

PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF
JANUARY 21, 2015
(OPEN SESSION)

C O M M I S S I O N E R S P R E S E N T :

CHRYSTAL A. CLEAVES, President

RIGO SANCHEZ, Vice President (Absent)

MENACHEM BAZIAN, Treasurer

THOMAS P. DeVITA, Secretary

GLORIA KOLODZIEJ

JEFFREY LEVINE

RUSSELL GRADDY

A L S O P R E S E N T :

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, ESQ., Counsel (Absent)

YAACOV BRISMAN, ESQ., Assistant General Counsel

JAMES G. DUPREY, Director of Engineering

JAMES J. GALLAGHER, Personnel Director

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

1 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: All right. We have
2 a quorum. The clock has chimed. I'm going to
3 call our meeting to order.

4 After the fag salute, I would ask that we
5 honor a moment of silence for the victims of
6 terrorist attacks in France, please.

7 MR. AMODIO: Roll call.

8
9 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
10 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
11 Levine is not present yet and Commissioner Sanchez
12 is absent)

13
14 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

15 The time is 12:00 noon.

16 All of the requirements of the Open Public
17 Meetings Act have been met. Notices have been
18 furnished to all Commissioners; City Clerks of
19 Paterson, Passaic, and Clifton; North Jersey
20 Herald News; The Record - Passaic County edition
21 and the Commission's Executive Staff with a copy
22 posted at the main bulletin board at the Clifton
23 facility.

24 We also have Yaacov Brisman, who is
25 Assistant Counsel sitting in today.

1 If everyone will please rise.

2 Commissioner Kolodziej.

3

4 (Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of
5 Silence)

6

7 MR. AMODIO: I believe we have members of
8 the public.

9 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Before we open the
10 floor to the public, just a few housekeeping
11 things as my last time in the chair here.

12 First of all, I would like to welcome Mr.
13 Brisman to our legal staff.

14 MR. BRISMAN: Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Your expertise and
16 your reputation precedes you and we're very lucky
17 to have you aboard. Thank you very much.

18 MR. BRISMAN: Thank you very much and I
19 appreciate that and thank you to the Commissioners
20 for your vote of confidence.

21 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Don't screw up.

22

23 (Whereupon, Commissioner Levine is present
24 at 12:10 p.m.)

25

1 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Only another
2 attorney would say that. The rest of us are good.

3 I also would like to take the opportunity,
4 I'm sure most of you know that Karen Murray will
5 be leaving us next Friday, a wonderful 20-year
6 employee of our organization here. She's been our
7 first line. If you call personnel, she's the one
8 that's smiling. She's the one that's following
9 through and she's going to be sorely missed.

10 So if you have a chance to wish her well
11 between now and next Friday, please take the time
12 to do that.

13 And on a sad note, you all know that our
14 stenographer Lynann has lost our her dad. It was
15 rather sudden so it's created quite a lot of
16 stress in the family. But, Lyn, you know we're
17 all with you and anything you need from us, please
18 let us know.

19 All right. Now we're ready for the
20 public. So you know the rules: Five minute
21 speaking time limit. Just give your name, for the
22 record, please, and go from there.

23 MR. LINTERIS: Okay. Thank you.

24 Good afternoon. My name is Bill Linteris
25 representing Passaic County Board of Realtors.

1 First, let me wish everyone here a very
2 Happy New Year.

3 As we start off this new year in 2015, I'm
4 encouraged and optimistic with how 2014 ended on
5 the issue pertaining to potential draining of and
6 replacement with concrete tanks of the Levine, New
7 Street, and Great Notch Reservoirs in Paterson and
8 Woodland Park. As we all know, 2014 ended on a
9 high note regarding the possibility to save the
10 Levine, New Street, and Great Notch Reservoirs.
11 This Commission met with the public through the
12 meetings held in Paterson and Woodland Park. The
13 DEP and EPA came to Passaic County to explain this
14 issue to the residents here and most importantly,
15 the Passaic Valley Water Commission expressed the
16 willingness to look at alternative solutions to
17 draining the reservoirs and replacing them with
18 concrete tanks, even supporting resolutions
19 seeking an extension of the Consent Order entered
20 into with the DEP.

21 In addition, numerous elected officials at
22 all levels of government express their support to
23 save these reservoirs as well.

24 Now that we are in 2015, the question is:
25 What's next? Where do we go from here? How can

1 Passaic Valley Water Commission on this issue
2 moving forward and I thank you for your time
3 today.

4 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Mr. Shapiro.

5 MR. SHAPIRO: No comment.

6 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Miss Van Savage.

7 MS. VAN SAVAGE: No comment really. I'm
8 just here also as a Director of Passaic County
9 Board of Realtors.

10 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Anyone else from the
11 public wish to speak?

12 Hearing none, may I have a motion to close
13 the public meeting?

14 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So move.

15 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Second?

16 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

17 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: All right. Hearing
18 none, let me address Mr. Shapiro.

19 We had a meeting of our special
20 improvements committee the other day and we made
21 it perfectly clear to Mr. Bella that we expect to
22 have something in writing from the State as to
23 what our next step will be. Everything is in
24 their hands now so we're in a timeout. I love
25 that word. So we have both the DEP and the EPA in

1 charge and we have directed our director to let
2 them know that whatever their next step is going
3 to be for us, we expect it to be in writing. As
4 soon as we get that, then we as a Commission will
5 address their recommendation.

