

ATLANTIC CITY
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

TRANSCRIPT OF REMOTE PROCEEDINGS

RE: REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
ATLANTIC CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

OPEN SESSION

September 20, 2023
COMMENCING AT 10:01 A.M.
VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

GARY L. HILL, Chairman
MOHAMMED DEDAR, Vice Chairman/Deputy
MICHAEL ARMSTRONG, Executive Director
INDIA STILL, Deputy Executive Director
BRUCE WARD, Solicitor
CLIFFORD KEEN, Deputy Executive Director of
Operations
JOHN ECCLES, JR.
SAYED KAUSAR, Alternate #2

ALSO PRESENT:

WASTELLA JOHNSON, Board Secretary
ANITA THAPA
WES SWAIN, City Administrator

REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS
EDWARD DENNIS, JR.
ROBERT SMITH
RYAN HAYES

MICHAEL RILEY, ESQUIRE, Board Attorney
(VIA TELEPHONE)

STENOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED BY:

WENDY L. WALINSKI, RPR, NJ CCR

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1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Well, good morning,
2 everybody, and welcome to the September MUA board
3 meeting.

4 And adequate notice of this meeting
5 has been provided as required by law by mailing to
6 The Press a list of the regularly scheduled meeting,
7 September 20th, 2023, at 401 North Virginia Avenue,
8 Conference Room, Atlantic City, New Jersey. A copy
9 of said notice was sent to the City Clerk to be
10 posted. All of the aforesaid complies with Chapter
11 231 of the Laws of 1975 known as the Open Public
12 Meetings Law.

13 And we'll do a call to order, please.
14 We did that.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Let's do a roll call.
17 Here, present.

18 MS. JOHNSON: Okay. He's there.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Thank you.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

21 MR. DEDAR: Yes. Yes.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Banfield is absent.

23 Ms. Langford is absent.

24 Mr. Eccles?

25 MR. ECCLES: Here.

1 MS. JOHNSON: Ms. Davies is absent.

2 And Mr. Kausar is absent.

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. We'll do our
4 flag salute.

5 Mr. Dedar, would you lead us, please?

6 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

7 (The Pledge of Allegiance is
8 recited.)

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you so much.

10 MR. DEDAR: You're welcome.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Public
12 participation. If there's anybody that has
13 requested to speak to the board and/or online, Ms.
14 Johnson, do we have anybody?

15 MS. JOHNSON: There is none.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: There is none at this
17 time?

18 Then we'll move on to number 5, the
19 approval the minutes, and we'll start with the open
20 session minutes, which is resolution 5 a. There was
21 no closed session minutes for the last month's
22 meeting.

23 So let's read that resolution,
24 please.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Approving open session

1 minutes of August 16th, 2023.

2 Whereas, the Atlantic City Municipal
3 Utilities Authority held their board meeting on
4 August 16th, 2023.

5 Now therefore be it resolved, it is
6 on this 20th day of September 2023, that the board
7 of directors of the MUA approves the transcription
8 of open session meeting for the board meeting held
9 on August 16th, 2023.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. And I'm
11 assuming everybody got to review them.

12 Are there any changes, additions, or
13 edits?

14 (Sayed Kausar is now present.)

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Hearing none, I'll
16 accept a motion, please.

17 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

19 And a second?

20 MR. KAUSAR: Good morning, everyone.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Good morning.

22 MR. WARD: Good morning.

23 CHAIRMAN HILL: And we need a second
24 to accept?

25 We need a second to accept the

1 minutes, please.

2 Okay. Thank you. Did we get a
3 second?

4 MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't think so.

5 MS. JOHNSON: No.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: I'll second them.

7 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar --

8 CHAIRMAN HILL: I'll second them.

9 That's fine. And --

10 MR. DEDAR: I motioned it, so you
11 know, it's --

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yours is the first
13 one.

14 MR. DEDAR: They need a coffee I
15 guess this morning because it's chilly out.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. I second. So
17 we'll move to a vote, please.

18 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

21 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

23 MR. ECCLES: Is -- is -- is Bruce
24 there?

25 MR. ARMSTRONG: I was just -- I just

1 text him to see what -- whether he was joining the
2 meeting.

3 MS. JOHNSON: Yes. Bruce Ward is
4 there. Yes. He's Pixel 6a. He is here.

5 MR. ECCLES: Oh, thank you.

6 Bruce, if you --

7 MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't see him on
8 mine.

9 MS. JOHNSON: Yes.

10 Mr. Eccles?

11 MR. ECCLES: Yeah. That was -- I
12 just wanted to ask Bruce because I wasn't at the
13 last -- the last meeting and I just wanted to ask
14 Bruce if it's okay --

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: You should abstain.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Abstain?

17 MR. ECCLES: I mean, I -- I mean, my
18 gut --

19 MR. WARD: Yes. You have to abstain.

20 MR. ECCLES: I mean, my gut is to --
21 is to abstain, but I wanted to ask the board
22 solicitor. Okay.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Yes. Okay.

24 MR. ECCLES: Okay. Then I'll -- then
25 I'll abstain.

1 MR. WARD: That's how it should work.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Okay.

3 And Mr. Kausar?

4 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

5 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

6 Moving on to Mr. Ward's report. I'm
7 not sure I'm -- I believe we're going to go into
8 executive session with some issues.

