

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
August 13, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Peter J. Merlo
John D. McMahon
David Hill
Fouad Arab
Charles C. Martorana
Stephen Waldvogel
Damond Rand
Kelly Leeb
Christine Wingo
Lisa Foti
Bill Ferguson
Damon Sykes
Dustin Steiner
Connor Bannochie
Matthew Adam
Nolan Skipper
Zachary Cox
David Connors
Carol Burns
Mike Wolasz
Demone Smith
John Rossi
Barbara Johnson Kirk
Mimi Walker
Third woman w Kirk&Walker

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

1. Motion by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Billman, to approve the agenda. Approved.
2. Motion by Mr. Billman, seconded by Ms. Lombardo, to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2025, meeting. Approved.
3. Public Comment: After the Vice Chair offered an opportunity for public comments, Ms. Kirk, Ms. Walker and a third unidentified person requested that the Buffalo Water Board supply new water service under the Replace Old Lead Lines (ROLL) Program for a residential structure located on Rawlins Avenue. Mr. Rossi from the City of Buffalo Building Inspections Department reported that he has inspected this property and has determined it is not in habitable condition and will be seeking a demolition order from the Buffalo City Court in the coming weeks. The Buffalo Water Board did not take any action on the request for water service pending the determination of the Buffalo City Court Case.
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 and the engineering consultant GHD Consulting Services, Inc., motion made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Hanley to authorize a change order contract time extension with Frey Electric

Construction Co., for additional Construction Services for the Colonel Ward Pumping Station Electrical Improvements Project (contract #93002903). The revised project completion date will be October 31, 2025. The project and contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.

6. Motion by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Hanley to approve a Resolution to Enhance Revenue, Plan for Collection of Rates, Fees and Charges and Enforcement of Liens. Approved. (See attached resolution).
7. Motion by Mr. Billman, seconded by Ms. Lombardo to approve a Resolution for Scheduling a Public Hearing to Consider Revision to the Buffalo Water Board Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges and Designation as Lead Agency Pursuant to State Environmental Quality Review Act. Approved. (See attached resolution).
8. Motion by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Hanley to table until September 10, 2025 Buffalo Water Board meeting discussions regarding a Resolution for Access and Use of Property at Kensington Avenue and Grider Street, Buffalo, New York. Approved.
9. Motion by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Billman to approve the Buffalo Water Board's Public Authority's Mission Statement and goals with performance measurements. Approved. (See attached).
10. Motion made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Donovan, 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 \$500,000.00 (bringing the total allocation to \$643,173.32) to extend through June 30, 2026. 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 made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Mr. Donovan, 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 High Priority Repairs & Lead Services Limit Account in an amount not-to-exceed \$2,000,000.00 (bringing the total allocation to \$2,587,892.72) to extend through June 30, 2026. 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.
12. Mr. Waldvogel 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 working with the City of Buffalo Rate Consultant on the Buffalo Water Board Fiscal and Capital Plan in preparation for a proposed bond issuance later this year. This includes calculating required transfers to close out the current fiscal year, reviewing current revenue figures, developing a fiscal plan for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and evaluating the rate changes needed for the coming year; (b) GHD is continuing to update the Get Water Wise web site with important Buffalo Water related information; (c) GHD is working with the City of Buffalo and Veolia Water regarding a potential lawsuit settlement of claims pertaining to polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); (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 reduce their water bills. At the end of July 2025, 2,018 customers received reduced bills from the Residential Affordable Water Programs (RAWP) and 4,431 senior citizens are receiving assistance from the Senior Discount Program. Mr. Hill reported that 110 customers are enrolled in a payment plan originating by Promise Pay and 453 customers are enrolled in a payment plan originated by Buffalo Water. Mr. Hill identified that 22 residential water services were replaced in the month of June under the Replace Old Lead Lines (ROLL) Program. Mr. Hill presented the Buffalo Water Board with the list of the Top 30 Annual Customers based on Consumption of Water in cubic feet. The Colonel Ward Lagoon Pump Station project is in progress. The project is designed to improve the transfer of storage basin sludge to the lagoon more efficiently and is nearing completion. The pump station is in final testing phase currently and will be ready for operation soon. Plant staff have completed the annual cleaning out of the sludge from the storage basins. Mr. Hill offered his gratitude and appreciation to the Distribution Superintendent for maintaining safe operations of the City of Buffalo Water Department Vehicle Fleet. He reported zero (0) accidents to date.

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

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

Motion by Ms. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Hanley to adjourn at 11:16 A.M. Approved.

*Note: Brian Gould participated for a portion of the meeting

The Buffalo Water Board members and staff will be present in person at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 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.

