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Augusta County Service Authority
Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.
Board Meeting Room

PRESENT: Andrew C. Middleton, Chairman, North River District
Garry R. Gordon, Vice Chairman, Middle River District
Harvey Almarode, South River District
Allen Dahl, Beverley Manor District
Matthew Egeli, Wayne District
Michael L. Shull, Riverheads District
Phil Martin, Executive Director
Brent Canterbury, Treasurer
Jean Marshall, Board Secretary

ABSENT: Timothy Simmons, Pastures District

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CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

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ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Gordon moved, seconded by Mr. Dahl to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Middleton, Gordon, Almarode, Dahl, Egeli, and Shull
Nays: None

Motion approved.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Almarode moved, seconded by Mr. Egeli, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 16, 2021, which have been mailed to the members.

Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Middleton, Gordon, Almarode, Dahl, Egeli, and Shull
Nays: None

Motion approved.

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MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Staff informed the Board Shawn and Jean Reynolds of 356 River View Drive submitted receipts to VRSA for the damage inflicted to their home due to high water pressure. VRSA has

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paid the claim and the Reynolds signed a “no fault” statement releasing the Service Authority of any liability for the damage. The statement also declares the case is closed and the matter is settled. Work to correct the water pressure issues has begun and an update is given in the Progress Report.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S HIGHLIGHTS

Staff introduced Jack Kyle as the new Safety Manager.

Staff referred to the handout given to Board members regarding proposed bills which will be presented to the General Assembly in 2022. These bills, if passed, may or may not affect the Service Authority. The bills address subjects such as customer billing, FOIA, and broadband.

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PROGRESS REPORT

The December Progress Report was included in the Board packet and was reviewed with the Board.

Mr. Egeli asked if the Service Authority is experiencing any shortage in material or chemical supplies.

Staff stated currently the Service Authority has an adequate supply of both materials and chemicals.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Committee

Mr. Gordon reported the plans for the new Field Operations facility were completed in December. Before construction begins, Staff is looking at the details in order to refine the cost estimates based on current material costs.

Mr. Dahl stated because of the revised costs for the building, he felt the Service Authority should look at existing facilities to house Field Operations. An existing facility would cost less than the site work estimate. The current construction cost for new construction will be more than the original estimated costs.

Mr. Gordon stated the Building Committee currently has rough estimates and will be receiving final estimates within a couple weeks.

Mr. Shull asked for clarification of when the decision was made to move forward with construction of the new facility.

Mr. Gordon stated the Building Committee decided not to move forward with construction because the rough estimate was more than the budgeted amount.

Mr. Shull asked for clarification of when the Board approved to move forward with the architectural design.

Mr. Gordon stated it has been approximately six to eight months since the budget was approved for \$1.5 million for the site work to be done in FY 2022. The architect finished the plans in December giving an estimated cost of \$6 million, which is well over the budgeted amount of \$4.5 million. Two general contracting businesses have been contacted to determine how the plans may be refined in order to lower the building costs.

Mr. Dahl stated he understands there was a specific vote on proceeding forward with the plans, and the budget was approved to include the new facility, but he does not believe there was a vote to proceed with the actual construction of the building.

The Board asked Staff to review the Minutes from previous meetings to determine if there was a vote to proceed with construction of the new facility.

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EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Staff reminded the Board, in 2018, as part of an effort to recognize and reward ACSA employees for exceptional work that goes above and beyond their normal duties, the ACSA Excellence Awards were created. These honors are awarded twice a year covering multiple categories and include a \$200 monetary award, recognition to this Board, and inclusion in the ACSA bi-monthly newsletter.

For the last half of 2021 there were several nominations and the departmental directors selected the recipients.

Outstanding Customer Service: Jerry Rader and Chris Craun were nominated by William Monroe. On Thursday, November 4th, Jerry and Chris were engaged in water line flushing in Stuarts Draft. In one area where flushing was necessary, they noticed there was a high likelihood the flushing would damage a customer's newly mulched planting beds. Jerry and Chris met with the customer, explained the situation, raked some of the new mulch out of the way, and then worked out a way to divert the water away from the customer's garden area. Ms. Karen Olivares sent an email to praise Jerry and Chris for their customer service. A copy of the email was given to the Board members.

