

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
December 13, 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
Michael Wolasz
Fouad Arab
Stephen Waldvogel
Damond Rand
Kelly Leeb
Christine Wingo
Lisa Foti
William Ferguson
Damon Sykes
Dustin Steiner
Connor Bannochie
Matthew Adam
Patrick Thornton

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 revised agenda. Approved.
2. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to approve the minutes of the November 20, 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. The Chair led a Board discussion concerning the location of Buffalo Water Board meetings in an effort to better serve the public. The Board appreciated recent suggestions by members of the City Common Council, and concluded the discussion without a final resolution.
6. Motion by Mr. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to approve the Buffalo Water Board Draft Audited Financial Report for Years Ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 as presented by the City of Buffalo Accountant, William Ferguson. Approved.
7. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy, to approve the 2025 Water Board meeting schedule. Approved. A copy of the Resolution is attached.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin, to authorize an increase in funding in an amount not-to-exceed \$550,000.00, for the contract with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for additional engineering services (contract # 93003390) for the Buffalo Water Board Engineering Retainer

Fiscal Year 2024/2025 project. The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.

9. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to authorize a cost increase for GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for the Water Treatment Plant Disinfection System Conversion to Sodium Hypochlorite Project (contract #93003114). The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, and the contract increase is approved in an amount not-to-exceed \$47,000.00. Approved.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to authorize a change order contract time extension with Nova Site Company, LLC for additional Construction Services for the 2023 Citywide Water Cut Restoration Program (contract #93003379). The revised project completion date will be August 15, 2025. The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.
11. 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. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize a contract increase in an amount not to exceed \$204,979.95 and a contract time extension through April 30, 2025 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.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to authorize a cost increase for GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for additional resident inspection services for the Colonel Ward Pumping Station Flood Mitigation Project (contract #93002767). The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, and the contract increase is approved in an amount not-to-exceed \$45,000.00. Approved.
13. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Nosworthy, seconded by Mr. Sunderlin to authorize five Budget Amendments, as detailed on the attached exhibit. The amendment authorizes five budget reallocations in the following amounts: \$200,000, \$150,000, \$250,000, \$400,000, and \$47,000. Approved.
14. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin to approve payment as a Buffalo Water Board Claim fund of \$1,630.63 to City of Buffalo Department of Treasury for Lock Box Charge Reimbursements for March, April, May and June 2024, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy. Approved.
15. Motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy, 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 Preventative Maintenance Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$200,000.00 to extend through June 30, 2025. 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.
16. Motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy, 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 Spoils Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00 to extend through June 30, 2025. 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.

17. 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 thanked Chair McFoy for his leadership and professionalism during all his years of service to the Buffalo Water Board and the residents of the City of Buffalo; (b) GHD continues to work 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. GHD continues to participate on behalf of the Buffalo Water Board at the weekly contractor meetings and assists to coordinate the work of the Improvement Project at the Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park .

18. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report. Mr. Hill conveyed congratulations to Chair McFoy on his new position and on behalf of Veolia Water thanked Mr. McFoy for years of service to Buffalo Water and the residents of the City of Buffalo. He reported that they continue working with 120 Water on several programs. 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 November 2024, 1,892 customers received reduced bills from the Residential Affordable Water Programs (RAWP). Promise Pay has assisted the Buffalo Water Board collect approximately \$68,000 water charges through its Payment Plan Program this past month. Water System revenues collected for November, 2024 were approximately \$4.6 million, as compared to Budgeted Revenues for November 2024 of \$5.8 million. There are several building envelope improvement projects currently ongoing at the Water Treatment Facility.

Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Nosworthy to adjourn at 10:00 A.M. Approved.

The Buffalo Water Board members and staff will be present in person at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. The meeting location will be announced prior to the meeting. Please visit www.Buffalowater.org.

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 and meeting location 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.