

TO: Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary
Atlantic County Utilities Authority

FROM: Honorable Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Executive

RE: Minutes of Meeting – November 21, 2024

I. The Minutes of the above referenced meeting were submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A 40:41A-37 et seq. on November 22, 2024.

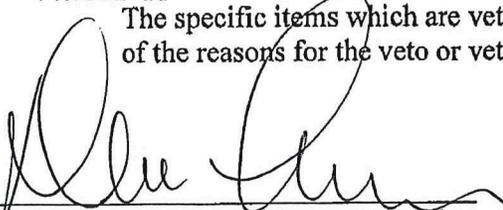
- (a) by the end of the fifth business day following the meeting.
- (b) as soon as practicable following the meeting where emergency action has been taken.
- (c) beyond the statutory period for submission.

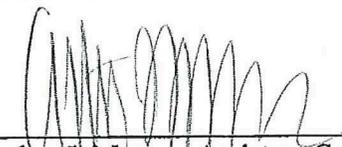
II. I hereby return the Minutes of the above referenced meeting to the Authority and to the Board of County Commissioners, on the date set forth above, which is

- (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: 11/25/24
cc: Tara Silipena, Clerk to the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners
ATTACHMENTS: x Minutes
 Veto Message

ATLANTIC COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
November 21, 2024 – 3:00 PM
6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ

PRESENT FOR THE AUTHORITY

Marvin Embry	Chair
Fred Akers	Member
Andrew Berenato	Member - Zoom
Frank Formica	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
Thomas Ganard	Chief Engineer
John Conover	Deputy Chief Engineer
Katherine Vesey	Director of Finance
Brittany Poplawski	Senior Systems Analyst
Fredy Flores	Computer Analyst
Lisa Duffner	Executive Assistant/Board Secretary
Sonia Chowdhury	Executive Assistant/Assistant Board Secretary

ALSO PRESENT

Keith Davis, Esq.	Nehmad, Davis & Goldstein
Stephanie E. Farrell, Esq.	Nehmad, Davis & Goldstein - Zoom
Arthur J. Murray, Esq.	County Counsel – Zoom
Harvey Coccozza, CPA, RMA	Partner - Ford Scott & Associates
John Barone	Member of the Public

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 2023-2024 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 17, 2023, 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 Daily Journal, The Clerk of Atlantic County, and the Clerk of the Atlantic County Board of Commissioners on October 25, 2024, 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	present - Zoom
Frank Formica	present
Judy Ward	absent
Laura Pfrommer	absent
Maria Mento	present

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING ON October 17, 2024 – voted on and approved by all members.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel/Benefits Report - Ms. Mento stated that the ACUA is currently hiring and filling many positions. She stated that the union voted on a new contract, which is good news, and that Mr. DeNafio and Ms. Bazemore will report on this at the appropriate time. She also mentioned that there is an item on this month's agenda regarding short-term disability.

Solid Waste Report - Mr. Akers stated that he wanted to make a comment regarding the siting of the ACUA Landfill. He said he has lived in Atlantic County for 60 years. Back in 1986, he said the State and Atlantic County had a study done on the siting of the landfill, and Mr. Akers said he happens to have a copy of the report regarding this. He said not many people seem to know about this. Within the report, under "Project History" it states the following: "The New Jersey Solid Waste Management Act, N.J.S.A. 13:1e-1 etc., as amended by Chapter 326, Laws of 1975, designated Atlantic County as a Solid Waste Management District, thus making the Atlantic County Government responsible for Solid Waste Management Planning." Mr. Akers said that what this means is Atlantic County and its Board of Commissioners at that time accepted the State mandate that the County would be the Solid Waste Management Plan entity. Mr. Akers then read another excerpt from the report, "The objective of the resource recovery facility site selection process is to examine data pertinent to Atlantic County in order to locate, on the basis of predetermined criteria, a preferred site and several alternatives where conditions are suitable for the development of a facility able to process approximately 750 tons of municipal solid waste per day." Mr. Akers said it was a process to pick this site and, out of the nine sites that were proposed, these were narrowed down to three sites. At that time, they also looked at the number of residents within a one (1) mile radius of their three (3) preferred sites, and it was ultimately determined that, "The Doughty Road site has only about 300 residents within a 1-mile radius of the site because the population concentration of Pleasantville is just beyond 1 mile from the site." Mr. Akers said he wanted to emphasize that it was the Atlantic County Government that chose this site back in the late 1980s. However, it does not seem like our current State representatives or County representatives know what their responsibilities are, nor do they seem to know the history regarding this.

Chairman Embry thanked Mr. Akers for reporting this and for the great information he provided the Board, and Ms. Mento agreed.

AUDIT PRESENTATION - 2023 AUDIT REPORT

Ms. Bazemore introduced Mr. Harvey Coccozza, CPA, RMA, and Partner with Ford Scott & Associates, to the Board, stating they performed the 2023 Audit and Mr. Coccozza would be reporting on this. Mr. Coccozza then went over the report and stated that there were no findings or comments regarding the Authority's 2023 Audit. Mr. Coccozza asked if there were any questions. Ms. Mento asked why the Solid Waste and Wastewater OPEB were the same, and Mr. Coccozza explained that it is different every year, but for year 2023, the allocations were 50% Wastewater and 50% Solid Waste. Mrs. Bazemore thanked Mr. Coccozza for his report and also thanked the ACUA's Director of Finance, Katie Vesey, and her staff for all of their hard work and the time that it took to prepare for the audit.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ALL RESOLUTIONS APPROVED.

RESOLUTION COMMENTS:

Resolution 24-11-254: Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement between the Atlantic County Utilities Authority and the Cumberland County Improvement Authority for CNG Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance, for CNG Fuel and Use of Office Space in Conjunction with a Cumberland County Municipality Collection Contract.

Explanation: Amount is not to exceed \$331,788.00 over the one (1) year term of the agreement, from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, with the option to renew for one (1) additional year.

Chairman Embry asked if the CNG Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance were done by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority's mechanics, and Mr. Conover responded that they are.

Resolution 24-11-280: Authorizing payment of certain expenditures. \$7,821,572.17

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

Mr. Formica recused himself from the vote regarding payroll and Active State Health Benefits expenses and approved all other expenditures.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. John Barone introduced himself to the Board. He said he worked for Enviro Power Renewable, and they submitted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to the ACUA and have not heard anything. He was wondering when they could expect the results of their submission. Mr. DeNafo responded by stating that the ACUA is following the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, which includes getting approval first from the Office of the State Comptroller before it can go out for RFP. Mr. Barone said he understood and thanked Mr. DeNafo and the Board for their time.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Duffner, Board Secretary