6 As I understand it, anything that comes
7 forward for them is not a mandate anymore. The
8 mandate itself is to cover the reservoirs. But,
9 you know, they have some ideas as to how we should
10 proceed during the time that we are waiting. So
11 that's it.

12 I'm glad that you mentioned the lower
13 cost. This Commission has already spent close to
14 \$70,000 to have a thorough vetting of the three
15 alternate sites that were given from the public
16 hearings that we've been having over this last
17 year. You have a copy of that, so you're welcome
18 to read it. Nothing's changed there. It is what
19 it is. The cost is what it is.

20 I believe we had said to Mr. Bella, the
21 gentleman who generated the publicity, certainly,
22 the special improvements committee has an open
23 invitation for him to come to that committee first
24 to make his presentation after which we would make
25 a recommendation to the group as a whole. But so

1 far we haven't heard from him. He's already met
2 with Mr. Bella. But, you know, he's not given us
3 any indication as to whether he intends to follow
4 through with anything from us.

5 I apologize for my voice. I have a
6 terrible cold. It's going to sound like this,
7 very raspy.

8 That brings us to our regular order of
9 business.

10 MR. AMODIO: We have approval of the
11 December 17th, 2014, in camera and regular session
12 minutes.

13 Do I have a motion?

14 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: So moved.

15 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

16 MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner
17 Graddy.

18 Second by Commissioner Cleaves.

19 On the roll.

20

21 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
22 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
23 Sanchez is absent)

24

25 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

1 Next: Does the Chair accept, receive, and
2 file miscellaneous purchase orders placed on
3 December 8, 2014, to January 11, 2015, from Buyer,
4 Linda Beckering.

5 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Yes.

6 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

7 Move onto Summary of Disbursements and
8 Payrolls through January 21st, 2015, in the amount
9 of \$6,901,150.04.

10 Would the Treasurer like to make a motion?

11 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.

12 MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner
13 Bazian.

14 Do I have a second?

15 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Second.

16 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Graddy.

17 On the roll.

18
19 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
20 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
21 Sanchez is absent)

22
23 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Abstain on Rachles
24 Michele.

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Abstain on APV and

1 Dell.

2 MR. AMODIO: Okay. I shall turn over to
3 General Counsel.

4 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Mr. Brisman, it's
5 all yours now. My last official duty is to turn
6 it over to you. So come on up here.

7 MR. BRISMAN: Again, I second my
8 sentiments from before. Thank you. It's an honor
9 to be here. Mr. Hanley left me the enviable task
10 of being here at the reorganization meeting as my
11 first meeting. So please forgive me if anything
12 is not as it has been in prior years.

13 At this time, it is the time to ask for
14 nominations for President for the next year.
15 We'll open the floor to nominations.

16 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Mr. Counsel, I would
17 like to place a nomination, a young lady that I
18 met recently but I've gotten to respect her.
19 She's intelligent and I think she will be, as our
20 outgoing President, a good President for the
21 Passaic Valley Water Commission in the year of
22 2015. I'm placing the nomination to Crystal
23 Cleaves as the next President.

24 MR. BRISMAN: That nomination is so noted.
25 Do we have any other nominations?

1 Is there a second?

2 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.

3 MR. BRISMAN: Are there any other
4 nominations?

5 We will close the nomination process
6 seeing no other nominations.

7 At this time we'll ask for a roll call.

8
9 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
10 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
11 Sanchez is absent)

12
13 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Yes, proudly.

14 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Absolutely.

15 MR. BRISMAN: Congratulations.

16 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Congratulations,
18 Madam President.

19 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Thank you.

20 MR. BRISMAN: At this time we will accept
21 nominations for the office of Vice President for
22 the year 2015.

23 Is there anyone that would like to make a
24 nomination?

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. Counsel, if I

1 may? I'd like to place a nomination of my
2 colleague, Commissioner Rigo Sanchez, to be Vice
3 President of the Commissioner.

4 MR. BRISMAN: As has been noted,
5 Commissioner Sanchez is not here. Do you have his
6 consent to serve if he is indeed elected?

7 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Yes, I do.

8 MR. BRISMAN: Okay. Do I have a second
9 for that nomination?

10 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: I second.

11 MR. BRISMAN: Okay. Do we have any other
12 nominations for the office of Vice President?

13 Hearing none, we will close the nomination
14 process and I will ask for a roll call.

15
16 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
17 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
18 Sanchez is absent)

19

20 MR. AMODIO: Okay.

21 MR. BRISMAN: It is time for nominations
22 for the office of Treasurer for the year 2015 and
23 the floor is open for nominations.

24 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Mr. Counsel, I'd
25 like to nominate Commissioner Bazian for

1 Treasurer.

2 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Second.

3 MR. BRISMAN: Okay. Do we have any other
4 nominations for Treasurer?

5 Seeing no additional nominations, I'll ask
6 for a roll call vote.

7
8 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
9 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
10 Sanchez is absent)

11
12 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

13 MR. BRISMAN: Congratulations.

14 For the final office, we have the office
15 of Secretary and the floor is open for
16 nominations.

17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. Counsel, I'd
18 like to place a nomination for Commissioner Tom
19 DeVita from Clifton, my colleague to my left.

