

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

3 In Re: NBC Monthly Board Meeting

4 DATE: June 17, 2009
5 TIME: 11:00 a.m.
6 PLACE: Narragansett Bay Commission
7 Corporate Office Building
8 Providence, RI 02905

9 PRESENT:

- 10 Vincent Mesoletta, Chairman
11 Raymond Marshall, Secretary–Executive Director
12 Robert Andrade, Treasurer
13 Joseph DeAngelis, Esquire
14 Richard Brown
15 Richard Burroughs
16 Bruce Campbell
17 Michael DiChiro
18 Leslie Gray, III
19 Joseph Kimball
20 Ronald Leone
21 John MacQueen
22 Al Montanari
23 Michael Salvatore
24 Leo Thompson
25 Richard Worrell

26 ALSO PRESENT:

- 27 Sherri Arnold, NBC
28 Francie Brown, NBC
29 Travis Brown, NBC
30 Anamaria Clarkin, NBC
31 R. David Cruise, Former Commissioner
32 Charlie Donovan, House Oversight
33 John Gall, CDM
34 Karen Giebink, NBC
35 Patrick Hughes, CDM
36 Joanne Maceroni, NBC
37 Karen Musumeci, NBC
38 Paul Nordstrom, NBC
39 Cheryl A. Pescarino, NBC
40 Jamie Samons, NBC
41 Deborah Samson, NBC

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1 (BOARD MEETING COMMENCED AT 11:05 A.M.)

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Good morning, everyone.

3 THE COMMISSION: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Recognizing a quorum,

5 we will call the Wednesday, June 17, 2009, meeting of

6 the Narragansett Bay Commission to order. The first

7 order of business is Item Number 2, the approval of the

8 previous minutes. Have all of our Commissioners had an

9 opportunity to review the previous minutes, and if so,

10 are there any comments, questions or corrections on the

11 previous minutes?

12 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Move for approval,

13 Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to

15 approve the previous minutes as presented.

16 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Second.

17 COMMISSIONER MONTANARI: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Seconded by

19 Commissioners Thompson and Montanari. Discussion on the

20 previous minutes?

21 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

22 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all of

23 those that are in favor will say aye.

24 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

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1 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,

3 and the motion carries. Next order of business is Old

4 Business. Is there any old business to come before the

5 Commission? Old business of any kind?

6 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, moving

8 right along to Item Number 4, which is the Executive

9 Director's Report. Do we have a report from the

10 Executive Director today?

11 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I'm going to pass, Mr.

12 Chairman, based upon the fact that the most important

13 item on today's agenda is the budget, and I want to

14 leave plenty of time for the Board to consider that.

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. Then Item Number

16 5 is Committee Reports and Action Items Resulting. The

17 first committee reporting this morning is the Finance

18 Committee, in spite of Commissioner Salvadore's

19 objection and noting that he's usually first,

20 Commissioner Andrade, do you have a report for us today?

21 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes, I do, Mr.

22 Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Proceed.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Thank you. The

25 Finance Committee has three items, and the first and

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1 foremost is Review and Approval of Resolution 2009:16,

2 Narragansett Bay Commission's FY 2010 Operating Budget.

3 As you see, Karen and Francie are coming to table, and

4 hopefully, you all have a copy of the budget. We'll be

5 reviewing that in detail, and please ask any questions

6 you may have.

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Karen, are you ready

8 for a detailed presentation of the budget?

9 MS. GIEBINK: Hopefully in not excruciating

10 detail.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay, we're ready. The

12 Committee is ready.

13 MS. GIEBINK: I would like to introduce Ana

14 Clarkin and Sherri Arnold. They're in the back, but

15 they're really the lead support on the development of

16 the Operating Budget, and Francie Brown is the lead

17 person on the Operating Budget preparation.

18 On Page 1 of the document, there is the Executive

19 Director's Message and a summary of Fiscal Year 2010
20 Budget. Overall, we're looking at a 6.9 percent
21 increase over last year.
22 With respect to Revenues, Operating Revenues have
23 increased by 7.4 percent as a result of two rate
24 increases, one that is currently pending before the PUC
25 for the consumption rate base adjustment and the

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1 operation and maintenance costs, and the second is for
2 the filing that will be taking place shortly for debt
3 service and debt coverage that will allow us to take
4 advantage of the federal stimulus money.
5 With respect to Expenses, the Operating and
6 Maintenance Expenses are expected to increase by 5.8
7 percent, Debt Service by 11.1 percent, Operating Capital
8 Outlays by 20.8 percent and Restricted Carry-Forward we
9 are budgeting a decline of 5.3 percent, arriving at a
10 balanced budget of 82.9 million.
11 On Page 2 of the document, there's an Introduction,
12 and I just would like to point out that one of the
13 things that Francie does as part of the budget
14 preparation for the upcoming year, she takes a look at
15 the comments of the GFOA budget reviewers, and based
16 upon those comments, make enhancements to the budget

17 document, and most notable, we've expanded the
18 demographic section, and focused it more specifically on
19 data related to NBC's service area, and Anamaria Clarkin
20 was the lead person on the development of that section.

21 We also expanded the discussion related to the impact
22 of the Capital Program on the Operating Budget as well
23 as the Capital Budget Descriptions have been expanded,
24 we've enhanced the glossary, and we've made a number of
25 other changes, and hopefully, you'll enjoy the

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1 additional charts and other visuals that have been
2 included.

3 Page 3 is the Outlook, we've switched the order. In
4 prior budget documents, we discussed the prior year
5 performance, but this year we are beginning the budget
6 message with the discussion of what's going to be
7 contemplated in the upcoming year and how that relates
8 to the Strategic Plan. There's a discussion of the Core
9 Business related to treatment, inspection of sewers, and
10 cleaning.

11 Page 4 shows the CIP, which is another one of our
12 core business functions. Page 5 discusses the sampling
13 program, and there's a table that shows the parameters
14 analyzed and some of the other upcoming initiatives. We

15 also discuss Staffing, Financial Management.
16 Page 6 there's a chart that shows Billable
17 Consumption, the customer service enhancements looking
18 at monthly billing. On Page 7 is a review of the Fiscal
19 Year 2009 performance, and the budget message concludes
20 on Page 9. In the next tab, there's a discussion about
21 the Narragansett Bay Commission, and I'm going to turn
22 it over to Francie.

23 MS. BROWN: Good morning. This section
24 starts on Page 11, about the Narragansett Bay
25 Commission. The first couple of pages show NBC's

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1 Organization and Facilities. If you go to Page 16,
2 you'll see that we have a section on the Rhode Island
3 Economy.
4 The chart on Page 17 at the top of the page compares
5 the Average Annual Unemployment Rate in Rhode Island to
6 the U.S. You can see that since 2006, the unemployment
7 rate in Rhode Island has been higher than the national
8 average, and as we know, it will continue to be higher.
9 On Page 18 we talk specifically about NBC's Service
10 Area. The pie chart on Page 19 shows Number of Accounts
11 by Community, and Providence, Pawtucket and North
12 Providence accounts for 73 percent of all of our

13 accounts.

14 On Page 20, we start a new section that talks about
15 the NBC Service Area Population and Statistical
16 Information. The chart on Page 21 shows the population
17 both by age group and gender in Rhode Island. It's
18 interesting to note that the largest increase in
19 population growth is expected to be in older males over
20 65 years old.

21 On Page 23, we show Budget Summary Information. The
22 Budget Overview on the first page shows Revenue and
23 Expense by line item. On Page 24 we show the Sources of
24 Revenue and the Uses of Revenue. You can see in the pie
25 chart at the top of the page that User Fees account for

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1 the largest part of revenue, 94 percent, and Uses of
2 Revenue the biggest pieces are 44.5 percent for O&M and
3 42 percent for Debt Service.
4 Page 25, for the next couple of pages we discuss how
5 the budget ties into strategic objectives with NBC. The
6 chart on Page 26 shows how the Strategic Plan is
7 integrated into the CIP. You can see that the chart
8 shows a number of Capital Projects for each strategic
9 objective, and the biggest group tied into the
10 Collection System Objective. The next couple of pages

11 shows specific actions for achievement tied to each
12 strategic objective.