**RESOLUTION TO ENHANCE REVENUE, PLAN FOR
COLLECTION OF RATES, FEES AND CHARGES AND
ENFORCEMENT OF LIENS**

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Water Board (the “Board”) was created by the New York State Public Authorities Law (the “Public Authorities Law”) Section 1049, and is authorized and empowered to establish, fix and revise a Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, which Schedule must be at least sufficient so that the water treatment plant, water distribution system and related water facilities of the Board (the “Water System”) shall be self-sustaining in accordance with Public Authorities Law Section 1048-j; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously established moratoria to prevent turn off of water services for residential customers due to non-payment of rates and charges during the State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and established an amnesty program to assist customers who were unable to pay for services caused by such Pandemic and other relief from enforcement of liens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency has expired and funding previously available from the City of Buffalo, State of New York and the American Rescue Plan to assist customers and the Board to pay the Board’s expenses to manage, operate, maintain and repair the Water System has expired or discontinued; and

WHEREAS, the Board is examining all options to enhance its revenues, including but not limited to, an adjustment of its current Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges to ensure that the Board remains financially self-sustaining as required by Public Authorities Law Section 1048-j and actions to collect rates, fees and charges that are in arrears, and enforcement of liens.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Board hereby determines that it will serve as the lead agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), with respect to developing a plan to collect rates, fees and charges that are in arrears, which is hereby determined to be a Type II action pursuant to SEQRA, as part of its ordinary administrative duties and functions as a governmental entity.
2. The Board does hereby rescind all prior resolutions and plans that authorized moratoria to prevent turn off of water services for residential customers due to non-payment of rates and charges and amnesty programs for customers who were unable to pay for water services.
3. The Chair is hereby appointed to lead a Task Group, consisting of representatives from the Board, Veolia Water, GHD Consulting Services, Inc., City Departments of Public Works, Assessment and Taxation and Law, and such other persons as the Chair may determine appropriate and helpful, to examine and recommend to the Board effective and equitable policies and procedures to enhance the collection of revenue for the Board, assist customers that have hardships in payments, promote the collection of rates, fees and charges that are in arrears, and establish a plan to allow for the turn off of water service and other enforcement actions deemed necessary for customer accounts that are in arrears in accordance with the Board Regulations and the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, and applicable law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote of the members of the Board which was adopted by unanimous vote of the members present.

At a meeting of the Buffalo Water Board, convened in public session at Room 210 City Hall, 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York 14202 on August 13, 2025, the foregoing resolution was offered by SCOTT C. BILLMAN, and seconded by WILLIAM P. HANLEY, and with a quorum present throughout such resolution was duly adopted by the Buffalo Water Board.

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS.:
COUNTY OF ERIE)

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Buffalo Water Board (the "Board"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the annexed extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Board, including the resolution contained therein, held the 13th day of August, 2025, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Board and of such resolution set forth therein and of the whole of said original insofar as the same related to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all members of said Board had due notice of said meeting, said meeting was duly held, pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public, and public notice of the time and place of said meeting was duly given in accordance with such Article 7, and there was a quorum of the members of the Board present throughout said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, as of the date hereof, the attached resolution is in full force and effect and has not been amended, repealed or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of August, 2025.



Peter J. Merlo,
Secretary of the Board

**RESOLUTION FOR SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONSIDER REVISION TO THE BUFFALO WATER
BOARD SCHEDULE OF RATES, FEES AND CHARGES
AND DESIGNATION AS LEAD AGENCY PURSUANT TO
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT**

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Water Board (the “Board”) was created by the New York State Public Authorities Law (the “Public Authorities Law”) Section 1049, and is authorized and empowered to establish, fix and revise a Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, which Schedule must be at least sufficient so that the water treatment plant, water distribution system and related water facilities of the Board (the “System”) shall be self-sustaining in accordance with Public Authorities Law Section 1048-j; and

WHEREAS, the Board is required by the Public Authorities Law to conduct a public hearing before adopting a revision to the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges to provide an opportunity to all persons served by the System to comment on any proposed revision to such Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges;

WHEREAS, the Board plans to conduct a public hearing at which the Board will be present and interested persons will be provided an opportunity to review and comment on the Board’s proposal to revise the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges; and

WHEREAS, the Board will serve as the lead agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), with respect to the action to adopt a revised Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, and the Board plans to send a notice of such lead agency designation to various involved and interested agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Board hereby determines that it will serve as the lead agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), with respect to the action to adopt a revised Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, which is hereby determined to be an unlisted action pursuant to SEQRA, and the Board has identified potentially involved and interested agencies to whom a notice of this resolution will be delivered.

1. The Board does hereby schedule a public hearing to take place on Wednesday, September 10, 2025 beginning at 9:00 a.m., at Room 210, City Hall, 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York, 14202, and to the extent feasible by remote video and audio conference at which time the public will have an opportunity to be heard with regard to the Board’s proposed revision to the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges.

2. The Secretary of the Board, or such other person as the Board may designate is authorized to publish notice of such public hearing as required by section 1048-j of the Public Authorities Law, and to take such other actions or publish such other notices which may be required or be appropriate to comply with applicable law with respect to such public hearing and revision of the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. A copy of the proposed revision of the Board’s Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges shall be posted on the Buffalo Water Board website and will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretary of the Buffalo Water

Board at 602 City Hall, Buffalo, New York and the Office of the City Clerk at 1308 City Hall, Buffalo, New York.

3. The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote of the members of the Board which was adopted by unanimous vote of the members present.

