

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING  
OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

**Wednesday, April 30, 2014  
450 Child Street, Boardroom, Warren, RI**

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Pursuant to proper notice, the Board Meeting of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Klepper at 6:00 pm, 450 Child Street, Boardroom, Warren, Rhode Island.

Executive Director Pamela Marchand, Legal Counsel Joseph Keough and the following Directors were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting:

Paul Bishop, William Gosselin, Joel Hellmann, John Jannitto, Allan Klepper, Bradford Louison, Raymond Palmieri, Sr., Frank Sylvia

Directors Absent: Georgina Macdonald

**1. Bernard Weiss**

Chairman Klepper introduced Mr. Weiss.

Mr. Weiss is putting in a sprinkler system and asked the Board if BCWA had an irrigation rate to help homeowners with the cost of the water. The Chairman will take this request under consideration.

**2. Public Input.**

Contract Award – Cleaning & Lining - Maple Ave, Barrington Ave, South St - Barrington

Executive Director P. Marchand – with RI Clean Water Financing we must follow all State and Federal regulations on bids. All the information, including forms to be submitted were provided in the specification package and also discussed at the pre-bid meeting. The low bidder did not submit his MBE form with his bid, as the EPA required, so his bid was rejected.

The Chair recognized Mr. Scott DeMello representing Biszko Contracting Corp. Mr. DeMello stated that the instructions were unclear, the State requires forms that can be submitted 10 days after the bid is submitted. His client disagrees with the interpretation given by BCWA, he complied with all given directions and they were the lowest bidder.

Engineering Project Manager S. Rabideau stated the bid was rejected after receiving guidance from the RI DBE Office and the State SRF Program Manager since the project is being funded through the federal state revolving loan program. The other 2 bidders submitted all of their completed forms along with their bids.

Public Input was closed.

Legal Counsel J. Keough stated that the law is clear on this issue, the forms should have been submitted along with the bid according to EPA.

Director Jannitto made the following motion seconded by Director Gosselin

**MOTION: To Award Maple Avenue Cleaning and Lining Project to W. Walsh Company at a price of \$798,972.09, as presented.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Walsh thanked the Board.

The Chair recognized RIWRB General Manager Mr. Kenneth Burke. Mr. Burke was soliciting support for Articles 5 & 8 on the Pawtucket Pipeline. He will be at the East Providence Council Meeting on May 6 to answer any questions.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Director Jannitto made the following motion seconded by Director Hellmann

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of 3/26/14 Board Meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Director Palmieri made the following motion seconded by Director Gosselin

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of 4/3/14 Special Board Meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **4. Executive Directors Report**

Executive Director P. Marchand – RI Clean Water Finance has become very restrictive as far as their requirements are concerned, so funds will be used for SCADA system and the water main projects listed for 2013.

First quarter samples for TTHM's were much higher than expected for no physical reason, not only for BCWA but other water companies who used the same lab. Chlorine use is at a minimum and water temperatures are cold, which lowers the potential for THM formation. BCWA is challenging the numbers from the lab. Samples were sent to a second lab and the numbers were in a normal range. We will not be in violation if DOH allows us to use an average of both numbers from the two labs.

Flushing Program has begun in Barrington.

### **5. Financial Report**

Finance Manager M. Champagne stated the audit started Monday. Updated Financial Report will be given at the May meeting.

### **6. AWWA Cost Control Initiatives Survey 2013 (Director Palmieri)**

Director Palmieri requested a copy of the AWWA survey.

### **7. Review Pension Plan Performance (Director Palmieri)**

Director Palmieri stated he was concerned BCWA was not meeting their benchmarks as far as performance was concerned.

**8. Posting BCWA Videos to Website (Director Palmieri)**

Meeting videos are posted on-line the Tuesday following the meeting by Full Channel.

**9. RFP Award – Public Relations Services**

The Executive Director is recommending to award the contract to two qualified bidders on an as needed basis. Contract amount will be less than \$10,000 per year.

Director Sylvia made the following motion seconded by Director Hellmann

**MOTION: To award Public Relations Services to Patti Doyle Communications, Inc. and to RDW Group, Inc. for an as needed basis. Contract amount will be below \$10,000 per year.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Director Palmieri had some questions concerning the cost issuance for BCWA bonds. BCWA needs to develop a process or policy of the steps used in obtaining a bond.

Director Palmieri made the following motion seconded by Director Gosselin

**MOTION: That BCWA formulate and adopt a policy based on a governments Financial Officers Association Guideline – best practices and recommendations – for controlling costs of bond issuance.**

Director Sylvia stated that this has been explained in the past.

Chairman Klepper stated BCWA has been following a policy, but it is not a written policy. M. Champagne should meet with the Finance Committee for further discussion.

**Motion failed 2 – 6. Voting Aye Directors Palmieri and Hellmann. Voting Nay Chairman Klepper, Directors Bishop, Gosselin, Louison, Sylvia and Jannitto.**

Chairman Klepper asked that the Finance Committee meet with M. Champagne. The Chairman appointed Director Hellmann to serve on the Finance Committee.

Chairman Klepper presented a list from the Barrington Town Council ‘Removal of BCWA Board Members’

Discussion of Item 5, Insubordination.

**10. Next Scheduled Meeting**

5/29/14 Annual Meeting and Board Meeting to be held at BCWA.

Director Bishop questioned information on the water line protection program to repair or replace the owner’s portion of the water pipe in case of a leak.

Executive Director P. Marchand stated that a contract had been signed with Safety Valve Company and information should be available in the near future.

**11. Adjournment**

Director Sylvia made the following motion seconded by Director Gosselin

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

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Allan C. Klepper  
Chairman