

Franklin Township Sewerage Authority

Minutes of Meeting

July 6, 2021

PRESENT

Vice Chairman Anbarasan (by video) called the Monthly Meeting of the Township of Franklin Sewerage Authority to order at 6:40 PM. The following Commissioners were also present (all by video): Mr. Alcazar, Mr. Anbarasan, Ms. Ford and Mr. Schmidt. Also in attendance were Apryl L. Roach, Administrative Manager (in person); Scott Nocero, Operations Manager (by video); Christian Santiago, Staff Engineer (by video); Joseph Daniels, Interim Executive Director / Special Project Manager (in person); Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., General Counsel (by video); Michael McClelland, Joseph Gemmell and Howard Matteson, Consulting Engineers (all by video).

ROLL CALL

Mr. Alcazar (Alt. #1)	-	Aye
Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
*Ms. Ford	-	Aye
Mr. Schmidt (Alt. #2)	-	Aye
Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

*Commissioner Ford joined the meeting at 6:45 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT:

Chairwoman DeVeaux stated that, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (Open Public Meetings Act) and Chapter 11 of the Public Laws of 2020, all requirements had been met to allow for the electronic meeting of the Board.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Jesus Alcazar – 5-year Unexpired Term – Regular Member Commissioner
Expires 01/30/2023

Arnold Schmidt – 5-year Unexpired Term – Regular Member Commissioner
Expires 01/31/2026

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Ford moved to open the meeting for Public Comments, seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

There was no public present.

Mr. Anbarasan moved to close the meeting for Public Comment, seconded by Ms. Ford.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

REVIEW OF THE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – June 1, 2021

Chairwoman DeVeaux asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the minutes from June 1, 2021 Board regular meeting.

Mr. Anbarasan made a motion to accept the June 1, 2021 minutes. The Minutes were seconded by Ms. Ford.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

REVIEW OF THE BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES – June 1, 2021

Chairwoman DeVeaux asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Closed Executive Session minutes from June 1, 2021, Board regular meeting.

Mr. Anbarasan made a motion to accept the June 1, 2021, minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUMMARY

Presented By: Joseph Danielsen, Interim Executive Director / Special Project Manager

Operations Report - Scott Nocero
Connections Report – Christian Santiago
Special Projects Report – Joseph Danielsen

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

Presented by: Joseph Danielsen, Interim Executive Director / Special Project Manager

Consulting Engineer Report - CME
Consulting Engineer Report - CDM
General Counsel Report – Eric M. Bernstein, Esq.

REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

NEGOTIATIONS / PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

MUNICIPAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

The approval of some of the Resolutions will be done by the Consent Agenda.

Chairwoman DeVeaux said that all the items listed below are considered to be of a routine nature, thereby requiring one (1) motion and one (1) second for all items.

If any member wishes to remove an item from the Consent Agenda, please advise the Chair at this time as to which resolution(s) need to be handled separately and they will be addressed and voted on separately. No one made such request to remove.

Resolution Number 07062021 - 1	Payroll Account \$171,062.31
Resolution Number 07062021 - 2	Operating Expense Account \$202,945.69
Resolution Number 07062021 - 3	General Fund \$9,292.92
Resolution Number 07062021 - 4	Renewal and Replacement \$124,484.05
Resolution Number 07062021 - 5	Escrow Fund \$162.50
Resolution Number 07062021 – 6	North Tract Crossing \$160,884.84

Mr. Anbarasan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

The following Resolutions were voted upon:

1. Resolution Number 07062021 - 7

Resolution to remove Account Number 01915.00 located at 850 Hamilton Street, Block 144, Lot 21 is removed from billing with an adjustment of \$160.50 in principle. This address was capped.

Offered by Ms. Ford and seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

2. Resolution Number 07062021 - 8

Resolution authorizing a further employment agreement between the Township of Franklin Sewerage Authority and Joseph Daniels.

Offered by Mr. Schmidt and seconded by Mr. Anbarasan.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

3. Resolution Number 07062021 - 9

Resolution accepting the proposal for professional services for an alternative analysis for upgrade of the Commerce Drive Pumping Station

Offered by Mr. Alcazar and seconded by Ms. Ford.

A roll call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Bernstein announced that the Authority will go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters involving potential salary increases for non-union employees other than the Interim Executive Director and Board Committee appointments.

Mr. Bernstein said pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (7) (attorney-client privilege) relative to matters regarding the same. Formal action will be taken at the conclusion of the meeting Executive Session.

WHEREAS items on the agenda fall under paragraphs 7, and 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act of New Jersey, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) and the public shall be excluded from this portion of the meeting. Public disclosures will be made available upon resolution of these matters and confidentiality is no longer necessary.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to go into the Executive Session at 8:00 PM, seconded by Mr. Anbarasan.

A Roll Call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Alcazar made a motion to come out of the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Schmidt at approximately 9:26 P.M.

A Roll Call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Bernstein made the following statement as the Board reentered for Open Session:

Let the record reflect that all members of the Board of Commissioners of the Franklin Township Sewerage Authority present at the commencement of the Executive Session were present at the recommencement of the Public Session, as well as the Interim Executive Director / Special Project Manager, the Authority Administrative Manager and the Authority General Counsel. All Board Members were present by video. All other participants were in person at Authority headquarters.

Mr. Bernstein said Ms. Roach was present for the discussions other than those related to merit increases involving non-union employees of which she was a party to the same.

Mr. Bernstein said there was a discussion with the Commissioners regarding recommendations from the Interim Executive Director as to merit increases regarding merit increases which requires formal action.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to approve the Interim Executive Director's recommendations for the non-union employees excluding himself, seconded by Ms. Ford.

A Roll Call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Bernstein said there was a discussion under attorney client privilege relative to a possible sewer rate increase. Recommendations were made by the General Counsel and by the Interim Executive Director. Mr. Bernstein said they are seeking approval to allow the Interim Executive Director to move forward with the process for a rate increase and the process for a public hearing for the August 3, 2021, Authority meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Ford and Seconded by Mr. Alcazar.

A Roll Call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Bernstein said at the behest of the Chair and consultation with General Counsel there was a discussion regarding By-Laws related Committee assignments. The following recommendations were made seeking Board approval.

NEGOTIATIONS/PERSONNEL	SIVARAMAN “RAM” ANBARASAN ARNOLD SCHMIDT
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MUNICIPAL LIAISON	TERESA FORD
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CONSTRUCTION	SIVARAMAN “RAM” ANBARASAN TERESA FORD
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SAFETY	JESUS ALCAZAR ARNOLD SCHMIDT
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A motion was made by Mr. Alcazar and Seconded by Ms. Ford.

A Roll Call was taken as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Chairwoman DeVeaux asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 PM, seconded by Mr. Anbarasan. Ford.

All Commissioners present voted “Aye”.

Respectfully submitted,

Apryl L. Roach

Apryl L. Roach, MBA, MSHRM, PHR, SHRM-CP, Q.P.A., R.P.P.S.
Administrative Manager