MEETING MINUTES

PEQUANNOCK RIVER BASIN REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

August 20, 2025

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the **Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority** held on August 20, 2025, at the Borough of Butler. Chairman Verdonik called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call:

PRESENT : Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop, Desai,

Lampmann, Pellegrini, Voorman and Wilkes

ABSENT : Commissioner Mabey (Note: Vice Chairman

Voorman joined the meeting in progress at 6:05 pm)

ALSO PRESENT: Jamie Avagnano, Authority Administrator; Steve

Donati, PE, CP Engineers; Diane Alexander, Esq.,

Maraziti, Falcon, LLP

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Administrator Avagnano read the "Open Public Meeting Statement" indicating that adequate notice of the Authority's regular meeting had been publicized in accordance with law by posting notice on the bulletin board at the Butler Municipal Building, by providing notice to the municipal clerks of Bloomingdale, Butler, Kinnelon, and Riverdale, and by providing notice to the official newspapers of the Authority. The statement also noted that the meeting information was available on the PRBRSA webpage for public access, provided to the municipal clerks and noticed in the Authority's official newspapers.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Meeting Minutes: July 16, 2025

Treasurer Lampmann moved acceptance of the July 16, 2025 regular meeting minutes. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilkes and approved on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop,

Desai, Lampmann, Pellegrini and Wilkes

NAYS : None

ABSENT : Commissioners Mabey and Voorman

ABSTAIN: None

OPERATIONAL REPORT

1. <u>SYSTEM OPERATIONS</u>

1.1 Flow Report

Chairman Verdonik referred to the July Flow Report, stating that a significant rain event occurred in July; however, it did not affect the monthly flow average. Steve Donati observed that TBSA M-15 consistently reported lower flows compared to PRBRSA Meter P-4 over the month. However, the results remained within required 5% accuracy. He noted that the differing flow readings were consistent with most other months, but that normally there are both positive and negative differences.

1.2 TBSA Flow Report (Budget vs. Actual)

Chairman Verdonik reported that the TBSA flows are currently below the 1.85 minimum, which means PRBRSA will be responsible for payment for unused flows. He noted that, although the period ends in November, it is not expected that the flows will reach the 1.85 mgd level during the remaining months.

Secretary Desai asked about the status of the service contract revisions proposed last year. Chairman Verdonik stated that PRBRSA does not plan to renew the contract if the minimum flow requirement remains. Additionally, two TBSA Members have maintained their position on keeping the minimum flow for PRBRSA, resulting in the contract revision being postponed indefinitely.

1.3 ARC GIS

Steve Donati, P.E., reported that the Butler DPW crew was currently working on uncovering the 4 manholes in Riverdale. Secretary Desai asked about the manhole near the Riverdale quarry. Jamie Avagnano responded that on a field visit by CP Engineers, the manhole was covered with dirt and foliage, not a retaining wall as originally reported. Therefore, the Authority did not contact the quarry management pending a field visit and status update by the Butler DPW.

2. TBSA ACTIVITIES

2.1 Status Update

Chairman Verdonik provided an update on TBSA activities. He noted that the meeting was relatively short with discussions on the proposed PFAS settlement which was also on the PRBRSA agenda. He also noted that he is the only TBSA Commissioner attending WEFTEC in September.

3. TWA APPLICATIONS AND CONNECTION PERMITS

3.1 Non-Residential Connection 124 Main Street, Bloomingdale

Steve reported on discussions with Bloomingdale's engineer and the excavation company for the 124 Main Street project. He stated that the connection would tie directly into PRBRSA's Vitrified Clay Pipe on Main Street, using either the existing three laterals or, if needed, a new connection at the current manhole.

He added that, due to scheduled September paving in Bloomingdale, the project timeline was accelerated to complete the tie-in before repaving. PRBRSA also reached out to Passaic County to coordinate with the paving contractor about the agency's manholes in the roadway.

4. <u>CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS</u>

4.1 Riverdale Lining Project

Steve Donati, PE, updated the Board on the Riverdale Lining Project application noting that CP was still awaiting NJIB review comments as well as the Environmental Review which they hoped to receive shortly.

