

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
July 8, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Oluwole A. McFoy
Gerald Kelly
Steven Stepniak
William Sunderlin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Peter Merlo
Jack McMahan
Stephen Waldvogel
Greg Keyser
Dustin Steiner
Charlie Martorana
David Hill
Damon Sykes
Lisa Foti
Michael Ramos
Michael Wolasz

The regular monthly meeting of the Buffalo Water Board was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Motion by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to approve the agenda. Approved.

Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2020 meeting. Approved.
2. There were no public comments at this meeting.
3. Staff Update: Mr. Hill with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.
4. Election of Officers: Mr. McFoy continues pursuant to Mayoral appointment, as authorized by law, as Chair of the Buffalo Water Board. Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to confirm Mr. McFoy as Chair and to elect Mr. Sunderlin as Vice Chair of the Buffalo Water Board. Approved.
5. Election of Officers: Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to nominate and elect Mr. Merlo as Secretary of the Buffalo Water Board. Approved.
6. Governance Committee: Motion by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Kelly to nominate and elect Mr. Sunderlin as Chair of the Governance Committee of the Buffalo Water Board, and the other Buffalo Water Board members to serve as members of the Committee. Approved.
7. Audit Committee: Motion by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to nominate and elect Mr. Kelly as Chair of the Audit Committee of the Buffalo Water Board, and the other Buffalo Water Board members to serve as members of the Committee. Approved.
8. PAAA Compliance: The Buffalo Water Board reviewed, the Buffalo Water Board's Mission Statement and Performance Goals established pursuant to the New York State Public Authorities Accountability Act, as amended (PAAA), as attached hereto. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to confirm and re-adopt the Buffalo Water Board's Mission Statement and Performance Goals. Approved.

9. PAAA: Directors Confidential Evaluations are to be completed by each Buffalo Water Board member and delivered to the Buffalo Water Board legal counsel.
10. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to designate Veolia Water as agent of the Buffalo Water Board to make purchases and/or leases of Vehicles, Equipment and personal property, and to utilize the Buffalo Water Board's Tax Exemption for State sales and use taxes when engaging in such transactions on behalf of the Buffalo Water Board. Approved.
11. The Buffalo Water Board Chairman reported that the City of Buffalo has developed an Amnesty Program to assist residents of the City of Buffalo to pay their various charges for City and other governmental services in response to the adverse effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to assist Buffalo Water Customers' payment of water service invoices, and authorize installment payment plans, including forgiveness of interest, penalties and other charges, in appropriate cases for the period from March 15, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Motion approved. This is one of Buffalo Water's affordability programs and other initiatives. Information about these programs are currently available on the website www.GetWaterWiseBuffalo.org. The social media campaign component of the Let's Get Water Wise campaign is on-going.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water and Erdman Anthony, motion made by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize and fund a contract with Kandey Co., Inc. for the Large Main Rehabilitation Project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$3,228,105.00. Approved. The following Bids were received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid</u>
Kandey Co., Inc.	\$3,228,105.00
Pinto Construction Services, Inc.	\$4,546,757.50
Destro & Brothers Concrete Co., Inc.	\$4,991,050.00
13. The Principal Engineer of the Division of Water provided the Buffalo Water Board with an update on the Professional Evaluation of the 48-inch Water Transmission Main Project in Centennial Park.
14. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Stepniak, to authorize and fund a contract to engage Wendel for a professional engineering services contract for the Kensington Tank Roof Structure Inspection project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$16,344.00. Approved
15. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize a contract increase to the STC contract (Number 9300xxxx) for Filter Rehabilitation Project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$240,000.00. Approved
16. Upon the recommendation of Douglas R. Fultz, P.E. of Veolia Water, and Stephen Waldvogel, P.E., of GHD Consulting Services, Inc., motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to authorize sole source use and purchase of Westfalia Separator Centrifuges, manufactured by GEA Westfalia Separator Group, GmbH, and distributed solely by GEA Mechanical Equipment US, Inc. for Water System centrifuge purchases, installation and maintenance services. Approved.

17. Mr. Steiner of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. presented a summary of the invoices to be paid to Veolia Water and recommended payment to Veolia Water for services rendered as follows:
 - a) Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to approve payment of \$220,377.47, inclusive of Veolia Water's 10% administrative fee for services by Great Lakes Plumbing for ROLL Program. Approved.
18. Mr. Waldvogel and Mr. Steiner of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. delivered a report of GHD's on-going professional services to assist the Buffalo Water Board on a number of projects, including: the screen house project has been completed, the Filter Project is on-going with the first five filters nearly complete, the Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) Replacement project is initiating today, the feasibility analyses for the chlorine conversion study, working with the University of Buffalo on the next phase of the pipe loop analyses, meeting with Hazen and Sawyer regarding the modeling of the clear well project, the Centennial Park Improvement project and GHD is continuing to assist the Buffalo Water Board to perform closeout duties of the old Management Contract with Veolia Water.
19. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report with the Buffalo Water Board. He reported that Veolia Water plans to re-open the Exchange Street office to the public, consistent with NYS DOH guidance, and that the office will open on Monday, July 13. Veolia Water has installed an upgrade to the customer service system, with appropriate staff training. Veolia Water and City staff are re-focusing efforts to assist customers pay their bills. Veolia Water is also working to close out its Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2010. Planning and implementation for new projects is underway in connection with the new Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2020. A search is underway for a new technology manager. Water System overall revenue is projected to be 5.8% below budget for the past fiscal year, with such decrease attributable to the adverse effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to adjourn at 9:27 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting, Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 8:00 A.M. This meeting will be a MSTeams conference call.