20 MR. BRISMAN: Okay. Do we have a second
21 for that nomination?

22 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: I'll second it.

23 MR. BRISMAN: Okay. Do we have any other
24 nominations for the office of Secretary?

25 Hearing none, I'll ask for a roll call

1 vote on the nomination.

2

3 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
4 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
5 Sanchez is absent)

6

7 MR. AMODIO: Congratulations.

8 MR. BRISMAN: At this time it appears my
9 duties are pretty much over other than to
10 congratulate everyone that was elected and to ask
11 for remarks -- oh, my duties are not yet over.

12 MR. AMODIO: If all of the officers please
13 come up.

14

15 (Whereupon, Commissioner Cleaves is sworn
16 to the office of President; Commissioner Bazian
17 affirms to the office of Treasurer; Commissioner
18 DeVita is sworn to the office of Secretary)

19

20 MR. BRISMAN: At this time, I will ask if
21 any outgoing officers would like to make any
22 remarks or any remarks from the incoming officers.

23 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: First of all, I
24 would like to thank all of you for a really
25 fantastic year. We've managed to put together a

1 lot of work in regard to the business end of our
2 obligations, but I think we also made a giant leap
3 forward in our ability to communicate with the
4 public. I feel that the officers that we've
5 elected are going to do a fantastic job and I
6 would just ask the same cooperation that you gave
7 me and the chairs and committees you served on
8 will be given to the new officers so they can
9 appreciate the value of everybody that sits around
10 this table.

11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: I'd like to take a
13 chance to commend Commissioner Kolodziej for the
14 job she did last year. It was not an easy year to
15 be President of Passaic Valley Water Commission.
16 I think she handled it well. She had a lot of
17 meetings, a lot of discussions. I think it all
18 went well. And I know she put a lot of time and
19 effort and a lot of personal issues that got
20 involved that she never let interfere and we all
21 owe her a thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Madam President, if
23 I may?

24 I would like to echo what Commissioner
25 DeVita said. My father always taught me, it's no

1 trick to be good when things are going your way
2 and everything is easy. It's when times are tough
3 and things are tough and you maintain the
4 professionalism and you get the job done that
5 actually shows the metal of the person. And I
6 would like to commend and thank Commissioner
7 Kolodziej for her leadership this past year.

8 I know that every year has its challenges.
9 Certainly, this year will have its challenges.
10 But I also want to congratulate our new President,
11 Commissioner Cleaves. And I wanted to give you my
12 true wishes for the best of luck and I'm sure that
13 I speak for not only myself but for everybody
14 around this table to say that anything that we can
15 assist you in your task and we will work as a team
16 to bring this Commission forward and to keep
17 things as best we can for the public and most
18 importantly our customers.

19 Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Anyone else?

21 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: I would just like to
22 say, of course I came in the middle of the year,
23 but I learned soon to respect our President. I
24 thought she did a fantastic job. There was some
25 turbulent times and I know she's going to look

1 forward and still use that knowledge to see that
2 Passaic Valley Water Commission succeeds going
3 forward.

4 Thank you.

5 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Well, I'd like to say
6 to all of the Commissioners, thank you for your
7 vote of confidence in me and if I could do half
8 the job that Commissioner Kolodziej did, then I
9 will be proud of myself and you all will be proud
10 of me, because I think you did a yeoman's job.
11 And I think as a Board if we continue to work
12 collaboratively together and communicate with each
13 other regardless of what comes our way in the near
14 future, if we think and act as a Board and as a
15 unit and not as individuals, we will be successful
16 in making sure that of all of our towns are
17 represented properly and that we give them the
18 respect that they deserve, therefore, them giving
19 us the respect we deserve.

20 So I thank you again for your vote of
21 confidence in me. I look forward to working with
22 all of you very closely. And let's put on our
23 running shoes and let's keep this ball rolling.

24 Thank you again.

25 MR. AMODIO: If I may?

1 Commissioner Sanchez just called. He
2 apologizes, he's having problems with his phone.
3 But he thanks everyone for voting for him and
4 he'll definitely be here for the next meeting and
5 hopefully bring some good weather back.

6 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Thank you.

7 So now we will continue with our committee
8 reports.

9 Personnel. That would be me.

10 The personnel committee did meet last week
11 and there is nothing pressing that we discussed in
12 the personnel meeting.

13 We do have one recommendation on the
14 agenda for today. And, again, as Commissioner
15 Kolodziej mentioned, you know, we're losing a
16 pillar of education here in our Personnel
17 Department, so if we all can just take a moment
18 out of our busy schedules just to tell her thank
19 you and that we appreciate all of the hard work
20 that she's given this Commission over the years, I
21 think it would do her heart good.

22 That's it for personnel.

23 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I think it's
24 appropriate to raise a question here. I know that
25 we're not going to be, it's listed for closed

1 session, but the position, we are voting on
2 somebody to replace Karen?

3 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Is that a
5 classified or nonclassified position? I see the
6 title, but I'm not sure if it's a classified or
7 nonclassified.

8 MR. BRISMAN: It is a classified.

9 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: It's a classified
10 position. So I'm just trying to think at some
11 point in time do you have to call a test for this
12 if it's a classified position?