9 But, Mr. Ward, would you like to make
10 any report now to the board?

11 MR. WARD: Just for an FYI. There
12 was an auction by the City of Atlantic City --

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

14 MR. WARD: -- on September the 7th,
15 and it was, of course, an auction to sell off
16 certain vacant properties.

17 And what we've tried to do is to
18 explain to the City so that they can explain during
19 that process that there are going to be charges for
20 maintenance fees on the properties and they need to
21 put that out in front for the auction purchasers so
22 that they know when they come over to the water
23 authority, we've been providing maintenance on that
24 site notwithstanding the fact that they haven't been
25 purchasing water.

1 So I just thought that the board
2 should be aware if people start complaining that
3 they didn't get information, we would request that
4 that information be put up front. And I'm not sure
5 that the City interprets that as we do.

6 Any questions?

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: No.

8 MR. WARD: Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Very good.

10 Moving on to our committee reports.
11 We did hold an engineering committee meeting again,
12 a full engineering committee. We have again
13 attached last night or this morning, if you got to
14 review the reports from Remington & Vernick, and of
15 course from Cliff's input there and everybody at our
16 company.

17 So, again, those reports are vital
18 because they really give us an outlook of the
19 projects, the scope of the projects, deadlines,
20 monies, contractors, and status, so I really urge
21 everybody to review those, if you have not, in your
22 time.

23 So hearing that you got that, I'm
24 going to move on to any -- let's go through that --
25 we want to -- anything in particular from Remington

1 from the engineering committee? We covered a
2 number -- mostly it was catchup updates, correct,
3 Mr. Smith?

4 MR. SMITH: That's correct, Chairman.

5 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. So anything
6 you want to -- since the last week want to catch me
7 up on?

8 MR. SMITH: Well, we -- we did have a
9 meeting yesterday, Cliff, myself, Justin, Mike,
10 representatives from the City to discuss the lead
11 service line project --

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

13 MR. SMITH: -- and also upcoming
14 roadway projects within the City. We're trying to
15 focus our original phase 1 project for the lead
16 service line replacements on streets that the City
17 has upcoming paving on, and then we're going to
18 focus on the most densely concentrated areas of lead
19 service lines.

20 So we're moving forward. We're
21 coordinating our work with the City, and we're --
22 we're creating the overall plan for the entire City
23 with the focus on the phase 1 construction plans.

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. And we're
25 getting -- I'm assuming we're getting nice

1 cooperation with the City?

2 MR. SMITH: Yeah. So far we've been
3 getting good cooperation, Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you. That's
5 great.

6 And just that reminds me, the lead
7 service report was given out, and I thank everybody.
8 I thanked them at engineering, putting that
9 together. Publicly that went out -- for the rest of
10 the board who maybe wasn't at engineering, that
11 publicly went out to all of City Council, the
12 Mayor's Office, and then I was asked to send it to
13 the County Commissioners. They received it, as
14 well. So it's out in the public. It's out in the
15 press. If any of you get any -- any calls or
16 concerns, make sure you refer back to that report.
17 That's a status report, and I appreciate everybody
18 putting that together for the community and for the
19 transparency of that very important issue.

20 Anything else for the engineering
21 committee? I -- again, it was a lot of updates.

22 MR. SMITH: Yeah. Just a couple of
23 quick ones, Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: Go ahead.

25 MR. SMITH: We were authorized to

1 proceed with the survey of the water treatment
2 plant. We're scheduling that work right now.

3 We were authorized to proceed with
4 the HVAC evaluation of the administration building.
5 We're scheduling our MEP engineer to visit the site
6 and do a thorough inspection of the equipment.

7 And we were also authorized to
8 proceed with the water tank inspections, and we are
9 scheduling that work also.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Yeah. We're
11 trying to be ahead of the curve here. Great.

12 Any questions on that?

13 Moving on to personnel. I know that
14 we had -- they've been working -- I know this was an
15 issue we talked about a while ago. Ms. Still was
16 kind of looking at that, as well.

17 Mr. Dedar, would you like to give a
18 report on personnel?

19 MR. DEDAR: Well, good morning,
20 everyone.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Good morning.

22 MR. DEDAR: We had a very good
23 opportunity to take an interview. Do you want to do
24 it in open discussion or we can do the executive
25 session we can discuss about the interview?

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. We will. In
2 person --

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Closed session.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: In executive session,
5 right. Correct.

6 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

7 MR. DEDAR: So I don't have any --
8 none right now, so we can discuss about that in
9 executive session.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Do we want to
11 talk about the salary -- we can do that in closed,
12 as well?

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: That needs to be
14 moved to closed, as well.

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Very good.

16 MR. ARMSTRONG: It involves contract
17 negotiations.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: So we'll do those two
19 personnel in closed session. Very good.

20 Okay. Moving on. Our Executive
21 Director Mr. Armstrong, and we'll go from there.

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: The only other issues
23 with respect to personnel are with what you
24 mentioned that should be discussed in closed
25 session. There's nothing more to update since our

1 last discussion regarding the lead service
2 replacement program --

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

4 MR. ARMSTRONG: -- and the statement
5 that we issued, so I don't have anything specific
6 other than that.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: Other than what we're
9 going to discuss in closed session.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. And we're
11 moving on to our Deputy Executive Cliff. You're
12 moving on. I know we talked a little bit about some
13 of the issues with the engineering report. Of
14 course we'll work with Polistina & Associates, and
15 as well as Remington & Vernick, and the City.

16 So, Cliff, would you like to move
17 forward with those?

18 MR. KEEN: Yes. Absolutely. Yeah.
19 And I just -- I want to take a second to thank the
20 staff. We are, obviously, very short on operators
21 and personnel.

