

1 STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
2 NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION

3 In Re: NBC Monthly Board Meeting December 2008

4 DATE: December 17, 2008  
5 TIME: 11:00 a.m.  
6 PLACE: Narragansett Bay Commission  
7 Corporate Office Building  
8 Providence, RI 02905

9 PRESENT:

- 10 Vincent Mesolella, Chairman  
11 Raymond Marshall, Secretary–Executive Director  
12 Angelo S. Rotella, Vice Chairman  
13 Robert Andrade, Treasurer  
14 Joseph DeAngelis, Esquire  
15 Richard Brown  
16 Richard Burroughs  
17 Bruce Campbell  
18 Michael DiChiro  
19 Jonathan K. Farnum  
20 Joseph Kimball  
21 Al Montanari  
22 Alan Nathan  
23 Michael Salvadore  
24 Leo Thompson  
25 Richard Worrell

26 ALSO PRESENT:

- 27 Cecile Antonelli  
28 Sherri Arnold  
29 Richard Bernier  
30 Francie Brown  
31 Tom Brueckner  
32 Anamaria Clarkin  
33 Terry Cote  
34 Leah Foster  
35 Karen Giebink  
36 Michael Hagopian  
37 Laurie Horridge-Bissonette  
38 Joanne Maceroni  
39 Karen Musumeci  
40 Paul Nordstrom  
41 Joe Pratt  
42 Jamie Samons  
43 Deb Samson

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1 (MEETING COMMENCED AT 11:20 A.M.)

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. Good morning,  
3 everyone. Recognizing the quorum, we will begin the  
4 Wednesday, December 17th meeting of the Narragansett Bay  
5 Commission Board of the Commissioners.

6 First order of business is Approval of the previous  
7 minutes. Have all of our members had an opportunity to  
8 review the previous minutes, and if so, are there any  
9 comments, corrections?

10 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Comments or corrections  
12 on the previous minutes?

13 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

14 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: If not, is there a  
15 motion to approve the previous minutes as presented?

16 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: So moved.

17 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion from  
18 Commissioners Montanari, Salvatore and Farnum. All in  
19 favor will say aye.

20 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

22 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,  
24 and the motion carries. The next order of business,  
25 Item Number 3, is Old Business. Is there any Old

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1 Business to come before the Commission, that would be  
2 old business of any nature? Old Business?

3 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Old Business?

5 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, the next  
7 order of business, Item Number 4, is the Executive  
8 Director's Report. Do you have a report today, Mr.  
9 Secretary?

10 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, then, proceed.

12 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Starting on Page 2 of my  
13 Monthly Report for November, October was also posted on  
14 the website for your reading pleasure, but I'll just  
15 focus on November, here. Overall, treatment was very  
16 good during the month of November. Flows were about  
17 where they should be for this time of the year.

18 As you now, the big event in terms of what we do here  
19 at the Narragansett Bay Commission and the Operations  
20 Group in general was that we brought the tunnel and the

21 tunnel pump station on-line. We opened it up on  
22 November 1st ready to accept flow, and Mother Nature did  
23 not let us down. We received four storms during the  
24 month of November where we captured flow in the tunnel.  
25 On November 6th we captured 40 million gallons. On

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1 November 15th, 30 million gallons, on the 25th, which  
2 was right before Thanksgiving, we filled the tunnel, so  
3 we're about at 62 million gallons, and then to close out  
4 the month on the 30th, we captured another 40 million  
5 gallons for a total of 172 or 3 million gallons of flow  
6 that normally would have gone out into the waterways,  
7 was stored in the tunnel and was given full secondary  
8 treatment as the flows in the regular everyday system  
9 subsided, and we had capacity at the treatment plant.  
10 So, we do not have to use the wet water facilities,  
11 except to store some flow, but it did not actually have  
12 to leave the facility. We actually bled it back into  
13 the plant and also gave that secondary treatment. So,  
14 it was very successful for those storms during that  
15 first month.  
16 We have had a much larger storm which occurred just  
17 the other day. You probably all have it fresh in your  
18 memory, which was last, it started on Wednesday. We

19 really got it ramped up on Thursday, and we filled the  
20 tunnel again by 11 p.m. on Thursday night; and then it  
21 still kept raining. Of course, we got another 2 1/4  
22 inches of rain on top of the 2 1/4 we had already  
23 received, for a total of about 4 1/2, so then there were  
24 overflows after that because we couldn't accept any more  
25 in the tunnel.

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1 The base flows at the treatment plant were way, way  
2 up, in the 75 to 80 million gallon range. We kept  
3 giving it as much treatment as we possibly could.  
4 Finally, we decided on this most recent storm that the  
5 best thing to do, because we had a storm coming again  
6 today, we had to empty the tunnel so we are able to give  
7 it the primary treatment --

8 So, overall, that's 230 million gallons of flow total  
9 that would have received no treatment. At least we see  
10 some treatment, and the majority of it received  
11 secondary treatment.

12 So, there are so many variations on the storms, how  
13 far apart they're spaced, what the intensity of them is,  
14 and when the next one's going to be coming along that we  
15 will be learning a lot over that first, the first couple  
16 of years as the system is put through its paces, but so

17 far so good.  
18 We've had a huge amount of interest from the media.  
19 We've had follow-ups with Channel 10. Bill Rappleye  
20 came down, wanted to go into the tunnel pump station; we  
21 took him in there, and he had a nice piece on us a while  
22 back; I think that was actually around the 26th, and the  
23 Warwick Beacon, The Journal has followed up.  
24 Of course, we had some great initial stories from The  
25 Journal, all the TV stations, as well as a couple of

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1 the, you know, lesser-known publications, such as the  
2 Providence Phoenix and Motif Magazine who have all been  
3 following up to see how things are going. I spoke to  
4 the editor of the Warwick Beacon last night, and gave  
5 him an update. He had called on what's been going on.  
6 So, so far so good, and the Operations Staff is  
7 really doing a wonderful job, along with our  
8 construction people because we've had people show up  
9 when the storms are going to be large enough where we  
10 think the tunnel might actually be closed, and all the  
11 gates close automatically.  
12 The thought being, we want people on-site ready to  
13 react if something doesn't go as expected. So far we've  
14 been pleasantly surprised that everything has gone as

15 smoothly as it has because there's usually a few bumps  
16 in the road. Did you have a question, Mr. Campbell?  
17           COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: Just a little  
18 comment. Every time we had these storms, I think about  
19 in The Providence Journal, they have a whole section on  
20 the weather, and they have all of these weather  
21 statistics and everything, and my idea was to go to The  
22 Journal and have them put a little box in there, and  
23 every time there was a storm there would be a listing  
24 automatically of the activities at the pump. Now, I  
25 don't know whether you want to draw that much attention

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1 to it or not.

2           CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Where's Jamie? Where  
3 is she? Jamie, what do you have to say about that?