13 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Are you sure it's
14 classified?

15 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Where's Jim?

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I just need the
17 answer. I don't intend to vote no, but I think
18 that needs to be clarified. I believe
19 Commissioner DeVita who sits on that committee
20 said you looked at 25 applications.

21 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: By far, his
23 comment was this particular candidate was head and
24 shoulders. So I'm not focusing on the candidate,
25 I'm focusing on the process and whether we are

1 dealing with a classified or a nonclassified
2 position and I don't need the answer today.

3 MR. AMODIO: Finance.

4 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Finance.

5 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The only thing I
6 wanted to bring out was we began a discussion,
7 continued a discussion, I should say, with regards
8 to the overtime. This is something that the
9 finance committee has been looking at for several
10 years. We're continually refining the information
11 that finance is giving us and I want to thank Yitz
12 for his cooperation and all the efforts he's done
13 on that score.

14 We noted that as of the end of last year
15 we are down, a little bit under \$500 from the
16 prior year in terms of expenditures in overtime.
17 However, there has been, in terms of the number of
18 hours, approximately, a 33 percent increase in
19 terms of the number of hours. We've asked our
20 Executive Director to look into that and to come
21 back to us; where are these hours being utilized?
22 Are they due to main breaks? Because last year
23 was a pretty bad winter. Are they due to
24 projects?

25 Certainly, when the number is so close and

1 the hours are so disparate, especially, given the
2 changes that happen in terms of the elimination of
3 double time, this is something that bears
4 investigation and it is something that the finance
5 committee is going to be paying very, very close
6 attention to in 2015. The goal, of course, being
7 that we save money, not that we get more overtime
8 and the same money. And that's something, again,
9 that we're going to be keeping a close eye on.

10 That's it.

11 Did I miss anything?

12 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: No.

13 I just wanted to add, we go through a lot
14 of effort to put policies down on the books and
15 Commissioner Bazian is a really great Chair
16 because he really is down to the detail work. But
17 my concern at our meeting was: We have a policy
18 in place for authorizing overtime. So, obviously,
19 if we continue to look at this, the people that
20 are signing off on this overtime as per our
21 requirement, they will be the ones that will have
22 to answer to all of us, you know, when we get down
23 to the nitty gritty if it's anything besides main
24 breaks. So I just want to be sure to put that on
25 the record about our policy being followed.

1 MR. AMODIO: IT.

2 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Nothing to report.

3 MR. AMODIO: Legal affairs.

4 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: No report other than
5 Yaacov.

6 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Actually, may I go
7 back to IT? I'm sorry. There is something to
8 report. We didn't have a meeting, but when we cut
9 over to the new website, it seems like not
10 everything cut over exactly. Correct?

11 As a systems professional, I can tell you
12 no systems changeover is totally without hitches.
13 There was a couple. There were some documents
14 that should have been in there that we had said
15 would be in there that unfortunately, were missed.
16 I communicated it to Mr. Duprey when it came to my
17 attention. Jim worked with the vendor and he has
18 reported to me this morning that all that is taken
19 care of.

20 I encourage the Commissioners to look at
21 the website. There's a lot on the website.
22 There's a lot there. If anything doesn't look
23 quite right, please let us know. The more people
24 that look at this, the more people that look at it
25 critically, the better it is for everybody so that

1 we can try as best we can.

2 I personally went through all of the
3 public information, every single link and sent a
4 rather long list. So take a little section and
5 look at it and see what looks right and if it
6 doesn't, please let us know. That would be very
7 helpful.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. AMODIO: Special projects.

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'm going to ask
11 Joe to comment on this because there were two
12 items that were of importance that we got briefed
13 on. One of them is on our agenda today which is
14 to reject a bid. But I think what would be of
15 interest to the Commission today is the project
16 that will be piloted in Lodi and what our goal is
17 in regard to the changes of the water meters.

18 MR. BELLA: Well, our water meters are now
19 starting to get to the age where they need to be
20 replaced because "meters slippage" it's called.
21 Basically, the meters will start to run slower.
22 And so what we intend to do is to turn that, when
23 we do that, we go to a new technology where the
24 meters will be read automatically and we want to
25 pilot that because our oldest meters are in Lodi.

1 So we want to pilot that in Lodi, about 4,000,
2 5,000 meters and pilot the new technology and see
3 how it works and get a feel.

4 The important thing with this technology
5 is: Number one. We'll be able to do leak
6 detection so these meters will actually tell us if
7 there's leaks.

8 Also, you can read the meters much more
9 frequently so that you can start to tell, like, if
10 people have leaks in their house, so you can
11 notify them and say: Hey, look, you're using way
12 more water than you normally do, you better check
13 and see. So that would be something for the
14 customer.

15 And the other thing, you just don't have
16 to bother people getting in and out of their
17 house.

18 And coupled with some other new
19 technologies that our software has, is going to
20 provide us is, we'll be able to bill people
21 electronically, save on mailing costs, and we can
22 bill people on a monthly basis if they want to.
23 Some people want to be billed monthly and we can
24 be able to do that and do that cost effectively.

25 So this first project we will start to

1 budget for this year. We'll start that probably
2 in around, as soon as we get the meter contract
3 done. And what we'll do is phase in our whole
4 system over three to four years where we're
5 replacing these meters as they get older, as they
6 reach their, you know, replacement age, then we'll
7 just replace them. So that will happen over the
8 next four years.

