



299TH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Microsoft Teams

July 6, 2023

DIRECTORS PRESENT

District of Columbia Members

1. Tommy Wells, Chairperson
2. Rachna Bhatt, Vice Chairperson
3. David Franco, Principal
4. Anthony Giancola, Principal
5. Howard Gibbs, Principal
6. Wendell Felder, Principal
7. Jed Ross, Alternate

Prince George's County Members

1. Jared McCarthy, Alternate
2. Andrea Crooms, Alternate

Montgomery County Members

1. Fariba Kassiri, Principal
2. Steven Shofar, Alternate

Fairfax County Members

1. Christopher Herrington, Principal
2. Sarah Motsch, Alternate

DC WATER STAFF

1. David Gadis, CEO and General Manager
2. Matthew Brown, Chief Financial Officer and EVP, Finance, Procurement and Compliance
3. Wayne Griffin, Chief Administration Officer and EVP
4. Jeffrey Thompson, Chief Operating Officer and EVP
5. Michelle Rhodd, Board Secretary
6. Keith Lindsey, Chief of Staff and Acting EVP Human Resources

The 299th meeting of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority's Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Tommy Wells at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams and streamed live at dcwater.com. Board Secretary Michelle Rhodd called the roll, and a quorum was established.

I. APPROVE MINUTES

Chairperson Wells asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2023, meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Directors approved the minutes of the June 1, 2023, meeting as presented.

II. CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW

Chairperson Wells noted that there would be no meeting in August. However, there will be meetings with the Executive Committee to discuss the General Manager's performance evaluation.

Board member Christopher Herrington asked for updates on conversations with WSSC around the revenue dispute associated with Blue Drop when appropriate. Chief Legal Officer and EVP, Government and Legal Affairs Marc Battle offered to provide an update during the executive session.

Mr. Wells noted that there will be a splash day in the Anacostia River on Saturday, July 8th to honor the cleaning up of the river. He reported that he planned to attend.

III. CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CEO and General Manager David Gadis provided four updates related to the Authority's equitable, health, safety, and well imperatives. Under the equitable imperative, Mr. Gadis provided an update on the President's National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC). Mr. Gadis noted that he is a member of NIAC and went on to report on the quarterly meeting which took place on June 21st. At that meeting there was a review and discussion of the NIAC's security draft report. The report is organized into three parts and contains insights on three key deliverables: identifying barriers to cross-sector collaborations, making recommendations to overcome barriers and determining if critical infrastructure standards should be voluntary or mandatory. Following the discussion, NIAC members agreed to continue working to refine their approach to their deliverables. Mr. Gadis invited interested board members to visit NAIC's website for a copy of the report.

Mr. Gadis went on to report on his attendance at a White House roundtable discussion regarding manufacturing lead-service line replacement materials. Attendees included

Kareem Adeem, Director of Newark, New Jersey Water and Sewer Authority. Mr. Gadis explained that he updated participants about how DC Water's new supply chain strategy is addressing the challenge of sourcing domestically manufactured products to replace lead service lines materials. The approach has been effective for the Authority and aligns with all Build America and Buy America provisions of the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act.

Mr. Gadis reported that on June 30th, he gave remarks and led the media briefing on the 2023 lead-free service line replacement plan, which introduced the updated interactive service line map and construction dashboard. The briefing generated coverage in local media. Mr. Gadis commended Chief Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Officer and EVP Kirsten Williams, Vice President Marketing and Communications, John Lisle and Director DCW Engineering and Technical Services Will Elledge for their roles in explaining the plan. Mr. Gadis informed the Board that they would receive a briefing from Mr. Elledge on the lead-free program later in the meeting.

Mr. Gadis briefed the Board on the Authority's catch-up program which was in effect from February 1 – May 31, 2023. The program offered equitable financial support to residential, commercial, and multi-family customers with delinquent accounts as of December 31, 2022. Eligible customers with a past-due balance were offered a waiver of late fees and penalties incurred from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022, and a 10% adjustment on the remaining balance if they paid their catchup balance. This offer was extended to 16,000 customers, and 9,000 took part, resulting in the recovery of \$8 million in delinquent debt.

Mr. Gadis reported that on June 21st, the Department of Occupational Safety and Health held the 2023 DC Water and Safety Fair. The fair was well attended by staff and offered engaging exhibits.

Mr. Gadis went on to brief the Board on the Authority's policy for protecting and keeping staff safe during poor air quality days. He reported that over the past two to three weeks, the safety team and staff have kept employees safe from the impacts of poor air quality in the District by, for example, limiting outdoor work on red air-quality days. Mr. Gadis went on to report on an innovative and culture-shifting approach to safety titled "Doing Safety Differently" that was presented to the Senior Executive Team by David Gill. Mr. Gadis informed the Board that at the September board meeting they would receive the same briefing.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Environment Quality and Operations Committee Report
Reported by Sarah Motsch*

Environmental Quality and Operations Committee Chairperson Sarah Motsch reported that the Committee received an update on the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, and all performance parameters for May 2023 were excellent. It was noted that May was a relatively dry month. There were no CSO events, and the average rainfall was 1.3 inches per month, which continues the trend of lower rainfall amounts. Electrical generation onsite was at 29% of the facility's average consumption for May. The power purchased from PEPCO was 19.5 megawatts. In May, a total of 14,124 wet tons of Class A Biosolids were produced and met the EPA's exceptional quality requirements. A total of 9,684 wet tons of biosolids were sold, which was significantly higher than the goal of 3,826 wet tons. The sales in May represented the third-record sales. Bloom sales are on track to meet the year's goal of 58,000 tons. There was a request from the Committee that information regarding the volume of flows to complete treatment be included in the presentations.

