BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
August 9, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Oluwole A. McFoy
Gerald E. Kelly
Jessica R. Brown
William L. Sunderlin

OTHERS PRESENT:
Charlie Martorana
Jack McMahon
Fouad Arab
William Ferguson
Damon Sykes
Stephen Waldvogel
Lisa Foti
Dustin Steiner
Damond Rand
Michael Ramos
Ryan Stotz
Carol Burns
Bill Appenheimer
David Hill
Delano Dowell
Angelica Morrison

The regular monthly meeting of the Buffalo Water Board was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

2. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Brown to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2022, meeting. Approved.

3. Mr. Ramos reported that public outreach continues, and he is promoting opportunities for public participation in committee meetings. Mr. Ramos will coordinate with the Chairman of the Buffalo Water Board to enhance participation at public outreach committee meetings.

4. Staff Update: Mr. Hill with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.

5. Upon the recommendation of the Associate Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize a cost increase and additional engineering services by Erdman Anthony in its professional services contract for the Large Valves III and Large Main Restoration-Wright Alley Project (contract # 93002205). The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, and the contract, as amended is approved in an amount not-to-exceed $185,846.42. Approved.

6. Upon the recommendation of the Associate Engineer of the Division of Water and Wendel, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Brown to authorize a cost increase to pay for project changes for the Jos. A. Sanders & Sons, Inc. for the Kensington (Grider) Water Tower Roof Replacement–Parapet Repointing Project (contract # 93002939). The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, and the contract, as amended is approved in an amount not-to-exceed $32,973.00. Approved.

7. Mr. Waldvogel, Mr. Stotz 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 several projects,
including: (a) GHD is reviewing some design modifications for the sodium hypochloride building; (b) GHD is collaborating with Veolia Water and others to develop a Customer Information System and Field Work Order Management System. Documents will be forwarded to the Buffalo Water Board’s legal counsel and the City’s Law Department for contract review; (c) GHD is working with Promise Partnership on a testing program and business processes; (d) Committees on Affordability and Lead Abatement Programs are continuing to plan and implement programs; (e) GHD is continuing to provide engineering and oversight services at Colonel Ward Treatment Facility, and for among other matters, electrical upgrades at the plant have commenced, continuing work on the Pipe Loop Project, and the Centennial Park Project.

8. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water’s monthly management report. Mr. Hill reported that water production remained relatively unchanged from prior months. Revenues, however, have increased compared to the same month last year due to two New York State programs that are assisting customers with payments. Mr. Sykes reported that Buffalo Water Board has received approximately $1,100,000 from New York State programs such as the New York State Low Income Household Water Assistance (LIHWA) Program. Veolia Water is developing a campaign to broaden the notice to customers of the benefits of this program, and will continue distributing notices of the availability of this program along with customer bills. The LIHWA Program brochure has already been mailed to over 3,000 accounts.

Mr. Hill reported that the High Priority Repair Limit Account is at 66 percent of authorization and that Veolia Water will be requesting an increase to this account at the September 2022 Water Board Meeting. He also reported that the Lead & Copper Surveillance Program has launched, and that Veolia Water has been active in many other projects at the Colonel Ward Treatment Facility, including the cleaning of the South (solids storage) Basin, the installation of the new liner in the lagoon, the electrical upgrades at the facility, the sodium hypochloride project and the Promise Pay project.

Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Brown to adjourn at 9:35 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting, Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. This meeting will be held in the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Facility Administration Building Conference Room located at 2 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201, or by virtual conference call, as authorized by law.