9 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: All of them?

10 MR. BELLA: That will happen over the next
11 four or five years.

12 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Commissioner
13 Bazian will be watching it very carefully because
14 he wants to do a cost comparison after this pilot
15 program to make sure we will wind up with saving
16 dollars for the Commission.

17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: We actually had a
18 discussion in the finance committee about the cost
19 savings. Please correct me if my memory is wrong
20 but I seem to recall we had said it was about a
21 three to four year potential payback in terms of
22 the difference between the expected costs of going
23 with the automated, with these new electronic
24 meters, as opposed to what we're doing now.

25 MR. BELLA: It's hard to say right now

1 until we start pulling the meters and see what the
2 slippage rate is. But I would say, you know, four
3 or five year payback would be... The other thing
4 is we don't have to pay people, the meter readers.
5 The meter reading contract will eventually go away
6 so we can pay back in three or four years just in
7 that.

8 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: That was my point.

9 MR. BELLA: Yes. There was a whole bunch
10 of other efficiencies that were piled on top of
11 that.

12 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Madam President,
13 just speaking as technologist, the most efficient
14 way to gather data is to have the device report
15 the data directly to the receiving location. If
16 that is indeed how this works out that the meters
17 are going to automatically send the data to us,
18 that is the best way. We don't miss readings. We
19 don't have to deal with estimates. And it also
20 has the greatest potential to eliminate errors in
21 the data.

22 So I for one am very much looking forward
23 to see how the pilot program works out.

24 What's the estimated cost of the pilot
25 program? Do you know?

1 MR. BELLA: It's about, I think, 800,000.
2 Depends on how many antennas we have to put out
3 there.

4 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: How does this affect
5 personnel?

6 MR. BELLA: Well, it doesn't affect so
7 much because we outsource our meter readers now so
8 we just won't have that contract. That's about a
9 million and a half dollars every other year to do
10 the meter readings.

11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: So we will still
12 need somebody inhouse?

13 MR. BELLA: If there's a meter that's not
14 running, right. We'll do final readings.

15 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Let me give you a
16 hypothetical. Let's assume that the water meter,
17 we know the range is at a low based on the season.
18 We go to read the meter and it's using much more
19 water than usually, how do we handle that?

20 MR. BELLA: Well, what we do is, you know,
21 on our bill we can, right now what happens is we
22 have a little usage thing on our bill and people
23 are able to look at that and say: Geez, I'm using
24 a lot more water. I used, you know, a thousand
25 cubic feet last quarter and now I'm using 3,000.

1 They'll see that and they'll report that to us.

2 With this new system, we'll be able to
3 read them more frequently. So before a whole
4 quarter goes by we'll be able to notify the people
5 that they're using an unusual amount of water.
6 Now, they might have an explanation saying: You
7 know, my kids all came home. They all moved back
8 in now.

9 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: But we do monitor
10 it? So a customer will be --

11 MR. BELLA: Yes, with the new software.

12 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: We have a person
13 that picks up that information and responds to it?

14 MR. BELLA: That's right. With the new
15 software, we'll really be able to manage that and
16 it should be installed in the next couple of
17 months.

18 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Just one other
19 comment. I don't see it on the agenda so maybe
20 you didn't want to discuss it today, when will we
21 be discussing the opportunity that the State has
22 given us to use HUD funding for some of our
23 projects?

24 MR. AMODIO: It is listed.

25 MR. BELLA: That's the next thing.

1 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: All right. So I
2 think you should explain that now because it's an
3 exciting opportunity for us, in my opinion, as
4 well as acknowledgement of the competence and
5 integrity of our staff that we would even be
6 offered this.

7 So, Joe.

8 MR. BELLA: The phase of Phase 1 which is
9 what we call Phase 2 of Phase 1 is the standby
10 generators; probably, a \$20 million project. What
11 they've asked us to do is postpone that for about
12 three months because they're hoping to get us some
13 different types of financing which I think would
14 be very advantageous for us. They will be able to
15 get some low cost loans, or not even low cost, but
16 zero interest loans. We'll be able to get some
17 principal forgiveness which it's hard to say
18 exactly what that is at this stage of the game,
19 but it's much more than we would have thought.
20 And then there's some fees that are pretty
21 substantial that they're willing to deal with. So
22 that will be very good and I think it's worth our
23 while to hold off for the three months before we
24 go out to bid.

25 We're ready to go out to bid with that

1 right away. We want to get out to bid as fast as
2 possible because the standby generators are a
3 really important piece of having, you know, very
4 reliable delivery to our water.

5 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Commissioner
6 Graddy will bear testament to the fact that part
7 of the caveat of accepting HUD funds is that the
8 contractor who will get the job will have to hire
9 a certain percentage of people who are low income
10 as well as veterans. So it's a win-win situation;
11 financially for us and putting people to work that
12 really need to work. So it's exciting and a
13 compliment to all of you, I believe, that they
14 would offer that to us.