He also mentioned that they are waiting for an engineering reply from the manufacturer regarding lining the longer sections of pipe.

5. <u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u>

5.1 Treasurer's Report: July 31, 2025

Treasurer Lampmann presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2025 and moved approval as presented.

That motion was seconded by Secretary Desai and approved on the following roll call vote:

AYES : Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop, Desai,

Lampmann, Pellegrini ,Voorman and Wilkes

NAYS : None

ABSENT : Commissioner Mabey

ABSTAIN : None

5.2 FY 2026 Introduced Budget

Jamie Avagnano referred to the FY 2026 Introduced Budget in both PRBRSA and DCA formats on the table. She noted that the budget reflected a 0.92% increase in the annual charges with a reported 3.3% increase in TBSA line items related to operations and administrative.

Chairman Verdonik noted that the TBSA administrative increase was related to an expected 35% increase in NJ State medical premiums which would be felt by all local government agencies enrolled in the program.

Following further discussion Treasurer Lampmann moved Resolution No. R-25-8-1 to approve the FY 2026 introduced budget.

R-25-8-1

2026 AUTHORITY BUDGET RESOLUTION

Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority FISCAL YEAR: November 01, 2025 to October 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget for Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority for the fiscal year beginning November 01, 2025 and ending October 31, 2026 has been presented before the governing body of the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority at its open public meeting of August 20, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$6,048,000.00, Total Appropriations including any Accumulated Deficit, if any, of \$6,048,000.00, and Total Unrestriced Net Position planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$6,125,000.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Position planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the schedule of rents, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements, and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the Renewal and Replacement Reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority, at an open public meeting held on August 20, 2025 that the Annual Budget, including all related schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the) Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority for the fiscal year beginning November 01, 2025 and ending October 31, 2026, is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the said Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority will consider the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for Adoption on October 15, 2025.

Authority@prbrsa.org

Governing Body Recorded Vote Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	_
	Aye	Ivay	Abstan	ribsent	
Ramond Verdonik					_
Robert Voorman					
Dave Desai					
James Lampmann	V				H
James Croop					
Sean Mabey					
Vincent Pellegrini	V				Ħ
Morgan Wilkes					

8/20/2025

That motion was seconded by Commissioner Desai and approved as shown above.

6. <u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>

None

7. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

7.1 NJDEP Proposed PFAS Settlement with 3M

Diane Alexander, Esq, requested that discussion on the PFAS proposed settlement be held in closed session.

Treasurer Lampmann moved Resolution R-25-8-2 to enter closed session as follows:

Resolution No. R-25-8-2

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT TO DISCUSS ISSUES REGARDING ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority in the Counties of Morris and Passaic in the State of New Jersey on this 20th day of August, 2025 as follows:

- 1. The Authority shall adjourn to executive session in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7), being the Open Public Meetings Act, in order to discuss matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, regarding the Proposed Judicial Consent Order Approving Settlement with the 3M Company in the Matter of NJDEP, et al., v. E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company, et al., Case No.: 1:19-CV-14766-RMB-JBC (D.N.J.).
- 2. The minutes of the executive session relating to attorney client privilege will be released to the public as soon as the matters under discussion are fully resolved and are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature and when they will not be detrimental to the public interest.
- 3. This Resolution shall take effect as provided by law.

That motion was seconded by Commissioner Croop and approved on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop, Desai,

Lampmann, Pellegrini ,Voorman and Wilkes

NAYS : None

ABSENT : Commissioner Mabey

ABSTAIN : None

At approximately 6:15 pm the PRBRSA meeting entered closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

At approximately 6:30 pm Treasurer Lampmann moved to return to the regular meeting. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Desai and approved on voice vote.