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

23 MR. KEEN: And the job that they are
24 doing covering shifts and -- and, you know, making
25 sure that this community has what they need is -- is

1 outstanding, and I can't -- I'm very proud to be a
2 member of -- of the staff, and the love that
3 everyone shows for their job is just -- it's
4 amazing. So I just want to make sure everyone is
5 aware of that.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Some of the
7 items in engineering we're going to probably move
8 forward on in new business.

9 So anybody have a question for Cliff?

10 Hearing none, we'll go to Ms. Still,
11 and if you'd like to give any statements. I know
12 you've been busy with a lot of projects.

13 MS. STILL: Yes. Good morning,
14 everyone.

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Good morning.

16 MS. STILL: We have just been busy,
17 Anita and I, working on the budget, wrapping up the
18 audit, and last week we also had a staff review of
19 the rules and regulations. So we're -- we're making
20 some minor changes to the rules and regulations, and
21 that should be available for board review within the
22 next month, and you know, we'll just highlight
23 anything that might be substantial -- substantially
24 different, I'd say, not substantial.

25 That's all that I have to report.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you. You
2 mentioned the budget, and I know this is the time of
3 the year. I was on budget committee for about 12
4 years or something. I forget.

5 Did we have our first one yet, or
6 Anita, are you putting the stuff together for that
7 meeting? That's kind of what it was before.

8 MS. THAPA: Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: You didn't have one
10 yet? You're still working, Anita; right?

11 MS. THAPA: Yes. We're still working
12 on it. Our first budget meeting with the committee
13 is on September -- I think next week, September 27
14 or 28, which I'm guessing is still --

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. So we're on
16 schedule?

17 MS. THAPA: Yes. It is scheduled for
18 that.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

20 MS. THAPA: Yep.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: That's about what I
22 remembered, so that's good. I want to make sure
23 we're all on the same page. That's terrific. Thank
24 you.

25 Accounting and financing. Anita,

1 would you like to continue with your report?

2 MS. THAPA: For sure. Okay.

3 Financial reports are for the month of July '23. As
4 of July, we collected about 54 percent of the
5 revenue from -- from our user charges, which amounts
6 to about 9.7 million. Operating expenses total 5.6
7 million, and capital expenditure, we spent about 1
8 million.

9 As far as the -- as far as the
10 collection, we collected approximately 9.9 million
11 from our customers. The interest rates in our money
12 markets are about 5 percent.

13 And as for the balance adjustment, as
14 usual, it's -- balance adjustment reports shows the
15 adjustment made in our customers' accounts, and
16 that's just for the review for the board members.

17 Shutoffs are ongoing and probably
18 will continue until October, all depends on the
19 weather, as well.

20 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

21 MS. THAPA: Yep. So that's about it
22 for my report on financials.

23 So as usual, if any question, please
24 don't hesitate to reach out to me.

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Thank you so

1 much, Anita. You do a great job on all of that.

2 MS. THAPA: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: And the first order
4 of business in old business is of course getting our
5 audit services approved, and this is kind of a
6 standard procedure.

7 We're moving on to 10 a (1). Could
8 we read the resolution, please, for auditing?

9 MS. JOHNSON: Professional auditing
10 services 2023.

11 Whereas, there exists the need for
12 specialized accounting services for the Atlantic
13 City Municipal Utilities Authority to perform the
14 following: Professional auditing services 2023.

15 Whereas, Mercadien, P.C. is so
16 recognized by the accounting community and are
17 licensed certified public accountants by the State
18 of New Jersey.

19 Now therefore be it resolved, by the
20 board of directors of the MUA, that -- that the MUA
21 and Mercadien shall enter into an agreement, and the
22 cost of services shall be for the flat fee sum of
23 44,000 and shall be based upon the provisions of the
24 cost proposal.

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Thank you.

1 And, again, this is standard. Mercadien we've been
2 working with before.

3 Anita, do you remember how many
4 years?

5 MS. THAPA: Probably three years now.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: At least three,
7 right. Okay. They're very good.

8 You're comfortable with them; right?

9 MS. THAPA: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Anybody else
11 have a question?

12 MR. DEDAR: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

14 MR. DEDAR: What is covered, like
15 professional service agreement?

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: I'm sorry?

17 MR. DEDAR: What kinds of service
18 they're doing? Like I know professional service,
19 but what is included, like how many items?

20 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. I understand.

21 Anita, would you like to explain
22 that, what they do?

23 MS. THAPA: Sure. This is -- by law,
24 we have to do -- we have to audit our financial
25 statements, which we have completed 2022 audit,

1 which there's a resolution for that. So it's, you
2 know, basically trying to, you know, make sure our
3 financial statements are accurate, there's no, you
4 know -- like we are abiding by the laws and all of
5 that. So it is a kind of requirement, annual
6 requirement by law.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: It's an oversight --

8 MS. THAPA: Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: -- of us.

10 MS. THAPA: Yeah.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Does that
12 answer your question, sir?

13 MR. DEDAR: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you very much.

15 We'll move forward on that. So I'll
16 accept a motion to approve.

17 MR. ECCLES: I'll make a motion.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

19 MR. DEDAR: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN HILL: And a second?

21 Second. Very good.

22 Roll call.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

1 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

3 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

4 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

5 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

7 Moving on. We're going to 11, which
8 is new business. And we're going to look at a
9 comprehensive rate study to give us some background
10 and some more information.