4           MS. SAMONS: I will follow up on that.

5           CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We can't hear you,  
6 Jamie.

7           MS. SAMONS: Certainly, if the Board would  
8 like me pursue that, I would be happy to do that with  
9 The Journal. I can't make any promises. They had a  
10 skeleton staff over there.

11           CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, I mean, it's a  
12 good thought. You know, we can only give the

13 information we want to give them. We don't have to give  
14 them the bad news. Well, I mean, what would you do in  
15 such cases?

16 COMMISSIONER ROTELLA: Don't forget, the bad  
17 news is free. The good news you have to pay for.

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: You're right, exactly.  
19 What would you do in such cases, contact someone?

20 MS. SAMONS: Yeah. Probably Peter Lord in  
21 the Environmental Section would be the first person to  
22 go to.

23 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Because one of the things  
24 that they do do in that section of the paper is they do  
25 show where the shellfish closure areas are.

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1 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: Right, exactly. You  
2 can tie in the data.

3 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Sunrise on a certain day  
4 or whatever, so maybe that will be our hook. And we  
5 have been asked by DEM to begin to work with them to  
6 identify what the bacteria counts are out in the bay  
7 after all of the storms, and Tom's leading the charge  
8 for us on that, Tom Uva, and we'll try to come up with  
9 a, because we're out there sampling anyway in many  
10 cases, and the thought is if we start keeping track of

11 how long it takes the bay to recover after those storms,  
12 we may find that in certain size storms, they no longer  
13 have to close the bay down. I mean, that's the theory.

14 But as a practical matter, you have to have the data  
15 to show that there's validity to that, and it may be  
16 that even if you have to shut the bay down, you may, or  
17 the shellfishing areas, you may be able to shut them  
18 down for a shorter period of time.

19 That will probably take a while, a couple of years, I  
20 would guess, for enough data to be accumulated where the  
21 public health officials will feel comfortable making  
22 those types of changes. Do you have anything you want  
23 to add to that, Tom?

24 MR. UVA: Ray, you've summarized it very  
25 well. It's just that the shellfishermen want to start

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1 fishing right off at that Field's Point tomorrow, if  
2 we'd let them, but it's regulated by the FDA, Food &  
3 Drug Administration, and they do control where the  
4 shellfishing areas are.

5 Ray's exactly right, what DEM's proposed is that they  
6 would go out and monitor the bay and split some of the  
7 duties with us. After a rain event, two days after a  
8 rain event, go down and sample the water near the

9 shellfishing areas, and see if it's clean enough to open  
10 it up quicker than the seven days. Right now it shuts  
11 down automatically after a half an inch of rain for  
12 seven days.

13 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Worrell,  
14 do you have a question?

15 COMMISSIONER WORRELL: It's on the point you  
16 just made, Tom. It would seem to me that a good  
17 statistic, a good metric for us would be the economic  
18 metric of tracking how many days, for example, in 2008  
19 or '7 or '6, how many days the bay would close to  
20 shellfishing versus going forward and tracking it now  
21 that we've got the tunnel on line. That would be a  
22 great economic metric, I would think, as well as a  
23 health issue, but an economic one as well.

24 MR. UVA: We have been studying it, and we  
25 know the quality of the bay after a rain event before

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1 the tunnel went on-line, and we are doing some studies  
2 to evaluate how far the pollution level or how much it  
3 reduced, the tunnel on-line, that Ray indicated there's  
4 many factors. Do you have consecutive rain events? If  
5 the tunnel is full, what is the affect of that on the  
6 bay? You still may have overflows.

7 So, there's a lot of factors that come into play, and  
8 we do know how many days it closed. It's going to  
9 continue to close the same amount of days. I was told  
10 the DEM comes up with a program to go out and sample  
11 those waters and reopen them, so that will be tracked.  
12 All of that will be tracked. That's a good point.

13 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yeah. They tend to be  
14 very conservative on these matters, and, you know, Tom  
15 mentions that we're out there sampling. We need to make  
16 sure that the sampling we're doing now is the type of  
17 information that they feel they need to make a decision  
18 as opposed to just information that we feel's important,  
19 but they say, yeah, but this doesn't do it for us. We  
20 need something, some variation of what we have  
21 traditionally done. So, that's what we need to work  
22 with them on.

23 COMMISSIONER WORRELL: But I think we need  
24 to track that. We're spending half a billion dollars on  
25 this thing. We've got to be able to justify the

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1 expense.

2 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes. Well, one thing we  
3 know for sure, as I mentioned to the Beacon last night,  
4 we can quantify what we have captured and what we have

5 treated. So, if nothing else, we can say 170 million  
6 gallons in November, just in the month of November, that  
7 full secondary treatment that would normally have gone  
8 overboard, so we know that.

9 Now, what impact that has overall because we're not  
10 the only source of what goes into the bay, the only  
11 source of pollution and fecal coliform bacteria and  
12 things of that nature. There are many other sources,  
13 and you've heard us speak about that before. How much  
14 this is reducing the tunnel out to receiving waters will  
15 be a very interesting study as we go forward.

16 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: How much does it  
17 cost to treat 230 million gallons?

18 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I'd have to get back to  
19 you on that.

20 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: And who pays?

21 RAYMOND MARSHALL: The ratepayers pay. Our  
22 ratepayers pay. But on a per gallon basis or per  
23 million gallon basis, I haven't looked at that number  
24 for a long time, but I can get back to you on that.

25 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: But the costs on the

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1 labor are already part of our costs, right? They  
2 increase electricity, those are things that are a fixed

3 cost already.

4 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Right. The cost of  
5 electricity and chemicals.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have that number.  
7 Do we have that number?

8 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: It's available. I  
9 don't remember it.

10 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Okay. So, moving along,  
11 of course, we also had the same type of wet weather  
12 activity over at Bucklin Point. Although, we don't have  
13 any tunnel over at Bucklin Point, one thing we did do at  
14 the Bucklin Point Treatment Plant upgrade expansion,  
15 which we finished a couple of years ago, is we did build  
16 a wet weather facility out of the old primary settling  
17 tanks, and so what we were able to do is we captured and  
18 treated 43 million gallons, and gave it primary  
19 treatment plus chlorination during the month of  
20 November. And again, in the past, that would not have  
21 received any treatment. It would have just run out the  
22 north diversion overflow.

23 Also, at Bucklin Point, we talked a little earlier, I  
24 think, and most of you were in the room that the  
25 industry called the KIK, K-I-K, has gone out of

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1 business. They produced a great deal of a chemical  
2 called siloxane. It was the base of a lot of the  
3 personal care products that they manufactured, and since  
4 they have left in October, the siloxane concentration at  
5 the plant decreased substantially; and where that's  
6 important is, that used to get into our digester gas  
7 which was making us, making it very hard for us to come  
8 up with an effective use of the digester gas to generate  
9 electricity.

10 So, this will help clear up that problem, and  
11 hopefully, over the next several months, we can identify  
12 exactly how we can effectively use the digester gas to  
13 generate electricity at that plant over at Bucklin  
14 Point.