13 On Page 31, we have the Key Assumptions for the FY 10
14 Budget. The Key long-term guidelines are that the
15 strategic plan is guiding the development of the program
16 objectives and measures. We have an operating capital
17 outlay policy with a minimum threshold of 2,500 dollars
18 combined with a minimum useful life of two years, and we
19 have an asset management policy that requires the
20 identification of short-term capital needs and a
21 long-term five-year asset replacement plan.

22 Our key short-term guidelines were that this was the
23 first full year of operations for the CSO Phase I
24 facilities, and that impacted the Field's Point budget.

25 We have an increase in NBC's contribution rate from

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1 21.13 percent to 25.03 percent to the Rhode Island State
2 Retirement System on behalf of our union employees.

3 (COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO IS NOW PRESENT)

4 MS. BROWN: We also have an increase in
5 NBC's contribution rate to the State Retirement Health
6 from 5.46 percent to 7.67 percent.

7 We have new planning rates for fringe benefits,
8 including an 8 1/2 percent increase in health insurance.

9 We have a four-year collective bargaining agreement with
10 a 3 percent COLA for union personnel effective FY 10 and
11 programmed step increases. We also have budgeted merit
12 increases for the non-union personnel based on a 4.25
13 percent increase of budgeted non-union salaries.

14 We've projected a CPI increase of .06 percent in the
15 contracted biosolids disposal rate. We have a projected
16 3.26 percent CPI increase in the Bucklin Point
17 management contract. We have an increase in the
18 electricity supply rate from 7.1 cents to 8.1 cents per
19 kilowatt as of January 2010, so that's six months of the
20 year; and we assumed conversion to monthly billing from
21 quarterly billing in October 2009.

22 Other key assumptions were that our Programmed New
23 Debt is based on the long-term financial planning model
24 that reflects the cash flow requirements in the 2011 to
25 2015 CIP that you approved last month.

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1 We have a projected 12.2 percent sewer user rate
2 increase effective July 22, 2009. It's pending right
3 now in front of the PUC. That's for an adjustment to
4 the rate base and increased O&M costs.

5 We also have a projected sewer user rate increase
6 effective September 1, 2009 of 4 percent for debt

7 service and debt service coverage.

8 On Page 32, we have a chart showing our Staffing
9 Levels, and you can see that we expect to have 258
10 positions this year, there are 4 additional positions in
11 the budget this year compared to last year. That's 2
12 customer service positions and 2 lab tech positions that
13 we need.

14 On Page 33, we have a Historical Overview that shows
15 10 years of revenue and 10 years of expense. In both
16 cases, the biggest piece is the dark green part of the
17 bars in the revenue piece that's the User Fees. You can
18 see how the user fees have increased year to year, in
19 the Expense that is related to debt service. Next is
20 the Revenue Profile.

21 MS. GIEBINK: With respect to Revenues, on
22 Page 34 there's a pie chart that shows the fiscal year
23 2010 Revenue by Category. You can see that Operating
24 Revenue, the User Fees are 94 percent of the total, and
25 as I mentioned earlier that this budget is predicated

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1 upon two rate increases; and the combined rate increase
2 is 16.2 percent, but that will result in an 8.1 percent
3 increase in user fees over the prior year because a
4 significant portion of that is devoted to the rate base

5 adjustment.

6 The table at the bottom of that page shows the
7 projected decline in Billable Consumption. I guess the
8 good news is that the projected fiscal year 2010
9 consumption is the same level as being proposed as the
10 rate base for the rates resulting from Docket 4026, so
11 we should be able to reverse that decline in the
12 billable consumption.

13 The chart on Page 35 shows the various Revenue
14 Sources, Operating Revenue and Non-Operating Revenue.
15 Again, the single largest component is for User Fees the
16 other smaller revenue items have been adjusted based
17 upon the actual experience for the last few years. I'm
18 not going to go into too much detail on those specific
19 items.

20 On Page 36, there's two pie charts, Residential vs.
21 Non-Residential Accounts and User Fees Billed. You can
22 see that the Residential Accounts are 90 percent of the
23 total, but they generate 57 percent of the total user
24 revenues.

25 On Page 37 there's a chart that shows the Fixed Fee

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1 vs. Consumption User Fee Billings, and one of the items
2 that is being contemplated by the PUC right now is the

3 shift in the revenue recovery of the incremental rate, a
4 revenue increase from what historically has been an even
5 split between, or a straight across-the-board percentage
6 increase in fixed fees and consumption fees, and it
7 would instead be recovered entirely through fixed fees.
8 You can see that those percentages are approaching each
9 other.

10 On Page 37, the bottom shows the breakout of a
11 Projected Rate Increase. On Page 38, there's a schedule
12 of Projected User Fees, and we're looking at an average
13 annual residential rate of 427 dollars, subsequent to
14 these two rate increases, and NBC's rates still remain
15 very favorable when you compare that to the rest of the
16 State of Rhode Island as well as the other large
17 municipal wastewater agencies in the United States.

18 Page 39 has a discussion of Other Operating Revenue,
19 and on Page 40, the Non-Operating Revenue is discussed;
20 and you can see that there's a chart there that shows
21 late charges as a percentage of total user fee revenue,
22 and we anticipate that that percentage will increase
23 slightly; but overall, the generation of late fees will
24 increase based upon a new methodology that includes the
25 compounding of late fees. On Page 41, we have the

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1 Expense Profile, and Francie will review that with you.

2 MS. BROWN: You can see in the pie chart at
3 the top of Page 41 the Expense by Element. You can see
4 that Debt Service is 47 percent, that's the highest
5 amount, and Personnel is 26.7 percent.

6 On Page 42, there's a chart that shows the relative
7 growth from year to year, budget to budget. You can see
8 that Operating Capital Outlays are the highest growth at
9 21 percent; however, they are actually the smallest
10 amount dollarwise. The biggest amount dollarwise, and
11 in terms of percentage growth is Debt Service at 11.1
12 percent.

13 The two charts on Page 43 are interesting because
14 they compare the Union and Non-Union benefits. You can
15 see that in the chart at the top of the page that it
16 talks about Union versus Non-Union Pension Expense. If
17 you look at the green line that is non-union, you get
18 the non-union contribution rate, sorry, the union
19 contribution rate. The blue line below that is the
20 non-union contribution rate.

21 If you look on the bottom of that page, it shows post
22 retirement health benefits which only union people get,
23 and you can see what the increases have been over the
24 last 5 years.

25 On Page 44 to 45, we discuss four new positions

1 included in this budget. I already talked about what
2 they were. The charts there justify the customer
3 service new positions.

4 On Page 45 to 46, we discuss the increase in
5 electricity. It's about 465,000 dollars on a
6 year-to-year basis. This increase is due to three main
7 factors. We had increased usage at Bucklin Point, this
8 year it's also the first full year of operations at the
9 tunnel pump station, and there's a slight increase in
10 the supply rate.

11 On Pages 47 to 48, we discussed three other impacts
12 to the FY 10 Budget. The Biosolids chart at the top of
13 Page 47 shows that biosolids are staying relatively
14 flat. They're about FY '08 levels because biosolids
15 projections have been down a bit this year.

16 The chart at the bottom of the page shows the impact
17 of monthly billing. Going from quarterly to monthly
18 billing, we will be spending about 400,000 dollars more
19 because of that impact. The chart at the top of Page 48
20 shows the chemical usage has increased quite a bit.

21 The chart at the bottom of Page 48 shows, I'm sorry,
22 going back to Operating Capital Outlays on Page 48, we
23 show there's a projected 21 percent increase in
24 Operating Capital, that discusses part of it.

25 Debt Service is discussed at the bottom of Page 49.

1 The chart on that page shows the projected 11 percent
2 increase in Debt Service in FY 2010. This includes the
3 projected 53 million dollars in SRF borrowing that we
4 will be getting partly due to the stimulus package.

5 On Page 50 there's Expenses by Division. Page 53 at
6 the next tab we discuss Budget Philosophy and Process
7 and Policies. You can see a schematic of Budget Process
8 on Page 54. On Page 56, we discuss Budget Monitoring
9 and Amendment Procedures. The FY 2010 Budget Calendar
10 is shown on Page 57, and Financial Policies are listed
11 on Pages 58 to 60.

