

## PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF

APRIL 8, 2020

**(OPEN SESSION)**

## C O M M I S S I O N E R S            P R E S E N T :

JOSEPH KOLODZIEJ, President

JEFFREY LEVINE, Vice President

RONALD VAN RENSALIER, Treasurer

GERALD G. FRIEND, Secretary

RIGO SANCHEZ

ROBERT L. VANNOY

EDWARD COTTON, JR.    **(ABSENT)**

## A L S O            P R E S E N T :

JAMES G. DUPREY, Business Administrator

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, Counsel

YAACOV BRISMAN, Assistant Counsel

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

1 MR. AMODIO: We are live on YouTube. If  
2 the president would like to call meeting to order.

3 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Call the meeting to  
4 order.

5 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

6  
7 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
8 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
9 Cotton is absent)

10  
11 MR. AMODIO: The time is 10:07 a.m.

12 You have a quorum.

13 All of the requirements of the Open Public  
14 Meetings Act have been met. Notices have been  
15 furnished to all Commissioners; City Clerks of  
16 Paterson, Passaic, and Clifton; North Jersey  
17 Herald News; The Record - Passaic County edition  
18 and the Commission's Executive Staff with a copy  
19 posted at the main bulletin board at the Clifton  
20 facility as well as PVWC website.

21 Please stand.

22 Commissioner Friend.

23

24 (Pledge of Allegiance)

25

1 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: If everyone would  
2 remain standing for a moment, please.

3 If we can have a moment of silence for the  
4 victims of this pandemic so far and a little  
5 prayer for us getting through it.

6 Thank you.

7

8 (Moment of Silence)

9

10 MR. AMODIO: So we offered a period for  
11 the public to submit questions. At this point, we  
12 have none to report.

13 So we can move onto committee reports.

14 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Lou, quick question.

15 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

16 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: We spoke yesterday  
17 and I had suggested that people ask questions on  
18 the website. Were we able to do something like  
19 that?

20 MR. AMODIO: Yes, Commissioner. That was  
21 done. That was put on right where we have the  
22 link to this meeting. So we put in a "Frequently  
23 Asked Questions" so that if anyone did have any  
24 questions that were not addressed on the  
25 Frequently Asked Question portion they could then

1 submit an e-mail.

2 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Right, okay.

3 MR. AMODIO: So hopefully that was  
4 sufficient enough.

5 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Okay.

6 MR. AMODIO: So the first committee would  
7 be finance.

8 COMMISSIONER VAN RENSALIER: Yes, good  
9 morning.

10 MR. AMODIO: Good morning.

11 COMMISSIONER VAN RENSALIER: Disbursements  
12 are normal. There's nothing out of the ordinary  
13 there.

14 Cash collections are down, which may be a  
15 result of the coronavirus.

16 There was some discussion about overtime  
17 and there was some concern by some of the  
18 Commissioners which appears to be an increase or  
19 an uptake in overtime in some of the departments  
20 and a larger picture of discussion revolved around  
21 who's authorizing such overtime and ultimately,  
22 who's signing off on overtime. So that may  
23 necessitate a larger discussion amongst the full  
24 board if it appears through our discussion that  
25 there might be a breakdown in communication in

1           some departments.

2                   I invite Commissioner Vannoy or  
3           Commissioner Friend, if they have any input  
4           because they had some real concerns relative to  
5           the overtime as well.

6                   There were no shutoffs. We wanted to make  
7           sure that we were in compliance with the  
8           governor's Executive Order regarding no shutoffs  
9           to our customers during this pandemic. We wanted  
10          to make sure that our messaging was appropriate in  
11          that regard and we did see a letter, a mail  
12          stuffer that went out to our ratepayers which  
13          indicated that all shutoffs would be suspended at  
14          this time and further discussion for the full  
15          board as well to memorialize going forward on a  
16          quarterly basis as needed we will suspend all  
17          final notices being sent to our ratepayers.