15 In the Interceptor Maintenance Section, they've been  
16 very busy keeping up with all of the new activity  
17 surrounding the tunnel. As you know, there are several  
18 drop shafts that are associated with the tunnel. That's  
19 how the flow gets into the tunnel, and there's a grit  
20 and screen facility on the front end of each of those  
21 drop shafts, so they have to go out and check those with  
22 each storm event.

23 In Engineering, they've been working hard to get  
24 several projects ready to meet consent agreement  
25 deadlines as well as to have projects ready for any

1 economic recovery package that will come out of  
2 Washington.

3 We've been trying to monitor that situation  
4 carefully. There's a lot of information floating around  
5 as to timing and size and what would be eligible. We  
6 know wastewater projects will be eligible. We just  
7 don't know to what amount.

8 So, the Field's Point Biological Nutrient Removal  
9 contract, we've been pushing that one hard. It's into  
10 DEM for final review now, and we hope to get it back in  
11 the next month or so, so we'll be ready to actually go  
12 out to bid, as the terms being used down in Washington,  
13 we'll be shovel-ready within 120 days.

14 We do have an action for you a little later in the  
15 meeting to increase the design contract on that one  
16 because we've had so many additional items that we've  
17 added. I'll explain it when we get to that point.

18 CSO II facilities are in the 30 percent design phase  
19 and are into DEM for review; and the other economic  
20 development package contracts we're working on, the  
21 Louisquisset Pike Interceptor of Lincoln, the Washington  
22 Highway and Omega Park pump station, which is in East  
23 Providence, and a Central Avenue pump station  
24 replacement, which is in Johnston. We're trying to get  
25 all of those ready for any type of economic recovery

1 package.

2 In the Construction area, as you know, they worked  
3 feverishly and did a great job getting the pump station  
4 ready to be used on November 1st, and they've been  
5 following up with various items of work to complete that  
6 contract, including, I was hoping to have Ernest Street  
7 paved for you before you came down here today, but the  
8 weather in the last 10 days has not cooperated.

9 Hopefully, we can get that done in the next week before  
10 everything freezes solid, and then we don't have an  
11 opportunity until the spring.

12 We have the new animal control facility. We were  
13 finally able to work out an agreement with the city on a  
14 new dog pound for them. We're going to do a design  
15 build. We're going to construct it on a lot just on the  
16 other side of the railroad track from where we had the  
17 tunnel commencement ceremony, as you were sitting there  
18 looking at the crane, just to the left, if you notice  
19 there's a railroad track, there's another lot on the  
20 other side of that where the construction trailers were  
21 located, that's where we're going to build the new  
22 facility, and we have quite a few people interested in  
23 making a submission on this project, so we should have

24 something for you at the January meeting to act on .

25 Improvements at Bucklin Point are nearly done.

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1 They're 96 percent complete. We're working on the  
2 Regulatory Compliance Building, which will eventually be  
3 located where the dog pound is now. As the Chairman  
4 mentioned, probably in January we'll have a meeting  
5 where we will give you a little presentation on what the  
6 new operations building, what the new compliance  
7 building is going to look like, and how we're going to  
8 tie the whole site together. So, it looks like a very,  
9 so it will look like the professional operation that it  
10 is, is what I was trying to say.

11 The other contract we've had a lot of activity on,  
12 it's 304.51C. It's on Page 10 of my report. It's about  
13 a dozen different separate projects. They're not really  
14 interconnected at all, other than they're all part of  
15 our interceptor system.

16 The contractor, I mean, those are difficult jobs, and  
17 they're in some very challenging locations; and the  
18 contractor's doing a good job working his way through  
19 all of those. So, maybe by the end of the construction  
20 season, he'll be completely done. He may have one  
21 location to finish up.

22 Karen's been watching the Operating Budget very  
23 closely, as we move into Finance; it's on Page 11.  
24 Spending has been close to budgeted levels, and we're  
25 trying to monitor any number of line items, including

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1 overtime, which we've had to spend a fair amount of  
2 money on in the last two months getting the tunnel pump  
3 station ready, and actually having people on duty when  
4 the storms hit, so that we know that we'd be able to  
5 take care of any variety of issues that might occur.

6 We have, we will have an action for you on the new  
7 PUC rate filing as well as a modification for a defined  
8 contribution retirement plan. We'll explain those more  
9 to you when we get to them in the meeting.

10 I'm going to jump way ahead now to the Customer  
11 Service Section, which is on Page 15. They collected  
12 about \$9.7 million in November, and at fiscal  
13 year-to-date, they're at about 30.2 million in  
14 collections.

15 Again, jumping way ahead to Page 19, Policy Planning  
16 & Regulation, we've had active involvement in the  
17 governor's watershed group. We continue to participate  
18 and to comment on all of the documents that they produce  
19 to make sure that our interests are noted in each of

20 those memos or reports that come out of that activity.  
21 Also, in Policy Planning & Regulation on Page 21, DEM  
22 came up with some new rules and regulations for  
23 operating a private treatment system, which includes  
24 pumping stations and things of that nature, and there  
25 was a great deal of confusion as to who they apply to

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1 and whose responsibility it was to monitor all of these.  
2 So, what we did is we hosted in this room about a week  
3 ago, a meeting for all the community, all of the  
4 communities that are part of our system, and we had DEM  
5 attend and EPA attend and give an explanation as to what  
6 these rules and regulations actually meant.  
7 Most of the member communities, while they have  
8 people that are responsible for the sewers or the  
9 pumping stations, they don't necessarily do that  
10 exclusively, and so we felt that it would be to  
11 everyone's benefit if they heard what these regulations  
12 really meant to them so that directly what happens in  
13 their communities affects what happens down here, and  
14 they seem to be very appreciative of that. PP&R did a  
15 good job organizing that, and we got very good feedback  
16 on it.  
17 On Pages 23 and 24, I list the typical monthly

18 parameters for the lab and EMDA, which is environmental  
19 monitoring, and the number of samples is not going to  
20 continue to abate at all. In fact, it continues to  
21 grow.

22 We've already analyzed for nearly 91,000 parameters  
23 in this year, and we've taken over 22,000 samples that  
24 were analyzed in those parameters. So, the part that  
25 ties into what we're asking for from the PUC because we

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1 needed more help in the laboratory, there's just so much  
2 work to do, and more is expected with the additional  
3 sampling. We've talked about it in the bay; we have to  
4 monitor CSO effectiveness as well as we're expecting new  
5 criteria to be placed upon us when our graph permits  
6 come out in the next few months.

