

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
November 20, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Oluwole A. McFoy
William L. Sunderlin
Gerald E. Kelly
Raymour P. Nosworthy

OTHERS PRESENT:
Peter J. Merlo
John D. McMahon
David Hill
Douglas Fultz
Charles C. Martorana
Fouad Arab
Stephen Waldvogel
Damond Rand
Kelly Leeb
Christine Wingo
Lisa Foti
Bill Ferguson
Damon Sykes
Dustin Steiner
Connor Bannochie
Matthew Adam
Clayton Hoyt

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 Mr. Nosworthy, to approve the agenda. Approved.
2. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2024 meeting. Approved.
3. Public Comment: After the Chair offered an opportunity for public comments, no comments were received.
4. Staff Update: Mr. Fultz, 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 and the project engineering consultant GHD Consulting Services, Inc., motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to authorize a contract increase in an amount not to exceed \$73,466.92 with Pinto Construction Services, Inc. for additional construction services for the Colonel Ward Pumping Station Flood Resilience Improvement Project (contract #93003239). The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize a Budget Amendment, as detailed on the attached exhibit. The amendment authorizes one budget reallocation in the amount of \$73,466.92. Approved.
7. Mr. Waldvogel, Ms. Wingo 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 has developed a YouTube Channel for Buffalo Water to assist with

disseminating information to the public; (b) GHD is working with the Community Care Coalition partners (Open Buffalo and Community Health Center of Buffalo) to provide information to City of Buffalo residents on the benefits of several programs; (c) GHD continues to update materials, utilize the interactive map and monitor activity of the Get Water Wise website; (d) GHD and our Community Care Coalition partners are meeting with local clergy and other organizations to engage and provide information regarding Buffalo Water Affordability Programs and Water Testing information; (e) GHD is continuing to provide engineering and oversight services at Colonel Ward Treatment Facility, for among other matters, the electrical upgrades at the plant, and construction of the Berm project to protect the Colonel Ward Treatment Facility. Weekly contractor meetings for work at Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park are continuing.

- 8. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water’s monthly management report. Mr. Hill reported that Customer Service Center Agents continue to process applications for the Pathways to Affordable Water programs that guide customers to options that may lower their water bill. At the end of October 2024, 1,861 customers received reduced bills from the Residential Affordable Water Programs (RAWP). Promise Pay has assisted the Buffalo Water Board collect approximately \$74,000 water charges through its Payment Plan Program this past month. The Buffalo East Side Homeowner Assistance Fund collected in excess \$124,000 last month. Water System revenues collected for October, 2024 were approximately \$4.0 million, as compared to Budgeted Revenues for October 2024 of \$4.4 million. Mr. Hill indicated that fluoride is being pumped into the water system and that the fluoride construction project should be completed by the end of this year. There are several building envelope improvement projects currently ongoing at the Water Treatment Facility.

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

Motion by Mr. Nosworthy to exit Executive Session. Seconded by Mr. Sunderlin. Approved.

Motion by Mr. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn at 10:04 A.M. Approved.

The Buffalo Water Board members and staff will be present in person at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 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.

Buffalo Water Board meetings are held in accordance with the New York State Open Meetings Law, Article 7 of the Public Officers’ Law. The agenda will be posted on www.Buffalowater.org in advance of the meeting and will provide time for public comment. The public are invited to attend in person or by remote video and audio conference. A computer access “MS Teams” link and a Toll Free Conference Call Telephone Number will be provided in advance of the meeting. See www.Buffalowater.org or call 716-851-9626 for more information.

Budget Amendment

Budget reallocation:

53300886 445100	(\$73,466.92)
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