18                   Thank you.

19                   I move it back to the president. That's  
20          all I have.

21                   MR. AMODIO: Okay. Any questions?

22                   COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I would just like to  
23          say just based on the overtime, like Commissioner  
24          Van Rensalier said, we just need to verify a chain  
25          of command of how we're doing it and who

1           authorizes it. But that's something that, you  
2           know, we could discuss at a later time, not too  
3           much later because we don't want this to keep  
4           going, but has to be a format that we must follow  
5           and I do believe that we had one, but maybe it's  
6           not just being followed correctly. So we need to  
7           revisit that.

8                     MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

9                     Moving on.

10                    Personnel. The only name that could be  
11                    mentioned in open session is Claire. Everyone  
12                    else is for closed session.

13                    COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Do we need to raise  
14                    our hand or anything?

15                    MR. AMODIO: If you'd like.

16                    COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I'd like to make a  
17                    motion to table the entire Personnel agenda. I  
18                    feel personally at this time with all we have to  
19                    deal with we should not be hiring anybody because  
20                    most of our people are working from home, if not  
21                    everyone. I don't see there's a need and based on  
22                    just being financially, what we have to deal with  
23                    that that would be my personal opinion.

24                    COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I would second  
25                    that.

1 MR. AMODIO: Second by Commissioner  
2 Sanchez.

3 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Are you guys  
4 listening to me?

5 MR. AMODIO: Yes, Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: You know, I mean, I  
7 don't know if Bobby recall, we had our special  
8 project meeting and I kind of stated the feeling  
9 where we are now today. I don't know if any of  
10 you look out the window, how many people don't  
11 have jobs, how many people are really getting hurt  
12 and I think if you look at any institutions in the  
13 State of New Jersey, maybe in the United States,  
14 nobody is doing promotion; nobody is doing hiring.  
15 I don't know why we're the only one out there. We  
16 are either smarter or just stupid people to do it.  
17 So I just think this is the wrong time to be doing  
18 this. It's a slap in the face on people and I  
19 think we should just wait on a while and let's see  
20 how this thing turn out. So I second Bobby Vannoy  
21 and I think it's an insult.

22 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: We have a motion and  
23 a second.

24 Louis, call the roll, please.

25 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

1                   COMMISSIONER FRIEND: I did have some  
2                   questions about the promotions, the increases and  
3                   what have you.

4                   I spoke to the president yesterday via  
5                   e-mail back and forth and he allayed my concerns,  
6                   mainly, that we continue to do these at every  
7                   meeting.

8                   There's a list of eight or ten names that  
9                   are getting promotions, that are getting increases  
10                  and, you know, I keep saying that we should be  
11                  looking at the total picture. But after talking  
12                  to Joe yesterday I said I would support it based  
13                  upon the reasons that I was told took place at the  
14                  personnel committee and, you know, and we do  
15                  operate via the committee basis and usually go  
16                  along with the recommendations.

17                  Are we tabling indefinitely or just to the  
18                  next meeting or what are we doing?

19                  COMMISSIONER VANNOY: My personal opinion  
20                  I'd like to table until we exactly find out what  
21                  we're doing as a country here, when people can  
22                  actually start going back to work. Again, like  
23                  Commissioner Sanchez said, there are so many  
24                  people out of work not getting paid. Again, to me  
25                  it is a slap in the face to start handing out, you



1 know, raises and this and that and everything when  
2 you have people that are hurting.

3 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: So the motion on the  
4 floor is to table the entire agenda at such time  
5 it can be brought back to the floor the next  
6 regular meeting or can continue to be tabled. So  
7 the answer to your question, Commissioner Friend,  
8 it would be an indefinite table since the mover  
9 and second did not attach a specific date to it.

10 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Correct. Listen,  
11 I'd love for the country to be back tomorrow and  
12 at the next meeting approved. But that's  
13 something we have to wait and see.

14 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: So at this point,  
15 Robert's Rules of Order on the motion to table  
16 there's typically no discussion. It's just a yes  
17 or a no as to whether we wish to table. So if we  
18 can continue the roll call, that would be helpful.

19 COMMISSIONER VAN RENSALIER: I just want  
20 to say that I think there are legitimate arguments  
21 on both sides and I agree there's no urgency to  
22 moving the Personnel agenda at this time and I  
23 just wanted to say that so that as far as I'm  
24 concerned, there's no negative reflection on any  
25 one person on the agenda. So I agree. I vote

1                   yes.