7 Page 27 are Energy Projects. We've made progress on  
8 several fronts. In terms of the Wind Energy Project,  
9 we've met with a consultant to get their view on what  
10 we've done and what we've collected. We've met with the  
11 Economic Development Corporation, and we've been in  
12 contact with the Federal Aviation Administration, all  
13 trying to come to some meeting of the minds as to what  
14 we can actually erect on the site across the street in  
15 terms of wind turbines because we really want to get

16 that project advanced as far as we can because, again,  
17 as part of the Economic Recovery Package, that they'll  
18 be some money allocated for green technologies, so we'd  
19 like to be at least in the hunt for that.

20 Moving along to the final division, which is  
21 Executive, which starts on Page 29, I mentioned we came  
22 to agreement with the City of Providence on the new  
23 animal shelter, and earlier, we mentioned in North  
24 Providence we have an Administrative Order that was  
25 issued by EPA jointly to us and North Providence. We've

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1 done the vast majority of the work to identify the  
2 problem and recommend solutions. We completed that.  
3 That's going into the EPA the next couple of days.  
4 Page 33, something that I think I mentioned before,  
5 but just want to let you know. We're required by the  
6 Federal Trade Commission to adopt regulations on  
7 identity theft. We have development a policy, and  
8 they've asked that, they postponed the implementation  
9 deadline to May of '09 because, apparently, they have a  
10 few more items they want us to cover. By us I mean in  
11 general, the people who may have information that is  
12 transferred electronically.  
13 We talked about the lien sales already. That's on

14 Page 36, and the great success that we've had on those  
15 activities in 2008.

16 And finally, on Page 37 in the Public Affairs  
17 Section, Jamie had a very busy month. We've continued  
18 filming for the new video, Beyond the Pipes. Peter  
19 Goldberg's CSO photo exhibit at the gallery down the  
20 street was a very big success, and I don't know how many  
21 of you were able to get there; but it was really a great  
22 testament to what was done as part of the combined sewer  
23 overflow project.

24 And to commemorate that, what Peter did, as well as  
25 Rafael Cuello, who's part of our staff, is they created

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1 a pictorial documentary of what actually went on. These  
2 were the same photos that Peter displayed at the  
3 gallery. We have one for each of the Commissioners.  
4 It's signed by Peter Goldberg and Rafael Cuello, and we  
5 have dedicated this book to the guy who really drove  
6 this project right from day 1.

7 Sitting to my right, the Chairman, Mr. Mesolella,  
8 there are some essays in here from me and Paul Pinault  
9 as well as Phil Holmes, John Kaplan from Gilbane and the  
10 tunnel contractor. So you can -- this is a nice coffee  
11 table book, so you can put this on your coffee table, so

12 when all of your family and friends come over,  
13 neighbors, during the holidays, you can show them what a  
14 great job we're doing here at the Narragansett Bay  
15 Commission, and feel free to take full credit for  
16 everything we've done. We'll pass these out. Vin,  
17 congratulations. Thanks for all of your leadership.

18 (APPLAUSE)

19 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you. Ray, does  
20 that conclude your report?

21 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Unfortunately, no. I  
22 want to thank Jamie and Rafael and Cynthia for the great  
23 work that they did lining up everything in the month of  
24 November. It was just a phenomenal amount of work, and  
25 making sure that the media actually showed up and gave

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1 us the recognition to all the people that worked hard on  
2 this deserved.

3 We also had a lot of coordination to do with Save the  
4 Bay, and I want to thank Commissioner Nathan for helping  
5 prompt all of this. As you know on the 15th, Save the  
6 Bay had a very nice time, the Bay Bash they called it,  
7 and they honored us for the work that we've done on the  
8 CSO Project; and they gave us this nice crystal trophy,  
9 and I want to pass that around so that those of you who

10 haven't seen it or haven't had a chance to hold it will  
11 be able to enjoy it. That is the end of my report,  
12 Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, thank you very  
14 much, Ray.

15 COMMISSIONER NATHAN: Ray, I have a  
16 question.

17 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER NATHAN: With this windmill  
19 that we're talking about putting up and the pressures  
20 not to put it in your backyard, though the state people  
21 are saying, great idea, but it's too noisy; we don't  
22 want to hear it, do we have room to put two?

23 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER NATHAN: Because we're away  
25 from where people live, and there may be money coming

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1 from Washington.

2 RAYMOND MARSHALL: We actually have located  
3 three spots upon our site across the street that we can  
4 locate a wind turbine, and part of it depends on how big  
5 they're going to be or how big they'll allow us to be  
6 because there is some consideration of interference in  
7 terms of wind patterns.

8 We know they're not going to give us the larger size,  
9 which we will only need one. If they give us the  
10 300-foot option, I believe we'll have two, is it, Tom?

11 MR. UVA: Yes. Two would be a good way to  
12 go.

13 RAYMOND MARSHALL: It could be three. Is  
14 that about right?

15 MR. UVA: We could have up to three on the  
16 site.

17 COMMISSIONER NATHAN: Just one other thing.  
18 The Board of Save the Bay yesterday voted unanimously to  
19 thank both staff and Commissioners for their help with  
20 the Bay Bash, which was a big success.

21 Further, they are announcing today the new executive  
22 director has been picked. Jonathan Stone, who is coming  
23 from a financial background in Boston, but lives in  
24 Providence; and that will be announced in the paper  
25 today. Anyway, thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any other  
2 questions regarding the Executive Director's Report?

3 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Tom, on the windmills,  
5 we are doing a presentation to the Board in January.

6 One of the discussions we had is the basic site, the  
7 comprehensive site layout. I think we're intending to  
8 show the locations of those wind towers on that site.  
9 Were they, are we, am I correct in that assumption? We  
10 have the potential site on --

11 MR. UVA: Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. So, next month,  
13 basically, when we meet and we have a presentation on  
14 the new Compliance and the new Operations Building,  
15 we'll show you on an overhead an aerial view of where we  
16 think the tower will be located.

17 MR. UVA: We have a simulation video we can  
18 also show; it's five minutes; it will show them what  
19 they'll actually look like. So, we have simulations of  
20 the wind turbine.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Correct, exactly, thank  
22 you. So, are there any questions or comments regarding  
23 the Executive Director's Report?

24 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. Hearing none,

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1 moving right along to Committee Reports and Action Items  
2 Resulting. First Committee reporting is the CEO  
3 Committee. Commissioner Salvadore, do you have a report

4 for us today?

5 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Thank you, Mr.

6 Chairman. The CEO Committee did meet earlier this

7 morning. We had three action items for the Board of

8 Commissioners. We have withdrawn Item A, Review and

9 Approval of Resolution 2008:32. We need to make some

10 adjustments to that resolution, and we will be back to

11 you at the January meeting with that issue.

12 So, we'll move to Item B, Review and Approval of

13 Resolution 2008:33, Authorization to Increase the Amount

14 of Contract 06:109.01D with SEA Consultants for Design

15 Services for BNR Facilities and other improvements to

16 the Field's Point Wastewater Treatment Facility, and

17 Mr. Chairman, the CEO Committee recommends passage.

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to

19 approve Resolution 2008:33, Authorization to Increase

20 the amount of Contract 06:109.01D with SEA Consultants

21 for Design Services for BNR Facilities. Is there a

22 second?