12 MS. GIEBINK: Page 61 shows the Fund
13 Definitions and Financial Data, and there's a flow chart
14 at the bottom of Page 61 that depicts the flow of funds
15 as set forth in the NBC's Trust Indenture and ten
16 supplemental indentures.

17 On Page 62, we have provided definitions of all the
18 various funds, and the new addition this year is the
19 Operating Reserve for Revenue Stability Fund which was
20 something that the Board approved and we implemented
21 last fiscal year.

22 Page 63 is also new this year, and it's a discussion
23 of the significant changes in the fund balances, 10

24 percent or greater by fund.

25 On Page 65, there's a Long-Term Debt Overview, and as

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1 you know the debt service is a significant component of
2 the Annual Operating Budget. We have since the Finance
3 Committee met last, we updated our long-term debt model,
4 and we've incorporated the additional Clean Water money
5 that will be available as a result of the federal
6 stimulus package, and we wrapped that into the model; on
7 Page 66 you can see the Sources of Funds that have been
8 identified.

9 And overall, we have a significant CIP, we are
10 looking at expending nearly 460 million dollars over the
11 next, well, over the window of 2011 to 2015, and over
12 the 6-year window of more than half a billion dollars.
13 Most of that will be funded through the issuance of
14 revenue bonds, and we've updated the projected
15 availability of Clean Water funds, we're looking at
16 approximately 12 million per year in the out years. On
17 Page 67, we can see Uses of Funds and again most of
18 those funds will be used to finance the CIP.

19 Page 68, the table at the top, show the Long-term
20 Debt Balances for Fiscal Years 2008 through 2010. On
21 Page 69 there's a chart that shows NBC's Outstanding

22 Debt, and it's interesting to note that since we did not
23 issue debt last year, Fiscal Year 2009 was the first
24 year in quite some time that we actually saw a decline
25 in the Outstanding Debt.

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1 On Page 71, we identify the Impact of the CIP on Debt
2 Service, and we anticipate that Debt Services as
3 percentage of Total Revenue will approach 50 percent in
4 the year 2015. We see the steady increase over the
5 years as we've completed our capital projects.

6 On Page 72, there's a table at the top that shows the
7 CIP Impact on the Operating Budget, and more details are
8 provided on Page 73. The chart at the bottom of Page 73
9 shows the projected annual residential charge for a
10 single-family home based on usage of 200 gallons per
11 day, we are projecting that subsequent to these two rate
12 increases that will be 427 dollars per year.

13 On Page 74, there's a chart that shows the historical
14 projected Average Annual Residential Rates and the
15 percentage increases, and it also has a line, the blue
16 line that shows the projected Rhode Island average, and
17 the maroon line shows the projected NBC rate. You can
18 see that NBC's rates have remained below the state
19 average despite the massive investments in the Capital

20 Program.
21 Page 75 is the Annual Residential Sewer Charge
22 Survey. Subsequent to that is the CIP which I believe
23 the Board reviewed and approved at the last Board
24 meeting, and basically, that plan in its entirety has
25 been rolled into the Operating Budget. The next tab

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1 highlights the Division Summaries, and Francie's going
2 to take you through one of those Division Summaries.

3 MS. BROWN: As you know, we have four
4 divisions, I thought maybe just to look at Page 177,
5 which is the Operations & Engineering Division to give
6 you an idea what we are showing in this part of the
7 Budget. At the very top of that page you will see that
8 we have an org chart, and below that we break out the
9 Operations & Engineering Division and show what
10 percentage that is of the total budget, and in this case
11 it's 32 percent of the total budget.

12 On the next page, Page 178, this is an overview of
13 the Division. We talk about the Significant Budget
14 Modifications, and we have a pie chart that shows the
15 Division Performance Data Summary. We've categorized
16 the Performance Measures in four different ways, Input
17 and Output, Outcome and Efficiency, and the GOFA

18 considers that outcome and efficiency measures are the
19 best kind of measures, so we try and show that we have a
20 lot of those measures in this budget.

21 The next page shows the whole division for three
22 years, the FY 2008 actual compared to the '09 budget and
23 the '10 budget, and then we have charts that show the
24 Division Cost by Element and the percent of the
25 Division's Budget by Section. Sample cost center with

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1 the Division are on the next page. Page 180 it is the
2 Interceptor Maintenance Section in this case. We show
3 the Mission and Overview of that section. We show the
4 Prior Year Accomplishments, which is actually, this
5 current year that we're finishing we show the staffing
6 for that section. We then have the 3-year comparison,
7 again, in terms of historical costs compared to the
8 budget, and we show a Historical Data in the graph at
9 the bottom of that page.

10 And Pages 182 and 183, these are very important and
11 very integral to our budget. This is the actual
12 Performance Data where we link on the left the Strategic
13 Objective, to the right page which is the Target Measure
14 which is the day-to-day measures which they have to meet
15 in order to comply with the strategic objective that

16 we're trying to get to. So, that's a sample of the type
17 of things we have in the Division summaries.

18 MS. GIEBINK: That's what we start with.
19 That's the first piece that we start with when we
20 develop the budget. The Supporting Schedules are behind
21 the next tab, and we have the Resolution. There are no
22 significant changes to any of the provisions in the
23 Resolution compared to the last year, other than, of
24 course, the numbers have been updated
25 Attached to that you have a detailed listing of all

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1 of the positions, as attachment one. Additional
2 Supporting Schedule, include the Budgeted Benefits
3 Comparisons, a Historical Position Summary and the
4 Fiscal Year 2010 Operating Capital Outlays are shown in
5 detail as well as the 5-year Operating Capital Outlay.
6 We also have Summary of Grants. On Page 239 there's
7 a Fund-Organization Matrix. We have the schematic of
8 the schedule of the CIP projects. The last tab is an
9 Appendix, that includes a glossary of all of the
10 acronyms, which we have a whole host of those. We also
11 have a Glossary of Terms on Page 249. The glossary, the
12 acronyms is new this year. We have to use it, too.
13 And then we have the mouseprint, as we affectionately

14 refer to it, on Page 256 and 257 that shows the cost by
15 line item by cost center, and that is the budget.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Mr. Chairman, the
17 Committee earlier unanimously approved Resolution
18 2009:16 and commends Karen and Francie and their staff
19 for the preparation of the documents, and I would like
20 to move approval of Resolution 2009:16 at this point.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to
22 approve Resolution 2009:16, approval of the FY 2010
23 Operating Budget. Is there a second?

24 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: Second.

25 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second the motion.

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1 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner DiChiro,
3 Commissioner Salvadore, Commissioner Leone. Further
4 discussion on the FY 2010 Budget? Further discussion?

5 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Questions?

7 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

8 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: In such case, all of
9 those that are in favor will say aye.

10 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

12 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

13 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,
14 and the motion carries.

15 (MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY)

16 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Andrade.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes. Mr. Chairman,
18 can we move to another item on the agenda?

19 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Yes. Proceed.

20 Commissioner Andrade is requesting that we take the
21 agenda out of order for the purposes of our
22 presentation.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: 7 ii.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We move to Other
25 Business, Item Number 7 ii. Commissioner Andrade.

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1 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Well, it's my
2 pleasure to present this award, and I'll read the award
3 to you. It's the Certificate of Achievement for
4 Excellence in Financial Performance, Financial Reporting
5 presented to the Narragansett Bay Commission of Rhode
6 Island for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
7 for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.
8 A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in
9 Financial Reporting is presented by the Government

10 Finance Officers Association of the United States and
11 Canada, the government units and public employee
12 retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial
13 reports achieve the highest standards in government
14 accounting and financial reporting. So, Karen, would
15 you...

16 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I'd also like to invite
17 up Leah Foster, Cheryl Pescarino and Robin Simoes who
18 were all responsible for this.

19 (AWARD PRESENTATION)

20 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Further report,
21 Commissioner Andrade.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
23 Item B in the Finance Committee Report is Review and
24 Approval of Resolution 2009:17, Authorization to File a
25 Compliance Filing for the Rate Relief related to Debt

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1 Service with the Rhode Island Public Utilities
2 Commission. Karen, please.

