



Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OPEN SESSION

APRIL 16, 2025

**ATLANTIC CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
401 N. VIRGINIA AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ 08401**

In accordance with the provision of the Open Public Meetings Law, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-10), the Regular Board Meeting of the Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Gary L. Hill at 10:02AM. The Board of Directors held their public meeting as designated below both via Zoom Conference or In-person on April 16, 2025 in the Board Room, located on the first floor of the Administrative Offices, 401 N. Virginia Avenue, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

1. CALL TO ORDER – OPMA NOTICE - OPENING STATEMENT

Gary L. Hill read the Opening Statement.

2. ROLL CALL

The Roll was called.

BOARD PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING:

Board Members present at that time were: Gary L. Hill, Chairman (via Zoom); Mohammed Dedar, Vice Chairman/Deputy (via Zoom); Glenn Banfield, Treasurer (via Zoom); Nynell Langford, Board Member (via Zoom); John Eccles, Jr., Board Member (via Zoom); Stephanie Davies, Board Member, Alternate 1 (Absent); and Sayed Kausar, Board Member Alternate 2 (via Zoom).

MUA STAFF PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING:

India Still, Executive Director; Clifford Keen, Deputy Executive Director, Operations (via Zoom); Anita Thapa, Assistant Director of Accounting & Finance (via Zoom); Karen Upshaw, Director of Administration (via Zoom); G. Bruce Ward, Solicitor (via Zoom); Michael Riley, Labor Counsel (via Zoom); and Stella Johnson, Board Secretary.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

William Swain, representing the State of New Jersey (via Zoom); Robert Smith and Andrew Shawl representing Remington & Vernick Engineers (via Zoom); George Frino representing DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP (via Zoom); and Anthony Santiago, public participation (via Zoom).

3. FLAG OF SALUTE

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Anthony Santiago appeared before the Board and indicated that he does not have a topic to discuss. He indicated that he is just here to observe.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #72: BOARD MINUTES OPEN SESSION – MARCH 21, 2025

No changes or deletion to the Board Minutes Open Session.

The Board was asked to approve the Open Session transcript of minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of March 21, 2025.

A motion was made by Mohammed Dedar and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

RESOLUTION #73: BOARD MINUTES CLOSED SESSION – MARCH 21, 2025

No changes or deletion to the Board Minutes Closed Session.

The Board was asked to approve the Closed Session transcript of minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of March 21, 2025.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

6. CHAIRMAN – Gary L. Hill, Chairman

Mr. Gary L. Hill expressed “Get Well Wishes” to Karen Upshaw, Director of Administration who has been out on sick leave.

The Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025, will be rescheduled to Wednesday,

May 28, 2025, because Mr. Gary L. Hill will be out of the country.

7. AUTHORITY'S SOLICITOR REPORT – Bruce Ward, Esq.

There is nothing to discuss in Open Session, but there are items to be discussed in Executive Session.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Engineering Committee – Gary L. Hill, Chairman

The Engineering Committee had their meeting this month. There are a lot of projects that the MUA is working on and are progressing.

Mr. Cliff Keen thanked the staff for managing the hydrant flushing project. The MUA did not have many complaints, which were managed very well. Mr. Keen showed the Board the map of the City where the complaints were tracked. The communication plan was good with the community.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – (VIA TELEPHONICALLY)

Mr. Anthony Santiago conveyed that he does not want to address the Board on any item, he relayed that he is just here to observe.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS - continue

b. Personnel Committee – Mohammed Dedar, Chairman and India Still, Executive Director

The Personnel Committee Meeting items will be discussed in Executive Session.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Executive Director – India Still

On March 31st, the MUA submitted to the EPA for the American Water Infrastructure Act with the assistance of H2M. On April 6th and 7th, the MUA had an Active Shooter Training for the staff, which is ongoing. Most of the Administrative staff was trained, and the Plant will be scheduled for training. On April 14th, India Still, Cliff Keen, Ed Jones and Patrick Cole of H2M attended the FAA Emergency Table Top Drill, which was a simulation of an air craft at the Upper Reservoir. It was very informative and the MUA met all of the major players in the County that would respond to the emergency drills. It was a really good exercise. The MUA is also finalizing the Security Grant Application, which should hopefully be submitted this week.

The other items will be discussed in Closed Session.

b. Deputy Executive Director, Operation – Cliff Keen

Robert Smith gave an update on the paving projects for Baltic Avenue and Grammercy Place. Paving will begin in the middle of June for the Baltic Avenue project. A schedule of when the Grammercy Place project is anticipated will be presented. The City has not gone out to bid yet for the Atlantic Avenue project from Tennessee Avenue to Albany Avenue. The City is waiting for federal authorization. Remington & Vernick is trying to make sure that all of those services will be replaced prior to the City doing the paving work. MLK's project bids are due for water main upgrades next Tuesday, April 23rd to mill and pave MLK from Route 30 to Mediterranean Avenue. The City has not received federal authorization to bid that project yet. However, the goal is to get in and get done before the City does the paving work, which may be done in two (2) separate phases.