15 MR. AMODIO: Commissioners, we have Howard
16 Eichenbaum here, Bond Counsel.

17 Howard, if you would like to add anything?
18 If not, maybe we could go into the Resolution.

19 MR. EICHENBAUM: Good afternoon.

20 As Joe said, basically, this is a project
21 for which you adopted a bond resolution a month
22 ago where we weren't sure whether or not you were
23 going to make this February 1 deadline or not.
24 Basically, they've come to you and said: We have
25 the -- for the most part, the program is similar

1 to the normal EIT Program, but their funding
2 sources are a bit different. Instead of money
3 coming from federal water grants, it's money
4 they're getting from HUD or CDBG grant money. And
5 as a result, they have to impose these additional
6 contractual requirements on the work force. As a
7 result of that, there may be some added costs to
8 the contract, however, because of the additional
9 things they are giving you with respect to
10 principal forgiveness, waiving certain fees which
11 could be substantial fees that they're waiving
12 that they would normally get, their reaction is
13 that they feel that you're getting more than you
14 may be giving up as a result of the additional
15 costs.

16 Also, I think the equipment that you're
17 getting is, you know, is basically the generator
18 that has to be installed. Presumably, the cost of
19 the generator is the larger share of the project
20 as opposed to the cost of installing it which is
21 where they'll have this local labor, which is
22 where these additional requirements are going to
23 be imposed so that you're probably gaining quite a
24 bit more than it may be costing you. The primary
25 thing I think it's costing you is a couple months

1 delay in the project and that's basically it.

2 Basically, one of the things that you'll
3 have to do, though, and you can add this, because
4 of this, because you won't be in the 2015 bond
5 program, you will instead have to do a refinancing
6 loan in 2015 to finance the project and then be in
7 the 2016 bond program.

8 Essentially, once we clarify more terms,
9 we will be back to you with an interim finance
10 resolution. Basically, you will have a loan from
11 the EIT at very low interest rates. It used to be
12 zero percent. The EIT has changed that now so
13 that it's a combination of a market rate for maybe
14 a year and zero percent for most of it. So it
15 should be a very low interest rate for the year
16 anyway and then we'll have to go back to the Local
17 Finance Board for 2016. The bond resolution will
18 probably have to be amended so it applies to 2016,
19 but that's it.

20 It's primarily a couple of month delay and
21 that's it.

22 MR. AMODIO: Through the Chair, Howard, we
23 still have to do the Resolution that --

24 MR. EICHENBAUM: The Resolution should
25 still be done because when we went to the Local

1 Finance Board last year, we basically, you know,
2 we weren't aware of this, but we did know that it
3 was possible that you may not make the February 1
4 award deadline. We told them you may have to do a
5 project note, you may have to do a bond
6 resolution, we gave them both.

7 The other thing that Lou is referring to
8 is that whenever you have a Local Finance Board
9 Resolution, the Commission is required to adopt a
10 resolution accepting their findings and then you
11 have to sign what's referred to as a group
12 affidavit where each member of the Commission
13 signs it accepting it, because we told them it's
14 either/or and it's going to be the or now of the
15 notes. The Resolution with the affidavit still
16 needs to be adopted.

17 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: That's going to be
18 the \$23 million loan.

19 MR. EICHENBAUM: It would be. Basically,
20 the \$23 million is the maximum amount. The number
21 is going to be what it's going to be. The benefit
22 to some extent with the inner month program is
23 you're only paying interest even though it's a
24 very, very low rate as you grow money. With a
25 bond issue you would have to pay interest from day

1 one. With this, it's as money is gone out so it's
2 even cheaper the first year.

3 Any other questions?

4 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Can we do that
5 Resolution now?

6 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Can we get a motion on
7 the Resolution?

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

9 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.
10 Do we have a second?

11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second.

12 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.

13 On the roll.

14

15 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
16 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
17 Sanchez is absent)

18

19 MR. AMODIO: Thank you. I'm going to have
20 Yitz pass around the group affidavit and everyone
21 can sign.

22 Go back to the Executive Director's
23 report.

24 MR. BELLA: All of our capital projects
25 which you know we have an extensive list of

1 capital projects, they're all on time, on
2 schedule. Most are and have been all pretty much
3 on budget too, so that's really good.

4 I'd like to talk about the individual
5 projects but probably another time I'll do that in
6 special committee but some of these things really
7 saved us a lot of operational problems,
8 especially, in the wintertime, like doing the
9 vaporizers. The liquid oxygen vaporizers have
10 really been a big help this year and much more
11 reliable in terms of the operation of the plant,
12 so.

13 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: We've been lucky
14 with the weather too.

15 MR. BELLA: It's been pretty cold. We've
16 been in big trouble. Last year we did temporary
17 fixes that got us through the year, but this
18 really worked well.

19 Our cleaning lining projects will be
20 starting up in the fall or in the spring and some
21 of the pipe contracts and replacing pipe and that
22 sort of thing will be going for next year.

23 One of the, just sort of an adjunct to
24 this, one of the things we spent a lot of time,
25 effort, and money is training our staff, training

1 them on a lot of things, their job functions, that
2 kind of thing. One of the things we train is
3 safety and we do a lot of EMT training, first
4 responder training, CPR training. And yesterday,
5 at the payment window, the Customer Service
6 window, we had a customer pass away and our
7 people -- he died. Our people in their training,
8 and it was a great thing, Andy Bisesi, Trish
9 Benda, Greg Lucianin, and Franklin Batista all
10 responded and worked like a team and they actually
11 -- Andy was giving him CPR; Trish got the
12 defibrillator on; Batista and them helped move the
13 man. And they put the paddles on him and they
14 shocked him and gave him CPR and he was revived.
15 They actually revived him. And when they got
16 here, the emergency guys got here and took him to
17 the hospital, we don't know what happened
18 afterwards.

