ATTORNEY'S TIME

Mr. Viani confirmed a closed meeting is needed under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation.

Chair Colangelo requested a motion to authorize a closed meeting to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation.

Motion: Mr. O'Meara

Second: Mrs. Thomas Watson

Ayes: O'Meara, Thomas Watson, Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, Kooyoomjian

Absent: Almond

## 7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chair Colangelo asked if Board Members had any comments or questions on the Administrative Reports. Dr. Kooyoomjian offered to share his comments with staff.

Mr. Beefelt presented the FY2025 Second Quarter financial review and the upcoming Annual Business Plan schedule. He shared that staff would return to the Board in the coming months to seek approval to refinance 2013 bonds and to issue new bonds in the Spring for capital projects designated as replacement projects.

## 8. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

Mr. Dickey congratulated staff on doing a great job.

Mr. Grymes echoed Mr. Dickey's comments.

Mr. O'Meara commended Mr. Pannell for doing a fantastic job on the podcast. He reminded Board Members that they operate together as a corporate body and should not have their own political interests trying to encourage staff to effect that change individually. If they want an act of change, they need to work with Board Members and collaborate and give clear direction to staff as a Board and not as individual Board Members.

Mrs. Thomas Watson thanked Ms. Spence, Ms. Goodson, and the members of the WoW committee for organizing the event for Women's History Month. She also thanked Communications staff for creating the flyer for the event.

Dr. Kooyoomjian wished everyone a happy Valentines Day. He noted the Committee of 100 is meeting on February 20 at Brittany's Restaurant to have a panel discussion about panhandlers in the county. He stated he is looking forward to Prince William Water events that are coming this month. He commended Mr. Pannell on the podcast and Mr. Farr on the *Journal AWWA* article.

Mr. Colangelo advised he was honored to read Mrs. Eagles' commendation resolution. He also noted that social media posts continue to educate and communicate to the community. He noted the new mobile app is a great tool. Mr. Colangelo thanked Mr. Farr for his leadership and willingness to do the right thing, always; he noted keeping the Board moving in the right direction is what makes the organization good.

9. CLOSED MEETING

Chair Colangelo announced a closed meeting at 6:02 PM to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation.

Upon conclusion of the closed meeting at 6:18 PM, and in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a motion was made by Mr. O'Meara and seconded by Mrs. Thomas Watson 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.

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;

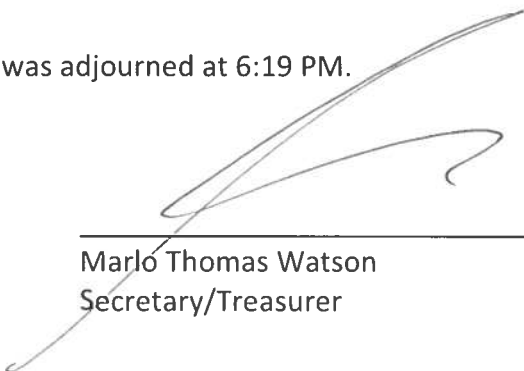
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Prince William Water Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification 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: Mrs. Thomas Watson  
Ayes: O'Meara, Thomas Watson, Colangelo, Dickey, Grymes, Kooyoomjian  
Absent: Almond



10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM.



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Marlo Thomas Watson  
Secretary/Treasurer