Mr. Cliff Keen indicated that the Lead Service Line project is moving along. The MUA's staff has been trained to knock on doors, help people identify piping material and get signatures for access permission to change out lines. They were successful. The MUA has been working on getting assistance from various community organizations.

The MUA is doing well at the Plant. The biggest issue is the deficit of licensed operators at the Treatment Plant. The MUA has started a plan to recruit new people, and train our current staff. In addition, the MUA just hired a new apprentice. The MUA is moving in the right direction. Ed Jones, Plant Manager is keeping our water quality at top tier in the State.

The Board needs to review the Engineers and Operations Reports.

c. Accounting And Finance - Anita Thapa, Assistant Director of Accounting & Finance

- (1) Financial Reports: The Board was previously given a detailed report for February 2025, and a brief summation of this report was conveyed.
- (2) Cash Management: The Board was previously given a detailed report for February, and a brief summation of this report was conveyed.
- (3) Balance Adjustment was previously given to the Board for review.
- (4) Shut Offs, depending on the weather, will start the end of April or the beginning of May.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION #74: 1409 N. OHIO AVENUE – BROOKS AND DANIEL – PLUMBING SYSTEM FAILURE

The Board was asked to approve the abatement to grant a fifty (50%) percent abatement of \$319.34 to Brooks and Daniel, 1409 N. Ohio Avenue, Account Number 992701-0.

RESOLUTION #75: 3017 LANDMARK COURT – SUMON MAJUMDER – PLUMBING SYSTEM FAILURE

The Board was asked to approve the abatement to grant a fifty (50%) percent abatement of \$662.44 to Sumon Majumder, 3017 Landmark Court, Account Number 1133901-0.

RESOLUTION #76: 3207 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE – MARY O’BRICK – PLUMBING SYSTEM FAILURE

The Board was asked to approve the abatement to grant a fifty (50%) percent abatement of \$976.78 to Mary O’Brick, 3207 Fairmount Avenue, Account Number 692601-0.

RESOLUTION #77: 400 N. INDIANA AVENUE – 704 8TH, LLC – PLUMBING SYSTEM FAILURE

The Board was asked to approve the abatement to grant a fifty (50%) percent abatement of \$1,045.91 to 704 8TH, LLC, 400 N. Indiana Avenue, Account Number 918501-0.

RESOLUTION #78: 403 N. OHIO AVENUE – MAH GROUP, LLC – PLUMBING SYSTEM FAILURE

The Board was asked to approve the abatement to grant a fifty (50%) percent abatement of \$101.80 to Mah Group, LLC, 403 N. Ohio Avenue, Account Number 920701-0.

RESOLUTION #79: WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT – PROVIDENCE RENTAL PROP, LLC- 2701 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE

The Water Service Agreement with Providence Rental Prop, LLC for the property 2701 Fairmount Avenue, Block 380, Lot 12 in the City of Atlantic City, New Jersey, which the parties paid the installation and connection fee of \$13,768.28.

RESOLUTION #80: ADVERTISEMENT - JANITORIAL SERVICES AT THE
ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS FACILITY AND THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT
PUMPING STATION FACILITY

To advertise bids for Janitorial Services at the Administration, Operations Facility and the Water Treatment Plant Pumping Station Facility in the Press Newspaper and on the ACMUA Website to accept bids on a date to be later announced.

RESOLUTION #81: ADVERTISEMENT - HYDRATED LIME

To advertise bids for Hydrated Lime in the Press Newspaper and on the ACMUA Website to accept bids on a date to be later announced.

A motion was made by John Eccles, Jr. and seconded by Mohammed Dedar to approve the Consent Agenda. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

END CONSENT AGENDA

ROLL CALL AGENDA

RESOLUTION #82: APPOINTMENT OF BOND COUNSEL – DECOTIIS, FITZPATRICK,
COLE & GIBLIN, LLP

To authorize to accept the Request for Proposals to appoint Decotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin for Bond Counsel services from April 17, 2025 to March 19, 2026, not to exceed the budgeted amount.

A motion was made by Mohammed Dedar and seconded by John J. Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

RESOLUTION #83: APPOINTMENT OF SECOND SPECIAL COUNSEL – DECOTIIS,
FITZPATRICK, COLE & GIBLIN, LLP

To authorize to accept the Request for Proposal to appoint Decotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin as Second Special Counsel services from April 17, 2025 to March 19, 2026, not to exceed the budgeted amount.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr. Glenn Banfield voted Nay.

RESOLUTION #84: UTILITY ROAD OPENING RESTORATION – ARTHUR R. HENRY

To authorize to accept the bid proposal from Arthur R. Henry for Utility Road Opening Restoration for a sum not to exceed the total cost of \$307,499.05 for Year 1, \$320,874.05 for Year 2 (optional renewal), and \$334,299.05 for year 3 (optional renewal).

