

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
CHAUTAUQUA UTILITY DISTRICT
August 16, 2024**

Present: Commissioners Faust, Waasdorp, Boehner, Metzger and Rovegno
Also Present: Superintendent Michael Starks, Personnel/Financial Administrator,
Jami Koresko
Also Present
Via Phone: General Counsel Bill Wright from Wright Calimeri, PLLC.
Also Present: Kelly Dawson, CPA
Also Present: Bill Neeches and Terry Horner

The meeting was called to order at 8:29 A.M. by Chairwoman Faust at the water treatment plant office.

After a review of the July 9, 2024 regular board meeting minutes, Commissioner Boehner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Waasdorp and approved.

Commissioner Rovegno made a motion to confirm the bills for payment, seconded by Commissioner Metzger and approved.

There was a brief review of the 2nd quarter, 2024 financial statements. Commissioner Boehner stated that all departments are currently under budget and that it's great to see. Commissioner Boehner made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Commissioner Rovegno and approved.

There was a review of the 2025 Budget presented by Kelly Dawson. Ms. Dawson stated that all items in the budget look in line. Ms. Dawson stated that Employee Benefits are higher than last years budget and stated that is due to two employees taking a higher health insurance policy. Ms. Dawson also stated that salaries are up based on a 3% increase. Ms. Koresko stated that the district came in at \$34 under the max amount for the Tax Levy and the Tax Levy increase from last year was 2.02%. All Commissioners were in agreeance of not raising any rates and to discuss for the 2026 budget. After a review of the 2025 Budget and Tax Levy, Commissioner Waasdorp made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget and Tax Levy, seconded by Commissioner Metzger and approved and signed. Chairwoman Faust thanked Ms. Dawson for her work at the district and was excused for the balance of the board meeting.

Bill Neeches and Terry Horner joined the meeting to present information regarding solar energy to the board. The presentation supplied information regarding solar panels being placed at a nearby location and with the use of solar panels, there would be not only an electrical cost savings, but a reduction in carbon foot print. Mr. Neeches and Mr. Horner wanted to verify that the district would be interested in this project before moving forward. The board agreed that the district would be interested in the project, but once more information is available, it would need to be submitted to the board for final approval to move forward. Chairwomen Faust thanked Mr. Neeches and Mr. Horner for their presentation and was excused for the balance of the board meeting.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on Pipe Storage and Greenhouse Dismantle at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Superintendent Starks stated that the end plan is to tie EQ Tanks into other tanks, which would give additional storage for high water events.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on NCLSD. Superintendent Starks stated that he received a response from NCLSD stating they may want pursue other options. Superintendent Starks stated that the item has been tabled for the time being until NCLSD can decide if they'd like to continue to send their sewage to the CUD.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on the DFT Hold Harmless Agreement. Superintendent Starks stated Mr. Wright reached out the IT department at Chautauqua Institution and waiting for a response. Superintendent Starks stated that he doesn't expect a response until after the season is over.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on the Booster Station Generator for the Water Treatment Plant. Superintendent Starks stated that he's now received two quotes from two electrical companies. Superintendent Starks stated the first quote was for \$75,000 from BECC Electric and the second quote was for \$40,000 from Vidal Electric. Superintendent Starks stated the second quote is significantly lower mainly because of the size of the generator that is quoted, but Superintendent Starks stated that he believes that size generator will be appropriate for the application.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on the Filter Room Fan. Superintendent Starks stated that Vidal Electric quoted \$2,500 to install a fan in the filter room at the Water Treatment Plant. Superintendent Starks stated that the filter room becomes very warm with no way to circulate air, so the fan will make the filter room more comfortable to be in.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on the Plant Control Issues at the Water Treatment Plant. Superintendent Starks stated that the water treatment plant continues to have issues with their main control panel. Superintendent Starks stated that a company named Kester came to look at the system and see what can be done. Superintendent Starks stated that we may be able to change out some of the components, instead of the entire panel for the time being.

Superintendent Starks gave the board an update on the Meeting with National Grid regarding Street Lighting reimbursement. Superintendent Starks stated that Mr. Wright and himself talked with Paul from National Grid and the process is currently moving forward and in the works to complete to receive reimbursement.

Commissioner Waasdorp made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the current status of Larry Walsh litigation, seconded by Commissioner Rovegno and approved.

Commissioner Boehner made a motion to end the executive session and resume regular session, seconded by Commissioner Rovegno and approved.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 9:30 A.M. at the water plant office.

Meeting Adjourned by Commissioner Rovegno, seconded by Commissioner Metzger and approved.

Marge Metzger
Secretary