2                   MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

3                   Commissioner Cotton is not with us.

4                   Commissioner Kolodziej.

5                   PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: While I would  
6 disagree with not filling new hires given the fact  
7 that a laborer and a labor shortage may be useful,  
8 I will defer to my colleagues and honor a motion  
9 to table, so yes.

10

11                   (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
12 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
13 Cotton is absent)

14

15                   MR. AMODIO: Okay. Motion approved.

16 Table Personnel agenda.

17 Thank you.

18 Special projects.

19                   PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Despite the fact  
20 that we really jumped the gun on this, I'll still  
21 give a personnel committee report.

22                   MR. AMODIO: I'm sorry.

23                   PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: So the committee did  
24 meet.

25                   COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I apologize, Mr.

1 President.

2 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: That's quite all  
3 right.

4 So the committee met last week. It was a  
5 meeting that was over two hours. We had two major  
6 items on this. The agenda items that we just  
7 tabled took up the entire two some odd hours so it  
8 was a very spirited discussion.

9 Just to give a brief highlight of what we  
10 saw on the agenda: Two of the positions were to  
11 address out of title work and appropriately  
12 compensate for the actual work performed. One of  
13 the positions was for the extra duties because of  
14 the pandemic that has proven beneficial to our  
15 operations and we're looking to continue that on a  
16 permanent basis. So three of the positions  
17 basically are serving as a de facto IT Department,  
18 again, proving beneficial to our operations and  
19 saved us a significant sum of money.

20 My understanding from the committee  
21 meeting is that Administration will be making a  
22 proposal for the full board to make a change in  
23 our table of organization.

24 Two of the salary adjustments were due to  
25 the potential litigation matters. One of the

1 salary adjustments was, again, due to the extra  
2 duties of a staff member that was designed to free  
3 up extra duties in another department.

4 One of the salary adjustments was for a  
5 retiring employee who we are trying to entice to  
6 stay on board instead of retiring so that they  
7 could help us out with the upgrade to our billing  
8 system. It was determined that it would be more  
9 cost effective to have this person get paid the  
10 additional money as opposed to having the outside  
11 vendor try the cookie cutter mold of getting us up  
12 and running with the new billing system. One of  
13 the salary adjustments reflected two employees'  
14 additional workload and there were two hires that  
15 were basically backfilling vacancies.

16 So all of those have been tabled. We'll  
17 see where that takes us. Unfortunately, one of  
18 the ones we tabled, the retirement date we would  
19 need to discuss that in closed session. My  
20 apologies.

21 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I have something  
22 else to add as well.

23 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: I think that pretty  
24 much covers what we had on the personnel  
25 committee.

1                   The only other thing I would like to  
2                   address is that there was a brief discussion about  
3                   the fact that our staff members, particularly,  
4                   field members who are not working from home, they  
5                   are out there just as brave as any police or  
6                   fireman, EMT, doctor or nurse. There was at least  
7                   expected interest in seeing if, we're a public  
8                   sector so we don't give bonuses, but some way  
9                   honoring their commitment in risking their health  
10                  in order to make sure that, you know, hundreds of  
11                  thousands of people have water. There was a very  
12                  brief discussion on Administration looking into if  
13                  that would be even possible for us to do for those  
14                  people that are out in the field and that was  
15                  pretty much the personnel committee meeting.

16                 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Board Secretary, I'd  
17                 like to add something.

18                 MR. AMODIO: Go ahead.

19                 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Lou.

20                 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

21                 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Based on what the  
22                 president said, if there's some things that at  
23                 least for the next meeting that are critical to as  
24                 far as the whole pandemic thing goes, I think we  
25                 should be made aware of those things prior to and

1 we can look at them in a separate light.

2 Also keep in mind that it was a suggestion  
3 of the board that anything we table moving forward  
4 at the last meeting, the people would actually be  
5 able to get retro. So it's not like we're just  
6 leaving everybody out in the cold.

7 But, again, just for the public, at this  
8 time I just want to stay with what I said as far  
9 as the tabling right now. But if there are some  
10 things, and, again, if there was somebody that  
11 needed to get hired that was critical to what  
12 we're dealing with now, I would ask that that be  
13 put on too so we can have explanation of that, you  
14 know, move forward along those lines that are  
15 important.