3 MS. GIEBINK: NBC's Long-Term Financial Plan
4 has changed as a result of the federal stimulus funds.
5 Before NBC had contemplated borrowing 12 million from
6 the Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency in FY 2009
7 and 12 million in year 2010. Now as a result of the

8 federal stimulus money, the Rhode Island Clean Water
9 Finance Agency will have additional loans available to
10 us, and we now anticipate borrowing 53 million dollars
11 in fiscal year 2010 in two pieces, one of 41 million and
12 one loan in the amount of 12 million.

13 The Board previously passed an authorization for us
14 to borrow conditional upon rate relief. We project that
15 the rate relief required will be less than 5 percent of
16 the projected total revenue requirement resulting from
17 the current docket pending before the PUC.

18 So, we're requesting, although my memo specifies that
19 we're requesting an increase of not more than 6 percent,
20 the Resolution states 5 percent and that's the rate
21 relief percentage that we're requesting so that we can
22 take advantage of the federal stimulus money for those
23 two loans.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Mr. Chairman, I'd
25 like to make a motion to approve Resolution 2009:17.

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1 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to
2 approve Resolution 2009:17. Is there a second?

3 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second.

4 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: Second.

5 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Second Commissioner

6 Salvadore, Commissioner DiChiro. Discussion on the
7 motion 2009:17?

8 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

9 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Hearing none, all of
10 those that are in favor will say 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 and the motion carries. Further report, Commissioner

16 Andrade?

17 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

18 The final Resolution that was approved earlier by the
19 Committee is Resolution 2009:18, Recommendation for Use
20 of Environmental Enforcement Funds, and the Executive
21 Director will give that information.

22 RAYMOND MARSHALL: We have two items in this
23 Resolution for your approval, one is the Woonasquatucket
24 River Watershed Council has asked for money to help
25 support their Woonasquatucket River Rangers Program.

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1 It's a program that they generally run in the summer
2 months, they hire youth from the city to work in the
3 parklands and to help clean up the river. They're

4 looking to expand this beyond the summer months, and
5 they're asking for our support. They've asked for
6 15,000 dollars. We are recommending 5,000 dollars for
7 that purpose, and it ties in nicely with our Woon
8 Watershed Explorers Program that we bring to the schools
9 in the same communities, but this is a summer now
10 spilling into the fall a little bit to keep the place
11 looking great.

12 And the second item is the Leonard Walker Scholarship
13 Fund. As you know, Commissioner Walker was a former
14 member of this Board. He passed away several years ago,
15 was heavily involved in the establishment of the Met
16 School, and a scholarship has been established in his
17 name for the graduates of the Met School as they pursue
18 higher education. The Board has generously supported
19 this program in the past, and we ask for your approval
20 of 2,500 dollars for that item, and they are both
21 contained in Resolution 2009:18.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: I move approval of
23 Resolution 2009:18.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to
25 approve Resolution 2009:18. Is there a second?

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1 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Second.

2 COMMISSIONER KIMBALL: Second.

3 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Thompson,
5 Commissioner Kimball, Commissioner Salvadore.
6 Discussion on the motion.

7 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: How much is left in
8 the Environmental Enforcement Fund?

9 MR. UVA: Roughly 150,000 dollars. Some of
10 that is restricted for emergency response purposes and
11 emergency bills and things like that.

12 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: So, if the
13 Woonasquatucket group, they are requesting 13,000.

14 RAYMOND MARSHALL: 15,000.

15 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: 15?

16 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: And we've countered
18 with a 5,000 dollars offer. What happens if they don't
19 get the 10, or where will they get the 10?

20 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I don't know the answer
21 to that. Do you have any idea, Tom?

22 MR. UVA: No, I don't. This is an ongoing
23 program. It's just out to support their programs. They
24 didn't have any details if they didn't get the full
25 amount, but this is just what they're requesting.

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1 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: If they don't get
2 the full 15, will that collapse the effort?

3 RAYMOND MARSHALL: I don't believe it will
4 collapse the effort. I think it might shrink it a bit,
5 but I mean, you know, we can check with them.
6 Generally, what I think we find with these requests is
7 that they've requested funding from a number of
8 different sources, not just us; and so then they see how
9 it all plays out.

10 So, we try to do our part. We've never had anyone
11 come back to us and say that wasn't enough; we can't do
12 our program. So, I guess we stand ready to help them
13 additionally if they need it and the Board approves it
14 as we move into the future.

15 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: What's the most
16 that we've ever contributed out of the Environmental
17 Enforcement Fund?

18 RAYMOND MARSHALL: At one time? I don't
19 know off the top of my head. I think we'd have to
20 research that one.

21 MR. UVA: We could look that up. Typically,
22 the grants, Commissioner, are in the 2 to 5,000 dollar
23 range. I believe the Children's Museum we just gave
24 7,500 to last month, so they're typically under 10,000
25 dollars.

1 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We can check, though.

2 I'm sure we have a record list.

3 MR. UVA: We have a full listing. I can get
4 that information.

5 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: I think we ought to
6 stay close to this one.

7 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Okay. Actually, I think
8 what we might be able to do is post that on the
9 Commissioners website and see what the running list is.

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We're going to talk
11 about it a little later. I think you'll see just how
12 successful our educational outreach programs are
13 becoming and recognized. So, I forgot where we left
14 off. Do we have a motion and a second?

15 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes, we do.

16 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Further discussion on
17 the matter? Further discussion on the use of
18 Environmental Enforcement Funds?

19 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

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

22 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

24 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,

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1 and the motion carries. Do you have a further report,
2 Commissioner Andrade?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: That completes this
4 morning's report, Mr. Chairman.

5 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you very much.
6 Moving right along, if there's no objection from
7 Commissioner Salvador, I would like to return to Item
8 Number 7 which is on our agenda which is Other Business,
9 single i.

10 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: And the last shall
11 be first.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: And the last shall be
13 first. I see that Former Commissioner David Cruise has
14 arrived, graced our presence today, as a now-sitting
15 Judge, Magistrate, at Traffic Tribunal.

16 As all of you know, Judge Cruise now has sat on this
17 Board for a number of years. His contribution and
18 participation were invaluable. He was a Commissioner
19 appointed from the Town of Cumberland. He was at the
20 General Assembly in the Senate Office.

21 To maintain our good relationships with the Senate
22 and the House, Dave played an invaluable part, and I

23 would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to him; and
24 I think I speak for the entire Board. In that regard,
25 we do have a Resolution of Appreciation. I would ask

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1 Chairman Andrade to read the presentation.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Thank you, Mr.

3 Chairman. Whereas, R. David Cruise was appointed to the

4 Board of Commissioners of the Narragansett Bay

5 Commission on August 30, 2001 by the Mayor of

6 Cumberland, and whereas, he has shown great support for

7 the Narragansett Bay Commission in its mission to play a

8 leadership role in the protection and enhancement of

9 Narragansett Bay and its tributaries by providing safe

10 and reliable wastewater collection and treatment

11 services to its customers at a reasonable cost, and

12 whereas, he has served on the Narragansett Bay

13 Commission's Finance Committee and was Chairman of the

14 Long-Range Planning Committee and has been an advocate

15 for clean water through a variety of initiatives, and

16 whereas, under his leadership as Chairman of the

17 Long-Range Planning Committee, the Narragansett Bay

18 Commission began the important work of unifying its

19 campus.

20 Now therefore be it resolved that the Narragansett

21 Bay Commission shall extend its sincere appreciation to
22 R. David Cruise for his service on behalf of the State
23 of Rhode Island and the ratepayers of the Narragansett
24 Bay Commission. Presented on June 17, 2009.

25 (AWARD PRESENTATION)

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1 MR. CRUISE: It's a pleasure to be here once
2 again. I can honestly say that I've served on many
3 boards and commissions over the last 20 years, and this
4 Board is a model to all others in the state government.
5 It's a tribute to the professional staff here; it's a
6 tribute to the members of the Board and it's a tribute
7 to the Chairman. It's really a model, and I've been
8 proud to be part of it. I wish you good luck and hope
9 to see you soon.

10 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Not in court.

