

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
March 14, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Oluwole A. McFoy
William Sunderlin
Denine N. Jackson
Raymour P. Nosworthy

OTHERS PRESENT:
Peter Merlo
Jack McMahon
David Hill
Charlie Martorana
Stephen Waldvogel
Damond Rand
Lisa Foti
Bill Ferguson
Kelly Leeb
Ryan Stotz
John Davis
Fouad Arab
Damond Sykes
Dustin Steiner
Michael Wolasz
Matthew Adam
Beth Scheeler
Bryan Smith
Connor Bannochie

The regular monthly meeting of the Buffalo Water Board (BWB) was called to order at 9:00 A.M.

1. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to approve the agenda. Approved.
2. Motion by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2024, meeting. Approved.
3. Public Comment: After the Chair offered an opportunity for public comments, no comments were received.
4. Staff Update: Mr. Hill, with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to authorize an increase in funding in an amount not-to-exceed \$225,000.00, for the contract with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for additional engineering services (contract # 93003209) for the Buffalo Water Board Engineering Retainer Fiscal Year 2023/2024 project. The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.
6. Mr. Waldvogel, Mr. Davis, 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) Mr. Waldvogel reported that he is pursuing Federal funding resources for water projects; (b) Mr. Waldvogel announced that Mr. Bryan Smith will be working with GHD to review and implement New York State Department of Health's recommended improvements at the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Plant; (c) GHD is completing a comprehensive rate review with Ms. Foti and will present findings to the Buffalo Water Board at a future meeting; (d) Mr. Davis reported that public information materials are

being developed for lead replacement project information; (e) GHD presented lead service line information and how to use the interactive lead service line interactive map at an East Buffalo forum; (f) GHD continues to promote and monitor activity of the Get Water Wise website; (g) GHD is continuing to provide engineering and oversight services at Colonel Ward Treatment Facility, for among other matters, the electrical upgrades at the plant, construction on the Berm project has commenced with the first concrete pour to be started soon and the berm will be poured either Friday (3/15/24) or Monday (3/18/24). Four hundred feet of new fencing has been erected and a new footer and wall have been constructed, weekly contractor meetings for work at the Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park are continuing, and tracking Veolia Water Limit accounts continue as required.

7. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report. Mr. Hill reported that Veolia has received over \$4.3 million from the New York State Buffalo East Side Homeowner Assistance Fund through February 2024. These funds have assisted a total of 2,130 customers. The Buffalo Water Board collected \$48,645 in the month of February 2024 through the Promise Pay program while the total amount collected throughout the fiscal year was more than \$796,000. Mr. Hill reported that the meter reader platform has been upgraded and now will allow readings to be gathered using cell phones. Mr. Hill indicated that the fluoride installation project is on-going. The Specialty Preventive Maintenance Limit Account is approaching 80% of its funding allocation. He will present a proposal for the Buffalo Water Board's consideration at the next Board meeting.

Motion by Ms. Jackson to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation matters. Seconded by Mr. Sunderlin. Approved.

Motion by Ms. Jackson to exit Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Sunderlin. Approved.

Motion by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to adjourn at 10:14 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 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, for Board Members and by virtual conference call, as authorized by law.