16 MR. AMODIO: Okay. So I believe  
17 Commissioner Kolodziej said that we can discuss  
18 those in closed session and, again, with the  
19 exception of Claire, everyone else.

20 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I want to point out  
21 one thing or one individual in closed session, but  
22 go ahead we'll move forward. That's fine.

23 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Thank you.

24 Anyone else?

25 Special projects. Commissioner Kolodziej



1 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

2 MR. BELLA: I just want to just reserve  
3 this for complimenting our people and their  
4 dedication to the work that they have been doing.  
5 It is astounding to me to see what happened here  
6 in the last month and how people walked right up  
7 to the gauntlet and did what they had to do. They  
8 worked. I mean, you know, doing anything and  
9 everything. We turned their lives upside down and  
10 they did it and they did it without any complaints  
11 or anything like that. Really truly was inspiring  
12 to see this happening.

13 I'd just like to comment too about two  
14 people in particular. I won't name their names,  
15 but they're IT people. Did an unbelievable job.  
16 Within a week we had most of our people at home  
17 computers. Our Customer Service is working. All  
18 our departments are running at a hundred percent  
19 and we were not set up to do this at the start of  
20 this thing. So I would like for you to give that  
21 consideration on the personnel agenda moving  
22 forward.

23 As far as the plant and everything, all  
24 reports are that things are running well. You're  
25 not having any problems. There's no problems with



1 the supply chain.

2 In terms of the individuals in the, you  
3 know, the Distribution Department that, again,  
4 that's running fine.

5 So far we're lucky there's only two of us  
6 that have been infected, so that's a really good  
7 thing.

8 And the way we split our crews up so that  
9 they're split in two has paid off. There was one  
10 person who was sick, we're not sure, no  
11 confirmation or anything like that. It might have  
12 been just a plain old cold. We were able to keep  
13 them home and away from the rest of the  
14 department. So everything's working well.

15 MR. AMODIO: Any questions?

16 Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Lou.

18 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I don't know if any  
20 other Commissioner heard, but I think that the, I  
21 would say the lower peers, the people on the  
22 street, they did a phenomenal job. You know, they  
23 kept coming and they kept solving issues. I had  
24 to call for emergency, they showed up. So that's  
25 a great thing and I think, you know, our people

1 our regular people, the regular guy out there that  
2 really, that goes for everybody, but the people,  
3 the regular worker really, really came through for  
4 us. That's something we should keep in mind.

5 MR. BELLA: Yes, they did. I agree with  
6 you, without hesitation.

7 MR. AMODIO: I think for most of us here  
8 we see the effort that was put in and continues to  
9 be put in and it's remarkable how Passaic Valley  
10 as a family has come together in all of this and  
11 it really shows good faith on everyone's part,  
12 Commissioners included.

13 Commissioner Vannoy.

14 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: No, no, I'm sorry, I  
15 was just un-muting myself. I had to just make a  
16 note.

17 MR. AMODIO: If that would be all, we can  
18 move onto Comptroller's report.

19 MR. WEISS: Cash on hand is 17.3 million.

20 Accounts receivable is 19.3 million.

21 Our accounts payable is at 3.8 million.

22 As Commissioner Van Rensalier mentioned,  
23 the cash collections have been slow. They usually  
24 are this time of year, but they've been slower  
25 than usual, probably given the pandemic. We're

1 tracking that. We're in the process of putting  
2 together a model. Joe actually had Howard Woods,  
3 he has been working on that. We're going to have  
4 the model so we'll be able to track the effect of  
5 the billing and collections going forward.  
6 Hopefully, we'll have more on that for you next  
7 time.

8 The audit is still being done but it's  
9 being done remotely so there's going to be a delay  
10 obviously.

11 I just echo the sentiments. Everybody's  
12 been doing a wonderful job working remotely. Our  
13 employees really stepped up to the plate. I don't  
14 remember if Joe mentioned it or not, I know for  
15 Customer Service we had a one percent drop call  
16 rate when we first kicked it off with everybody  
17 working from home, which is phenomenal.