11 Let's read the resolution first.
12 This would be 11 a (1).

13 MS. JOHNSON: Authorizing the use of
14 competitive contract method to secure consultant to
15 conduct a rate study.

16 Whereas, N.J.S.A. 40A-5A-10.1 of the
17 Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law requires a
18 municipal utilities authority with a water supply
19 operation to conduct a periodic study of the
20 adequacies and reasonableness of rates, fees, rents,
21 or charges for the operation;

22 Whereas, although the authority has
23 consistently raised its rates and charges in a
24 manner that has adequately supported the operation,
25 it has been several years since a formal rate study

1 was performed;

2 Whereas, the authority is
3 experiencing a challenging labor market and also
4 substantial capital projects mandated by the federal
5 and state government;

6 Whereas, the authority desires to
7 select a consultant to perform the rate study using
8 the competitive contract method.

9 Now therefore be it resolved, by the
10 directors of the MUA, that the MUA authorizes the
11 executive director to advertise a request for
12 proposal utilizing the competitive contract method.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. So we haven't
14 done this for a while. And they're going to -- I
15 believe, what I understand, they're going to make
16 sure that we're appropriate with our rates.

17 Is that correct, Anita, or India?
18 Right? So this is just to go out to bid to get
19 somebody to look at that?

20 MS. STILL: Yes. And we're using the
21 competitive contract method --

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

23 MS. STILL: -- which specifically has
24 to be authorized by the board, and -- so we know
25 that we have got a lot of major projects ahead of us

1 and we also are looking at doing the salary study,
2 the labor market. All of those things have to be
3 taken into consideration --

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Uh-huh.

5 MS. STILL: -- in the rates that we
6 institute.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

8 MS. STILL: Or recommend.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Very good. So I
10 think it's -- I think it's vital, obviously, at this
11 time.

12 So anybody else have a question?
13 Hearing none, we'll take a motion to
14 move this.

15 MR. ECCLES: I'll make a motion.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Do we have a second?

17 MR. DEDAR: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: And a second.

19 Roll call.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

23 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

24 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

25 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

1 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

2 Where -- Mr. Kausar?

3 MR. KAUSAR: Yes. Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

5 The next is an amendment from a
6 resolution. And we'll read the resolution 11 b (1).

7 MS. JOHNSON: Amendment to resolution
8 23-106 to include not to exceed amount appointing
9 professionals and authorizing execution of
10 professional service agreement for court reporting
11 services.

12 Where, on August 16th, 2023, by
13 resolution 23-106, the ACMUA approved the statement
14 of qualifications of professionals;

15 Whereas, they are to provide court
16 reporting services for a term of one year beginning
17 August 16th, 2023 to August 15th, 2024.

18 Now therefore be it resolved, on the
19 20th day of September, by the board of directors of
20 the MUA, they hereby appoint the following firms to
21 provide court reporting services to the MUA and
22 authorizes the chairman to execute a nonexclusive
23 court reporting service agreement not to exceed
24 25,000 collectively with the following
25 professionals: Magna Legal Services and Zanaras

1 Reporting & Video.

2 CHAIRMAN HILL: So we finally can do
3 this. It's the final paperwork. The final thing;
4 right?

5 Anybody have a question on that? It
6 took a couple months to do this.

7 Okay. Hearing none, I'll move that.
8 Can I have a second?

9 MR. DEDAR: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

11 Roll call.

12 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

14 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

15 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

16 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

17 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

18 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

19 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you, Wendy, for
21 being patient.

22 Okay. We're going to be looking at
23 the -- a resolution. This would be 11 c. This is
24 for the Workforce Development Board. I believe
25 we're going to be a partner or at least a

1 participant with this.

2 So can we read the resolution first
3 and then we'll discuss?

4 MS. JOHNSON: Authorizing the
5 executive director to execute a contract with the
6 Atlantic County Workforce Development Board to
7 participate in workforce development programs.

8 Whereas, the authority is
9 experiencing challenges in attracting qualified and
10 readily employable talent in the current labor
11 market;

12 Whereas, the Atlantic County
13 Workforce Development Board offers workforce
14 development services to the residents of Atlantic
15 County, including but not limited to, jobs,
16 counseling, training, supplemental, and wraparound
17 support services;

18 Whereas, the authority desires to
19 contract with the ACWDB to benefit from the local
20 workforce development programs and to improve
21 employment rates of the Atlantic City and County
22 residents.

23 Now therefore be it resolved, by the
24 board of directors of the MUA, that they may enter
25 into a contract with ACWDB for the purpose of

1 recruiting and hiring candidates for employment at
2 the authority and to receive benefits.

3 The executive director of the
4 authority is authorized to execute any contract with
5 the ACWDB hiring candidates for employment.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: So this is to help us
7 with some of our shortages.

8 Michael, could you speak a little bit
9 more about this Workforce Board, or India? Maybe
10 India?

11 MR. ARMSTRONG: I think India might
12 be in a better position.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yeah. I thought so.
14 India, is this something we -- is
15 this something you and I looked at a while ago with
16 the Governor's Office?

17 MS. STILL: No. This is --

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: No? This is
19 different? All right.

20 MS. STILL: It might be because -- it
21 might be related, but --

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: I think it might have
23 been an offshoot of that -- that thing.

24 Okay. Go ahead. I'm sorry. Go
25 ahead.

1 MS. STILL: Oh, no. That's -- that's
2 okay. This is a particular workforce development
3 training program where they will -- if an employer
4 executes the contract, we are potentially able to
5 get training costs offset from the candidates that
6 we hire. So they need us to execute the contract
7 first, and then they need to see if the eligible
8 candidate is -- can receive those benefits, and then
9 if we offer -- make an offer of employment, we can
10 get up to, I think it's 7,000 -- 6 or 7,000 for each
11 candidate that we train. So -- so it benefits us.
12 It's an on-ramp.

13 We do have one candidate in mind.
14 She was an intern with us during the summer. She
15 worked out really well. And we'd like to bring --
16 onboard her as a -- to continue that training, and
17 potentially she would be in a position to -- to be a
18 candidate for one of our entry level jobs.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Nice. Does it --
20 does it cost us anything?

21 MS. STILL: It's -- so we would be --
22 we would -- so she would come in. I think her
23 hourly rate -- I have to go --

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: No. No. No. Not --
25 not her, India. I meant to join -- to participate

1 in the workforce development, does it cost us
2 anything?

3 MS. STILL: Oh, no. No.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Oh. That's what I
5 was wondering.

6 MS. STILL: No. Nothing.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

8 MS. STILL: We just have to enter the
9 contract and then --

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Got it.

11 MS. STILL: -- we potentially can be
12 recipient --

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

14 MS. STILL: -- of some of the
15 training funds.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: It seems very
17 beneficial. Very good.

18 MS. STILL: Yeah. Sorry.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: No. That's --
20 Anybody else have a question?

21 MR. ECCLES: No. I just wanted to
22 thank India because she answered all my questions --
23 she answered my questions before I -- before I could
24 ask them.

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: She's that good.

1 MR. ECCLES: That's good.

2 CHAIRMAN HILL: Very good. Okay.

3 Thank you.

4 Hearing no other questions, I'll
5 accept a motion.

6 MR. ECCLES: I'll make the motion.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

8 And a second?

9 MR. DEDAR: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Roll call.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

14 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

16 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

17 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

18 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

20 One of our most important systems is
21 the SCADA system, and we'll discuss a little bit
22 more about that. I think maybe we should have a
23 real quick review of what that is, Cliff, maybe in a
24 few minutes, but let's read the resolution first.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Corrective resolution

1 superseding resolution 23-14 to authorize the use of
2 competitive contract method to secure consultant to
3 upgrade the SCADA system.

4 Whereas, the authority adopted
5 resolution 23-14 on January 18, 2023 authorizing the
6 executive director to issue a request for proposal
7 to hire a consultant to review and make
8 recommendations for upgrading the SCADA system at
9 the water treatment plant;

10 Whereas, the authority desires to
11 cancel that resolution 23-14 and authorize the use
12 of the competitive contract method to hire the SCADA
13 consultant.

14 Now therefore be it resolved, by the
15 board of directors of the MUA, that they cancel
16 resolution 23-14 adopted on January 18th, 2023.

17 The board permits the executive
18 director to advertise a request for proposal
19 utilizing the competitive contract method pursuant
20 to N.J.S.A. 40A-11 -- 11-4 to hire a consultant to
21 assist the authority in the upgrades of the SCADA
22 system.

23 CHAIRMAN HILL: So we're just going
24 to go out to bid? That's what this means?

25 Okay. Cliff, or -- could you just

1 give everybody a sort of quick, why is this SCADA
2 system so -- I know we -- we all know it needs to be
3 upgraded. We discussed that.

4 But what does it really do?

5 MR. KEEN: Absolutely. So SCADA
6 stands for supervisory control and data acquisition.
7 And what that does is it takes the information from
8 all the processes we have at our water treatment
9 plant and it puts them into a central processing
10 hub, and that is reflected on the screen of the
11 control room that our water treatment plant
12 operators use.

13 So from that screen, we're able to
14 tell what the tank levels are at both sites, which
15 pumps are on, which wells are on, all the
16 information we need. There's chemical, you know,
17 testing results in there. There's -- there's all
18 kinds of things that we need to operate our system.

19 And I believe the last time we had
20 our system upgraded was 2007, and there are
21 components that are getting older. There are
22 processes that need to be changed. There's actually
23 software that needs to be changed, and we want to
24 make sure that while we're doing that, we are
25 looking towards the future with the water treatment

1 plant upgrades that we intend on taking, and we want
2 to make sure -- we need to do it now, but we also
3 want to make sure that these processes can project
4 into the future, and as we update our water
5 treatment plant, we will be able to have a system
6 that functions now and then later with the new
7 updates that are part of it.

8 So that's why we're going out to bid.
9 We want a specialist to come in and oversee that
10 process for us and assist us in the SCADA design on
11 the new water treatment plant, as well.

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you. That
13 sounds like you just read it out of a book or maybe
14 from your brain. How wonderful. Thank you.

15 Thank you. So this is to go for a
16 competitive bid.

17 Anybody else have a question?

18 Hearing none, we'll move that,
19 please.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Oh, no. We need
22 to -- I don't think we -- we need a motion, please.

23 MR. DEDAR: We need a motion.

24 MR. ECCLES: Motion and a second.

25 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: And a second?

2 MR. DEDAR: Second.

3 MR. ECCLES: I'll --

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. And a second?

5 Now, we can move it.

6 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

9 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

10 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

11 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

12 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

13 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

15 Resolution 11 e is a project that is
16 vital. We want to really move on this as quickly as
17 we can. It's approval for this project.