19 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: He didn't die. We
20 don't know if he's dead.

21 MR. BELLA: He actually did die.

22 MR. AMODIO: When he left he was
23 breathing.

24 MR. BELLA: He was breathing and his
25 heart --

1 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Isn't there special
2 training with the defibrillators?

3 MR. BELLA: Most people are trained; many
4 people. I would say more than 50 percent of the
5 people in the company are trained.

6 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: That's great. And
7 they really -- that's a really high -- you talk
8 about high stress. They all kicked in and they
9 did it and it was really a good thing.

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Madam President,
11 I would like to make a motion, we, as customary,
12 put a letter in the file of the employees who did
13 this wonderful job in showing their training and
14 our investment. So I so move that we put letters
15 in.

16 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: I agree.

17 MR. AMODIO: Are you done with your
18 report?

19 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Can I? One thing
20 with regard to the report. Joe, I saw in your
21 report and I'm happy to see yesterday we got
22 something about Wendy Simone getting an award. I
23 think that's great, I really do.

24 MR. BELLA: We need to keep encouraging
25 that.

1 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: That's important.

2 Good.

3 MR. WEISS: Cash on hand is \$14 million.

4 Accounts receivable are at \$13.4 million.

5 Our 30 days or less accounts receivable is

6 \$12.2 million.

7 Our accounts payable is currently at \$4

8 million.

9 Cash collections this time of year is
10 traditionally slow right after the holidays. It's
11 pretty much keeping in time slow like it usually
12 is, not any more slow than usual I should say.

13 That's pretty much all I have.

14 MR. AMODIO: Okay. That will be it.

15 We could have a motion for closed session,
16 please.

17 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

18 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.

19 Is there a second?

20 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second.

21 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.

22 WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public
23 Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public
24 meeting from a meeting in certain circumstances;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, the public body is of the opinion
2 that such circumstances presently exist;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the
4 Commissioners of Passaic Valley Water Commission:

5 1. The public shall be excluded from
6 discussion of the hereinafter specified subject
7 matters; the general nature of the subject matter
8 being: Financial, Insurance, Personnel,
9 Contracts, Negotiations, Security. Under Law we
10 have Summary/Aging reports; Contract #14-B-10
11 "Water Meter Reading and Related Services"; under
12 Personnel we have new hire: Clarissa Marie Torres
13 - Assistant Personnel Technician, and any other
14 matter as may be discussed in camera.

15 2. It is anticipated at this time that
16 the above-stated subject matters will be ratified
17 during public meeting following or as soon
18 thereafter as the reason for discussion no longer
19 exists.

20 3. This Resolution shall effect
21 immediately.

22 On the roll.

23
24 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
25 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner

1 Sanchez is absent)

2

3

4

5

MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

6

The time is 1:02.

7

You have a quorum.

8

9

The next group of resolutions will be for
the year. The first one is establishing meeting

10

dates and times for the year 2015.

11

12

We've been doing the third week of the
month at 12:00 noon. If there's no objections to

13

that? Hearing none, do I have a motion?

14

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.

15

COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.

16

MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Bazian.

17

Second by Commissioner Kolodziej.

18

On the roll.

19

20

(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners

21

respond in the affirmative. Commissioner Sanchez

22

is absent)

23

24

COMMISSIONER LEVINE: We're keeping them

25

at noon?

1 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

2 The next three resolutions are from the
3 Controller, Mr. Weiss.

4 We have a resolution designating banking
5 institutions for the year 2015.

6 We have a resolution authorizing certain
7 statutory payments of claims and other claims
8 regular in nature.

9 And we have a resolution authorizing
10 investments of funds.

11 Is there any questions?

12 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: How do we choose the
13 banks, the institutions?

14 MR. WEISS: Good question.

15 Last year we actually went out and we did
16 an RFP and based on that we negotiated a deal for
17 subsequent years. The bank we are currently using
18 is the same bank we had before. They gave us
19 better rates than any other banks. So we have
20 done RFPs in the past, most of the time it's
21 negotiated.

22 MR. AMODIO: Any further questions?

23 Do I have a motion?

24 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

25 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.

1 Do I have a second?

2 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: Second.

3 MR. AMODIO: Okay. On the roll.

4

5 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
6 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
7 Sanchez is absent)

8

9 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

10 Next, we have a resolution designating a
11 Public Agency Compliance Officer also known as
12 P.A.C.O. That would be Linda Beckering, our
13 Purchasing Director.

14 Do I have a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So moved.

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.

17 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Bazian.

18 Second by Commissioner Kolodziej.

19 On the roll.

20

21 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
22 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
23 Sanchez is absent)

24

25 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

1 Next, if you would like to move the group,
2 I'll call them.

3 We a resolution awarding Project 15-P-8
4 "Professional Services For Public Auditor"
5 recommendation to award to Ferraioli, Weilkotz,
6 Cerullo in the amount of \$40,250.

7 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Madam President.

