

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
May 14, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

William L. Sunderlin
Debbie Lombardo
Scott Billman
Bill Hanley
Tim Donovan

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nate Marton
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
Patrick Thornton
Zachary Cox
Michael Wolasz
David Connors
Eric Machin
Jennifer Szustakowski

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

1. Motion by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the agenda. Approved.
2. Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Billman, to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2025, meeting. Approved.
3. Public Comment: After the Vice 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 BWB engineering consultant GHD Consulting Services, Inc., motion made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Ms. Lombardo to receive and approve the Six Year Capital Improvement Plan for the Buffalo Water System, as detailed in the attached exhibit. Approved.
6. Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Billman to establish the Buffalo Water Board as the Lead Agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for the Buffalo Water Board Six Year Capital Improvement Plan for the Buffalo Water System. Approved.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water and the engineering consultant GHD Consulting Services, Inc., motion made by Mr. Hanley, seconded

by Mr. Billman to authorize a change order contract time extension with Pinto Construction Services for additional Construction Services for the Buffalo Water Treatment Plant Flood Resilience Improvement Project (contract #93003239). The revised project completion date will be June 27, 2025. The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.

8. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water and the associate engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Donovan to authorize a contract increase in an amount not to exceed \$39,100 with Wendel for design and bid services preparation for the Citywide Water Cut Rehabilitation Contract Project (contract #93003155). 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, GHD Consulting Services, Inc. and Veolia Water, motion made by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Hanley to authorize the attached Resolution Authorizing Veolia Water North America-Northeast LLC Contract with 120 Water for an additional three year term of an existing agreement to perform Lead and Copper Rule services by and between Veolia Water and 120 Water, as part of Veolia Water's services under its Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2020, with the Buffalo Water Board. The contract with 120 Water will be managed and administered by Veolia Water. The total contract fee payable to 120 Water is in an amount not to exceed \$761,721.28 per year. Year 1 also has a one-time fee of \$39,750.00. These services will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, as part of its administration of the Management Agreement with Veolia Water. Approved.
10. Motion made by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Billman, 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 following Limit Accounts:
 - a) High Priority Repairs & Lead Services CY 15 Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$2,550,000.00 for services through June 30, 2025; and,
 - b) Specialty Preventative Maintenance Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$800,000.00 for services through June 30, 2025; and,
 - c) Spoils Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$35,529.75 for services 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.

11. Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Billman to table Buffalo Water Board action on a proposal for Settlement and Payment of Claims pending further consideration and discussion with the Corporation Counsel.
12. 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 is the Buffalo Water Board's Retained Consulting Engineer and Mr. Waldvogel offered to answer any questions or otherwise assist the new Buffalo Water Board members ; (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 including attending an event on May 3, 2025 at Canisius University to inform residents on lead awareness and lead pipe removal assistance programs in the City of Buffalo; (c) GHD was also present at the Canisius University event and provided updated information and materials, and promoted the utilization of the interactive map and

other information on the Get Water Wise website; (d) 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 including the repair of Outfall No 6. GHD continues to participate in weekly contractor meetings for work at Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park.

13. 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 April 2025, 1,964 customers received reduced bills from the Residential Affordable Water Programs (RAWP) and 4,418 senior citizens are receiving assistance from the Senior Discount Program. Mr. Hill reported that 88 customers are enrolled in a payment plan originated by Promise Pay and 442 customers are enrolled in a payment plan originated by Buffalo Water. Water System revenues collected for April 2025 were approximately \$4.29 million, as compared to Budgeted Revenues for April 2025 of \$4.89 million. Mr. Hill indicated that Veolia Water is assisting in managing several capital, operation and maintenance projects at the Water Treatment Facility and in the Distribution System, including addressing a leak in a 48-inch water transmission line to Buffalo Water’s South Buffalo customers. Veolia Water is also working cooperatively with Wendel, an engineering consultant, to investigate, among other things, the structural engineering aspects of crossing a CSX Railroad line and working with CSX to obtain the necessary permits to repair the transmission line. Additionally, there is a Pump Station project in progress that will improve the transfer of storage basin sludge to the lagoon more efficiently. Veolia Water is also working on a sanitary sewer survey at the Water Treatment Facility with GHD.

Motion by Mr. Billman to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation matters. Seconded, by Mr. Donovan. Approved.

Motion by Mr. Billman to exit Executive Session. Seconded, by Ms. Lombardo. Approved.

Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Donovan to adjourn at 10:24 A.M. Approved.

The Buffalo Water Board members and staff will be present in person at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 9:00 A.M.

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.