18 Let's read the resolution, please.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Sandblast, paint, and
20 install new squeegees at the clarifier through the
21 Passaic Valley Sewage Commission Cooperative
22 Purchasing Agreement by G.M.H. Associates of America
23 Inc.

24 Whereas, the Atlantic City Municipal
25 Utilities Authority is permitted to join cooperative

1 purchasing agreements under the authority;

2 Whereas, the Atlantic MUA intends to
3 participate in the Passaic Valley Sewage Commission
4 to sandblast, paint, and install new squeegees at
5 the clarifier at the water treatment plant;

6 Whereas, it is the intent of the MUA
7 to make a purchase pursuant to said contract awarded
8 to G.M.H. Associates of America Inc. pursuant to the
9 proposal submitted to the MUA dated September 13th,
10 2023;

11 Whereas, the deputy executive
12 director of operations has reviewed the proposal and
13 has determined that it will result in a significant
14 savings to the authority.

15 Now therefore be it resolved, by the
16 board of directors of the Atlantic City MUA, that
17 the chairman is hereby authorized to enter into a
18 contract with G.M.H. Associates of America Inc. to
19 sandblast, paint, and install new squeegees at the
20 clarified (sic) through the Passaic Valley Sewage
21 Commission in the amount not to exceed \$116,266.14
22 as set forth in their proposal dated September 13th,
23 2023.

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: And I -- I believe
25 this was also one of our -- on our hit list from

1 Remington & Vernick and from all of our engineering
2 things. So we're moving on this project.

3 Cliff, I know the resolution says you
4 reviewed all of this. You feel confident with the
5 proposal?

6 MR. KEEN: Yes. This -- this company
7 is under a bid contract. It was competitively bid,
8 and it looks like it's actually of value to us,
9 because if we went out to bid, it might be higher
10 actually at this point.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

12 MR. KEEN: And yeah. I was just
13 excited to write a resolution that had the word
14 squeegee in it so many times, so perfect.

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: See, never a dull
16 moment around here.

17 And timeline, when will they --
18 when -- once we approve this, what kind of a
19 timeline are we are talking about?

20 MR. KEEN: As soon as possible.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Of course. That's
22 what I was hoping to hear with the weather and so
23 forth. That's fine.

24 Anybody else have a question?

25 Hearing none, we'll look for a motion

1 to accept the contract.

2 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

4 And a second?

5 MR. ECCLES: I'll second.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

7 And a roll call.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

10 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

11 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

12 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

13 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

14 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

15 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

17 So that's the clarifier at the
18 treatment plant.

19 We're going to move on to the
20 abatement. I think we only have one. Yes. We have
21 one abatement which fits into our rules and regs.
22 It is 11 f (1).

23 Again, I advise any board member, if
24 there's a conflict, just to abstain from voting for
25 that abatement.

1 So let's read the resolution, please.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Abatement.

3 Whereas, resolution 395 of 1994
4 provides for rules, rates, and regulations governing
5 the assessment and collections of water rates and
6 charges for the Water Department of the Atlantic
7 City MUA;

8 Whereas, the property owned by Mr.
9 Daniel W. Sabba, Jr., located at 412 Robinson
10 Avenue.

11 Be it resolved that the charges
12 totaling \$1,284.01 are hereby abated.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

14 Anybody have a question?

15 Hearing none, I'll move the
16 resolution for the abatement.

17 Second?

18 MR. DEDAR: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

20 Roll call.

21 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

24 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

1 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

2 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

3 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

5 Moving forward. We have "g," our
6 audit. I think Anita spoke about this a little bit
7 in her report, but we'll read the resolution first.

8 MS. JOHNSON: 2022 audit.

9 Whereas, N.J.S.A. 40A:5A-15 requires
10 the governing body of every authority to have made
11 an annual audit of its books, accounts, and
12 financial transactions;

13 Whereas, the annual report of audit
14 for the year 2022 has been filed by a certified
15 public accountant with the authority's secretary and
16 a copy has been received by each member of the
17 governing body;

18 Whereas, the Local Finance Board has
19 promulgated N.J.A.C., a regulation requiring that
20 the governing body of each authority shall, by
21 resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of
22 the State of New Jersey that all members of the
23 governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the
24 sections of the annual audit entitled "comments and
25 recommendations";

1 Whereas, the members of the governing
2 body personally reviewed, as a minimum, the annual
3 report of audit and specifically the sections of the
4 annual audit entitled "comments and
5 recommendations," as evidenced by the group
6 affidavit form of the governing body that's attached
7 hereto;

8 Whereas, such resolution of
9 certification shall be adopted by the governing body
10 no later than 45 days after the receipt of the
11 annual audit.

12 Now therefore be it resolved, that
13 the chairman and members of the Atlantic City MUA
14 hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C.
15 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of
16 this resolution and the required affidavit to said
17 members to show evidence of said compliance.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. So this is
19 the audit of '22.

20 Anita, I think we talked about this
21 before. Is there anything you want to add to that,
22 comments? It was --

23 MS. THAPA: Yes. The audit for 2022
24 is in -- is provided to the board member in PDF
25 format.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

2 MS. THAPA: If you'd like any copies,
3 you know, hard copies, I have some here. The one
4 that -- the comment and recommendations section can
5 be found on page -- let's see -- page 66, which I
6 know all the board members at least should read on
7 that, which --

8 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

9 MS. THAPA: -- no -- no findings are
10 recommended -- are noted by the auditor anyway, so
11 it's a clean audit for 2022.

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

13 MS. THAPA: And all the board member
14 has to, you know, sign and --

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Sign off, yeah.

