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Paul Colangelo, Jr., Chair B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., Vice Chair Joyce P. Eagles, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Almond, Member Dean E. Dickey, Member K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D., Member Marlo Thomas Watson, Member Harry W. Wiggins, Member

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

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2024

Board Members Present:

Paul Colangelo, Jr., Dean E. Dickey, Joyce P. Eagles, K. Jack Kooyoomjian,

Ph.D., B. Paul O'Meara, Jr., Marlo Thomas Watson (via MS Teams), and Harry

Wiggins.

Board Members Absent:

Jim Almond

Staff:

Calvin D. Farr, Jr., Hari Kurup, Astrid Nelson, Don Pannell, Najee Alleyne, Audrey Arnold-Mitchell, Lyle Beefelt (via MS Teams), Samer Beidas, Kathy Bentz (via MS Teams), Rachel Carlson, Andrew Cockram, Lee-Anne Dandrea, Michael Fox, George Hoke, Mamoud Kamara, Ed Kovalchuk, Debbie Maxwell, Glenn Pearson, Tony Piccione, Ian Sansoni, Doug Shoop, Brian Sipes, Shannon Spence, Priscilla

Wallace, Jeanetta Williams, April Bean, and Kim Murray.

Legal Counsel:

Mark Viani/Bean Kinney & Korman, P.C.

Mrs. Thomas Watson joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams (MS Teams) at 6:30 PM from her home in Virginia for personal reasons.

1. CALL TO ORDER and GENERAL MATTERS

Chair Colangelo called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

a) Consideration of Approval of Minutes of November 9, 2023, Board Meeting

Chair Colangelo asked if there were any edits to the Minutes of the November 9, 2023, Board Meeting; hearing none, the minutes were approved as presented.

b) Consideration of Announcements by Staff

i. <u>At Places</u>: Mr. Farr noted the following items at Board Members' places: (1) 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report [Agenda Item 6.d)]; (2) 2024 Water Art Calendar; (3) Prince William Water Branding Update; and (4) Business Goals Mid-Year FY2024 Status Report.

c) <u>Citizens' Time</u>

There were no citizens attending who signed up to speak.

2. <u>COMMENDATION/PRESENTATIONS</u>

a) Commend: Dwayne L. Wait

Mr. Wait was unable to attend the Board Meeting. Chair Colangelo called for a motion to approve the resolution commending Mr. Wait.

Motion:

Mr. O'Meara moved that the Prince William County Service Authority Board of Directors does hereby commend Mr. Dwayne L. Wait for his exceptional service to the customers of the Prince

William County Service Authority and conveys best wishes for happiness in his retirement.

Second:

Mr. Dickey

Ayes:

O'Meara, Dickey, Colangelo, Eagles, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via MS Teams), Wiggins

Absent: Almond

b) Presentation: Updated Procurement and Contract Management Regulations – Chapter 3 Contracts. Mr. Beefelt briefed the Board on the recommended updates to the Procurement Regulations [Agenda Item 3.d)]. Dr. Kooyoomjian asked how staff decided on the \$1,000,000 threshold. Mr. Beefelt stated that staff proposed the \$1,000,000 threshold based on consideration of the contract at hand [SA2101B, H.L. Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility Wide Improvements Project]. The current contract is \$171.4 million, and it is possible there could be change orders from a particular element of the project that exceed \$500,000. The proposed threshold balances the need for oversight with the potential risk of delaying portions of the project to submit additional requests for Board approval.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Colangelo asked if any Board Members wished to make any general comments on the Consent Agenda items prior to voting. Dr. Kooyoomjian asked to comment on items 3.a), 3.b), and 3.c).

On item 3.a), Dr. Kooyoomjian was fully supportive of the project, and suggested that staff look into the possibility of having the gas company assist in the cost of the pipe replacement, since it appears that the gas company's corrosion control system is causing corrosion of Service Authority pipes. Mr. Dickey explained that staff tried to make the gas company responsible for corrosion on Service Authority pipes in the past and had no case. Dr. Kooyoomjian asked that staff look into this issue again and have further discussion.

On 3.b), Dr. Kooyoomjian complimented staff on the quality of the work package.

On 3.c), Dr Kooyoomjian commented that Prince William County should consider backup power needs as the project moves to construction.