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Now, the next order of
12 business under Committee Reports, CEO Committee.
13 Chairman Salvadore, do you have a report?

14 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Thank you, Mr.
15 Chairman. CEO met earlier this morning. We have three
16 action items for the Board of Commissioners, the first
17 being Review and Approval of Resolution 2009:19,
18 Recommendation for Approval of Amendment No. 2, Contract

19 01:302.03, RS, Combined Sewer Overflow Phase 1
20 Construction Related Services, and CEO recommends
21 passage, Mr. Chairman.

22 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you. We have a
23 motion to approve Resolution 2009:19. Is there a
24 second?

25 COMMISSIONER MONTANARI: Second.

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1 COMMISSIONER MacQUEEN: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Second, Commissioner
3 Montanari and Commissioner MacQueen. Explanation,
4 discussion, Ray?

5 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Sure, Mr. Chairman. The
6 request is to increase The Louis Berger Group's contract
7 by 250,000 dollars to help us or assist us with two
8 items, both of these are out of scope of their current
9 contract.

10 One is to deal with the odor issues at the end of the
11 tunnel. We're going to install a carbon scrubber
12 system, and this was to do the, to hire the experts and
13 to study exactly what is contained in the odors that are
14 drifting out of the tunnel and how to resolve that.

15 They'll be putting out an RFQP for a design build
16 contract so we can get that in place as soon as

17 possible. That's 125,000, half of the request. The
18 other half is, we asked them to do a study for us which
19 involves the Ernest Street Pump Station and the Tunnel
20 Pump Station and the Field's Point Wastewater Treatment
21 Plant.

22 We have backup generators at each of those locations;
23 in case we lose power, we'd be able to run those
24 facilities, and what we're going to do here in this
25 project is to tie those together, link them together so

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1 that our generator at Field's Point could help run
2 Ernest Street or probably more importantly, vice versa.
3 That will maximize our ability to keep our facilities
4 running. In addition, it improves our situation, but
5 the contract we have with National Grid for the Load
6 Shedding Program, where in times of high use overall in
7 the state or in the region, they'll call us, and they'll
8 ask us to turn on our generators so we can stop using
9 some of the power off of the regular grid in order to
10 meet their other needs.

11 We do get a monthly stipend for that somewhere in the
12 6- or-7,000 dollar-a-month range, plus they pay us for
13 when we actually run the generators. So, this will
14 increase our capacity to meet their load shedding needs

15 and will increase the amount that we can ask for from
16 National Grid. So, it's another way to make our
17 facilities more efficient, more flexible and actually
18 will provide some additional revenue.

19 Also included in that study we're going to install
20 variable speed drives to our pumps at the Ernest Street
21 Pump Station. What that means is right now the pumps
22 are either on or off, either the pumps pump full bore or
23 they don't, and this will allow us to throttle the pumps
24 up and down, depending on the flow needs; and there's
25 also a rebate program for that from National Grid, so

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1 we'll recover part of the cost for installing those
2 variable speed drives through their rebate program.
3 So, overall, it's another efficiency or step that
4 we're taking to make the operation more sensitive to the
5 conditions that we have to operate under. So, we ask
6 for your approval of Resolution 2009:19.

7 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion, and
8 we have a second. Are there any questions, comments
9 regarding the resolution?

10 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

11 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: In such case, all those
12 that are in favor of Resolution 2009:19 will say aye.

13 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

15 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

16 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,
17 and the motion carries. Further report, Commissioner
18 Salvadore.

19 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Our second item,
20 Mr. Chairman, is Review and Approval of Resolution
21 2009:20, Award of Contract 07:705:00C, Central Avenue
22 Pump Station Upgrades, and the Committee recommends
23 passage, Mr. Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We have a motion to
25 pass Resolution 2009:20. Is there a second?

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1 COMMISSIONER MacQUEEN: Second.

2 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Second Commissioner
4 MacQueen, Commissioner Brown. Discussion on Resolution
5 2009:20, Central Avenue Pump Station Upgrade.

6 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

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

9 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Any opposed?

11 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,
13 and the motion carries. Moving along, Commissioner
14 Salvadore.

15 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Our last item, Item
16 C, Review and Approval of Resolution 2009:21, Authority
17 to use the Services of Hansen Information Technologies
18 to Migrate from Version 7.x to Version 8.x. I feel like
19 I'm on Star Trek, and the Committee recommends passage,
20 Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. We have a motion
22 to approve Resolution 2009:21. Is there a second?

23 COMMISSIONER MacQUEEN: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner MacQueen
25 second the motion. I know we had a long discussion

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1 about this earlier. Does anyone have any questions with
2 regard to the services of Hansen Information Technology
3 regarding our upgrades about IT systems? Do we need
4 explanations?

5 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

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

9 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

11 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,

13 and the motion carries. Further report, Commissioner

14 Salvadore?

15 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: That completes

16 CEO's report for Wednesday, June 17, 2009, Mr. Chairman.

17 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you very much.

18 Moving right along to Committee Reports and Action Items

19 Resulting. Personnel Committee.

20 COMMISSIONER CAMPBELL: I have no report.

21 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There was no report.

22 Rules and Regulations Committee. I don't think there

23 was a report.

24 RAYMOND MARSHALL: No report.

25 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Commissioner Thompson,

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1 Long-Range Planning.

2 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: No report, Mr.

3 Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: No report. Citizens

5 Advisory Committee. Harold, do you have a report for us

6 today?

7 MR. GADON: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
8 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Proceed.
9 MR. GADON: The CAC met Wednesday, June 10th
10 with a quorum present. Our own Howard Schacter made an
11 excellent presentation on water conservation, recycling
12 and environmentally competitive material for building
13 use. Howard has helped to develop an upgrade on
14 re-useable water bottles and that it can take water from
15 lakes, rivers and other outdoor sources and make it
16 ready to drink. This should be available in the fall.
17 Jonathan Stone from Save the Bay stated that he will
18 appoint a Save the Bay representative to serve on the
19 CAC. He also said he would be pleased to meet with the
20 Commissioners if requested.
21 I'm still in contact with Johnson & Wales, who
22 continues to develop this area, as to our meeting in
23 their new dining museum in the fall, and to them
24 appointing a representative to the CAC.
25 Jamie announced that a reception for the winners of

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1 the Poster Contest is being held this evening at the
2 Blackstone Valley Tourism Center. Terry Cote, NBC
3 Environmental Engineer, announced a public hearing to be
4 held here on June 24th on the Bucklin Point plan

5 amendments for nitrogen removal improvements. I don't
6 think many attendees are expected.

7 We're off for the summer and will meet again on
8 September 16th. We thank the Commissioner for the
9 refreshments he's serving, and we also think that
10 Heather the stenographer should be complimented on the
11 excellent job she does of compiling the minutes.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Thank you, Harold. The
13 next committee is the Executive Committee. The
14 Executive Committee did not meet. The next committee is
15 the Ad Hoc Committee on Compensation. Commissioner
16 Kimball.

17 COMMISSIONER KIMBALL: No report.

18 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: No report. All right.
19 The next item, Ad Hoc Internal Ethics Committee, is
20 there a report?

21 COMMISSIONER DiCHIRO: No report, Mr.
22 Chairman. We did not have a meeting. I know we've got
23 some issues, but we haven't yet scheduled a meeting.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: No report. The next
25 report is the Legislative Report. I don't think we have

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1 a report, but we do have an update, perhaps. Counselor?

2 MR. D'ANGELIS: The House is taking up the

3 budget. I think everybody's focus is on the budget.
4 The one piece of legislation that we do have a problem
5 with is in House Finance. We're watching to see when it
6 gets posted, and we'll make our position known if it
7 should come up.

8 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. I hear an
9 adjournment is imminent.

10 MR. D'ANGELIS: As soon as they can get out
11 of there.

12 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: In your experience, how
13 long do you think the budget is going to take to pass
14 the House? They're debating it today, aren't they? Are
15 they debating?

