

**BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES**  
**April 17, 2024**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**  
**Peter Merlo**  
**Jack McMahon**  
**Fouad Arab**  
**David Hill**  
**Charlie Martorana**  
**Stephen Waldvogel**  
**Damond Rand**  
**Kelly Leeb**  
**Ryan Stotz**  
**John Davis**  
**Lisa Foti**  
**Damond Rand**  
**Damon Sykes**  
**Dustin Steiner**  
**Michael Wolasz**  
**Matthew Adam**  
**Beth Scheeler**  
**Delano Dowell**  
**Dr. John D. Craig, Ph.D.**  
**Charles Specht (WGRZ) of**  
**TV Channel 2 News**  
**and camera crew of 2**

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 Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Jackson to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2024, meeting. Approved.
3. Public Comment: After the Chair offered an opportunity for public comments, Dr. John D. Craig, Executive Director of the Eighth District Dental Society (for Western New York), who attended the meeting in person, expressed his support to the Buffalo Water Board for the addition of fluoride to the Buffalo Water system and indicated his interest in receiving an update regarding the restoration of fluoride in the water system. No other comments were received.
4. Staff Update: Mr. Hill, with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.
5. The Principal Engineer of the Division of Water provided the Buffalo Water Board with an update regarding the restoration of fluoride in the water system. He indicated that the project is currently on schedule, and estimated a completion date of August 31, 2024.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water and the project engineering consultant Nussbaumer & Clarke, Inc., motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin, to authorize an increase in funding in an amount not-to-exceed \$113,347.00, for the contract with O'Connell Electric for the Massachusetts Avenue Pump Station Electrical

- Upgrades Project (contract # 93003254). The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Jackson to approve a water betterment contract with Occhio Corporation for the construction portion of the Resurfacing and Streetscape Improvements of Abbott Road Project (PIN 5763.18). The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Engineering with a not-to-exceed amount of \$3,878,645.26. Approved.
  8. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Jackson to approve a water betterment contract with CHA Consulting, Inc., for the Construction Inspection and Administration phase of the Resurfacing and Streetscape Improvements of Abbott Road Project (PIN 5763.18). The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Engineering with a not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000.00. Approved.
  9. Motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to authorize and fund an increase for services as part of the Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2020, with Veolia Water, specifically the Specialty Preventive Maintenance Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$300,000.00 to extend through June 30, 2024. These projects and services will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, as part of the Management Agreement with Veolia Water. Approved.
  10. 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) GHD is completing a comprehensive rate review with Ms. Foti and will present findings to the Buffalo Water Board at a future meeting; (c) Mr. Davis reported that GHD and others will be meeting today with the Community Care Coalition regarding a Request for Qualifications that was available on April 1, 2024 and is due to be returned on April 30, 2024; (d) GHD continues to update materials, utilize the interactive map and monitor activity of the Get Water Wise website; (e) GHD with Veolia Water and 120 Water have updated the Water Survey to make water quality data collection more user friendly and easy for the customer, rendering the data more usable for water assessment; (f) 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 of the Berm project to protect the facility has commenced with the first concrete pour yesterday for the new wall. New fencing has been erected and a new footer and wall have been constructed, and weekly contractor meetings for work at the Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park are continuing,
  11. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report. Mr. Hill reported that Veolia has received over \$4.6 million from the New York State Buffalo East Side Homeowner Assistance Fund through March 2024. These funds have assisted a total of 2,267 Buffalo Water Board customers. The Buffalo Water Board collected \$44,741 in the month of March 2024 through the Promise Pay program while the total amount collected throughout the fiscal year was approximately \$841,000. Revenues collected in March 2024 exceeded \$3.6 million which was slightly less than the budget amount of \$4.0 million and slightly less than the amount collected in March 2023 of \$3.77 million. Mr. Hill indicated that the customer service software program needs maintenance and will be updated. Veolia Water is working diligently on the project to achieve restoration of fluoride in the water system.

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

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

Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to adjourn at 9:58 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 10:00 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.