A motion was made by Glenn Banfield and seconded by Mohammed Dedar to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

RESOLUTION #85: ON-CALL EMERGENCY WATER MAIN AND SERVICE REPAIRS

To authorize to accept the bid proposals for On-Call Emergency Water Main and Service Repairs (reflects per hour/per unit costs) to J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc. for \$14,699.00 for Year 1 and \$14,789.00 for year 2 (optional renewal); to Arthur R. Henry, Inc. for \$16,329.00 for Year 1 and \$16,382.00 for Year 2 (optional renewal); and to Crest Construction Group, LLC for \$17,800.00 for Year 1 and \$17,800.00 for Year 2 (optional renewal).

A motion was made by John Eccles, Jr. and seconded by Gary L. Hill to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

RESOLUTION #:86: MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRICAL REPAIRS AT MUA FACILITIES

To authorize to accept the bid proposals for Furnishing, Delivering and Installing of Miscellaneous Electrical Repairs to Lee-Way Electric, LLC for \$137,500.00 for Year 1, \$140,389.00 for year 2 (optional renewal) and \$143,377.00 for Year 3 (optional renewal); to Calvi Electric Company for \$140,500.00 for Year 1, \$142,600.00 for Year 2 (optional renewal) and \$144,250.00 for Year 3 (optional renewal).

A motion was made by Glenn Banfield and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, Nynell Langford and John Eccles, Jr.

RESOLUTION #87: REJECTION OF BIDS – BOARDWALK VALVE INVESTIGATION – PHASE 1 AND AUTHORIZATION TO REBID

To authorize to reject the bid proposals for Boardwalk Valve Investigation – Phase 1 from Arthur R. Henry, Inc. for \$227,500.00; and Lafayette Utility Construction Co., Inc. for \$341,263.00, due to bids exceeding the funding allocated and budgeted for this project and authorization to rebid.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

RESOLUTION #88: LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PHASE 2 CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES – REMINGTON AND VERNICK ENGINEERS

To authorize to accept the proposal from Remington & Vernick Engineers for Engineering services for Lead Service line Replacement Phase 2 Construction Management Services for a sum not to exceed the total cost of \$1,255,000.00.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

RESOLUTION #89: ADVERTISEMENT - LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PHASE 2

To advertise bids for Lead Service Line Replacement Phase 2 in the Press Newspaper and on the ACMUA Website to accept bids on a date to be later announced.

A motion was made by Glenn Banfield and seconded by Mohammed Dedar. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

RESOLUTION #90: EMERGENCY WATER MAIN AND ROAD REPAIR – ARTHUR R. HENRY, INC

The Board was asked to authorize to pay Arthur R. Henry, Inc. for Emergency Water Main and Road Repair, because several water and service leaks and road repairs were required to keep the system operational, in the sum of 318,368.88.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

RESOLUTION #91: EMERGENCY JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR ADMINISTRATION
AND PLANT BUILDINGS – G-Q MAINTENANCE

The Board was asked to amend Resolution 24-103 of June 20, 2024 to authorize an Emergency contract for Janitorial Services for the Administration and Plant Buildings with GQ Maintenance for \$4,000.00.

A motion was made by John Eccles, Jr. and seconded by Mohammed Dedar to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

BILLS

RESOLUTION #92: MONTHLY BILLS

To approve the monthly bill resolution in the amount of \$1,455,075.13.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION #93: EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mohammed Dedar and seconded by John Eccles, Jr. to go into Executive Session at 11:10am. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Gary L. Hill requested that the Board exit the Executive Session at 11:54am by roll call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

DISCUSSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

In Executive Session the Board discussed the following topics: Personnel issues were discussed; Update Litigation; Creation of Confidential Assistant; and Salary Adjustment.

RESOLUTION #94: CREATION OF THE STAFF POSITION CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT

To authorize the creation of the staff position Confidential Assistant with a starting salary of \$50,618.70 and to amend the Organization Chart to reflect the new job title and position reporting to the Director of Administration.

A motion was made by Glenn Banfield seconded by Mohammed Dedar to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

RESOLUTION #95: SALARY ADJUSTMENT – ANJAIL SHABAZZ

To authorize the salary adjustment for Anjail Shabazz from \$45,618.70 to \$55,618.70, and job title from Executive Secretary to Confidential Assistant, effective as of April 21, 2025 at the recommendation of Gallagher & Associates to adjust any current salaries to new minimum starting salaries if lower than the new minimum, and to consider offering “time in seat” adjustment for some employees.

A motion was made by Gary L. Hill seconded by Mohammed Dedar to approve the resolution. By roll-call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gary L. Hill requested that the Board Adjourn the Board Meeting at 12:00pm by roll call Gary L. Hill, Mohammed Dedar, Glenn Banfield, John Eccles, Jr. and Sayed Kausar.

Nynell Langford and Stephanie Davies were absent.

Respectfully,

WaStella E. Johnson
Board Secretary