Following discussion, Chair Colangelo called for a motion and second to approve all items on the Consent Agenda:

- a) Approval of a Utility System Improvement Opportunity between Prince William County Service Authority and Iron Mountain Data Centers, LLC for the Installation of a 16-Inch Water Main in Conjunction with Building VA10 Project.
- b) Approval of Two Task Orders to GHD, Inc.
 - i. Approval of Task Order No. 34 to GHD, Inc. to Provide Professional Engineering Design and Bidding Services for Hornbaker Sewage Pumping Station, L06 and Force Main Replacement.
 - ii. Approval of Task Order No. 37 to GHD, Inc. to Provide Professional Engineering Design and Bidding Services for Occoquan Creek Sewage Pumping Station, L04 Replacement.
- c) Approval of an Agreement between Prince William Board of County Supervisors and Prince William County Service Authority for the Design and Construction Cost Evaluation of a Low-Pressure Sewage Collection System to serve Bristow Manor and the Decommissioning of the Bristow Manor Golf Course Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- d) Adoption of Updated Procurement and Contract Management Regulations Chapter 3 Contracts.

Motion:

Mr. O'Meara

Second:

Dr. Kooyoomjian

Ayes:

O'Meara, Kooyoomjian, Colangelo, Dickey, Eagles, Thomas Watson (via MS Teams), Wiggins

Absent:

Almond

4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Mr. Farr acknowledged the passing of employee Darlene Lacy on December 1, 2023. Ms. Lacy was a dispatcher for more than 20 years. Mr. Farr stated she will be missed and asked to have a moment of silence in her memory.
- b) Mr. Farr noted the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) is at Board Members' places. He noted the Service Authority received an unqualified (clean) audit opinion from PB Mares, LLC. Mike Garber, Audit Partner, met with the Audit Committee in November 2023 to review the results of the Audit (which were included as attachments with the ACFR). Mr. Garber will attend the February Board Meeting to give a brief overview of the audit.
- c) Mr. Farr reminded Board Members that the Service Authority, as well as many other utilities in Virginia, opted out of the PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) class action settlements. The Virginia Attorney General (AG) is now gathering information about PFAS and potential impacts to Virginia water and wastewater utilities. To ensure any information shared with the AG is confidential (in case there is litigation), the AG has provided utilities with a common interest and information-sharing agreement. The agreement will also protect any information that utilities share among themselves from discovery during future litigation. The overarching goal of the agreement is to help maximize the recovery of funds coming into Virginia by way of negotiated resolutions with PFAS manufacturers. Mr. Farr noted Fairfax Water has already entered into the agreement with the AG, and he intends to have the Service Authority join this effort as well.
- d) Mr. Farr reported on another issue staff is tracking, which involves liability protections for water and sewer utilities under CERCLA (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) in treating and disposing of PFAS. In coordination with many of the Service Authority's utility partners, last month Mr. Farr sent letters to Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, urging a tailored legislative exemption from liability for water and wastewater systems for PFAS-related cleanups.
- e) Mr. Farr advised that while PFAS has been a major topic for the past year, an issue that has not received much attention lately is freshwater salinity. He thanked Mr. Wiggins for sharing an article that addressed the nationwide concern over increasing salt levels in freshwater. The article emphasized that road salt is a major reason for increasing salt levels in freshwater. Dr. Stanley Grant of the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Lab has

been conducting a study to assess this issue. The goal of his work is to identify policy improvements and social initiatives that can curb the impacts of salt on freshwater.

- f) Mr. Farr reported staff continues to coordinate with Prince William County (PWC) Parks Department staff as they are planning construction of a pedestrian bridge in Lake Ridge. The construction will require access across the Service Authority's Hooes Run Sewage Pump Station site; staff is collaborating to ensure construction will not impact the Service Authority's assets. Staff is waiting for the Parks Department to provide an estimated construction schedule.
- g) Mr. Farr noted the first meeting of the Occoquan Reservoir Task Force was held in December 2023. Staff from the Service Authority, PWC, and Fairfax Water met to discuss opportunities to improve and enhance protections for the Reservoir. While most of the discussion focused on existing Regulatory and Outreach programs, the Task Force will create an inventory to improve awareness of other programs. Discussion included improving outreach regarding the resource protection areas (RPAs) with homeowners and the need to provide training for inspectors on how to report RPA violations. The next meeting is scheduled for later this month.
- h) Mr. Farr reported that in December 2023, Utility Services processed a significant number of certifications for service, exceeding the availability fee projections for the year. Availability fees are deposited into the expansion and commitment funds to pay for the infrastructure necessary to support growth in the Service Authority's system. Mr. Farr noted the next quarterly financial presentation will be provided at the February Board meeting; staff will talk more about availability fee revenue as well as higher than expected costs they are seeing in purchased resources.
- i) Mr. Farr referred to the Branding Update provided at Board Members' places. He noted he shared the new Prince William Water logo and tagline with employees at the holiday luncheon, and both were very well received. Staff is working on the transition plan and public launch.
- j) Mr. Farr introduced two new members of the Senior Staff team: Ms. Lee-Anne Dandrea was promoted to Deputy Director of Finance, and Mr. Ian Sansoni joined the Service Authority as Deputy Director of Management and Budget.
- k) Mr. Farr announced Dr. Kooyoomjian was selected to receive a 2024 National Environmental Achievement Award (NEAA) for Environment from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). With this award, the Association honors Dr. Kooyoomjian's outstanding commitment to his community, the environment, and the challenges NACWA member agencies face. The award will be presented at the NACWA Winter Conference next month. Mr. Farr noted staff is very proud of Dr. Kooyoomjian and his accomplishments and are honored to have him serve on the Board in service to the Service Authority. Dr. Kooyoomjian thanked Ms. Dandrea for submitting the nomination.
- l) Mr. Farr reported on the 2023 holiday engagement events, which were provided as part of the Service Authority's commitment to engagement and retention. Employees attended the Neabsco Boardwalk Holiday Walk of Lights; contributed five boxes of toys to "Toys for Tots"; and enjoyed the holiday luncheon on December 20. Mr. Farr thanked Board Members O'Meara, Eagles, Thomas Watson, and Kooyoomjian for attending the luncheon in support of the staff.
- m) Mr. Farr noted the mid-year performance payments were given to employees in December. Staff appreciated the recognition.
- n) Mr. Farr referred to the Business Goals Mid-Year FY2024 Status Report, which was provided at Board Member's places. He provided a brief update on the annual business goals and provided a few highlights for each area of excellence. Mr. Farr noted the staff has a lot going on and are doing a great job; they are on track with their business goals. He invited Board Members to contact him with any questions about the report.
- o) Mr. Farr asked Board Members to "save the date" for the 2024 Water Art Invitational. It will be held Thursday, March 14, 2024 (5:00-6:00 PM), at Forest Park High School, with the Board dinner and meeting to follow at the Spittle Building. Details will be provided soon.

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- p) Mr. Farr also noted the 2024 Spring Fling is set for Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the Dale City Boys' and Girls' Club. Details to come.
 - q) Mr. Farr reported that a closed meeting is needed this evening.

5. <u>ATTORNEY'S TIME</u>

Mr. Viani confirmed a closed meeting is needed under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A6, Investment of Public Funds; § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation; and § 2.2-3711A19, Security.

Chair Colangelo requested a motion to authorize a closed meeting to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A6, Investment of Public Funds; § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation; and § 2.2-3711A19, Security.

Motion:

Mr. O'Meara

Second:

Mr. Wiggins

Ayes:

O'Meara, Wiggins, Colangelo, Dickey, Eagles, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via MS Teams)

Absent:

Almond

In discussion after the General Manager's Report, with respect to the bridge over Hooes Run, Mr. Wiggins asked if the soil evaluation has been done yet. Mr. Beidas advised the PWC Parks Department staff is finalizing their plans for permitting; part of that process includes submitting information about any geotechnical investigations that were done.

Mr. Wiggins asked about employee turnover. Mr. Farr shared there are a variety of reasons for turnover, such as other opportunities outside the sector, higher pay, and more convenience to where they live. The Service Authority uses retention strategies and will continue to explore them. Mr. Farr advised this turnover may unfortunately be the norm for employees with one to three years of service. The Service Authority has been staffing up in anticipation of higher turnover. Bench strength is important to continue meeting service levels. Mr. Farr said he shares the Board's concern and will provide a briefing at the March or April meeting.

Mr. Wiggins also asked what Mr. Farr's expectations are regarding shoreline disturbances, after his meetings with PWC Executive Chris Shorter. Mr. Farr explained staff is looking for any gaps in best practices. He anticipates more outreach, maybe stormwater management practices, and conversations about salinity. Staff is trying to set the baseline on what is available, what the regulations are, etc.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Board Members are encouraged to discuss any questions on the reports with Mr. Farr.

7. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS

Dr. Kooyoomjian advised he was sorry to miss the Dr. Evelyn Mahieu Environmental Lab Dedication and Mooney Design-Build groundbreaking events in Dec. He enjoyed the holiday luncheon. He also thanked staff again for nominating him for the NACWA NEAA Award.

Mrs. Eagles congratulated Dr. Kooyoomjian on winning the NACWA NEAA Award. She also thanked staff for all of their work.

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Vice Chair O'Meara wished everyone a Happy New Year. He requested the Occoquan Policy be included in the Orientation binder for new Board Members.

Mr. Wiggins discussed the audit contract.

Mr. Dickey advised he was very moved by the Laboratory Dedication to Dr. Evelyn Mahieu. He thanked the Board and staff for holding the event. He congratulated Ms. Dandrea and Mr. Sansoni, and also congratulated Dr. Kooyoomjian on his award.

Chair Colangelo thanked the Board for their participation in various events. He stated he is proud of Dr. Jack for receiving the NEAA Award. Mr. Colangelo also thanked staff for their work.

8. CLOSED MEETING

Chair Colangelo announced a closed meeting at 7:44 PM to discuss items under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711A6, Investment of Public Funds; § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation; and § 2.2-3711A19, Security.

Upon conclusion of the closed meeting at 8:17 PM, and in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a motion was made by Mr. O'Meara and seconded by Mr. Dickey 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 § 2.2-3711A6, Investment of Public Funds; § 2.2-3711A7, Litigation; and § 2.2-3711A19, Security.

CERTIFICATION FOR CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Service Authority 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 County Service Authority Board of Directors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Service Authority 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. Dickey

Almond

Second:

Mr. O'Meara

Ayes:

Dickey, O'Meara, Colangelo, Eagles, Kooyoomjian, Thomas Watson (via MS Teams), Wiggins

Absent:

Mr. Wiggins reported that Woodbridge Delegate Rozia A. Henson, Jr. has introduced a bill regarding Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) salt use in the Occoquan Watershed; he feels the Service Authority Board should be advocating for this type of legislation. He noted PWC has a lobbyist who

advocates for bills that the county wants to see passed or introduced. He suggested Chair Colangelo and Prince William Board of County Supervisors Chair Jefferson (or Mr. Farr and Mr. Shorter) have a conversation to advocate for the legislation. Chair Colangelo advised he will discuss this with staff and bring any recommendations back to the Board.

Chair Colangelo asked Mr. Viani to send Board Members a copy of the bill. Vice Chair O'Meara asked if anyone has talked with the PWC Schools (regarding the salt they use on their properties). Mr. Wiggins noted his original conversation with Delegate Henson would prevent any organization from using salt or brine in the Occoquan Watershed. (He noted he has not yet seen the bill; he received a text from Delegate Henson.) Mr. Farr noted the next meeting of the Occoquan Task Force is January 25. Mr. Wiggins suggested the meeting with Delegate Henson happen sooner rather than later. Mr. Dickey asked that Board Members reflect on what has happened to the county's source water in the last few months (with respect to microplastics, PFAS, etc.). He suggested the Board Members should consider what their role should be in advocating for cleaning and maintaining the source water. He agreed the Service Authority should be an advocate for protection.

Chair Colangelo restated they need to read the bill first; then the Board will determine the next steps. He noted the Board's guidance is to move sooner rather than later on their position. Mr. Dickey asked what the industry associations are discussing about salinity. Mr. Farr reported the PFAS issue has taken priority for most organizations and associations. Mr. Wiggins asked Mr. Farr to reach out to Delegate Henson directly.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Mrs. Thomas Watson disconnected her call at 8:29 PM.

Joyce P. Eagles

Secretary/Treasurer