

Minutes of the 865th Meeting
“Celebrating Over 60 Years of Continuous Environmental Excellence”
Alexandria Renew Enterprises
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2019

On Tuesday, April 16, at 6:00 p.m., Alexandria Renew Enterprises held its regular Board of Directors meeting at Alexandria Renew Enterprises in the Ed Semonian Board Room at 1800 Limerick Street with the following present:

Members: Mr. John Hill, Chairman
Mr. Bruce Johnson, Vice Chairman
Mr. William Dickinson, Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. James Beall, Member
Ms. Patti Turner, Member

Staff: Ms. Karen Pallansch, Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Liliana Maldonado, Deputy General Manager, Engineering & Planning
Mr. Brian Mosby, Deputy General Manager, Operations & Maintenance
Ms. Lisa Van Riper, Director, Enterprise Communications
Ms. Christine McIntyre, Director of Finance
Ms. Lorna Huff, Secretary to the Board

Counsel: Mr. Jonathan Rak
McGuireWoods, LLP

Consultants: Mr. Dorian Hemming, Brown & Caldwell

Fairfax County Representative: Mr. Shahram Mohsenin, Director
Fairfax County Wastewater Planning & Monitoring Division

City Representative: Mr. Lalit Sharma, Division Chief
Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Division

Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The Chairman requested that members review the agenda and inquired if there were changes. There being none, the Chairman requested a motion to approve. Ms. Turner moved approval and Mr. Beall provided the second. The Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Public Comment Period

There were no members of the public in attendance and wishing to speak, the Chairman closed the public comment period and moved to the Consent Calendar.

Consent Calendar

- A. Review and Approve Minutes from the March 19, 2019 Board Meeting

Mr. Hill requested that members review the Consent Calendar. Mr. Dickinson referenced page 2, Item A, under Unfinished Business. He requested that line 3 be modified to read "it was undetermined when and to what extent this would have any effect on AlexRenew rates." The Board concurred. Mr. Beall moved approval and Mr. Dickinson seconded. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar as modified.

There being no additional discussion, the Chairman moved to Unfinished Business.

Unfinished Business

A. Unfinished Business

Consideration of Changes to the Rates, Rules and Regulations for Public Notice and Set the Public Hearing

The Chairman recognized Ms. Pallansch. She reported that Resolution of Intent to Adopt and Change Certain Rates, Fees and Charges from the board package was missing information on AlexRenew's volumetric charge. She noted the updated Resolution for Board approval. Mr. Hill inquired about community questions or comments. AlexRenew's Facebook page had received some negative comments about the rate increase. She noted that staff promptly addressed each comment. Many of the negative comments were related to people mistaking AlexRenew for Virginia American Water (VAW).

Mr. Hill noted that AlexRenew had not had a rate increase in two years with the last one being 1.5%. Ms. Turner inquired whether the lack of public response was normal for a rate increase. Ms. Pallansch reported that staff expects to receive more responses once the first bill reflecting the new rate is received. She additionally reported that the City has been helpful with messaging. Mr. Johnson inquired on AlexRenew providing a graphic to show the rates progression over the years. Ms. Pallansch reported that graphics are included in the presentation for the May Rate hearing.

There were no additional questions or comments. The Chairman requested a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Beall seconded. The Board unanimously approved. There were no additional questions or comments. The Chairman moved to the Strategic Roundtable.

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ADOPT AND CHANGE CERTAIN RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority d/b/a Alexandria Renew Enterprises, Inc., hereby signifies its intent to change certain rates, fees and charges to become effective **July 1, 2019** and hereby sets the date of **Saturday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m.**, at the Authority's administration office, 1800 Limerick Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 for a public hearing to receive comment regarding same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Executive Officer is hereby directed to have published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Alexandria, for two consecutive weeks, notice of the proposed change in the schedule of rates, fees and charges and the day and time of the public hearing.

The proposed rates, fees and charges are:

Description	Meter Size	Effective Oct 1, 2017	Effective July 1, 2019	Effective July 1, 2020
		Per 1,000 Gallons	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per 1,000 Gallons
Individually Metered Residential Service - Wastewater Treatment Charge	All Meters	\$6.77	\$7.63	\$8.50
Commercial Service - Wastewater Treatment Charge	All Meters	\$6.77	\$7.63	\$8.50

Description	Meter Size	Current Effective Oct. 1, 2017	Proposed Effective July 1, 2019	Proposed Effective July 1, 2020
Residential Base Charge	All Meters	\$9.61	\$10.83	\$12.05
Commercial Base Charge	5/8"	\$28.83	\$32.49	\$36.14
	¾"	\$28.83	\$64.97	\$72.29
	1"	\$72.07	\$81.22	\$90.36
	1-1/2"	\$144.16	\$162.43	\$180.71
	2"	\$230.65	\$259.88	\$289.14
	3"	\$432.47	\$487.28	\$542.14
	4"	\$720.77	\$812.13	\$903.56
	6"	\$1,441.56	\$1,624.26	\$1,807.13
	8"	\$2,306.50	\$2,598.81	\$2,981.40
Minimum Deposit Based on Meter Size		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Customer Activation Fee		\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

Revised on July 1, 2019 and shall remain in effect thereafter until further revised.

Board Strategic Roundtable – Member and Committee Reports

CSO Workgroup – Mr. Hill

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 24, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. The focus is to update City Council.

Old Town & Seminary Hill – Mr. Dickinson

Attended both meetings. HOA members were concerned about reduced parking and construction work on Seminary Road.

Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations – Mr. Dickinson

Reported that Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations was holding their next meeting on Wednesday, April 17. He is unable to attend.

North Ridge Citizens Association – Mr. Johnson

The RiverRenew team gave a presentation on April 8. The presentation was well-received and participants asked good questions. HOA members were focused on the construction work on Seminary Road.

Chamber of Commerce – Ms. Turner

The Executive Committee mentioned AlexRenew in their meeting. The Chamber needs clarification on where the tunnel lines will be located. Ms. Turner requested a presentation to engage the Chamber.

Chesapeake Bay Citizens Advisory Group – Mr. Dickinson

The meeting focused on agriculture with many farm agencies in attendance. He additionally reported that money was allocated in the Farm bill for drinking water.

Conowingo Dam – Separate program for state allocations. The next meeting is in May in Baltimore. The focus is stormwater.

Potomac Watershed Roundtable – Mr. Dickinson

Attended a meeting of the Potomac Watershed Roundtable. Viewed a presentation on the state of the Chesapeake Bay which has worsened due to excessive rain. Fish populations are doing well. Suggested separate scoring for tributaries.

George Mason University Research Facility (GMU) – Mr. Dickinson

Mr. Dickinson reported on a tour of the George Mason University facility with Dr. Chris Jones. GMU is researching a problem at Pohick Bay with invasive water chestnuts.

Finance & Audit Committee – Mr. Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the Committee reviewed the FY20 Preliminary Budget and recommended for approval to the full Board for public notice and to set the public hearing. There were minor changes which are reflected in the draft that was mailed with the Board package. Mr. Johnson suggested simpler displays and graphics to better illustrate money flow.

The Chairman commended the Committee Chair's thorough review of the budget document.

Ms. McIntyre followed up on Mr. Johnson's inquiry on AlexRenew's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) question, reporting that the \$180,000 goes towards current and future obligations.

There were no additional questions or comments. The Chairman requested a motion from Mr. Johnson to approve the FY20 Preliminary Budget for Public Notice and Set the Public Hearing for Tuesday, June 18. Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Beall seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

Governance Committee

Nothing to report.

There were no additional questions or comments. The Chairman moved to the CEO's Reports and Recommendations.

CEO's Reports and Recommendations

A. Consideration of March 2019 Financial Report

Ms. Pallansch recognized Ms. McIntyre, Director of Finance. Ms. McIntyre noted that revenue was trending slightly below budget. She attributed the revenue under-performance to several factors including a slight decline in wastewater treatment fees, a slight decline in fees associated with deposits, disconnects and reconnects, a monthly accounting fluctuation in accounts receivable, but primarily the fact that the FY19 budget was developed with the assumption of a rate increase that was then delayed.

There were no additional questions or comments and the Chairman moved to the CEO Monthly Report.

B. CEO Monthly Report (March)

Ms. Pallansch noted her written report and inquired if members had questions.

She introduced Mr. Brian Mosby, Deputy General Manager of Operations & Maintenance. Mr. Mosby previously worked at Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The Board welcomed him to Alexandria Renew.

Ms. Pallansch then reviewed upcoming AlexRenew events as follows:

Monday, April 22 – Agenda Alexandria - Eco-City Report Card – Is Alexandria Cleaning Up Its Act?

Wednesday, April 24 – City Council/AlexRenew Board Work Group at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 27 – Earth Day, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Lenny Harris Memorial Fields – Ms. Turner will be presenting the Ellen Pickering Award at 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 28 - AlexRenew Open House on Rates, 3:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. – She requested that members planning to attend, contact Ms. Van Riper in advance for parking instructions.

Wednesday, May 1 – RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at AlexRenew.

Ms. Pallansch reported that she is updating the State Water Commission on May 7. Mr. Dickinson inquired on the status of the National Park Service (NPS) environmental assessment. Ms. Pallansch reported that at this point they are on schedule. She expects the Environmental Assessment in May.

Ms. Pallansch reviewed the RiverRenew Executive Dashboard noting that the program is on schedule. She reviewed the contract award status and noted that items indicated are long lead items requiring that contracts to bid sooner. She reported that bids so far are below engineering estimates and within meeting procurement guidelines.

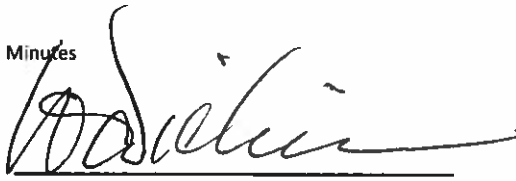
Ms. Pallansch then reviewed various handouts and AlexRenew's At-A Glance brochure. She informed the Board that she would alert them via email when the Environmental Assessment was completed.

The Chairman discussed his trip to Thailand and the air and water quality issues of the town that he visited. Ms. Pallansch reported that she would email the photographs showing water conditions after the meeting.

Mr. Dickinson reported he would not be able to attend the next Board meeting.

There were no additional questions or comments and Chairman requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dickinson moved and Ms. Turner seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

APPROVED:

Secretary-Treasurer