

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

# MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN WORK SESSION OF APRIL 22, 2025

Board Members Present: Jim Almond, Dean E. Dickey (via MS Teams), Charles A. Grymes, K. Jack

Kooyoomjian, Ph.D., B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., and Marlo Thomas Watson.

Board Members Absent: Paul Colangelo, Jr.

Staff: Calvin D. Farr, Jr., Hari Kurup, Astrid Nelson, Don Pannell, Eileen Anderson, Lyle

Beefelt, Samer Beidas, Kathy Bentz, Jackie Bragayrac, Rachel Carlson, Lee-Ann Dandrea, Michael Fox, Andrew Cockram, Shani Goodson, David Guerra, Renata McCarthy, Jonathan Okafor, Glenn Pearson, David Pereira, Tony Piccione (via MS Teams), Shailaja Poluru, Ian Sansoni, Doug Shoop, Brian Sipes, Shannon Spence,

Renee Thompson, Jeanetta Williams, April Bean, and Kim Murray.

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

Mr. Dickey joined the meeting at 8:50 AM via MS Teams from Maryland for personal reasons.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair O'Meara opened the Work Session at 9:00 AM.

Mr. Farr advised staff will schedule a tour for Board Members of the Design-Build project at the H.L. Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility. He noted Board Members have a copy of the proposed FY26 Budget and a copy of the presentation for this work session at their places. He noted the budget is aligned with the Board's Vision and the high level of service to Prince William Water's service to its customers. Mr. Farr noted staff has been working since last fall to prepare this budget. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Beefelt for the Staff Presentation.

# STAFF PRESENTATION

Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Annual Business Plan

Your Water • Your Environment • Our Mission

Mr. Beefelt introduced and thanked members of the Management and Budget team who worked on the Annual Business Plan. Mr. Beidas also thanked staff who worked on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Almond arrived at 9:14 AM.

Mr. Beefelt presented the FY26 Annual Business Plan. He reviewed the Board's Vision and Guidance, CIP, Operating Budget and Business Goals.

Mr. Beefelt discussed efforts to attract new construction contractors and the prioritization of projects. High priority CIP discussed included improvements to the Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility, aging sewage pump stations, future PFAS mitigation projects under consideration by Fairfax Water, facility improvements, and other projects. Dr. Kooyoomjian commented on the timing of projects and innovative procurement and contracting.

The Technology Roadmap and status of the upcoming Enterprise Resource Planning Project were discussed to include the procurement process, project budget, annual maintenance costs, cost comparison, and operational readiness. Mr. Dickey asked for information about the upgrades related to the ERP project, referencing some difficulties other utilities have experienced in the past. Mr. Kurup noted the software and implementation processes have matured over time, and staff can control that the quality of deliverables are met. This is a fixed bid contract, and there are checks and balances in place.

Mr. Beefelt reviewed revenue projections for FY26. Mr. Almond asked about the impact of the current unique economic conditions and increasing unemployment on Prince William Water revenues. Mr. Beefelt indicated that Prince William Water has the financial reserves to handle the potential revenue shortfall. Mr. Almond asked what Prince William Water is doing to assist customers who are having difficulty paying their bills. Mr. Beefelt indicated that staff works with customers to establish payment plans and to guide customers to assistance programs (Prince William Water's Temporary Assistance Program and non-profit guarantors), noting that current conditions differ from the recent pandemic and that there are no designated support mechanisms to help households in distress. Ms. Nelson mentioned that Prince William County launched a webpage with a host of resources that staff is also monitoring. Mr. Almond asked staff to continue to look for additional resources, other than their own, to assist families in paying the water bills.

Mr. Beefelt discussed elements of the Operating Budget, including people and talent, purchased resources, materials and supplies and other expenses. Mr. Farr noted that although the FY26 Budget holds staffing levels steady, additional positions will be required in the future. Mrs. Thomas-Watson emphasized the importance of holding on to talent. Mr. Beefelt discussed wage and benefit costs and Prince William Water's continuing efforts to attract and retain talent.

Mr. Beefelt reviewed the Proposed Next Steps:

• May 8, 2025: May Board Meeting: Staff requests approval of the Annual Business Plan and CIP.

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- May 9, 2025: Employee Open Enrollment for Health Care begins with an effective date of July 1, 2025.
- July 1, 2025: New Fiscal year Begins.

#### 3. DISCUSSION

Additional discussion was held.

Mr. Farr requested a closed meeting.

Vice Chair O'Meara thanked Mr. Farr and staff for their hard work on the proposed budget.

## 4. CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Viani confirmed that a Closed Meeting is needed under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A3, Real Estate; and 2.2-3711A19, Security.

Vice Chair O'Meara requested a motion to authorize a closed meeting to discuss items as specified by Mr. Viani.

Motion: Mrs. Thomas Watson

Second: Mr. Almond

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

Absent: Colangelo

Chair Colangelo announced a closed meeting at 10:46 AM to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A3, Real Estate; and 2.2-3711A19, Security.

Upon conclusion of the closed meeting at 11:12 AM, and in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a motion was made by Mrs. Thomas Watson and seconded by Mr. Almond 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 § 2.2-3711A3, Real Estate; and 2.2-3711A19, Security.

# **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;

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**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:

Mrs. Thomas Watson

Second:

Mr. Grymes

Ayes:

Thomas Watson, Grymes, Almond, Dickey (via MS Teams), Kooyoomjian, O'Meara

Absent:

Colangelo

# 5. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Mr. Dickey disconnected from MS Teams at 11:13 AM.

Marlo Thomas Watson

Secretary/Treasurer