

**WATER AUTHORITY OF NORTH SHORE**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 31, 2022**

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The meeting was held at the Gold Coast Library Annex located at 40 Railroad Avenue, Glen Head, NY 11545

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All members and attendees joined in the pledge of allegiance.
- 3. **ROLL CALL:** All six (6) appointed Board members were in attendance:

Richard Arena (Glenwood Landing Representative)

James Greenberg, Esq. (Glen Cove Representative)

Sandeep Kapoor, M.D., MS-HPPL (Roslyn harbor Representative)

George Pombar (Glen Head Representative)

John Vasilakis (Old Brookville Representative)

James W. Versocki, Esq. (Sea Cliff Representative)

- 4. **PRO TEM APPOINTMENTS:** The Board members agreed to appoint Member Versocki, representing the village of Sea Cliff, to preside as chairperson over the meeting and member Pombar, representing the hamlet of Glen Head, was appointed to act as the secretary for this meeting.
- 5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Member J. Vasilakis and seconded by Member G. Pombar, to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2022 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES:**

**a. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE**

- i. **REPORT ON JOINT PROPOSAL PHASE 1 DISCUSSIONS WITH LIBERTY UTILITIES** - Member Versocki reported on correspondence exchanged with Liberty President, Chris Alerio, and a Non-Disclosure-Agreement received from Liberty that is currently under review with a forthcoming reply from WANS, prior to start of formal discussions.
- ii. **NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORTED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY (SCWA)** - Member Pombar reported on the Cooperative Agreement drafted, and ready to discuss for approval by the WANS Board. He stated the negotiations committee had reviewed and commented on several drafts, as discussed during the last meeting, and the committee feels comfortable with the current draft to be presented for approval at this meeting. Committee member Greenberg stated he feels very confident SCWA will be of help to reach our goals. Board member Dr. Kapoor stated he appreciated the agreement as it stands e services to the WANS.

**b. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- i. Committee Chair Vasilakis reported the State documentation required has been provided and it appears we should have the funding available shortly.

**c. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

- 1. Chair Pombar reported no activity on this committee at this point as the personnel support is one of the administrative assistance items to be discussed with the SCWA.

**d. HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- 1. Dr. Kapoor, Chair of the committee, reported no activity on this committee at this point.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **WALDEN FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE** – Member Versocki provided a report stating there had been little progress on the negotiations between the Village of Sea Cliff and Walden as Waldens Walden appears to be requesting an excessive fee to prepare an update to their 2019 feasibility study they prepared.
- b. **APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SCWA** - Member Versocki made a motion to approve and sign the cooperative agreement with SCWA. Members Greenberg and Arena motioned the approval of the contract. All members voted unanimously to proceed by signing the contract. The members of the negotiations committee – G. Pombar, J. Versocki and J. Greenberg proceeded to sign the contract.
- c. **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE** – Member Versocki reported there was nothing new to report.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bruce Kennedy, Sea Cliff Village Administrator, asked for a copy of the SCWA contract; he was provided with a copy. He also inquired about the comment made during the last meeting by Member Greenberg concerning the possibility of Glen Cove offering their services for a cooperative agreement with WANS. Member Greenberg, representative from Glen Cove, stated he had discussed the matter with Glen Cove officials and there was no interest at this point to offer their services. Mr. Kennedy also stated that an extension to the grant obtained through Sen. Gaughran’s office, in the amount of \$75,000, for the purpose of updating the feasibility study, had received an extension until the end of the year 2022. The use of these, for the purpose of the feasibility study update, can be extended again, beyond the end of this year, but he stated it would take some paperwork to achieve it. A discussion ensued on the subject. Member Pombar urged a meeting be held with Walden soon. Member Vasilakis urged the Board to obtain yet another updated study after we hopefully complete one with Walden.

Mr. Joseph Lopes, a resident of Glen Head, commented that much of the information related to the assets part of the study is already stated on the documentation surrounding the sale of NY American Water to Liberty. He recommended we should look to have one or two other companies conduct assessments.

Ms. Agatha Nadel, a resident of Glen Head, thanked the Board for reaching a cooperative agreement with SCWA, she also asked the Board to remind the community that the purchase of NY American Water by Liberty was not the answer to our goal, as there seems to be a sense that such sale was the last step to be taken by the community. Member Kapoor suggested that once the website is up, we should write an update on this matter.

Mr. Lloyd Nadel, inquired if we are too early to begin to approach water service providers to provide us the service; several board members stated we were too early to approach any water service providers with this service.

9. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** The Board agreed to hold the next meeting on Wednesday September 28, 2022, at the Gold Coast Library Annex, 40 Railroad Avenue, Glen Head, NY 11545 at 7:00 PM.
10. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** – On a motion by Member Arena and seconded by Member Greenberg, the meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Water Authority of Shore held on August 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

George P. Pombar, Secretary Pro Tem