

TO: Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary
Atlantic County Utilities Authority

FROM: Honorable Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Executive

RE: Minutes of Meeting – May 15, 2025

I. The Minutes of the above referenced meeting were submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:41A-37 et seq. on May 16, 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.

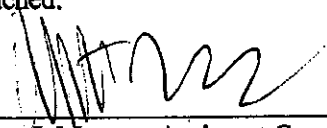
II. I hereby return the Minutes of the above referenced meeting to the Authority and to the Board of County Commissioners, on the date set forth above, which is

- (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:

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

ATTACHMENTS: ☒ Minutes
☐ Veto Message

ATLANTIC COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
May 15, 2025 – 3:00 PM
6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ

PRESENT FOR THE AUTHORITY

Marvin Embry	Chair
Fred Akers	Member
Judy Ward	Member - Zoom
Laura Pfrommer	Member
Maria Mento	Member
Matthew DeNafo	President
Joseph Pantalone	Vice President Wastewater
Gary Conover	Vice President of Solid Waste
Linda Bazemore	Vice President of Administration & Finance/CFO/Acting Board Secretary
John Conover	Deputy Chief Engineer
Brittany Poplawski	Senior Systems Analyst
Lisa Duffner	Executive Assistant/Board Secretary
Sonia Chowdhury	Executive Assistant/Assistant Board Secretary

ALSO PRESENT

Stephanie E. Farrell, Esq.	Nehmad, Davis & Goldstein
Arthur J. Murray, Esq.	County Counsel – Zoom
Ray Tartaglio	ACUA Wastewater Systems Manager

James Bertino, Liaison Atlantic County Board of Commissioners - absent

Chairman Embry called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. and announced that the notice of the 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule was mailed to The Press of Atlantic City, 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 Press of Atlantic City, The Daily Journal, the Clerk of Atlantic County, and the Clerk of the Atlantic County Board of Commissioners on April 23, 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, Board Secretary, which reflected a quorum was present.

Chairman Embry	present
Fred Akers	present
Andrew Berenato	absent
Judy Ward	present - Zoom
Laura Pfrommer	present
Maria Mento	present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING ON April 17, 2025 – voted on and approved by all members.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

On behalf of the Authority, Mr. DeNafo thanked Mr. Ray Tartaglio, Wastewater Systems Manager, who will be retiring as of June 1st, 2025. Mr. Tartaglio was presented with a certificate to show the Authority's sincere appreciation for his 25 years of outstanding service. Mr. DeNafo stated that Mr. Tartaglio is someone who is always available when needed, and his knowledge and skills will be greatly missed. On behalf of the Authority, Mr. DeNafo wished Mr. Tartaglio all the best in his retirement.

Mr. DeNafo stated there would be a presentation made by the Authority's Engineering Department on a \$5.3 million improvement project at the Ventnor-Margate Pump Station, which was done in-house. He then introduced John Conover, Deputy Chief Engineer, who made a presentation on this project. One of the issues that needed to be addressed was that the wet-well was too small, and it needed to be enlarged, which was done. Also, a new roof was added, along with a new fence around the pump station. Chairman Embry asked if vandalism ever occurred there. Mr. DeNafo responded that there have been some issues at other pump stations in the past, but not at this one.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ALL RESOLUTIONS APPROVED.

RESOLUTION COMMENTS:

Resolutions 25-5-128: Authorizing payment of certain expenditures - \$9,339,228.50.

Ms. Mento recused herself from the vote regarding the Retiree State Health Benefits expenses and approved all other expenditures.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS:

Chairman Embry stated that Mr. DeNafo and Mr. Pantalone recently accepted the "Forward-Thinking Wave Award", from the Association of Environmental Authorities of New Jersey for a collaborative pilot project, which the ACUA and PolyGone Systems have been working on. This award recognizes members that adopt successful new approaches or techniques in the use of technology, facility design, or management. Together, the ACUA and PolyGone Systems installed an innovative microplastic removal system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to capture harmful microplastics from treated effluent before it reaches our waterways. Traditional wastewater treatment systems are not designed to remove microplastics. This is the first project of its kind to target microplastics after treatment and, if successful, it could be replicated at other facilities. Mr. Pantalone added that the benefits to the Authority regarding this pilot project are 1) it did not cost the Authority anything to partake in this project; and 2) because microplastics may soon become regulated, the Authority and PolyGone Systems may have found a solution on how to remove microplastics safely and effectively. Chairman Embry asked if there have been any updated reports on this project. Mr. Pantalone replied that there has, and the updates may be found on PolyGone Systems' website. He said that PolyGone Systems has quantitative analysis of how much they are collecting. In addition, they are making presentations on this project at various organizations.

Next, Mr. DeNafo updated the Board on a few items. Regarding the Authority's healthcare benefits, Mr. DeNafo stated that there was a presentation originally planned for today's Board Meeting, and there were five resolutions on the Agenda. However, these were pulled at the last minute since the Authority is still waiting for additional documentation regarding the retiree benefits program. Therefore, the presentation and items regarding healthcare benefits will be on June's Agenda.

The next item Mr. DeNafo discussed was regarding the flows for wastewater and Atlantic City. Mr. DeNafo gave an update on the delay in providing the 14 participants with their final true-up bill for 2024. After approximately 6 months of research and evaluation with Atlantic City Sewerage Company the ACUA has been able to make a final determination on the bill and will be issuing on Friday.

Chairman Embry asked if there were any further questions or comments. Since there were none, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary