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2 BOARD MEETING OF THE WATER AUTHORITY

3 OF GREAT NECK NORTH

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6 50 Watermill Lane  
7 Great Neck, New York  
8 Held via WebEx  
9 July 18, 2022  
10 6:00 P.M.

9

10 **TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS**

11

12 **A P P E A R A N C E S:**

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14 Michael C. Kalnick, Chairperson, Village of Kings Point

15 Carol Frank, Director, Town of North Hempstead

16 Jay Johneas, Director, Village of Great Neck

17 Irving Rosenstein, Director, Village of Great Neck Plaza

18 Michael Smiley, Director, Village of Great Neck Estates

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24 The meeting was held pursuant to NY State legislation adopted on September 1, 2021, which,  
25 until notified, in substance, permits public corporations to hold meetings and take actions  
without in-person access to the meeting provided that the public has the ability to view or  
listen to such meeting and the meeting is transcribed.

1     ALSO PRESENT:

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3     From the **Water Authority of Great Neck North:**

4     Ralph J. Kreitzman, Vice-Chairperson

5     Robert Graziano, Deputy Chairperson

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7     Greg Graziano, Superintendent

8     Michael Rispoli, Assistant Superintendent

9     Adam Solow, Supervisor of Water Plant Operations

10    Judith Flynn, Treasurer

11    Debra Ray, Secretary

12

13    James Neri, H2M

14    Stephen Limmer, Counsel, McLaughlin & Stern, LLP

15

16    NOT PRESENT:

17    Dan Levy, Director, Village of Saddle Rock

18    Dana Lustbader, MD, Director, Village of Kensington

19    Steven Weinberg, Director, Village of Thomaston

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1 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Approval of the draft  
2 minutes of June 20th?

3 Motion to approve. [Res. #22-07-01]

4 DIRECTOR SMILEY: So moved.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded?

6 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

7 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Jay.

8 All in favor?

9 (Whereupon all members responded in the  
10 affirmative.)

11 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Approval of the  
14 Abstract of Claims? [Res. #22-07-02]

15 DIRECTOR SMILEY: So moved.

16 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded?

17 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

18 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

19 (Whereupon all members responded in the  
20 affirmative.)

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Monthly Treasurer's  
24 Report.

25 Anything unusual?

1 MS. FLYNN: Nothing unusual to report.

2 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: We need a motion to

3 accept. [Res. #22-07-03]

4 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Motion.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Thank you, Jay.

6 Seconded?

7 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

8 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

9 (Whereupon all members responded in the

10 affirmative.)

11 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Revenue and Expense

14 Quarterly Report.

15 Steve, do we need a motion on this? I don't

16 think so.

17 MR. LIMMER: No, you don't need a motion.

18 It's just a report.

19 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any questions?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Construction work in

22 progress.

23 Any questions?

24 (No response.)

25 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Engineering Status

1 Report.

2 MS. RAY: That's James. Hold on. James Neri  
3 and Bob just entered the room.

4 DIRECTOR FRANK: I like that James gives very  
5 detailed reports.

6 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: James, we are right up  
7 to you.

8 MR. NERI: Good evening, all.

9 So again, very, very busy month.

10 Contractor is hard at work in closing up  
11 finishing systems. Coatings are going on. The pipes  
12 are starting to look pretty good which is  
13 always a good sign that we are getting close.

14 Probably the big activity this month is they  
15 started the process of filling the vessels and  
16 getting them starting to move water through the  
17 plant. Very lightly at first, just to make sure  
18 everything was intact. They cleaned up all of  
19 the functions.

20 What that allowed us to do was, in fact this  
21 happened today, is we had our technical  
22 specialist, a gentleman who has been involved  
23 with pretty much every AOP system project worked  
24 on. Stopped by the site, made sure we were  
25 truly tracking through the vendor, Trojan

1 Technologies, to come in and start their process  
2 which we did in fact verify so we are moving  
3 towards the critical path of collecting samples  
4 proving that the technology works.

5 We prioritized that, if you will, because  
6 there is a long lead time in  
7 samples, you may have heard from your other job,  
8 as well as there is a long lead team in getting  
9 the state and county to agree that they concur  
10 that the systems are working. The sooner we can  
11 collect those packages, that allows that process to  
12 run down its path.

13 Other items of significant interest, a  
14 generator. The second generator that's on that  
15 site arrived and was placed and it was connected  
16 to natural gas. Not yet allowed to flow gas,  
17 but the National Grid team made the connection  
18 to the generator allowing us to schedule the  
19 work with the start-up.

20 Other exciting activities is the contractor  
21 was allowed -- was finally allowed-- to connect the  
22 electricity so our new building does at  
23 least have the ability to become electrified.  
24 Everything up to this date has been temporary  
25 power. So all the equipment has

1       been in and verified and now we'll just do the  
2       final check out and testing of the electronic.

3               So it's going to be a lot of details between  
4       now and the completion but that has been some  
5       of the biggest events.

6               The next thing we are anticipating moving  
7       forward is the delivery of activated carbon. That  
8       comes from a supplier and that has also been a  
9       critical path out there because the supply chain  
10      has been incredibly challenging. We had  
11      anticipated taking it, I believe, a week and a  
12      half, two weeks ago now, but had to push it due  
13      to some bacteriological issues the contractor had  
14      to address making vessels able to receive it.

15              I think that's all I had on my notes. Work  
16      is progressing. Everything is tracking as expected  
17      and I can address any questions or discussion the  
18      Board or anybody would have.

19

20

21              CHAIRPERSON KALNICK:     Any questions?

22              DIRECTOR FRANK:     When it comes to the  
23      carbon, did you find yourselves trying to bid  
24      against or deal with all the competition from  
25      other water suppliers who were looking for

1 carbon filtration?

2 MR. NERI: So from securing of the product  
3 standpoint, the answer is no because I think  
4 this contractor did an adequate job of bulking  
5 up their purchase orders last year when they got  
6 their contract. But what's been an issue is  
7 delivery of that date and very dynamic. The  
8 state of the industry with emerging  
9 contaminants, not just here in New York and New  
10 Jersey but across the country is getting very,  
11 very intense. The product that we specified  
12 goes through a treatment process that removes  
13 the arsenic before it get shipped to the site  
14 and that product apparently goes to a facility  
15 for treatment in Nashville.

16 Long story short, a large private supplier of  
17 water in California, as I understand, bought up the  
18 entire market in the U.S. of this product  
19 and in doing so put a monkey wrench into things --  
20 a lot of other contractors who did not have the  
21 opportunity to locked up purchases, are  
22 scrambling right now because it used to be you'd  
23 call on Friday, get the product Monday. That is not  
24 the world we are living in right now so the  
25 contractor you guys have, had an order and



1 essentially they had to push it two weeks which  
2 was not the preference but it was allowable so  
3 we are, knock on wood, in good shape right now  
4 and expecting it. I believing the delivery is  
5 next week.

6 DIRECTOR FRANK: That just goes to show how  
7 important it is that everybody at the Authority  
8 is so on top of this.

9 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: My brother is having a  
10 problem with his company.

11 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Questions?  
12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Thanks, James.

14 MR. NERI: Thank you all.

15 MR. RISPOLI: Good evening, everybody. CDM  
16 Smith provided the project report in the board  
17 packet.

18 I can address any questions the Board may  
19 have.

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Greg?

22 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: First item I have  
23 is a proposal from H2M, James and his firm. The  
24 Board is aware that Sue resigned her position  
25 earlier in the year. That left some work that  
needed to

1 be picked up. We were in the middle of, for  
 2 instance this AOP project, the fee alone which  
 3 is from the EPA that had requirements for  
 4 American Iron and Steel. We have a lady on it  
 5 that is very, very good at her job and does not let  
 6 anything go, not even the smallest nut or bolt.  
 7 So James and his staff have had to jump through  
 8 a lot of hoops and a lot of  
 9 submittals and re-submittals on top of  
 10 re-submittals. On top of that, and I think  
 11 I mentioned to the Board last month, but we  
 12 also received \$3 million in grant money awarded  
 13 as a WIIA grant. There is going to be some  
 14 administrative costs involved with that so James  
 15 has proposed, and I agree, and I ask the Board to  
 16 approve his proposal for not to exceed \$25,000  
 17 for his firm to administer all these different  
 18 portions of the loans and grants to meet the  
 19 compliance requirements.

20 Keep in mind also the savings if we don't  
 21 replace Sue this year. Savings for this year are  
 22 going to exceed over \$154,000 salary and  
 23 benefits. So that's not, you know, the be all end  
 24 all but the big thing is \$13-\$14 million dollars  
 25

1 we received for the WIFIA loan and the \$3  
2 million in grants. There are costs along with it,  
3 requirements, so I request the Board's approval  
4 of James' proposal.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Do we have a motion  
6 to approve?

7 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: I'll motion it.

8 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Jay.

9 Seconded?

10 DIRECTOR SMILEY: Seconded.

11 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All That's Michael.  
12 in favor? [Res. #22-07-04]

13 (Whereupon all members responded in the  
14 affirmative.)

15 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?  
16 (No response.)

17 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: The next  
18 proposal from H2M, James alluded to in his  
19 report, James's firm has gotten a lot of these  
20 AOP systems on line across Long Island. There is  
21 a lot of sampling and proving out that the  
22 system works.

23 In practice that has to be filed to go into  
24 his report so it's very important that the  
25 proper sampling be done, it be done in the right

1 order and to the right level.

2 The contractor that's currently doing the AOP  
3 projects has agreed -- we had an allowance in  
4 our bid anyway for \$140,000. The contractor has  
5 agreed to give up that portion of their bid to  
6 James's firm to do it for \$55,000 so there is no  
7 additional cost to the Authority. We are going  
8 to wind up paying James now instead of the  
9 contractor.

10 So I was looking for approval on this and the  
11 contractor agreed that James's firm is better  
12 equipped to do this instead of the contractor  
13 trying to learn for the first time.

14 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: The contractor is going to  
15 give credit back for \$140,000 then H2M would get  
16 the contract not to exceed \$55, right?

17 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: There may be  
18 some other costs and sampling that we're going  
19 to have to do but this won't be \$55,000 on top  
20 of the \$140. It's going to come out of the  
21 \$140.

22 James can correct me if I'm wrong, I still  
23 don't think we are going to approach the \$140  
24 number for the sampling.

25 MR. NERI: Correct. There is some capacity

1 in there, there is sampling that the lab costs  
2 are not part of our piece, that's just the labor  
3 piece, but yes, I would not expect to utilize  
4 the whole allowance.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to approve.  
6 [Res. #22-07-05]

7 DIRECTOR FRANK: So moved.

8 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded?

9 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

10 DIRECTOR FRANK: I think Michael and I did it  
11 at the same time.

12 DIRECTOR SMILEY: Sorry.

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?  
14 (Whereupon all members responded in the  
15 affirmative.)

16 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?  
17 (No response.)

18 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: One more thing  
19 that didn't make the agenda, it's a last second  
20 thing we didn't get a chance to get a proposal  
21 from James for and I would like to get Board  
22 approval tonight.

23 The new round of WIIA funding is coming out.  
24 Normally they announce it at this time of year  
25 and they give you until November to submit your

1 application.

2 Well this year they were so generous they cut  
3 two months off and said you have to have it in  
4 by September. And there is a lot to get done. A  
5 lot of different Board approvals and  
6 resolutions, et cetera, to go with the  
7 application to put the application together.

8 So James and I spoke today and for him to do  
9 the WIIA grant application, he would like it not  
10 to exceed \$3,500 so I would like the Board to  
11 authorize not to exceed \$3,500 with the  
12 potential proposal to follow next month.

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to approve?  
14 [Res. #22-07-06]

15 DIRECTOR SMILEY: So moved.

16 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Second?

17 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

18 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in a favor?

19 (Whereupon all members responded in the  
20 affirmative.)

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

22 (No response.)

23 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: James, you going to  
24 get it done in time?

25 MR. NERI: We actually thought we were ahead

1 of the game. Last Board meeting the Board  
2 approved the Engineer Report for Community Drive  
3 before me, it was for the anticipation of this  
4 grant. Then the Governor beat us to the punch a  
5 week and a half ago and said the grants were up  
6 in September. So it's going to be a challenge  
7 and we have a number of things to push with  
8 resolutions that need some time, specifically things  
9 like SEQR, lead agency status, et  
10 cetera, so I will leave that to Greg to put on  
11 the agenda.

12 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO:

13 Thanks for that great segue, James.

14 There will be a document we put in front of  
15 the Board to vote on to put us down as lead  
16 agency. But the way the timing is coming out, the  
17 application I believe has to be in by September 9th  
18 so there's one Board meeting left. So I am asking  
19 the Board tonight to pass a resolution allowing us  
20 to file as lead agency  
21 with the intent to be lead agency so we can file  
22 it immediately. It could be, depending on if  
23 it's a EAG-1 or two, depending which way it  
24 goes, could be a 30-day period we have to wait  
25

1 to hear back from all the potential other  
2 interested parties that may object to us being  
3 the lead agency. We have done this many times  
4 before and nobody has objected so I don't expect  
5 anyone to object now, but we still have to  
6 follow the protocol.

7 The parties could be Nassau County or  
8 Nassau County Department of Health, we have to  
9 send out four or five letters to different agencies  
10 notifying them we intend to be the lead agency.

11 So I am just looking for a Board resolution  
12 tonight agreeing that we can proceed with the  
13 intent to be the lead agency.

14 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to approve.  
15 [Res. #22-07-07]

16 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Thought we just did.

17 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: To be the lead agency?

18 MR. LIMMER: You didn't yet.

19 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to approve.

20 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: I'll motion it.

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Thank you.

22 Seconded?

23 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

24 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

25 (Whereupon all members responded in the



1 affirmative.)

2 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

3 (No response.)

4 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: One more

5 item: Since we only have one Board meeting left

6 prior to when we have to get this application in, I

7 would like to also see how everyone's calendar is

8 if we can move the meeting from August 15th to

9 August 22nd which gives James and the firm a

10 little bit more time and us to get back, figure it

11 out, James, if you file it tomorrow or something

12 like that we would have to --

13

14 MR. NERI: Essentially with the Board's

15 previous resolution I think I heard to the

16 intent to be lead agency, you guys would issue

17 your letters of intent to all the parties tomorrow,

18 the 19th. That letter needs to be out there for 30

19 days, so barring an objection, you would be the

20 lead agency on the 19th of August.

21 The plan is in your packets. We would

22 present to you the SEQRA documents, the

23 environmental determination knocking out what

24 that determination is, there is no significance,

25 and the meeting on the 22nd you would declare a

1 negative declaration on your action. That would then  
2 allow you to incorporate that package as part of the  
3 application to the state for the  
4 grant on the 19th two weeks later.

5 So by moving that meeting one week it allows  
6 you to pass that resolution in accordance with  
7 the SEQRA guidance.

8 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Thank you.

9 If stays on the 15th we would have to have a  
10 special meeting after the 19th of August just to  
11 do this.

12 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Is everybody okay with  
13 that? Monday August 22nd.

14 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Good.

15 MR. NERI: At the meeting we would expect to  
16 get the Board's concurrence on the negative impact  
17 as well and by then we will have most of the report.  
18 More importantly, a cost opinion as  
19 part of the grant application. There needs to  
20 be a commitment on the owner's share and the  
21 emerging contaminant is 40% -- actually it's 60%  
22 with a 40% owner contribution.

23 So we would be looking to have the Board's  
24 commitment of the dollars at that point, at  
25 least conceptually. We have been successful on

1 a reactive commitment. If you are awarded the  
2 grant you commit to spend the money. I can  
3 share some sample draft verbiage with Greg for  
4 the Board's review but we can pass both those  
5 resolutions on the 22nd, have everything ready  
6 for the package on the 29th.

7 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Executive Session,  
8 Greg?

9 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Sure.

10 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to go into  
11 Executive Session?

12 DIRECTOR FRANK: So moved.

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded.

14 (Whereupon the Board went into Executive  
15 Session from 6:21 P.M. to 6:33 P.M.)

16 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to adjourn.  
17 Thank you all for coming tonight.

18 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Thank you. Have a great  
19 evening.

20 DIRECTOR SMILEY: Take care.

21  
22  
23  
24  
25