REGULAR MEETING

Following discussion Vice Chairman Voorman moved Resolution R-25-8-3 to request an extension to submit comments on the proposed PFAS settlement as follows:

Resolution No. R-25-8-3

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND THE SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS REGARDING A PROPOSED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN NJDEP AND THE 3M COMPANY REGARDING PFAS

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) reached a proposed settlement with 3M Company (3M) that will supply up to \$450 million to compensate the citizens of New Jersey for injuries to their natural resources, to fund projects to address perand polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of drinking water supplies and other environmental media across the state, to reimburse DEP and other arms of the State for costs incurred to investigate and prosecute claims based on PFAS contamination, for consumer impacts, and for penalties and punitive damages. Under the terms of the proposed settlement, 3M is released from liability stemming from its sale, marketing, distribution, use, or manufacture of PFAS in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP has solicited public comment on the proposed Judicial Consent Order Approving Settlement with the 3M Company in the Matter of NJDEP, et al., v. E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company, et al., Case No.: 1:19-CV-14766-RMB-JBC (D.N.J.) by September 19, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority (the "Authority") has determined that additional time to understand and evaluate the impact of the proposed settlement and release of claims upon the rights and remedies available to the Authority to address PFAS related damages is needed, and has determined that it is appropriate to request an additional one hundred and twenty (120) days to submit necessary comments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewerage Authority that the Chairman or Executive Director is hereby authorized to submit the

attached request for an extension of the public comment period and to submit comments upon the Proposed Judicial Consent Order Approving Settlement with the 3M Company in the Matter of NJDEP, et al., v. E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company, et al., Case No.: 1:19-CV-14766-RMB-JBC (D.N.J.) in advance of the deadline therefore.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director, staff, and consultants are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions reasonably necessary for the preparation and submission of the comments referenced herein, including the development and execution of any supporting certifications as appropriate. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

That motion was seconded by Treasurer Lampmann and approved on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop, Desai,

Lampmann, Pellegrini ,Voorman and Wilkes

NAYS : None

ABSENT : Commissioner Mabey

ABSTAIN : None

8. <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

None

9. PAYMENT OF BILLS

9.1 Operating Request for Payment No. 455

Treasurer Lampmann presented Operating Request for Payment No. 455 and moved approval as follows:

		PEQUANN	OCK RIVER	BA	SIN REGION	AL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY		
			SUMM	AR'	Y OF VOUC	HERS FOR		
			()PE	RATING EX	PENSES		
				Operating Request for Payment No. 455				
Γhe f	ollowing bi	lls have been re	eviewed and ar	e re	commended fo	or approval for payment at the		
Augu	st 20, 2025	meeting of the	Authority from	the	Operating Ac	count (Wells Fargo Bank Account 1425985):		
	PRBRSA	VOUCHER	VOUCHER	P	AYMENT			
A	CCT. NO.	<u>NO.</u>	DATE	A	AMOUNT	CHECK PAYABLE TO		
1)	24.05	OP-25-8-1	4/12/2024	\$	250.00	Borough of Butler		
2)	33.01	OP-25-8-2	10/1/2024	\$	2,942.00	Borough of Butler		
3)	24.07	OP-25-8-3	8/18/2025	\$	308.17	J. Avagnano		
4)_	33.01	OP-25-8-4	7/31/2025	\$	4,680.00	CSL		
5)	22.01	OP-25-8-5	8/8/2025	\$	1,899.64	Maraziti Falcon LLP		
6)	22.03	OP-25-8-6	8/11/2025	\$	2,857.91	CP Engineers LLC		
7)	32.02	OP-25-8-7	8/11/2025	\$	3,828.10	CP Engineers LLC		
8)	25.01	OP-25-8-8	7/31/2025	\$	149.29	Raymond Verdonik		
9)	33.03	OP-25-8-9	7/25/2025	\$	16.77	Butler Electric		
10)	33.03	OP-25-8-10	8/1/2025	\$	4.65	JCP&L		

Vice Chairman Voorman seconded the motion which passed on the following roll call vote:

AYES : Chairman Verdonik, Commissioners Croop, Desai

Lampmann, Pellegrini, Voorman and Wilkes

NAYS : None

ABSENT : Commissioner Mabey

ABSTAIN : None

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was opened to the public. There being no public present, Chairman Verdonik closed the public portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 6:35 pm, Secretary Desai moved to adjourn the regular meeting. That motion was seconded by Commissioner Croop and approved unanimously on voice vote.

At approximately 6:35 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Jamie Avagnano*Jamie Avagnano, Recording Secretary

Enclosure: Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 2025.