16 MR. D'ANGELIS: In Committee today, then it
17 has to be posted for seven days, so passing next week.

18 COMMISSIONER BROWN: I just saw something in
19 the Projo about that.

20 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: All right. Let's see.
21 The next report is the Chairman's Report, and the
22 Chairman doesn't have any report, except to say that
23 we're trying to schedule a meeting, a very brief
24 meeting. We would like to have it in the morning of
25 July 22nd. It seems to be the time that, between 8 and

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1 9 sometime or at 8:00. It seems to be the time that
2 most Commissioners seem to be available. It would be a
3 very brief meeting.

4 This meeting will essentially revolve around awarding
5 the contract for a BNR construction contract. Bids will
6 be opened on July 1st, and it's imperative that we move
7 forward with awarding this contract. There may be one
8 or two very minor issues, nothing substantive, a
9 housecleaning issue that may get on the agenda, but it
10 will be a short meeting.

11 This Board has already approved authorization to seek
12 the bids for a nitrogen removal project. This will
13 simply be to officially award the project.

14 Your packets will be mailed to you, of course, in
15 advance. Anyone who cannot make the meeting of course
16 will have an opportunity to comment on the award. I
17 guess, Laurie, you're going to check to see whether or
18 not Commissioners can monitor and participate in the
19 meeting via telephone, if they care to, and aren't able
20 to make the meeting.

21 Having said that, I would like to ask the
22 Commissioners to please make a note that the meeting
23 will be scheduled for July the 22nd at 8:00.

24 RAYMOND MARSHALL: We'd appreciate it if you
25 could fill out the form that Karen passed out to you

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1 earlier and hand those in to her before you leave. The
2 Chairman has just set the time and date, but in case
3 something comes up and we need to try to find an
4 alternate, we'd really like to have your input on when
5 you can and cannot make it. It would make it
6 significantly easier to pick an alternate date and time,
7 so just write yes or no in the boxes of the next
8 meeting.

9 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Other than that, the
10 Chairman has no further report. Item Number 6 is New
11 Business. Is there any new business to come before the
12 Commission? New business.

13 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

14 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: No new business. Back
15 on Item Number 7, we've already taken care of the first
16 two items. Moving right along to the third item on Item
17 Number 7 is the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce
18 2009 Outstanding Worksite Health Award. Mr. Director,
19 would you care to explain?

20 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. This
21 is a program that we've had in place for several years
22 now, and of course, the goal of it is to help our
23 employees live a healthier lifestyle; and we have a
24 number of different programs from smoking cessation to
25 blood pressure monitoring. We have a number of other

1 dietary-type counseling services, you know, that we
2 provide.

3 And what we did is we submitted our programs to the
4 Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, and this award
5 is sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and through the
6 outstanding efforts of our staff, Cecile Antonelli,
7 Brenda Smith and Toni Horridge, we were chosen for this
8 award. It's not an easy award to earn because not only
9 do you have to have these programs in place, but you
10 have to reach out to your employees to get a certain
11 percentage of them to actually participate in order to
12 quality for the award.

13 So, we have done that, and I would like Cecile,
14 Brenda and Toni to come up here and accept this award
15 for all their hard work and have their picture taken.

16 (AWARD PRESENTATION)

17 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Next order of business
18 is Item Number iv, Dr. Chris Kincaid, University of
19 Rhode Island, with a Presentation of the Narragansett
20 Bay Hydrodynamic Model. Tom, do you want to explain a
21 little bit to the members?

22 MR. UVA: The NBC has been funding a project
23 to track how our pollutants impact Narragansett Bay.

24 Where do they go when they leave our facilities? This
25 is part of, it started as part of the nitrogen

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1 requirements that DEM imposed upon us, and Dr. Kincaid
2 has done some great work for us over the years, and he
3 has some interesting findings to show you the project is
4 still ongoing.

5 This would be an important tool to the NBC, should we
6 ever be required to go to a limit of three, that is, to
7 provide some very interesting data, and we'll,
8 basically, be able to show if we'll see any water
9 quality improvement after spending hundreds of millions
10 of dollars for nitrogen removal at our facilities.

11 RAYMOND MARSHALL: This is a model that we
12 originally envisioned DEM would develop, but because
13 they have limited resources, they weren't able to; and
14 seeing as we have so much at stake, we thought it'd be a
15 worthwhile investment on our part.

16 Dr. Kincaid has agreed to two things this morning.
17 One is that he will not get into the differential
18 equations behind the modeling, and 2, there will be no
19 exam at the end; but I think you'll find it very
20 interesting. He's got some great graphics here, which
21 is what he's going to focus on in his presentation.

22 DR. KINCAID: Do you need me to focus on
23 differential equations or not?

24 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Yes, something like that.

25 DR. KINCAID: As this comes up, I just

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1 wanted to thank the NBC for allowing me the opportunity
2 to talk to you this morning. I'm going to just be
3 talking, just a very quick summary of a number of
4 different things I've been doing with the Bay Commission
5 over pretty much a decade, and I guess the point that I
6 would make is that some of this work has really
7 increased our understanding of how the bay works.

8 If we take it back to the last award that was just
9 presented, if you think of the bay as a living organism,
10 probably what our work is looking at is a blood pressure
11 monitor. I mean, we're trying to figure out how the bay
12 pumps and how it circulates.

13 The other thing that I want to just mention while I
14 have the opportunity is that the work that I've done
15 with the Bay Commission has supported three really
16 stellar students, one is Diana Bergando who is now a
17 professor at the Coast Guard Academy. She would not
18 have been able to finish her Ph.D. without the support
19 from the Narragansett Bay Commission.

20 Nicole LaSota has just defended her thesis, and
21 Justin Rogers finished up a couple of years ago with the
22 support from the Narragansett Bay Commission and is now
23 working for a worldwide leader in environmental
24 consulting. So, I just want to make those points. I'm
25 just going to cover the what, why and where of what

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1 we've been doing.

2 One is we've been collecting data to help drive the
3 models and calibrate the models. So, one of the main
4 things that we do in terms of -- it's called Acoustic
5 Doppler Current Profiler, which are shown here
6 (indicating) and on the side of the ship there.

7 The way these things work is they send out sound
8 waves into the water. So, if you watch the sound waves
9 move forward, the sound waves that go out, they hit
10 particles that are in the water column, and then they
11 get reflected or echoed back to the instrument.

12 So, as long as, if those particles in the water are
13 not moving relative to this instrument, then the spacing
14 of those waves does not change, but if there's motion,
15 then when they turn and echo back, they're scrunched;
16 they're compressed, and the instrument picks that up,
17 and that gives us really detailed pictures of how the

18 water is moving.
19 So, the other thing that we are using is this 3-D
20 hydrodynamic circulation transport called the ROMS
21 model, and that works on a 3-dimensional grid; and I'm
22 not going to go into the details of it; but it
23 basically, discerns or breaks the bay down into a number
24 of tiny little grid boxes, and it solves some very
25 complicated equations to give us circulation and also

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1 the movement of salt and temperature as well as a number
2 of chemical tracer fields. All right, so the why.
3 Well, again, the motivation is water quality and
4 basic health of Narragansett Bay, and we come at it from
5 the angle of the physical processes. How do things like
6 oxygen and nutrient transport get affected by things
7 like tides, winds, discharge and density differences in
8 the water columns?
9 And two basic prophecies we're looking at is, one is
10 flushing hot water from up in these regions
11 (indicating). It gets pushed out of or dragged out of
12 the bay, and the other aspect is the resupply. How
13 oxygenated water gets drawn from the ocean back into the
14 system, and the where.
15 So, I'm just going to show you two quick pieces of

16 data and modeling, and then I'll be done. Again, this
17 just shows, I'm going to show you some data from when we
18 put an ADCP, Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler, on the
19 side of the ship. We drove lines. This is a map view
20 of the Providence River from Gaspee Point all the way up
21 to Field's Point outfall, right here (indicating). The
22 hurricane barrier is up here on this map.
23 So, we define a series of lines, and along each line
24 we drive that ADCP for, basically, 14 hours, so we're
25 out there for a full tide cycle plus two hours on either

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1 side of the tide. So, that gives us a really good
2 picture of what the currents are looking like. We also
3 have data from the Seekonk River. So, this is just
4 showing you what that data looks like.
5 So, this is a cross section along this line going
6 just from pretty much the Save the Bay dock over to a
7 fuel dock over on this eastern side of the river. So,
8 just to orient you, this is distance from the west side
9 of the system over here (indicating), moving over to the
10 east side of the system over here (indicating). On the
11 vertical axes is depth in meters. So, you are viewing a
12 cross section of this estuary looking north, as if
13 you're viewing it to the north.