Next, Ms. Motsch reported on the quarterly status update from DC Clean Rivers project. The Anacostia tunnel system continued to perform well. The capture rates exceed those anticipated at the project's current point. Procurement for the Potomac River Tunnel was ongoing. DC Water conducted collaboration meetings to clarify the scope prior to the final bids. For Contract A, construction is ongoing and includes the construction of high-voltage electrical duct banks. Substantial completion was achieved in 2023. PEPCO is responsible for pulling the wires to provide temporary low-voltage and high-voltage power to operate the tower.

The CSO 025-026 Sewer Separation Project was in the close-out stage. The construction in all three sites was completed. DC Water sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency in March 2023 to certify that the consent milestone was achieved.

The green infrastructure at Rock Creek Park commenced construction in March 2022, and there are six facilities where construction will be completed. The project is planned to be completed in January 2024.

In general, the Clean Rivers Program continues to engage the public through outreach efforts on all projects. The Clean Rivers Project Program is projected to be completed by \$46.2 million below budget. The Committee enquired about the maintenance plan, and it was clarified that DC Water retained a contract to maintain all GI facilities after construction, which are maintained once per quarter.

Ms. Motsch stated that the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee recommended that the Board approve the six action items.

*Special Meeting of the Human Resources & Labor Relations Committee
Reported by Steven Shofar*

Human Resources and Labor Relations Committee Chairperson Steven Shofar reported that the Committee was asked to consider and recommend for Board approval, a request

to fund the extension of the contract with CIGNA for medical benefits for the PPO and HMO programs. Three firms responded, and CIGNA was the most successful firm. The contract will be extended for five years. The request is for an additional \$81,559,125 to fund the five-year contract extension.

Mr. Shofar stated that the Human Resources and Labor Relations Committee recommended that the Board approve funding the extension of the contract with CIGNA for medical benefits for the PPO and HMO programs.

V. LEAD-FREE DC UPDATE

Mr. Gadis introduced William Elledge, to provide an update on the Lead-Free DC program.

Mr. Elledge reported that improved accuracy of the water service line inventory replacements was estimated to be 41,157. The updated cost was \$1.51 billion. There was a current funding gap of \$885,000. It is being ensured that the public is aware of the health effects of lead. There have been several meetings with Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. A key step is improving the accuracy of the service lines. Some data sources have higher confidence levels. The new category levels included verified lead, suspected lead, no information, suspected non-lead, and verified non-lead. Mr. Elledge presented the inventory map showing information about individual properties and the reasoning behind the confidence ratings. The construction dashboard includes specific parcel information and the construction status on each block. The reasons for the increased estimated cost included an increase in the number of service lines and test kits needed. The currently identified funding sources were presented. Three keys to success were discussed, including securing funding, implementing a mandate requiring homeowners to participate in the program, and collaborating with DDOT for road permits.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS JOINT USE

1. Approval to Execute Option Year 2 of Contract No. 10080, Supply and Delivery of Ferric Chloride, PVS Technologies – Resolution No. 23-26 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23).
2. Approval to Execute Option Years 1 and 2 of Contract No. 10272, Annual Maintenance of Electrical Control Equipment (High Voltage), M. C. Dean Inc. – Resolution No. 23-37 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23)
3. Approval to Execute Option Years 1 and 2 of Contract No. 10147, Annual Maintenance of Electrical Control Equipment (Low Voltage), M. C. Dean Inc. – Resolution No. 23-38 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23)

4. Approval to Fund Multiple Pre-Qualified Firms for Temporary Staffing Services – Resolution No. 23-29 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23)
5. Approval to Execute Supplemental Agreement No. 02 of Contract No. DCFA 483-WSA, Grit, Screenings and Primary Facilities Upgrade, HDR Engineering, Inc. – Resolution No. 23-40 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23)
6. Approval to Award Contract No. 10212, Network Infrastructure Extension (NIE) System, Global Com, Inc. – Resolution No. 23-41 (Recommended by the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee 06-15-23)
7. Approval to Extend Contract, CIGNA (Recommended by the Human Resources & Labor Relations Committee 07-05-23)

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Directors voted and unanimously approved the resolutions as presented.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board voted to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter and preserve the attorney-client privilege under the DC code.

After the executive session, Mr. Wells reviewed the list of upcoming meetings. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on September 7th.

VIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Wells adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Michelle Rhodd

Michelle Rhodd

Secretary to the Board of Directors