

TO: Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary
Atlantic County Utilities Authority

FROM: Honorable Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Executive

RE: Minutes of Meeting – November 20, 2025

I. The Minutes of the above referenced meeting were submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A 40:41A-37 et seq. on November 21, 2025,

- (a) by the end of the fifth business day following the meeting.
- (b) as soon as practicable following the meeting where emergency action has been taken.
- (c) beyond the statutory period for submission.

II. I hereby return the Minutes of the above referenced meeting to the Authority and to the Board of County Commissioners, on the date set forth above, which is

- (a) within ten days of delivery.
- (b) within twenty-four (24) hours of delivery where the action at the meeting was deemed by the Authority to be in response to an emergency situation.

III. The following action is taken on the Minutes:

- (a) Approved in all respects.
- (b) Vetoed in all respects. A written explanation of the reasons for the veto is attached.
- (c) Approved in part and vetoed in part.
The specific items which are vetoed and a written explanation of the reasons for the veto or vetoes is attached.



Dennis Levinson
Atlantic County Executive



Arthur J. Murray, Assistant County Counsel
Approved as to Form and Entry

Date: 11/25/25

cc: Tara Sliipena, Clerk to the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners

ATTACHMENTS: Minutes
 Veto Message

ATLANTIC COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
November 20, 2025 – 3:00 PM
6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ

PRESENT FOR THE AUTHORITY

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Marvin Embry | Chair |
| Fred Akers | Member |
| Laura Pfrommer | Member |
| Maria Mento | Member |
| Alex Marino | Member |
| Michael Pullia | Member |
| Matthew DeNafo | President |
| Joseph Pantalone | Vice President of Wastewater |
| Gary Conover | Vice President of Solid Waste |
| Linda Bazemore | Vice President of Administration & Finance/CFO |
| James Rocco | Vice President of Centralized Maintenance & Asset Management |
| Thomas Ganard | Chief Engineer |
| Greg Seher | Director of Solid Waste Operations |
| Brittany Poplawski | Senior Systems Analyst |
| Lisa Duffner | Executive Assistant/Board Secretary |
| Sonia Chowdhury | Executive Assistant/Asst. Board Secretary |

ALSO PRESENT

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Stephanie E. Farrell, Esq. | Nehmad, Davis & Goldstein |
| Kaitlynn Flynn | Atlantic County Law Department - Zoom |

James Bertino, Liaison Atlantic County Board of Commissioners - absent

Chairman Embry called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and announced that the notice of the 2025-2026 Meeting Schedule was mailed to the Atlantic City Press, The Daily Journal, the Clerk of Atlantic County, and the Clerk of the Atlantic County Board of Commissioners on February 25, 2025, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6, *et seq.*, and it was posted on the bulletin board of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority in the administration building, and Notice of Live Streaming of this meeting was mailed to the Atlantic City Press, The Star Ledger, the Clerk of Atlantic County, and the Clerk of the Atlantic County Board of Commissioners on October 28, 2025, and both notices were posted on the bulletin board of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority in the administration building.

Flag Salute

Roll call was taken by Lisa Duffner which reflected a quorum was present.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Chairman Embry | present |
| Fred Akers | present |
| Laura Pfrommer | present - Left the meeting at 3:58 p.m. |
| Judy Ward | present - absent |
| Maria Mento | present |
| Alex Marino | present - Zoom - Left the meeting at 3:33 p.m. |
| Mickey Pullia | present |

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2025, MEETING – Voted on and approved by all members.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

PRESENTATION BY MATTHEW DENAFO, PRESIDENT OF THE ACUA:

Chairman Embry introduced Mr. DeNafó, who made a presentation updating the Board on the ACUA's landfill capacity. Mr. DeNafó stated that beginning in the summer of 2023 and up through present day, the ACUA has been working on several different options and solutions regarding landfill capacity. He stated that the best solution, and one that almost everyone wants, is more landfill capacity because this would be the most economical and environmentally responsible solution. Mr. DeNafó stated there are twelve (12) landfills in the State of New Jersey, and they are all limited in their capacity and size. He gave a few examples of what some of the other landfills in New Jersey were doing about this issue. In August of 2023, the ACUA released a Request for Proposals for design consultants to look at different areas of the landfill that could possibly be expanded. The ACUA then hired a consulting engineer in October of 2023, and they started to work on the design and the application regarding what the ACUA could do with the site. The design was completed late this summer and consists of an additional 11 years of capacity (from year 2029 to year 2040), and possibly even longer. Mr. DeNafó then distributed packets to the Board members which contained information on the landfill, along with design drawings. He also showed a slide presentation and explained in detail where the landfill expansion would be, the steps that will need to be taken, and the timeline to complete the project. Chairman Embry asked who was responsible for handling this project for the Authority. Mr. DeNafó responded that this is a team effort. He said the ACUA's Engineering Department has been working diligently on this for the past two years; preparing packages, going over checklists, meeting deadlines, and making sure everything is submitted correctly. In addition, the Solid Waste Department has been working on this project. Mr. DeNafó said that there are six (6) new SWAC members, who have been appointed recently to their Board to allow them to officially hold meetings.

Mr. DeNafó announced that the annual budget meetings with municipalities will begin next Tuesday through December 18th. He thanked Linda Bazemore, Katie Vesey, Erika Kolbe, Justine Stanley, and Sonia Chowdhury for all of their hard work over the past two weeks in preparation for these meetings.

The next subject Mr. DeNafó discussed was regarding healthcare. He stated that if the ACUA had not gotten out of the State Health Benefits Program, they would have seen a 36% increase (approx. \$2 million) in the ACUA's budget for one (1) year. Mrs. Bazemore stated that she is grateful to Mr. DeNafó for having them push ahead to get into a new health insurance program and out of the State's program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Akers moved Resolution 25-11-255 authorizing an Executive Session, which was seconded by Ms. Mento. By a roll-call vote of 5-0-2, the Board unanimously agreed to enter into an Executive Session at 3:34 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 3:56 p.m.

BOARD COMMENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ALL RESOLUTIONS APPROVED.

RESOLUTION COMMENTS:

Resolution 25-11-292: Authorizing the award of a Professional Services Contract for Professional Auditing Services to Mercadian, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, RFP No. 2025-RFP-10. Amount is not to exceed \$58,300.00, for contract term January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026.

Explanation: A resolution to award a Professional Services Contract to Mercadian, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, to be auditors for the 2025 financial statements and 2026 landfill escrow audits, plus ancillary services, if needed.

Chairman Embry asked Ms. Bazemore what the amount was that was paid to the auditors last year. Ms. Bazemore said the auditors for the 2024 Audit were Ford Scott, and the amount they were paid was \$60,000.00.

Resolution 25-11-294: Authorizing payment of certain expenditures: \$7,176,561.98

Ms. Mento recused herself from the vote.

Chairman Embry asked if anyone had any further questions or comments and, since there were none, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary