

Minutes of the 916th Meeting
“Celebrating Over 60 Years of Continuous Environmental Excellence”
AlexRenew Board of Directors
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2024

On Tuesday, March 19, 2024, the AlexRenew Board of Directors held its regular meeting in the Edward Semonian Board Room at 1800 Limerick Street, and broadcast via Microsoft Teams, with the following present:

Members: Mr. John Hill, Chair
 Ms. Adriana Caldarelli, Secretary-Treasurer
 Mr. Mark Jinks, Member
 Ms. Becky Hammer, Member

Absent: Mr. James Beall, Vice Chair

Staff: Mr. Justin Carl, General Manager/Chief Executive Officer
 Ms. Amanda Waters, General Counsel and Deputy General Manager
 Ms. Caitlin Feehan, Chief Administrative Officer
 Ms. Felicia Glapion, Chief Engineering Officer
 Mr. Lake Akinkugbe, Director of Finance
 Mr. Matt Robertson, Director of Communications
 Ms. Lorna Huff, Executive Assistant to the Board

Consultants: Ms. Rosey Jencks, National Equity Lead,
 Brown & Caldwell

 Ms. Priyanka Saha, Project Manager,
 Environmental Justice Assessment,
 Brown & Caldwell

Fairfax County
Representative: Mr. William Barrack, Branch Chief,
 Wastewater Planning and Monitoring Division

City Representative: Ms. Erin Bevis-Carver, Division Chief,
 Sanitary Infrastructure Division

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Hammer moved. Ms. Caldarelli seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

3. Public Comment Period

There were no members of the public in attendance and wishing to speak, the Chair closed the public comment period.

4. Consent Agenda

Members reviewed the Consent Agenda which contained the Minutes of the February 20, 2024, meeting, and the Review and Approval of a Contract Award for the CMAR for AlexRenew's Preliminary and Primary Systems Upgrade. Mr. Carl reported that AlexRenew was moving from planning to design phase with a contract award in the amount of \$811,000 to GHD for the remaining fiscal year. There being no additional questions or comments, the Chair requested a motion to approve. Ms. Caldarelli moved, and Ms. Hammer seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

5. Member and Committee Updates

a. Community Meetings

The Chair attended a meeting of the Federation of Civic Associations. The Association chair was impressed with the resolutions to AlexRenew's customer service migration issues and progress on RiverRenew and LEAP programs.

b. Finance and Audit Committee

Mr. Jinks reported on the Finance and Audit Committee meeting held the previous evening where staff presented AlexRenew's FY2025 Operating and Capital Budget and proposed rates, fees and charges. The full Board will be asked to approve it at the April 16 meeting. In May, a public hearing will be held to accept public comment and final Board approval.

Mr. Carl reviewed updated slides to address member's questions and comments from the Finance and Audit Committee meeting.

c. Governance Committee

i. Review Recommended Updates to Board Committees Policy and Financial Policy

The Chair recognized Ms. Hammer who reported that the updates to the policies were developed by Mr. Jinks who reported that after a detailed review by the Governance Committee and Board members, the revised policies are ready for Board approval.

There being no additional questions or comments, the Chair requested a motion to approve the updates to the Board Committees and Financial Policies. Ms. Hammer moved, and Ms. Caldarelli seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

ii. Board Compensation Philosophy Discussion

Mr. Carl reported that staff will discuss modifications to AlexRenew's Compensation Philosophy based on the results of the biannual compensation study in April. Modifications to the current Compensation Philosophy include benefits and other programs. Staff would like to hold a Governance Committee meeting to review and discuss a draft of proposed changes.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Review Memorandum Outlining Legal Requirements Related to Funding a Customer Assistance Program with Rate Revenue

Ms. Waters examined the legal issues related to funding a customer assistance program (CAP) using AlexRenew rate revenue. She provided an overview of legal and policy considerations and a risk assessment of all options. Staff recommended that AlexRenew collaborate with other authorities to determine whether there is interest in changing the Virginia Water and Sewer Authorities Act (the Authorities Act) to accommodate a ratepayer CAP while simultaneously continuing to explore other ways to fund the Low-Income Emergency Assistance Program (LEAP). Members discussed funding alternatives and programs being considered by other localities and the pros and cons of changing the Authorities Act.

Members will be briefed periodically as staff continues to research options.

7. New Business

a. Environmental Justice Policy Assessment

Ms. Water introduced Ms. Jencks, Ms. Saha and Mr. Coles who provided an overview of AlexRenew's Environmental Justice Policy and current assessment underway. Ms. Jencks reviewed prior experience with similar organizations implementing Environmental Justice Policies. She reviewed the three phases from data collection through final implementation in October 2024.

Ms. Saha reported on AlexRenew's current infrastructure and opportunities for community engagement with projects in the City (Homes Run Trunk Sewer, Potomac Yard Pump Station and Commonwealth Interceptor) as well as within the AlexRenew workforce. She further reported on Alexandria's Environmental Justice initiatives and steps going forward. The Chair commended the Environmental Justice Assessment and looks forward to future updates

8. Monthly Outcomes Update

The Chair recognized Mr. Carl who referenced page 5 noting that AlexRenew is set up for Spring2Action donations for LEAP. AlexRenew held a kick-off meeting with the City to discuss the move of certain offices in Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) on AlexRenew's 5th floor.

Mr. Carl reported that call volumes were returning to normal. He noted that the Governor signed the bill extending the RiverRenew completion date to July 1, 2026. Hazel's tunnel work was completed on March 13. She is scheduled to be lifted on March 21. Members should advise if they would like to attend. Staff sent a draft proclamation to the mayor's office to make Saturday, April 13, Hazel the TBM Day. AlexRenew will operate an Open House for the community and staff.

There being no additional business, the Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hammer moved and Ms. Caldarelli seconded. The Board unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED:



Secretary-Treasurer

