STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

WATER RESOURCES BOARD CORPORATE
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Minutes of Board Corporate Meeting #267
August 10, 2004
(Meetings of the Board Corporate convene immediately after the Board meetings.)

Members Present:
Daniel W. Varin, Chairman
Frank Perry*
William Penn
William Parsons*
John Milano
June Swallow*
Jon Schock
Timothy Brown
William Stamp, III
Elizabeth Scott*

*Member designee

Members Absent:
Rep. William Murphy
Sen. Leonidas Raptakis
Fred Vincent
Robert Griffith*

Staff Present:
M. Paul Sams
Kathleen Crawley
Elaine Maguire
William Riverso
Tracy Shields
Beverly O'Keefe
Connie McGreavy
Thomas Walker
Brian Riggs

Guests
Jeffrey Hershberger, ESS
Peter Thibodeau, ESS

CALL TO ORDER
With a quorum present, Chairman Varin called meeting #267 of the Board Corporate to order.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
On a motion by Mr. Penn second by Mr. Schock the board unanimously approved the minutes of July 13, 2004, Board Corporate Meeting #266.

3. REPORTS

A. Chief Financial Officer's Report, July 2004
On a motion by Mr. Penn second by Mr. Schock and Mr. Milano the board unanimously approved the July 2004 Chief Financial Officer's Report

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS RESULTING

A. Public Drinking Water Protection Committee—Acting Chair Frank Perry

(1) Public Drinking Water Protection Program—Phase III:

(a) Town of Westerly Water Department Water Quality Improvement Project. Request for Eligibility Approval. Mr. Perry described the project. It calls for the construction of a booster pumping station to improve the service in Mesquamicut. The committee reviewed the proposal and has unanimously recommended that it not be approved as eligible under the program. He noted that the project is probably the best solution for their problem but it is not a water quality improvement project. On a motion by Mr. Perry second by Ms. Swallow the board voted unanimously to reject the Westerly Water Department Water Quality Improvement Project application as ineligible for funding.

(b) Pawtucket Water Supply Board Water Quality Improvement Project. Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Perry reviewed the application for increase security measures. The project in the amount requested ($400,000) will not affect their 55% land acquisition requirement. They have other land acquisition projects in the works that will maintain their 55%/45% breakdown. On a motion by Mr. Perry, second by Ms. Swallow the board unanimously recommended approval allowing Pawtucket to proceed with this project of $400,000 while not going below a 62%/38% match in the allocation of monies for land acquisition as stated in their goals. On discussion of the motion, Mr. Penn asked whether the improvements fall under the Homeland Security funding goals. Mr. Schock stated that he did not believe there was any money available. Mr. Perry stated that it does qualify under the program. He clarified that Pawtucket had set the 62% goal and that holding the project to $400,000 would ensure that the land acquisition goals are not jeopardized.

(c) City of Newport Water Quality Improvement Project. Request for Eligibility Approval
Mr. Perry stated that this is part of a larger project to spend $1.7 M replacing approximately 8200 lineal feet of water pipe along Ocean Avenue. $627,000 of the total amount will be for the water quality improvement project to replace the old tuberculated mains which are on the list of improvement projects with the caveat that they are only eligible up to the cost of the existing pipe size. Any increase in pipe size (the differential cost of the upgrade) is not eligible. On a motion by Mr. Perry second by Mr. Parsons the board unanimously approved City of Newport Water Quality Improvement Project. There was continued discussion on the need to document the cost differential for any upgrades. Mr. Stamp commented that pricing should reflect the true value of water and that efficient systems should be rewarded. Mr. Penn stated issuing the bonds to borrow against future earnings makes this in a sense the systems own money. Chairman Varin water departments often do not fare well in the local capital improvement process. This is a way to overcome some of those disadvantages. Mr. Perry stated that Mr. Stamp has some valid points, that there are gray areas that make eligibility difficult. Chairman Varin stated that when the program was first formulated the only eligible use of the money was for land acquisition to address adverse development within the water shed or aquifer recharge area. It was through the legislative process that the 55/45 split was developed. It provides a way to assist suppliers with capital improvement projects.

B. Finance Committee—Chair William J. Penn

(1) FY 2006 Water Resources Board Corporate Operating Budget. Request for Approval
Mr. Penn noted that the Finance Committee had reviewed the request and recommends approval. He summarized the budget and stated that for FY 2006 the board is anticipating $800,000 in additional disbursements under the Watershed Protection fund. On a motion by Mr. Penn second by Mr. Milano, the Board unanimously approved the FY 2006 Water Resources Board Corporate Operating Budget.

(2) Payment Requests:
(a) On a motion by Mr. Penn second by Mr. Schock to correct a deposit error made on July 15, 2003 with the United Water surcharge checks in the net amount of $1,295.55 due to the Board.

5. NEW BUSINESS- None

6. OTHER BUSINESS- None

7. ADJOURNMENT On a motion by Mr. Stamp second by Mr. Milano the board unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Crawley
Staff Director

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