16 MS. THAPA: Yeah, sign off on that.

17 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yeah. So --

18 MS. THAPA: And the audit is due by
19 September 30th, but I'm planning to submit it to the
20 state by next week.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Very good. So
22 we should all just make sure we glance at page 66 in
23 that. If anybody has a question before you sign --
24 everybody must sign this. It will come around to
25 you. Because we're certifying that we looked at it

1 and we agree, so that's what's going to end up
2 happening there.

3 Anybody have a question about the
4 audit?

5 Okay. Hearing none, we'll accept a
6 motion.

7 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

8 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

9 And a second?

10 MR. ECCLES: I'll second.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

12 Roll call.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

14 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

16 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

18 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

19 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

20 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. Moving on. Of
22 course we usually end up with our bills. 12 a is
23 our monthly bills. Attached with your packet was
24 all of the bills, and you can see once again where
25 our higher costs are usually at. It doesn't really

1 deviate too much every month.

2 So let's just read the resolution.

3 We'll move from there.

4 MS. JOHNSON: Approving monthly
5 bills.

6 Whereas, the Atlantic City MUA has
7 indebtedness to the following companies for services
8 rendered in the amount of \$874,896.76.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. Anybody have
10 a question on the bills?

11 Hearing none, I'll accept a motion.

12 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

14 A second?

15 MR. ECCLES: I'll second.

16 MR. KAUSAR: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN HILL: Roll call.

18 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

21 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

22 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

23 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

24 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

25 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

2 That completes the open session of
3 our board meeting today. We are going to be moving
4 into executive session to talk about a personnel
5 matter. There was an interview done, as well as a
6 salary study.

7 Do we have anything, Michael, for
8 labor?

9 MR. RILEY: No, we don't, at this
10 point, no.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Mr. Armstrong,
12 anything else I left off that list?

13 Sorry.

14 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. The only thing
15 is there have been some minor transactions with
16 respect to union negotiations. We'll just give you
17 an update as to where we are.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay. So an update.
19 Very good.

20 All right. I think that will do it.
21 We'll move into closed.

22 I want to thank Remington & Vernick
23 for being part of this again. You're doing a great
24 job, guys. I will see some of you next week, and
25 that will be great.

1 And let me see. I guess, Anita,
2 we're done, so that's great.

3 MS. THAPA: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: We'll move into
5 executive. Thank you.

6 MS. THAPA: Have a good day,
7 everybody.

8 MR. SMITH: Thanks, guys.

9 Thanks, Chairman.

10 Thanks, everybody. Have a good day.

11 MR. ECCLES: Yes, enjoy.

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Do we just stay?

13 MS. JOHNSON: Yeah. We've got to
14 vote on the closed session, to go into closed.

15 CHAIRMAN HILL: Oh. We do have to
16 vote on the closed? That's right. I'm sorry. We
17 do have to vote on the closed session.

18 Moving into closed session now to
19 discuss those matters. I'll move that.

20 Can I have a second?

21 MR. ECCLES: I'll second.

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

23 Roll call.

24 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

1 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

2 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

3 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

4 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

5 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

6 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you. We'll
8 move into executive.

9 - - -

10 (Whereupon, the closed session was
11 excerpted.)

12 - - -

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't think it's
14 necessary to bring him back. I just -- we're just
15 voting on the motion.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

17 MS. JOHNSON: We're just waiting for
18 India.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Okay. She should be
21 back.

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: There she is.

23 CHAIRMAN HILL: There she is. There
24 she comes.

25 Okay. We've just concluded our

1 executive session for September's board meeting. I
2 will entertain a motion or we should read the
3 resolution, please, to go back -- to exit executive
4 session before we go into public.

5 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

6 MR. KAUSAR: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Second?

8 Roll call.

9 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

12 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

14 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

15 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

16 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

18 In executive session, we discussed a
19 number of items. We had a personnel labor
20 negotiation update. We also had an update on the
21 salary study issue.

22 And we are all going to move on two
23 of the items that we discussed in executive session.
24 The first one is really an amendment to a past
25 resolution that was done on March 28th

1 considering -- excuse me -- concerning our
2 operators. We are going to be adding or amending
3 that we can add independent operators to our pool
4 and not to exceed an hourly rate as we offer them to
5 a T4 of \$60, a T3 at 58, and a T2 at \$56 per
6 operator. So we're adding -- amending the original,
7 adding to independent operators selected by our
8 staff.

9 Does that sound right?

10 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

12 MR. ARMSTRONG: Good job.

13 CHAIRMAN HILL: Anybody else have a
14 question?

15 Hearing none, I'll accept a motion
16 for that amendment.

17 MR. DEDAR: Motion.

18 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

19 And a second?

20 MR. ECCLES: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

22 Roll call.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

24 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

1 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

2 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

3 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

4 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

5 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: Maybe somebody should
7 put that in better words, but I was trying to --

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: No. You did a good
9 job.

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: -- read all my notes
11 all over the place.

12 The second action item we will do
13 that we discussed in executive session is to
14 authorize our Executive Director Mr. Armstrong to
15 make an offer to the candidate that was interviewed
16 and approved by our personnel committee under the
17 chairmanship of our Vice Chairman for the
18 distribution manager at the Atlantic City Municipal
19 Utilities Authority as soon as possible.

20 MR. ARMSTRONG: And subject to state
21 approval.

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: And subject to state
23 approval, and of course the terms we discussed in
24 executive session.