At a meeting of the Buffalo Water Board, convened in public session at Room 210 City Hall, 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York 14202 on August 13, 2025, the foregoing resolution was offered by William P. HANLEY, and seconded by DERBIE LOMBARDO, and with a quorum present throughout such resolution was duly adopted by the Buffalo Water Board.

CERTIFICATION

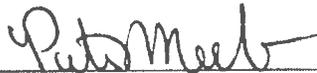
STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS.:
COUNTY OF ERIE)

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Buffalo Water Board (the "Board"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the annexed extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Board, including the resolution contained therein, held the 13th day of August, 2025, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Board and of such resolution set forth therein and of the whole of said original insofar as the same related to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all members of said Board had due notice of said meeting, said meeting was duly held, pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public, and public notice of the time and place of said meeting was duly given in accordance with such Article 7, and there was a quorum of the members of the Board present throughout said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, as of the date hereof, the attached resolution is in full force and effect and has not been amended, repealed or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of August, 2025.



Peter J. Merlo,
Secretary of the Board

Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information				
Name of Action or Project: Adoption of schedule of rates, fees and charges.				
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): City of Buffalo in the County of Erie.				
Brief Description of Proposed Action: The Buffalo Water Board, as the owner of the water system that serves the residents of the city of Buffalo is authorized pursuant to the New York State Public Authorities Law (section 1048-j) to adopt and/or revise a schedule of rates fees and charges. The action proposes to revise the existing schedule to become effective October 1, 2025.				
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Buffalo Water Board		Telephone: 716 – 851 – 5636 E-Mail: pmerlo@city-buffalo.com		
Address: 502 City Hall				
City/PO: Buffalo		State: New York	Zip Code: 14202	
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?		26,880 acres		
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?		none acres		
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?		N/A acres		
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): <u>Action applies to all property within the city.</u>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkland				

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	NO	YES	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	NO	YES	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic Places?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban			
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe: <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES _____			

<p>18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____ _____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</p> <p>Applicant/sponsor name: <u>Buffalo Water Board</u> Date: <u>August 13, 2025</u></p> <p>Signature: <u><i>[Handwritten Signature]</i></u></p>		

Authorities Budget Office Policy Guidance



Authority Mission Statement and Performance Measurements

Name of Public Authority: Buffalo Water Board

Public Authority's Mission Statement:

The Buffalo Water Board is a public benefit corporation of the State of New York and is dedicated to providing water service to its customers, in fulfillment of its obligations and the exercise of its authorities established by the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority Act of the State of New York and other applicable law. The Buffalo Water Board seeks to protect the health and well being of the personnel who operate and maintain the Buffalo Water System and the people it serves, with an efficient water utility that preserves and protects water infrastructure and the environment for future generations.

Date Readopted: August 13, 2025

List of Performance Goals (If additional space is needed, please attach):

- Performance Goal: Establish and collect water rates, charges and revenues that will satisfy the revenue requirements of the Buffalo Water System.
- Measurement: Did the Board manage its rate structure and collect sufficient revenues to operate the Buffalo Water System?
- Performance Goal: Establish realistic budgets and capital improvement plans that are current and predictive of future needs of the Buffalo Water System.
- Measurement Goal: Did the Board prepare realistic budgets to pay for operations, maintenance and capital projects necessary and appropriate for the provision of services and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System?
- Performance Goal: Establish best management practices, in line with industry standards for other public water utilities comparable in size and age to the Buffalo Water System.
- Measurement Goal: How do policies and procedures for management, operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water Board compare to other public water facilities and systems of comparable size and age?

Additional questions:

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority? Yes
2. Who has the power to appoint the management of the public authority?

The Members of the Buffalo Water Board are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Buffalo, and confirmed by the City of Buffalo Common Council. Pursuant to the Financing Agreement by and between the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority and the Buffalo Water Board dated as of September 24, 1992, as amended, the Buffalo Water Board uses the services of the employees and officers of the City of Buffalo, including but not limited to, the Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets and the City Engineer to operate and maintain the Buffalo Water System. In addition, the Buffalo Water Board continues its engagement of Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC pursuant to a Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2020, as its professional manager to manage the operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System.

3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority?

Yes, the policies are stated in the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority Act of the State of New York, the New York State Public Authorities Law, and other related laws of the State of New York and the Financing Agreement by and between the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority and the Buffalo Water Board dated as of September 24, 1992, as amended.

4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission.

The Buffalo Water Board meets regularly, in public sessions, in compliance with the New York Open Meetings Law and related laws. It regularly receives and reviews reports from the Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets, the City Engineer, its independent Consulting Engineers, Legal Counsel and Auditors, and Rate Consultant regarding the operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System to oversee the management of the Buffalo Water System. It also works cooperatively with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and various departments and agencies of State of New York, County of Erie, City of Buffalo, including but not limited to, City of Buffalo Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets, City of Buffalo Comptroller, City of Buffalo Corporation Counsel and other City of Buffalo officers and employees and Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC to implement policies and procedures to achieve the mission of the Buffalo Water Board.

5. Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions? Yes