



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**Water Resources Board**

Foundry Office Building, 3rd Floor, Suite 394

235 Promenade Street

Providence, RI 02908

(401) 222-1450 • FAX: (401) 222-1454

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, December 21, 2009 \* 11:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present**

William Penn, Chairman  
Jon Schock, Vice Chair  
Jesse Rodrigues  
Mike Walker\*

**Members Absent**

**Guests Present**

**Staff Present**

Kenneth Burke, General Manager  
Emily Cousineau, Implementation Aide  
Romeo Mendes, Supervising Engineer

\*Member Designee

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Penn called the meeting to order at 11:02am, noting that a quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Schock, to approve the Finance Committee Minutes dated November 16, 2009. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

**REPORTS**

Chief Business Officer's Report

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Schock, to approved the Chief Business Officer's report for November. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

Chief Financial Officer's Report

No report was presented due to the expiration of the State's contract with B & E Consulting, LLC, on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff is currently working to solicit bids from three providers.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

Board Corporate

Payment Requests

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Walker, to approve the B & E Consulting, LLC, Invoice # 820 for \$281.25 (Water Quality Fund). The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Walker, to approve the Bank of New York Mellon, Invoice #252-1437072 for \$1,250.00. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

**DRAFT DISINVESTMENT PLAN FOR BRMA PROPERTIES**

Mr. Mendes and Mr. Burke presented a map of the BRMA properties. The properties were distinguished by tenant type: original, commercial, and regular. The categories are not evenly distributed through the management area. Mr. Burke explained that the Southeastern section has only one original owner; however she no longer lives in the house. The Board could easily accelerate demolitions in this area first. Currently, all

leases are tabled before the State Properties Committee, which would need to approve any disinvestment strategy.

- Mr. Penn asked why the staff is not considering a plan that deals with all the properties at once, instead of in three stages. Mr. Burke explained that the first section has no original owners, while the second has new wells, and the third is more condensed. The Bureau of Audits is looking at the cash flow, which will help decide the rate at which the Board can disinvest.

(11:23am – Mr. Rodrigues enters.)

- The committee discussed the affects that disinvestment could have on local road maintenance, specifically plowing and road closures. Mr. Mendes stated that the connector roads would remain in place. The Cardi Corporation also has legal rights to access the quarry for the life of that area.
- Mr. Schock noted that having several vacancies at once might cause a nuisance. Issues, such as asbestos, would prevent quick removal and cost additional monies. He suggested having a company assess the properties before deciding to vacate all properties at once or in three phases. Mr. Mendes mentioned that a lead inspection had been performed approximately 2 years prior. Mr. Penn instructed Mr. Mendes to look into having the same company return to perform further assessments.
- The committee acknowledged that approximately ten houses are in good condition to be moved off site and put up for sale a surplus property by the state.
- Concerning demolition; Mr. Mendes stated that he had spoken with Kevin Breene, Town Administrator of West Greenwich, and several fire departments are interested in houses for training purposes.
- Mr. Penn requested the staff to make a list of all properties and determine a date-certain to end the leases. That information would likely determine if all the properties can be vacated at once, or if a phase-by-phase process is necessary.
- Mr. Burke concluded that staff would speak with Kevin Breene about road maintenance. He is hopeful that the staff will have a recommended plan to present to the State Properties Committee by February.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** No new business was presented.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Walker, to adjourn the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:52am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Emily J. Cousineau  
Implementation Aide

The meeting place is accessible to the handicapped in conformance with RIGL 42-46-2. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Board office at tel. 401-222-1450, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date. If requested, tapes of the meeting will be made available.