25 MR. ARMSTRONG: Right. Because I'm

1 going to submit a waiver first, and then when the
2 state authorizes it --

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. See if they
4 do that, right.

5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Right. Okay.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: So we all know who or
7 what -- what position we're talking about. And,
8 again, I thank the personnel committee.

9 So I will move that.

10 Can I have a second?

11 MR. ARMSTRONG: Just -- just --

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Sorry.

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: I think you're going
14 to need a separate one with respect to the other
15 manager, though.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Oh.

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: Remember we had the
18 conversation about the other manager, as well?

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes. No problem.

20 MR. ARMSTRONG: If you could talk in
21 general about that, too, the second one.

22 CHAIRMAN HILL: Okay.

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: But I mean, we -- we
24 need a motion -- a vote on this one first.

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: Right. We do on this

1 one.

2 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN HILL: Very good. So I
4 think I moved it.

5 We need a second.

6 MR. DEDAR: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

8 And roll call.

9 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

10 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

12 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

14 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

15 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

16 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

18 And our third item is to adjust our
19 current person who is working at the plant doing
20 this same position who's been with us over 15 years
21 or more, to adjust his salary so we have some
22 equability and -- towards him, and we will -- we
23 discussed that in executive session. Again, that's
24 based on state approval, so --

25 MR. ARMSTRONG: Right.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: --- everybody knows
2 what we're talking about I hope --

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN HILL: -- without me
5 mentioning details. All right. Very good.

6 I'll move that one, as well.

7 Can I have a second?

8 MR. DEDAR: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

10 And a roll call.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Hill?

12 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Dedar?

14 MR. DEDAR: Yes.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Mr. Eccles?

16 MR. ECCLES: Yes.

17 MS. JOHNSON: And Mr. Kausar?

18 MR. KAUSAR: Yes.

19 CHAIRMAN HILL: Thank you.

20 And I do want to state that both of
21 those resolutions or those movements are really
22 based on an emergency-type situation, in fact, all
23 three of them today that we just did because we're
24 short workforce. We have some issues we need to
25 address, so that's in the public record, and the

1 state is -- the state is aware of it, as well. It's
2 not just that we're hiring people. We really do
3 have a type of an emergency situation.

4 MR. ARMSTRONG: And that should be
5 spelled out in the resolutions, as well.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: And that's why I
7 remembered to that say.

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: So I hope --

10 MR. WARD: And, Mr. Hill, I --

11 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yes.

12 MR. WARD: -- think it's also
13 important to note that this is an industrywide
14 personnel issue. This is not specific to Atlantic
15 City.

16 CHAIRMAN HILL: Yeah.

17 MR. WARD: The industry has not been
18 able to keep up with the training and input of
19 licensed personnel necessary to serve America's
20 water, so we're doing everything that we can to
21 support the required functions that we do.

22 But, again, I think that the -- the
23 public would be better to understand that this is
24 not just a local matter. This is an industrywide
25 matter.

1 CHAIRMAN HILL: Absolutely. And
2 we're doing our best to -- to make sure we cover our
3 bases and do the best job we can.

4 Thank you, Mr. Ward.

5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN HILL: Anybody else have
7 something?

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: No.

9 CHAIRMAN HILL: Hearing none, I want
10 to thank everybody for their time and their work and
11 dedication to the MUA and the citizens of Atlantic
12 City.

13 Have a wonderful day. Thank you.

14 MR. ARMSTRONG: You, too.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

16 MR. ARMSTRONG: Oh, motion to
17 adjourn.

18 MR. DEDAR: Thank you, everyone.

19 MR. ARMSTRONG: You just need a
20 motion -- motion to adjourn.

21 MS. JOHNSON: Motion to adjourn.
22 Motion to adjourn.

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: You can say all in
24 favor, say aye?

25 CHAIRMAN HILL: Aye? Say aye.

1 GROUP: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN HILL: Bye.

3 MS. JOHNSON: Okay. Take care.

4 - - -

5 (Whereupon, the regular monthly
6 meeting concluded at approximately 11:20 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, WENDY L. WALINSKI, a Notary Public and Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim transcript of the proceedings as taken stenographically by and before me at the time, place and on the date hereinbefore set forth, to the best of my ability.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any of the parties to this action, and that I am neither a relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel, and that I am not financially interested in the action.

Wendy L. Walinski

WENDY L. WALINSKI, CCR
Notary Number: 2203614
Notary Expiration: 8/3/27
CCR Number: XI02025
Dated: September 23, 2023



Magna

Key Contacts

Schedule a Deposition:
Scheduling@MagnaLS.com | 866-624-6221

Order a Transcript:
CustomerService@MagnaLS.com | 866-624-6221

General Billing Inquiries:
ARTeam@MagnaLS.com | 866-624-6221

Scheduling Operations Manager:
Patricia Gondor (E: PGondor@MagnaLS.com | C: 215-221-9566)

Customer Care:
Cari Hartley (E: CHartley@MagnaLS.com | C: 843-814-0841)

Director of Production Services:
Ron Hickman (E: RHickman@MagnaLS.com | C: 215-982-0810)

National Director of Discovery Support Services:
Carmella Mazza (E: CMazza@MagnaLS.com | C: 856-495-1920)

Billing Manager:
Maria Capetola (E: MCapetola@MagnaLS.com | C: 215-292-9603)

Director of Sales Operations:
Kristina Moukina (E: KMoukina@MagnaLS.com | C: 215-796-5028)

LAWYER'S NOTES

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