8 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: If I may?

10 Just a very quick comment on this. I
11 should have mentioned this under finance. We
12 reviewed, as we have in the past, the potential
13 issue of changing auditors, not necessarily
14 because we thought that the current auditor was
15 doing a bad job, on the contrary, just on the
16 advisability of every so often changing auditors,
17 you know, for transparency. We are in the middle
18 of a systems change. When you're in the middle of
19 a systems change, it's probably not the best time
20 to start switching auditors. So we made the
21 decision this year that we will continue with this
22 auditor but we will be keeping a close eye on it
23 and will be looking at it again next year. So the
24 recommendation is to continue with the same
25 auditor.

1 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Question: Were
2 other proposals submitted?

3 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: One more, one
4 additional.

5 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: By whom?

6 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: It was the firm that
7 did the audit. If you recall, it was on the audit
8 as to whether our attorney was considered --

9 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Oh, right. Right.

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: There was a
11 little difference between the --

12 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Okay. Okay. Thank
13 you.

14 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Question: These were
15 budgeted, all of these?

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Yes.

17 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Okay.

18 MR. AMODIO: Any further questions?

19 Move onto Contract #14-B-11 "Furnish and
20 Deliver Water Meters and Appurtenances."

21 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Are we doing one
22 vote on everything?

23 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

24 The recommendation is to reject and rebid.

25 Item 15. 14-B-30 "Furnish and Deliver

1 Water Service Boxes and Roadway Boxes".

2 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: I have a question on
3 that.

4 The low bidder on this was 146. The bid
5 we're accepting is 150. Is that because they
6 didn't bid on all the items?

7 MR. DUPREY: You're referring to the water
8 service?

9 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Yes.

10 MR. DUPREY: That's correct.

11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: So if they had bid
12 on the other items, it probably would have been
13 higher?

14 MR. DUPREY: It actually was higher.

15 MR. AMODIO: The recommendation for
16 14-B-30 is to award a two-year contract to Capital
17 Supply Construction Products in the amount of
18 \$150,323.90.

19 Item 16. Contract #14-B-35 "Furnish and
20 Deliver Dump Truck" Recommendation to reject and
21 rebid.

22 Item 17. Contract #14-B-36 "Furnish and
23 Deliver Loader Backhoe" Recommendation to award to
24 Trico Equipment Services, Inc., in the amount of
25 \$137,636.

1 Item 18. Contract Extension - Contract
2 #12-B-42 "Printing and Mailing Services"
3 Recommendation for a two-year extension with
4 Matrix Imaging, in the amount of \$240,563.40.

5 Do I have a motion?

6 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: So moved.

7 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.

8 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.

9 Second by Commissioner Kolodziej.

10 On the roll.

11
12 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
13 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
14 Sanchez is absent)

15
16 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

17 Motion approved.

18 We'll move onto Recommendations From
19 Executive Session.

20 We have new hire: Clarissa Marie Torres -
21 Assistant Personnel Technician/TA. Salary of
22 52,000. Range of 32,000 to 67,000.

23 Do I have a motion?

24 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: I move it.

25 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: Motion by Commissioner

1 Graddy.

2 Do I have a second?

3 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Second.

4 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Bazian.

5

6 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
7 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
8 Sanchez is absent)

9

10 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

11 Establishing committees for 2015.

12 PRESIDENT CLEAVES: I would like all of
13 the Commissioners to submit to Louis your
14 preference on committees you would like to serve
15 under and then I'll get them from him and assign
16 you accordingly.

17 MR. AMODIO: Anything under Good and
18 Welfare?

19 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Just a question.

20 Have we followed through on the
21 restaurant? The previous minutes there's a lot of
22 talk. Have they submitted?

23 MR. BELLA: I haven't seen anything.

24 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'm not asking
25 you to chase them down because believe me, I'm not

1 in favor of this. But several of the
2 Commissioners took the position that we should at
3 least hear them out. So I would think that we
4 should assign that to the Law Department. So
5 either we're going to do something or not do
6 something, but it should not be something that
7 slips through the cracks.

8 MR. BRISMAN: I will followup.

9 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Okay. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER GRADDY: I just still like to
11 ask the question, it's not clear in my mind what
12 they're asking for.

13 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: We ruled out
14 their first request which was to purchase property
15 from us. That was the consensus. But the
16 majority felt that we should at least hear them
17 out on a lease proposal. So we had instructed
18 them to follow through and see what it is. We
19 could either reject it or not, but my concern is
20 not to drag this out. It's a business. It needs
21 an answer and either they're serious or they're
22 not. So I just would like by the next meeting to
23 see if they want to follow through or not.

24 MR. AMODIO: Anything else?

25 Hearing none, motion to adjourn.

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COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.

COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Second.

MR. AMODIO: Hearing no objections,
meeting adjourned.

The time is 1:11 p.m.

The next meeting will be February 18th,
12:00 noon.

COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: She set a
wonderful record.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, LYNANN DRAGONE, License No. XIO1388, a
Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State
of New Jersey, certify that the foregoing is a true and
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I further certify that I am neither attorney
nor Counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the
parties to the action in which this meeting was taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or
employee of anyone employed in this case, nor am I
financially interested in this action.

LYNANN DRAGONE, CCR
Certified Court Reporter