Outstanding Effort: Sallie Trimble and Jean Marshall were nominated by Casey McCracken. Due to the surge of COVID-19 cases in 2020, the Service Authority did not have an Authority-wide Christmas Luncheon. In December, in order to restore some normalcy, Sallie and Jean secured a facility, which was able to accommodate a group of our size and allow for additional spacing. They reserved the Frontier Culture Museum, selected a caterer and coordinated all the logistics for the event. This was also done while we were without a Director of Human Resources, someone who would normally be leading this event. The result was a very enjoyable day that meant a lot for morale in these trying times.

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Innovation/Cost Savings: Brian Kirby and Mike Collins were nominated by Tim Castillo. Recently, a new clarifier brush system was installed at the Stuarts Draft Wastewater Treatment Plant by Brian and Mike. During the installation, they found the existing access ladders located in the clarifier trough would be in the way of the brush arm as it passed. To resolve the conflict Brian and Mike designed and installed a pivot system for the access ladder, allowing it to rotate out of the way for storage. This allows the clarifier brush to operate properly, while letting the ladder pivot into place for necessary maintenance activities. The modifications were designed and effected with minimal investment of time and money.

Can-Do Attitude: Jennifer White was nominated by Tim Castillo. In July, the Service Authority was notified by the primary glycerin supplier they would no longer honor their contract pricing. The secondary supplier agreed to honor their pricing, and Jennifer worked with them to arrange deliveries of the product. Unfortunately, the secondary supplier failed to deliver the glycerin as agreed. Jennifer contacted the original supplier to make delivery of the product in order to keep the stock supplied. Jennifer’s extra efforts in juggling purchases with the chemical suppliers, who were dealing with their own COVID staffing and delivery issues, has allowed our processes to continue with no facility running out of glycerin.

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AUGUSTA REGIONAL LANDFILL UNSOLICITED PPEA

ACSA purchasing policy 11.2 details the requirements for the use of the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (PPEA). One of the provisions of the PPEA is the ability for outside firms to propose unsolicited projects for review. In April of 2021, the ACSA, on behalf of the Augusta Regional Landfill, received an unsolicited conceptual proposal from SCS Engineers utilizing the PPEA policy. The proposal is for the design & construction of the partial landfill closure and final cap installation on #585 Phase 1 and the installation of a landfill gas collection and control system. The partial closure and the landfill gas system are items which will be needed in the near future.

Staff developed a checklist, with assistance from legal counsel, to ensure all steps in the PPEA process were followed. The unsolicited proposal was determined to be a “qualifying project” under the PPEA guidelines. The next step in the process was to conduct an independent review. ACSA utilized its existing landfill general services contract to issue a task order to Draper Aden Associates to perform the review. The independent review of the proposal concluded there was not a significant need or advantage for ACSA to deviate from the traditional design-bid-build approach.

Staff recommended the Board reject the unsolicited PPEA proposal from SCS Engineers.

Mr. Egeli moved, seconded by Mr. Shull to reject the unsolicited PPEA proposal from SCS Engineers.

Vote was as follows:

Yeas:	Middleton, Gordon, Almarode, Dahl, Egeli, and Shull
Nays:	None

Motion approved.

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BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Egeli asked for an update on the OSHA vaccine and testing mandate.

Staff stated the Supreme Court issued a stay on the OSHA mandate regarding COVID vaccines and testing. The 6th Circuit Court is now required to rule on the merits of the lawsuit. Depending on the decision of the 6th Circuit Court, the Supreme Court may need to rule on the merits of the lawsuit as well. VOSH has not issued any permanent standard regarding vaccines, therefore, there is no action the Board needs to take at this time regarding vaccine and testing requirements.

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There being no further business, Mr. Shull moved, seconded by Mr. Egeli to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Vote was as follows:

Yeas:	Middleton, Gordon, Almarode, Dahl, Egeli, and Shull
Nays:	None

Motion approved.

Board Secretary

Chairman