23 COMMISSIONER MONTANARI: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Montanari.

25 Discussion?

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1 COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Burroughs.

3 COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS: In the write-up on  
4 this, there's a description of the review that took  
5 place in August, and I just wondered if there were any  
6 technical issues about the feasibility of the BNR  
7 removal system that we've adopted. I couldn't...

8 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Well, yes. Actually, as  
9 a matter of fact, as part of that review, the review  
10 team really went in depth with the design engineers in  
11 terms of how they have structured the BNR process, where  
12 the screens are, how much air, what the pattern's going  
13 to be and all of those type of things, and ultimately, I  
14 guess they agreed that a few changes should be made, but  
15 essentially, they were comfortable with what had been  
16 designed.

17 I don't know if, Tom, if you want to elaborate at all  
18 on what I just said, but I think that there were some  
19 adjustments, but overall, that their plan was solid.

20 MR. UVA: The two major changes that we made  
21 were we added one more blower. We had eight, and we're  
22 going to go to nine; so we have enough to capacity.

23 And the second change was in the duration tanks  
24 themselves. We converted what were two different  
25 chambers at the end of the tank into one chamber for

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1 denitrification, so that we would have sufficient  
2 capacity for denitrification. We wanted to err on the  
3 side of being very conservative for that, so that's  
4 typically where you have problems with nitrogen removal  
5 in the second zone, so we made that bigger.

6 COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS: So, the overall  
7 parameters that we're working with are, in terms of what  
8 removal rates we would expect to get are fine. I mean,  
9 that's not --

10 MR. UVA: That's correct.

11 COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS: Okay, thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Further discussion on  
13 Resolution 2008:33?

14 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all those  
16 in favor will say aye.

17 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

19 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

20 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,  
21 and that motion carries. Further report.

22 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Item C, and our  
23 last item, Review and Approval of Resolution 2008:34,  
24 Authorization to Enter into Contract 09:304.61, North  
25 Providence Inflow Study, and CEO recommends passage,

1 Mr. Chairman.

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to  
3 approve Resolution 2008:34, Authorization to Enter into  
4 Contract 09:304.61, North Providence Inflow Study.

5 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: So moved.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Thompson  
7 seconded the motion. Is there discussion on Resolution  
8 2008:34?

9 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Discussion?

11 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all of  
13 those that are in favor will say aye.

14 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

16 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

17 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Motion carries. Does  
18 that conclude your report, Commissioner?

19 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: That concludes our  
20 report, Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you very much.

22 Next report, next to be reporting is the Personnel  
23 Committee. Mr. Campbell.

24 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: The Personnel

25 Committee met and reconsidered Resolution 2008:35,

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1 Amendment of the Narragansett Bay Commission, Nonunion  
2 Retirement Plan (Defined Contribution), and Personnel  
3 recommends passage of this Resolution.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to  
5 approve Resolution 2008:35. Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Second from  
8 Commissioner Salvadore. Discussion on the motion?

9 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Is there discussion on  
11 Resolution 2008:35?

12 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

13 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all of  
14 those that are in favor will say aye.

15 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

16 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

17 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,  
19 and the motion carries. The next committee reporting is  
20 the Finance Committee. Commissioner Andrade, do you  
21 have a report?

22 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes, I do, Mr.

23 Chairman. The Finance Committee met earlier today and  
24 have three action items to bring to the full Board. The  
25 first is Resolution 2008:36, Authorization to File for

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1 Rate Relief with the Rhode Island Public Utilities  
2 Commission. That was discussed in quite a bit of  
3 detail. Karen did an excellent job with that, the  
4 rationale for the filing, and I know most of the  
5 Commissioners were here; so I would like to move  
6 approval, and if anyone has any questions...

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion for  
8 approval of Resolution 2008:36. Is there a second?

9 COMMISSIONER FARNUM: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Farnum  
11 seconded the motion. Is there discussion relative to  
12 Resolution 2008:36, which is Authorization to File for  
13 Rate Relief. Are there any Commissioners who have any  
14 questions who were not present at the Subcommittee  
15 Meeting that have questions regarding this filing?

16 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

17 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all those  
18 that are in favor of approval of Resolution 2008:36 will  
19 say aye.

20 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?  
22 THE COMMISSION: (No response)  
23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,  
24 and the motion carries. Is there any further business?  
25 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

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1 The next Resolution is 2008:37, Authority to Borrow an  
2 Amount Not to Exceed \$15,000,000 From the Rhode Island  
3 Clean Water Finance Agency and Issue an Amount Not to  
4 Exceed \$15,000,000 in Revenue Bonds. I move approval of  
5 that Resolution, Mr. Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to  
7 approve Resolution 2008:37, Authority to Borrow  
8 \$15,000,000 from the Rhode Island Clean Water Finance  
9 Agency. Is there a second?

10 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Thompson  
12 seconded the motion. Is there discussion on Resolution  
13 2008:37?

14 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Further discussion,  
16 anyone?

17 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all of

19 those that are in favor will say aye.

20 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

22 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,

24 and that motion carries. Item C.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Item C is Resolution

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1 2008:38, Mr. Chairman, Recommendation for Use of  
2 Environmental Enforcement Funds to be used to honor  
3 former Commissioner Oster.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to  
5 approve resolution, Resolution 2008:38. Is there an  
6 aye, Commissioner Salvadore? Second the motion?

7 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second the motion,  
8 Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you. Proceed.

10 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: This resolution has  
11 to do with our late friend and Commissioner Richard  
12 Oster. Whereas Richard M. Oster was a valued member of  
13 the Board of Commissioners of the Narragansett Bay  
14 Commission, and whereas the Board is saddened by his  
15 untimely passing and would like to pay tribute to him  
16 and his service to the Narragansett Bay Commission, and

17 whereas Richard M. Oster was a strong supporter of  
18 Miriam Hospital during his lifetime, and whereas in  
19 accordance with Title 46, Chapter 25-38.1 of the General  
20 Laws of Rhode Island, the Narragansett Bay Commission  
21 has established the Environmental Enforcement Fund,  
22 whereas the Narragansett Bay Commission recommends  
23 awarding a \$1,000 grant from the Environmental  
24 Enforcement Fund to the Miriam Hospital in memory of  
25 Richard M. Oster for a project that falls within the

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1 Environmental Enforcement Fund Guidelines, and whereas  
2 at present there are adequate monies available in the  
3 Environmental Enforcement Fund.

4 Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Commission  
5 sitting as a government body at a duly convened meeting  
6 hereby approves the funding in the amount of \$1,000 to  
7 the Miriam Hospital in memory of Richard M. Oster.

8 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion; we  
9 have a second. All of those that are in favor will say  
10 aye.

11 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

13 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

14 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed.

