

Franklin Township Sewerage Authority

Minutes of Meeting

August 3, 2021

PRESENT

Vice Chairman Anbarasan (by video) called the Monthly Meeting of the Township of Franklin Sewerage Authority to order at 6:32 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 Danielsen, Interim Executive Director / Special Project Manager (in person); Eric M. Bernstein, Esq., General Counsel (by video); and Joseph Gemmell, Consulting Engineer (all by video).

ROLL CALL

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

*Chairwoman DeVeaux joined the meeting at 7:38 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT:

Vice Chairman Anbarasan 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Absent

There was no public present.

Mr. Schmidt 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
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Absent

REVIEW OF THE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – July 6, 2021

V. Chairman Anbarasan asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the minutes from July 6, 2021 Board regular meeting.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to accept the July 6, 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
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Absent

REVIEW OF THE BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES – July 6, 2021

Tabled until the September 7, 2021, Board Meeting.

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.

Chairman Anbarasan 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 08032021 - 1	Payroll Account \$ 147,647.31
Resolution Number 08032021 - 2	Operating Expense Account \$ 1,868,136.54
Resolution Number 08032021 - 3	Renewal and Replacement \$ 38,253.79
Resolution Number 08032021 - 4	North Tract Crossing \$ 714,064.05

Ms. Ford 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
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

There was no public present.

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

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

The following Resolutions were voted upon:

1. Resolution Number 08032021 - 5

Resolution to modifying annual sewer service charged to residential and non-residential customers, to be effective November 1, 2021

Mr. Alcazar made a motion, seconded by Ms. DeVeaux.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

2. Resolution Number 08032021 - 6

Resolution to increase the salary for the Operations Manager, Scott Nocero effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. DeVeaux.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

3. Resolution Number 08032021 - 7

Resolution to increase the salary for the Administrative Manager, Apryl Roach effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ford.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

4. Resolution Number 08032021 - 8

Resolution to increase the hourly rate for the Bookkeeper, Jenny Knapp effective June 1, 2021.

Ms. Ford made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

5. Resolution Number 08032021 - 9

Resolution to increase the hourly rate for the Billing / Accounting Clerk, Tina Lee effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ford.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

6. Resolution Number 08032021 – 10

Resolution to increase the hourly rate for the Receptionist / Administrative Assistant, Vanessa Mangual effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ford.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

7. Resolution Number 08032021 - 11

Resolution to increase the salary for the Staff Engineer, Christian Santiago effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Alcazar.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

8. Resolution Number 08032021 - 12

Resolution to increase the hourly rate for the Billing / Accounting Clerk, Mary Ann Sokolowski effective June 1, 2021.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ford.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Bernstein announced that the Authority will go into Executive Session to discuss the position of the Interim Executive Director. Mr. Bernstein said Mr. Danielsen had waived his rights under the Rice Notice. Mr. Bernstein said Mr. Danielsen and Ms. Roach would be excused from this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Bernstein said pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (7) (attorney-client privilege) relative to matters regarding the same. Formal action may be taken at the conclusion of the 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 8:04 PM, seconded by Mr. Alcazar.

Mr. Alcazar made a motion, seconded by Ms. DeVeaux.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to come out of the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Alcazar at approximately 8:53 P.M.

The members voted as follows:

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye

Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
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 Mr. Danielsen and Ms. Roach are back for the public session and they were not present for the Executive session.

Mr. Bernstein said the Board had a conversation with him regarding issues involving Mr. Danielsen's contract. Mr. Bernstein said he has been given direction from the Board to pass along to Mr. Danielsen's Counsel regarding the same.

Mr. Bernstein said the Board would also like to schedule a Special Board Meeting to discuss the ongoing negotiations on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 7:00 PM. Mr. Bernstein asked Ms. Roach to put out the notification and also notify the Board with the information needed to get into the meeting.

Mr. Danielsen waived his Rice Notice with regards to the Special Meeting being held on Wednesday, August 25, 2021.

Chairwoman DeVeaux asked for a motion to schedule a Special Meeting on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 7:00 PM via the Go To Meeting platform.

A motion was made by Ms. Ford and seconded by Mr. Schmidt.

All Commissioners present voted "Aye".

VOTE:	Mr. Alcazar	-	Aye
	Mr. Anbarasan	-	Aye
	Ms. Ford	-	Aye
	Ms. Francois (Alt. #1)	-	Absent
	Mr. Schmidt	-	Aye
	Chairwoman DeVeaux	-	Aye

Vice Chairman Anbarasan asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 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