

**BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES**  
**January 20, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Oluwole A. McFoy**  
**Gerald Kelly**  
**Steven Stepniak**  
**William Sunderlin**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**Peter Merlo**  
**Jack McMahan**  
**Stephen Waldvogel**  
**Bill Ferguson**  
**Dustin Steiner**  
**Charlie Martorana**  
**David Hill**  
**Damon Sykes**  
**Lisa Foti**  
**Greg Keyser**  
**Samantha Podlas**  
**Delano Dowell**  
**Michael Wolasz**  
**Michael Ramos**  
**Kelly Leeb**  
**Kathy Kumro**  
**Kaelyn Zebraski**

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

1. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to approve the agenda. Approved.  
  
Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting. Approved.
2. During the public comment portion of this meeting Mr. Ramos updated the Buffalo Water Board on the status of programs that are being developed with the assistance of the City of Buffalo Law Department for lead abatement throughout the City of Buffalo.
3. A motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to approve an extension through June 30, 2021 of the Buffalo Water Amnesty and Affordability Programs, including Deferred Payment Agreements with customers, as presented by Buffalo Water Board Chairman, Mr. Oluwole McFoy. Approved.
4. Mr. McFoy, the Buffalo Water Board Chairman updated the Water Board on the Water Affordability Program.
5. Staff Update: Mr. Hill with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak, to authorize an increase in funding for the contract with Arcadis of New York, Inc. for professional engineering services, contract (Number 93002589) for the Water Filtration Plant Residual Handling Systems Improvements project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$84,700.00. Approved

7. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin, to authorize an increase in funding for the contract with Arcadis of New York, Inc. for resident project representative services, contract (Number 93002188) for the Water Filtration Plant Chemical Systems Improvements project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$69,600.00. Approved
8. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak, to authorize a contract with Greenman-Petersen, Inc. for professional engineering services, for the Grover Water Tank and Tower Repairs project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$85,000.00. Approved
9. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin, to authorize an increase in funding for the contract with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for construction administration and resident inspection services, contract (Number 93002314) for the Water Filtration Plant Improvements project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$99,500.00. Approved
10. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Kelly, to authorize a contract with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for professional engineering services, for the Water Treatment Plant Flood Protection Improvements project. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$311,400.00. Approved
11. A motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to table approval of payment to Veolia Water for UCMR4 Initiative Sampling until further detail is provided at a future Water Board meeting. Approved
12. 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 \$8,492.00 inclusive of Veolia Water's 10% administrative fee for materials purchased from K & S Contractors Supply Inc. Approved.
  - b) Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak, to approve payment of \$27,244.47 inclusive of Veolia Water's 10% administrative fee for materials purchased from Lock City Supply Inc. Approved.
  - c) Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak, to approve payment of \$27,957.37 inclusive of Veolia Water's 10% administrative fee for materials purchased from Smith & Blair. Approved.
13. 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 work on the Centennial Park design documents is completed, GHD will present several recommendations regarding a Green Innovation Grant Program for the Metering program, and the pipe loop project is progressing. GHD is continuing to provide engineering and oversight services at the Filter Plant Improvements and is conducting an examination of flood mitigation measures at the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Facility.
14. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report with the Buffalo Water Board. He reported that through the first six months of the fiscal year, the Buffalo Water Board revenue has been below budgeted revenues by approximately \$3.35 million. Assuming

this trend continues for the remaining six months of the fiscal year, the assumption is that the revenue will be approximately \$6.7 million, or 13%, below budgeted annual revenue. A number of factors relating to the COVID-19 pandemic adversely impact the revenue collection, including a reduction in water production and consumption caused by business shut down/slow down as well as customer payment challenges. Veolia Water continues to pursue collections as best as possible, with consideration due to the unique circumstances during the State of Emergency throughout the State of New York.

Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to adjourn at 9:24 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting, Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 8:00 A.M. This meeting will be a MSTeams conference call.