14 The colors are velocities of the water, so blue
15 colors are water that's moving out of the page at you,
16 so that's water that's ebbing or leaving the system.
17 Red colors are water that's flooding or moving north or
18 into the system, and I'm showing you this picture
19 because we've collected data as I said for summer,
20 winter, spring and fall in four different years; and
21 this is a very basic pattern that we see in this river.
22 This is fundamentally changing the way that we see
23 circulation in systems like the Providence River. It's
24 not a system of uniform in and uniform out with the
25 tides, but it's very strongly structured. It looks like

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1 this. So, the blue water, the outgoing water tends to
2 hug the western side of the shipping channel, and
3 there's a very strong red return flow on the eastern
4 side of the shipping channel.

5 Just to show you, again, here's the outflow in this
6 cross section, and here's the inflow. This same
7 structure, it changes shape with the different seasons
8 and the different stages of the tide winds, but this
9 basic pattern of the outflow clipping or hugging that
10 edge in the shipping channel is very, very robust.

11 The other very interesting thing that we saw is this,

12 in all stages of the tide you see this sort of northward
13 recirculation flow over in this area of the system which
14 indicate to us that there's a dire or an eddy structure
15 there off the Edgewood Yacht Club, Port Edgewood Marina
16 area.

17 So, just to summarize, we see a predominant outflow
18 of water moving out of the system along the western side
19 of the channel and inflow on the eastern side, and we
20 see this sort of retention or circulation gyre there.

21 Just to orient you, the East Providence facility puts
22 out their water into this section of the cross section,
23 and the Bay Commission Field's Point Plant puts out in
24 sort of in this area, but just to the north of where
25 that line was drawn.

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1 Just to move onto the ROMS model, this has been an
2 evolutionary process. We started out with a very small
3 model just looking at the Providence River. We moved
4 into something that my student Justin Rogers did which
5 covered the entire region from the Seekonk River all the
6 way out to a line between Martha's Vineyard and Block
7 Island, down here (indicating), and more recently we've
8 been focusing down on a model that just includes
9 Narragansett Bay, but which is driven by information

10 from the larger model. This allows us to model these
11 regions with much greater grid -- or grid resolution.

12 So, just to show you. This is just a movie showing
13 the surface salinity contours for the year of 2006, and
14 this is from Justin's circulation model that he did in
15 his thesis. The main point, the main reason I show it
16 to you is just to give you an idea of the breadth of
17 this, how far this model extends from all the way out
18 here in Rhode Island Sound, all the way up in here to
19 the Providence River (indicating).

20 So, just to get into what we can do with this model,
21 we use tracers which are little, almost little imaginary
22 or numerical floats that are embedded in our
23 simulations, and we can track these floats; and the
24 thing that's nice about that is that they tag individual
25 pieces of water in our model simulation so that we can

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1 figure out how long it takes to flush water and where it
2 goes when it leaves different subsystems like the
3 Providence River, Mount Hope Bay and Greenwich Bay. So,
4 that's what these colors are, are just the motion of
5 tracers on different stages of the tide -- in years.

6 So, if you were to look at, one the big questions is
7 flushing, how long it takes to flush these areas, how

8 long does it take water to get out, basically. If you
9 use sort of simple estimates that have been done with
10 the old view of how we thought estuaries move, uniformly
11 in and uniformly out with mixing, estimates for the
12 Providence River are between four to five days to flush
13 water, basically, from one end of the system out the
14 other and about ten days for Greenwich Bay.

15 So, what our data is suggesting and our models is
16 that the Providence River does not behave like these
17 simple models are suggesting, and what we're seeing is
18 sort of a bimodal resident's time or flushing rate where
19 we have one aspect of water moving in the channel and
20 then you have these sort of retention zones or eddies.

21 So, this is a movie showing transport of these
22 tracers that are being released from the Field's Point
23 Plant up here (indicating), and they move, this is
24 decimal day for 2006. So, as you see this time moving
25 along here, that's the day, the decimal day for that

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1 year of 2006. Days of 180 are roughly, they're
2 summertime. This is during the summer of 2006, and it's
3 just to give you a sense, it's showing you how particles
4 or pieces of water move from the head of the system down
5 the bay, so to give you an idea of how we can track the

6 motion and flushing of the water.

7 You can see the up-and-down motion is the tides, so
8 that's on a tide cycle, parcels move back and forth, but
9 really what controls where they go over long periods of
10 time are winds and density differences in the flow.

11 So, what we can do is look in sort of subareas of the
12 bay and say, well, how is flushing affected in these
13 parts of the bay for all different rates? So, I'm just
14 going to show you a plot of where we calculate the
15 flushing of these areas which is the time that it takes
16 63 percent of our tracers to exit that water body.

17 This is the chart (indicating). It's a plot of the
18 flushing time on this side, so the large numbers are
19 stagnation. Basically, that's saying that the water
20 does not get out. Low values on the Y axes mean that
21 things flush very quickly.

22 What you're seeing, the X axes are showing you the
23 variation in wind, which I show you in these arrows
24 right here (indicating), so these are sort of south,
25 these are winds blowing to the southwest on this side,

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1 and these are winds blowing to the northeast, which is a
2 typical sea breeze in Rhode Island.

3 And if you were to take sort of the older view of

4 simple models, that black line represents the flushing
5 for the system, which is, basically, it doesn't change.
6 With all sorts of conditions, it's uniformly about 5
7 days for the Providence River, and what our models are
8 showing is that it's not that way.

9 What it is is that it's very strongly influenced by
10 the winds, and one thing that's interesting is that
11 these sea breeze winds tend to increase the flushing
12 times which means that the water tends to stagnate in
13 sort of these sub-regions of the system, and that's what
14 is highlighted right there (indicating).

15 So, I'm just into the last part, and then I'll just
16 be done. So, the models capture basic aspects of the
17 data. They make very strong predictions about flushing,
18 and they identify, I didn't really mention, but Nicole
19 LaSota has put dyes in for all the rivers in the
20 Providence River and all the wastewater treatment
21 facilities, and she's very carefully mapped where all
22 those different dyes accumulate versus get flushed under
23 all sorts of conditions.

24 So, these are what the models are helping us with,
25 but one question that always comes in with numerical

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1 models is, what about what are called the small scale

2 physics? If you remember that 3-D grid box that I
3 showed you earlier of the model, the numerical model,
4 all numerical models have to break your area of interest
5 up into these tiny little boxes, and the better the
6 model, the tinier the boxes; but there's still processes
7 that are going on at the scale of those boxes which the
8 model absolutely can't represent, so we need to use data
9 and other modeling techniques to try to help us
10 understand those small scale processes that we can't
11 represent in the model.

12 So, I just want to end with something that I, I was
13 in Australia on a recent trip last fall, and I was able
14 to borrow one of their flumes, so we built a scaled
15 model of the Providence River -- so what you're doing
16 is, you're looking down at the top of this flume tank
17 which is three meters from this end down to this end
18 (indicating) and it's a meter across.

19 What we're representing, what we're trying to model
20 is this section of the Providence River (indicating) so
21 this part right here is the channel. Field's Point in
22 this model would be here (indicating) Save the Bay dock
23 would be here (indicating) Port Edgewood Marina would be
24 here (indicating), and Edgewood Yacht Club would be
25 there. So, that's sort of what's being shown here.

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1 This is the section that we're doing.

2 So, we're looking at the interaction between the deep
3 shipping channel and a shallow broad shoal, which is
4 where we saw that, where we think we saw that sort of
5 retention gyre.

6 I'm not going to go into the scaling aspects of it,
7 but just very quickly, about 30 cubic meters per second
8 of outflow in the real system equates to about 7 liters
9 per minute of flow from this side of the channel to this
10 side of the channel. We impose that, and we also impose
11 the tides.