15 I would also move that the Board extend to the family  
16 their condolences, and forward a copy of this Resolution  
17 to the family of Richard Oster. I make that motion. Is  
18 there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER KIMBALL: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Seconded by  
21 Commissioner Kimball, and I think by the entire Board.

22 All in favor will say aye.

23 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

25 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

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1 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,  
2 and that motion carries. Does that conclude your  
3 report?

4 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: That concludes my  
5 report.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you very much,  
7 Commissioner Andrade. Next to be reporting will be  
8 Rules and Regulations. I don't believe there is any  
9 report. Long-Range Planning. There is no report.  
10 Citizens Advisory Report.

11 MR. GADON: I don't know if you mind me  
12 sitting at the table, but Commissioner Montanari invited

13 me. In view of the consideration of time, I'll make it  
14 short, and the report even shorter.

15 It was reported that we are now the owner of the dog  
16 pound, that we are now presently responsible for the  
17 care of the dogs. As progress continues on Phase II of  
18 the CSO, public meetings will be held in three affected  
19 areas, the Summit area on the East Side, Fox Point and  
20 Olneyville. These should prove to be very interesting.

21 As Johnson & Wales is our neighbor and expanding  
22 greatly, Jamie will be making arrangements to have a CAC  
23 meeting held in their dining area next year, although  
24 we'll have to bring our own refreshments.

25 Jamie distributed clocks to those who did not receive

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1 them at the very well-attended and well-done CSO  
2 dedication where our Phil Holmes was one of the  
3 speakers.

4 As we look forward to another new, successful and  
5 challenging year, we wish you all happy holidays, and  
6 see you in 2009. That concludes my report.

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you, Harold.

8 The Executive Committee did not meet. The Ad Hoc  
9 Committee on Compensation.

10 RAYMOND MARSHALL: No meeting.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: No meeting. The Ad Hoc  
12 Committee on Internal Ethics. I don't believe there was  
13 a meeting.

14 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: We had no meeting.

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: The next report is the  
16 Chairman's Report. I have just a couple of items I  
17 would like to speak to the Board about.

18 First of all, Jamie, we have some additional clocks  
19 available for the Commissioners who did not receive the  
20 commemorative clocks from the dedication of the tunnel  
21 project, so if you did not get one and you see Jamie,  
22 she can give you one. That's the first thing.

23 The second thing I'd like to discuss with the Board  
24 is something you've heard about from Karen today and you  
25 heard again from our Executive Director, and that is the

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1 reduction in consumption, which is, obviously, resulting  
2 in shortfalls in our revenue base; and one of the things  
3 I'd like to talk to the Board about today is how we  
4 might expand our user base.

5 Earlier this year, the Board authorized, for  
6 instance, in Johnston, the funding of the facilities  
7 plan. The facilities plan, once it's approved by the  
8 Department of Environmental Management and will allow

9 the Town of Johnston to expand its system into the  
10 western part of Johnston, and one of the reasons why  
11 that was of a very significant importance to us, to this  
12 Board and this Commission, and why I think this Board  
13 was inclined to step up to that responsibility, to wit  
14 we will be reimbursed at some point from future  
15 development is that there's a great deal of potential  
16 expansion in that general area heading west on Hartford  
17 Avenue.

18 We're told by the Mayor of Johnston that that  
19 investment may exceed \$400 million dollars, of course  
20 that's in our own best interest because now we can  
21 expand our system, now we can ensure that we have a  
22 continued growing ratepayer basis. That's one instance.

23 We have another situation that we're dealing with in  
24 the Town of Smithfield and Lincoln. Laurie Horridge has  
25 been involved with the Chair and the Executive Director

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1 and some potential additional users in the Town of  
2 Smithfield, and these are policy issues that we need to,  
3 I think, the Board needs to speak about.

4 Several months ago, the Narragansett Bay Commission  
5 took title to a sewer line that was located on Route  
6 246, and it services the area where Twin River, the

7 facility, is now located. There were significant issues  
8 with that line. It was continuously being surcharged  
9 and the invert of the pipe was such that it was backing  
10 up into all of the Lincoln residents that live along  
11 that stretch of road.

12 While we didn't own that pipe, the maintenance and  
13 repair of that particular pipe really fell on the  
14 Narragansett Bay Commission. We felt some obligation to  
15 accommodate the people who are really residents of the  
16 Town of Lincoln, but they were being serviced by a pipe  
17 that neither the Town owned or the Bay Commission owned.  
18 So, Narragansett Bay Commission, we always felt a moral  
19 obligation to assist those people who were having  
20 problems.

21 Since that time, we have acquired that pipe, and  
22 there's been improvements to that pipe by the Twin River  
23 group, and there's going to be, as you saw in today's  
24 report there's going to be further improvements. But on  
25 the side of where Twin River comes in along Twin River

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1 Road, toward the end of Twin River Road where it meets  
2 the Town of Smithfield, about four feet from the Town  
3 line, am I about right?

4 MS. HORRIDGE-BISSONETTE: I think it's more

5 like 200.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Is that it? I though  
7 it was -- it's only a small distance. We have had a  
8 number of interested parties inquire to us as to whether  
9 or not -- well, first they inquired to the Town of  
10 Lincoln as to whether or not they would be allowed to  
11 tie into their sewer, and after much discussion over the  
12 last year or maybe more than several years, seemed to be  
13 getting no relief from the Town of Lincoln, they came to  
14 the Narragansett Bay Commission and asked if we could be  
15 of service in that regard.

16 We approached the Town of Lincoln and the Department  
17 of Environmental Management; I think that's accurate.  
18 We talked about how we could be of assistance because  
19 for two reasons: One, there are a number of  
20 environmental concerns, and Number 2, there's a  
21 significant number of additional users in that area, and  
22 basically, the people who would benefit from that sewer  
23 connection, aside from the environmental benefits  
24 because of the failing ISDS system is that we would be  
25 able to get that flow, which increases our revenue base

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1 but actually no capital cost, because these owners have  
2 collectively decided, we decided that they would pay for

3 this improvement, so we would be getting the additional  
4 revenue without the conversely capital expense of that.  
5 So, we thought it was certainly a great idea. We have  
6 engaged the Town of Lincoln and the affected parties for  
7 the last --

8 MS. HORRIDGE-BISSONETTE: Year and a half.

9 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Year and a half. And  
10 basically, the Town did something, I wish Commissioner  
11 MacQueen was here; perhaps he could shed some light on  
12 it, but basically, the Town Council reacted to us  
13 putting our best foot forward and asking these potential  
14 customers to come into our system, even though they live  
15 in Lincoln, by passing a Town Council Resolution saying  
16 that they're not going to allow any out-of-town  
17 connections.

18 So, the Town of, the Department of Environmental  
19 Management has been, I would say they've been critical  
20 of that decision, but it certainly has encouraged the  
21 Town to allow these connections, and we have encouraged  
22 the Town to allow these connections, selfishly, even for  
23 the revenue.

24 So, we raised the issue about the fact that we've  
25 already taken town lines in the best interest of Lincoln

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1 residents, and we see absolutely no financial,  
2 environmental or any other reason not to allow this  
3 connection into Lincoln, which would benefit our system.

4 In addition to that, it would be beneficial,  
5 actually, to the operations of the system because of the  
6 invert and pump station activities, it would actually be  
7 beneficial from an operational standpoint.

8 So, recognizing that we may be confronted with these  
9 opportunities and possibilities in the future and  
10 recognizing that I think we should do everything as a  
11 Board to expand our revenue base, One, I would like to  
12 inform the Board that we would like to talk to the Town  
13 about acquiring that portion of pipe, and if it becomes  
14 a hostile and adverse situation, I think it would  
15 behoove this Board to talk about actually condemning  
16 that certain portion of pipe to allow all of the  
17 potential revenue sources that's available in that area  
18 to come into the Narragansett Bay Commission.

19 The other thing I'd like to talk about is forming  
20 another Ad Hoc Committee among the members of the  
21 Commission because I think these kinds of situations are  
22 going to continue to arise, and I would like to form a  
23 commission to talk about whether or not this Commission  
24 makes a policy decision to make capital improvements in  
25 the municipal sewer system that would allow for an

1 expanded revenue base, and those are purely business  
2 decisions.

3 Whether or not it makes financial sense for the  
4 Narragansett Bay Commission to step up and make a  
5 financial commitment into an infrastructure improvement  
6 which would allow tie-ins for future revenue sources;  
7 that's not unlike any other business making an  
8 investment and a capital improvement.

9 So, I'd like to ask the Commissioners what their  
10 thoughts are on that. I think it's imperative that we  
11 start to think about today what our revenue sources are  
12 going to be on into the future because the picture we've  
13 painted for us today is going to continue to erode. I  
14 think we need to be thinking about these kinds of  
15 decisions on a going-forward basis.

16 So, I'd like to hear from the Commissioners on what  
17 they think about on the process of forming that ad-hoc  
18 commission and start to talk about how we bring more  
19 users into -- does anyone have any thoughts on that?  
20 Commissioner Campbell.

21 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: I think it's an  
22 excellent idea to try to grow the business.

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Exactly.

24 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: That's the concept.

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Right. Anyone else?

1 Commissioner Farnum.

2 COMMISSIONER FARNUM: Why would the Lincoln  
3 Town Council be opposed to this connection? And the  
4 point of connection, is that on that Douglas Pike/Twin  
5 River Road?

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Laurie, did you hear  
7 that question?

8 MS. HORRIDGE-BISSONETTE: The purported  
9 reason from the Lincoln Town Council is that they're  
10 worried about increased growth in Smithfield, i.e.,  
11 perhaps hotels that would service the casino or some  
12 sort of expansion, which apparently, they don't want  
13 right there.

14 The reality is when I testified before them in the  
15 summer, I told them that much like the NBC connection  
16 permits, you can simply restrict the amount of flow to  
17 the current rate of flow coming out of the facility  
18 right now. So, that's really not a decent reason  
19 because obviously, you can control for that.

20 And I, a few of the Commission members at that point  
21 seemed to say, oh, well, okay, that kind of makes sense,  
22 but for whatever reason, they just didn't vote that way  
23 ultimately.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: That's the question --  
25 clarify for you. You know, I'm sorry, Commissioner

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1 Brown.

2 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I was just curious as  
3 to whether we really need another committee to deal with  
4 this, or this would be something, Long-Range Planning.

5 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, you know, good  
6 point, good point. We can look into that as well.

7 Long-Range Planning I would assume. Good point. I  
8 should have thought of that. Commissioner Farnum.

9 COMMISSIONER FARNUM: I think it's a great  
10 idea. It's a volume-drive business. We're losing  
11 volume. Increased volume would make the numbers better  
12 and allow us to provide better service. To me it's a  
13 slam-dunk.

14 COMMISSIONER NATHAN: I agree with  
15 Commissioner Farnum because our overhead doesn't change.  
16 The other thing is, in lieu of the economic conditions,  
17 why not revisit East Providence?

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Brown, do  
19 you have anything to add to that?

20 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I'll have an open house  
21 some day, if you want to come by. I have a whole

22 selection of single malts. We have started down the  
23 road of DBO for our wastewater treatment plant upgrade.  
24 We have not developed the RFP yet. We're still working  
25 on our current sheet and all of that, so if there ever

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1 was a time to make that overture, it would be now.

2 We also have a, well, not a great number of new  
3 people on the Council, enough that if there is a change  
4 in, perhaps, focus, compared to where we were a couple  
5 of years ago.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: First of all, you know,  
7 I don't want to get off the beaten path, but I think the  
8 discussion is going to get a lot more serious in the  
9 white building on Smith Hill about regionalization.

10 I was asked to be a guest on the talk show last  
11 month, a former legislator as it were, and the issue of  
12 regionalization came up, and basically, I said, well,  
13 Narragansett Bay Commission, you know, 9 member  
14 communities service 68 percent of the wastewater  
15 generated in the State of Rhode Island, and the other 32  
16 percent is generated, is serviced by 17 other  
17 facilities. I don't know, that's very startling to look  
18 at it in those terms is a pretty startling statistic,  
19 but, I mean, if that discussion can be, obviously, we've

20 had it, we'd like to continue to have it. Mr. Brown.

21 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I would say at this  
22 point it is probably more a political decision than it  
23 is an administrative decision, so it would be best  
24 brought to the Council, a letter from you or Ray to  
25 members of Council.

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1 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. Commissioner  
2 Montanari.

3 COMMISSIONER MONTANARI: I have a question.  
4 Well served that we're going to generate more business,  
5 but do we have to engage more personnel for this new  
6 business to operate it, the cost of overseeing it, the  
7 cost of maintaining it, you would overcover the rate,  
8 you would overcover the cost.

9 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, I think that we  
10 have to do the economics, and I think that's what I  
11 think Commissioner Campbell was getting at. If we're  
12 looking at this as a business where we make a capital  
13 expenditure which is going to improve our cash flow and  
14 our rate base to sustain, the idea is to maintain a rate  
15 base which is not going to be continuously rising.  
16 This agency has fixed costs, and it's being supported  
17 by less and less users; so obviously, that's going to

18 cause the rate to rise, so we need to add to our base,  
19 revenue base, and I think that's the way to do it.  
20 It's hard to think about, how do we expand the system  
21 to some get more people into it? I think it has to go  
22 to Committee. It's a concept. I think, you know, this  
23 Board has to really weigh in very heavily on, but that's  
24 the premise; and I think you're right. We'll maybe put  
25 that before Long-Range Planning, and start to talk about

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1 that.  
2 In fact, the Long-Range Planning Chairman is not,  
3 he's, I'm going to have to press on the Mayor of  
4 Cumberland to make an appointment to that seat, and  
5 we're going to need a new Chairman of Long-Range  
6 Planning, and I'll give that some thought.  
7 But I want to apprise the Board as to the direction  
8 I'd like to take and get your comments, and if there's  
9 any strong opposition to that direction, if not, we'll  
10 proceed down that direction. We have one issue which is  
11 pending, which is, of course, the Lincoln/Smithfield  
12 issue. We're working along with the Town of Johnston,  
13 but I think there's the areas where there's real  
14 potential for expansion on the areas that we need to be  
15 focusing on. So, I just wanted to get the Board's

16 thoughts on that. Harold?