12 So, I'm going to show you two movies, one is where we
13 have a 30 cubic meter per second flow coming in from the
14 left, and then the second one is kind of interesting
15 that we have the same sort of flow coming in, but we
16 moved the, I should say on the first one we have a two
17 cubic meter per second outflow from the Narragansett Bay
18 Field's Point Plant, which is located right here
19 (indicating), Field's Point, but in the second movie,
20 the nice thing about these models is you can actually do
21 scenario runs; so we moved the location of the outfall
22 onto the shoals just near the Save the Bay dock,
23 actually.

24 So, here's the movie, and again, you're looking down
25 from the top. This is the channel shown right here, so

1 this is north and this is south (indicating). That
2 broad shoal area is right here, so there's water moving
3 from left to right. You can't quite see it yet because
4 we haven't dyed that outflow, but that's moving at 30
5 cubic meters per second scaled value.

6 We've put in some dye streaks here, and the ones that
7 are interesting, I think, to watch, here on comes, this
8 is, the blue dye field in the outfall, is the 2 cubic
9 meters per second outfall from the Narragansett Bay
10 Field's Point Plant, so now you can see that moving with
11 the flow. But interestingly, is watch these dye pieces
12 over here which are put in, they're marking the lower
13 half of the water column on that Edgewood shoal region.

14 The other thing to keep track of is that down here
15 every 25 seconds represents a day in lab time, so we are
16 cranking through the days. When that gets to 25, that's
17 a day that's gone by, so you can see the movement of
18 these dye streaks is almost nothing. They are
19 completely stagnated.

20 The thing that's interesting is that these black
21 spots are marking the surface flow, so they are tagging
22 where the very surface water is moving on the shoals.
23 So, the things to notice are that that's a very strong
24 surface outflow off the shoals into this region.

25 There's a very slow, diffusive inflow of blue water onto

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1 the shoal area, and this deep part of the shoal,
2 basically, stagnates for 25 to 30 days. It does not
3 ventilate.

4 Now, here's the green. The green is near the end of
5 this experiment. This is the river, basically, coming
6 in from up upstream, and the thing that's interesting to
7 note is that the onflow of green dye is about a factor
8 of 5 to a factor 10 faster than the onflow of blue dye
9 which is coming from the Bay Commission's Field's Point
10 Plant, and then I'll have one more movie, and then I'm
11 done.

12 So, this one is similar, except that now we've moved
13 the location of the Bay Commission's outfall to right
14 here (indicating). There you can see it's right there,
15 so, that will come on in just a little bit, I hope. I
16 think this is the right movie.

17 And just to tell you, just to give you the answer in
18 advance is, one thing that we see is that the energy
19 that's been parted by this outfall is enough to really
20 enhance the, sort of the off-shelf motion of water sort
21 of along this bank and out into the channel.

22 And just on average, we see the flushing rates go up

23 by about a factor of 5 to 10, somewhere in that range.
24 You can see the red material being pulled into this sort
25 of jet that's produced that drives water off the shelf,

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1 and you can see the tide, also the tide cycle. Every
2 time the material moves to the left, that's the incoming
3 tide, and when it moves to the right that's the
4 outcoming tide.

5 But you can see that sort of this dye, red dye
6 material that started out here is most of it's being
7 pulled off. There's a chunk of it right here
8 (indicating) that's being sort of recirculated, but if
9 you watch this over time, you'll see that this dye
10 that's usually, that was trapped in the last scenario is
11 really getting off that shoal much more efficiently.

12 So, the lab models show that small scale processes
13 are very important. We see these eddies that,
14 basically, tilt and stretch along this interface between
15 the channel and the shoal which dominate the exchange in
16 water between the channel and the shoals. We see very
17 long resident times for deep water in this region sort
18 of off the Edgewood Yacht Club dock whereas the surface
19 water gets off very quickly.

20 The thing that's kind of interesting that we see is

21 that the on, sort of the flow of water onto the shoal is
22 more efficient for the water coming in from the river
23 versus the NBC plant, and that's kind of an interesting
24 story for why that happens, but it has to do with
25 structure of these eddies over time.

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1 And the other thing that we found very interesting is
2 that the different scenarios for where that NBC pipe
3 fits produce very different dispersion results within
4 this type of a system. So, that's just a cartoon of
5 what's happening with the, sort of when the plant --
6 produces a flume off the shelf and draws much more
7 efficiently water off the shoal.
8 So, just to leave you with ongoing and planned work,
9 we're putting out, we need to collect better stage and
10 temporal current meter data, and we're going to be doing
11 that, a lot of that this summer. We're using these
12 really novel shallow water floats that are being
13 developed sort of in conjunction between the private
14 companies, URI and the Narragansett Bay Commission to
15 look at tracer paths out in this area this summer, and
16 our new high resolution ROMS model is incorporating sort
17 of all of these results to track where all of different,
18 where the dyes is all the different river sources and

19 all the wastewater treatment facilities end up over
20 time. That's all I have.

21 MR. UVA: Any questions for Dr. Kincaid?

22 MR. GADON: Just one question. Are your
23 studies or data used to determine the tidal flow being
24 suitable for electrical generation?

25 DR. KINCAID: The -- models predict tidal

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1 currents for sure at sort of 50-meter, 30- to 50-meter
2 intervals for all through the bay. So, yes, it predicts
3 tidal flows for sure.

4 VOICE: Thank you, Doctor.

5 RAYMOND MARSHALL: So, what we're hoping is
6 that we can use this information as we move forward
7 dealing with DEM and EPA to determine whether it's worth
8 moving our outfall, going to higher levels of treatment.
9 We now have data that no one else has, and actually,
10 Dr. Kincaid has found some things that no one really
11 knew existed or were happening out there in the bay
12 because it's such a complex issue. So, hopefully, this
13 will save us a significant amount of money in the long
14 run as we move forward under the regulatory process.

15 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any
16 questions? I'm sure everyone understood all of that. I

17 know that it's a very valuable modeling going forward,
18 we know. It's very technical. Thank you very much,
19 Dr. Kincaid for coming today. We appreciate it. Are
20 there any questions, any comments regarding the
21 presentation?

22 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

23 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Okay. Before we move
24 on to Item Number 8, which is Adjournment, I know that
25 you all wish you had one of these last week. I'm told

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1 via Doppler modeling that we're expected to be able to
2 utilize these in the next couple of days. These are,
3 can I open this? Is anybody superstitious? I won't
4 open it all the way.

5 We have for our Commissioners today NBC umbrellas,
6 the logo, you can see it, so before you leave today,
7 make sure that you pick up one of these because I know
8 you're going to need it in the next couple of days. We
9 have them for all of our Commissioners, and we should
10 have had them earlier this week, so on and so forth. Do
11 you want to pick them up or shall I pass them out? Let
12 me pass them out.

13 RAYMOND MARSHALL: Actually, I think this is
14 a good omen. I think it will probably stop raining now

15 that you have the umbrellas.

16 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: So, we have some for
17 all of our Commissioners and our counsel. Does
18 everybody have one? We'll need some for those who are
19 not here today. I know you're hoping that we don't have
20 to use these as much this year. We've had a lot of
21 rain. So, having said that, moving right along to Item
22 Number 8, Commissioner Andrade.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDRADE: Motion to adjourn.

24 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: We do have a motion to
25 adjourn.

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1 COMMISSIONER SALVADORE: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Seconded by I believe
3 the entire Commission. All of those in favor of
4 adjournment will say aye.

5 THE COMMISSION: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: Are there any opposed?

7 THE COMMISSION: (No response)

8 CHAIRMAN MESOLELLA: There are none opposed,
9 and the motion carries. Thank you all very much for
10 coming today. I appreciate your time and your patience.
11 Oh, yes. I'm sorry, the last thing, of course, is,
12 usually before we adjourn for the summer we do have a

13 lunch, and we invite all of the Commissioners to stay.

14 We have a great lunch for you today. I hope you can

15 stay. Thank you.

16 (BOARD MEETING CLOSED AT 12:28 P.M.)

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1 CERTIFICATE

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

8 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand
9 this 9th day of July 2009.

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

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23 DATE: June 17, 2009

24 IN RE: Monthly Board Meeting of the Commission

25 HEARING OF: Narragansett Bay Commission

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