17 MR. GADON: You didn't mention East

18 Providence. Are they still in the mix?

19 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, yeah. Well, I

20 think there's a couple of things. One, I think on the

21 broad discussion of regionalization, we should be a part

22 of that discussion, and I think if we're left out of

23 that discussion, that's a mistake; but as Commissioner

24 Brown just said, we're going to write a letter to them

25 encouraging some discussion before they finalize their

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1 plans for expansion, I guess. So, we'll do that, and

2 we'll do that. So, I don't think we need a vote, but I

3 mean, is there anyone who has any strong opposition to

4 what we're proposing?

5 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

6 COMMISSIONER WORRELL: I have no opposition,

7 but I had one question. Right now we snap onto the

8 Providence Water Supply system for most of our billing;

9 is that correct?

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER WORRELL: And how much of an

12 additional, we wouldn't be able to do that with Johnston

13 or with, we could do it with East Providence. How about

14 Johnston?

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Well, they have to  
16 have, they have two water systems in Johnston. One is  
17 serviced by Providence Water, and then they have a  
18 small, smaller, relatively small private water  
19 authority. I don't know. I wouldn't know how many  
20 people they service, but it's a small number. It's a  
21 couple of thousand, a thousand, I don't even know, but  
22 it's very small.

23 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: It's a very small  
24 area.

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: But you are serviced by

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1 Providence Water.

2 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: Right, Providence  
3 Water.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Everything east, I  
5 would say, east and even west for a stretch on Hartford  
6 Avenue. I mean, the kind of influence we're talking  
7 about, these are improvements that are going to benefit  
8 the Commission is that we need to show where they're  
9 going to be financially feasible. If they're not, then  
10 I think we, you know, end of discussion. They've got to  
11 make some financial sense, or otherwise, and we'll do

12 those analyses, okay? All right.

13 New buildings. We had a presentation just Monday on  
14 the new buildings. The Board's going to get a  
15 presentation at the January meeting. They are  
16 progressing quite nicely. I would like to get your  
17 impression of, you know, the aesthetics that are being  
18 provided within the buildings.

19 The, all of the programing and spacing requirements  
20 are being met. I think Tom and all have been working  
21 very closely with another one of our staff, Terry and  
22 Mark Thomas, and that seems to be moving quite nicely.

23 We talked a little bit about, I know Tom mentioned it  
24 and Ray touched on it, you know, the laboratory services  
25 and more modeling and sampling in the bay along with

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1 DEM. We were told at this presentation by Mark  
2 Thompson. His name is Mark Thompson. He's a consultant  
3 with Kite.

4 He's with SEA, but he's working with Kite who is the  
5 architectural firm who's designing the operations  
6 building that, and they're involved in the BNR project,  
7 and he's been having conversations with DEM about the  
8 permitting, and DEM is suggesting that because we're  
9 building a new laboratory, we're going to have equipment

10 which is state-of-the-art equipment that potentially  
11 they, as well as others, might utilize the services that  
12 the Narragansett Bay Commission can provide.  
13 So, we were talking about a couple of additional  
14 jobs, Karen was mentioning in her report, and this Board  
15 authorized creation, if we get a PUC authorization, and  
16 they pass out our rate increase request that there are  
17 four new jobs, and two of those are in the laboratory  
18 area; and I will tell you that if the Department of  
19 Environmental Management as well as the other, some of  
20 the other environmental communities are interested that  
21 our laboratory is going to be used way beyond the  
22 services that are provided by Narragansett Bay  
23 Commission solely. So, I'm optimistic that we may be  
24 able to turn a profit on that lab, so we will -- yet to  
25 be seen.

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1 Other than that, you know, the Bay Bash, I know Alan  
2 was very successful. It was well attended. There were  
3 500 people there or more. Everyone is extremely excited  
4 about the success of the tunnel project, the  
5 achievements of this Board and staff have been  
6 recognized. It's was a, it's a good way to end the  
7 year.

8 I think the Narragansett Bay Commission got the  
9 credit and recognition that it so rightfully deserves  
10 from so many people across the state that are really  
11 unaware of the services and dedication of the  
12 Narragansett Bay Commission staff, employees and  
13 Commissioners.

14 And as we go into the new year, I just want to thank  
15 all of you for all of your help through the course of  
16 this year and tell you how much I appreciate it. And  
17 that concludes the Chairman's Report. Is there New  
18 Business to come before the Commission?

19 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I'd just like to say one  
20 thing. We have the schedule of 2009 meetings up on the  
21 Board of Commissioners' site. If you could just take a  
22 look at those. I was thinking a little earlier that  
23 what I'll do is I'll have Karen e-mail all of you, and  
24 we'll have all of the dates listed right before you.  
25 If you know there's a meeting that you can't make, if

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1 could you just let us know that. I understand things  
2 change, but let's say you're going to be on a cruise on  
3 January 28th, you know you're not going to be here, if  
4 you could let us know so we can do a little planning  
5 ahead of time. If everyone's going to be on a cruise

6 January 28th, then we'll have to reschedule the meeting.

7 I did go over the list with the Chairman before we  
8 presented it, but this will be, like, a double-checking.

9 If we need to make an adjustment, we will.

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: New Business, any New  
11 Business?

12 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

13 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Other business of any  
14 kind? Any other business that needs to be addressed  
15 before we end this year? Is there any unfinished  
16 business anywhere?

17 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Rotella,  
19 no unfinished business?

20 COMMISSIONER ROTELLA: Absolutely not.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Item Number 8.

22 COMMISSIONER ROTELLA: I do have a motion to  
23 adjourn.

24 THE COMMISSION: Second.

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to

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1 adjourn and seconded by the entire Board. Please, we  
2 have our usual annual luncheon, and please stay for the  
3 rest of the luncheon; I appreciate it. And we have a

4 motion to adjourn and seconded by the entire Board. All  
5 those in favor will say aye.

6 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Have a happy and  
8 healthy new year, and thank you. We're adjourned.

9 (HEARING CLOSED AT 12:30 P.M.)

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I, Heather Marie Finger, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate, and complete transcript of my notes taken at the above-entitled hearing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 26th day of December 2008.

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HEATHER MARIE FINGER, CSR, NOTARY PUBLIC  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 4/02/12

DATE: December 17, 2008  
IN RE: Monthly Board Meeting of the Commission  
HEARING OF: Narragansett Bay Commission

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