18 The other thing that we discussed in  
19 finance committee, if we're going to go forward  
20 with it is going to need full board action, is we  
21 talked about the possibility of doing away with  
22 that final notice fee. When we did billing, we  
23 issue the bills, 30 days later we issue a late  
24 notice and people were charged a late fee for that  
25 and then 30 days after that, day 60, we issue a

1 final notice. The final notice comes with a \$40  
2 charge. The final notice is what replaced our  
3 door tags when we switched off from doing door  
4 tags. So one of the recommendations that came out  
5 of finance committee was to possibly do away with  
6 final notices and the final notice fee now during  
7 the pandemic, possibly to do it for maybe three  
8 months and then revisit it again after, whether or  
9 not it needs to be extended.

10 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Lou, can I ask a  
11 question for Yitz?

12 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Yitz, can you do us  
14 a favor, can you keep track, at least, you know,  
15 while the pandemic is going on, the collections  
16 cycle how it's going to work because I believe  
17 that water consumption is really down. A lot of  
18 businesses and restaurants are closed, so I want  
19 to see how that is going to impact our water this  
20 year. I don't know if you can look into that, but  
21 I think this is going to be a different year.

22 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I'm sorry to  
23 interrupt, but on the same side, the residential  
24 should be up because people are home and they'll  
25 be using a lot more water.

1                   COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: In my case, Bobby,  
2 I shower once a week because I'm not going  
3 nowhere, so I'm saving money on water, so.

4                   COMMISSIONER VAN RENSALIER: I'm sick and  
5 I still take a shower every day.

6                   COMMISSIONER VANNOY: You need to take a  
7 shower every day because you're sick.

8                   MR. AMODIO: Social distancing though.  
9 Six feet apart.

10                  MR. WEISS: That's exactly the model that  
11 we're working on so that we can track those  
12 differences. That's exactly what it is.

13                  COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Bobby, don't  
14 forget, the business side is like, what,  
15 45 percent of our income, Yitz, I think.

16                  COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Definitely, I  
17 understand that.

18                  COMMISSIONER LEVINE: But the hospitals  
19 are up now. The hospitals will be up and the  
20 businesses will be closed, like the big, the  
21 mills, they use a lot. Like the dye houses all  
22 that, they use a lot of water, they're closed.  
23 Then you got the hospitals. I don't know.

24                  MR. BELLA: Commissioners, we're tracking  
25 our daily demands and so far I'm not seeing a big

1 drop off for this time of year. It's about normal  
2 in terms of overall water going out the door. So  
3 where that demand is going, we're going to find  
4 out over the next couple of...

5 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Thank you, Joe.  
6 I'd like to see that because it's consumption, so  
7 I'd like to see how that works. I want to see how  
8 this is going to play out for us.

9 MR. BELLA: No problem.

10 MR. WEISS: In terms of the final notice  
11 and the final notice fee, we're going to need some  
12 input from the board in terms of whether or not we  
13 want to discontinue that during the pandemic on a  
14 temporary basis.

15 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Everyone on finance,  
16 all three of us, agreed that that was the right  
17 thing to do, the only thing to do.

18 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: My opinion is we  
19 got to see to help people as much as we can  
20 without hurting. This is a time of sacrifice. I  
21 think we could sacrifice a little to help the  
22 ratepayer. I think we should do it, you know what  
23 I'm saying. People are really struggling out  
24 there. I get it, I feel it, you know. I drive  
25 around the city, it's such a vibrant city and it's

1 empty and people are not working and it's really  
2 bad. When I drive around Paterson, Passaic, I  
3 mean, I could see it, what's going on. So  
4 whatever we could do to help, I'm inclined to do  
5 that, look for ways. And I know, Yitz, you  
6 probably has some ideas, please, bring them  
7 forward so we can try to help people out,  
8 especially in this time.

9 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: So it sounds to me  
10 to formally adopt the policy that was discussed at  
11 the committee level recommended by the CFO. I got  
12 a motion from Commissioner Sanchez. Sounds like I  
13 got a second from Commissioner Vannoy.

14 MR. WEISS: Can I clarify something before  
15 we go forward with that?

16 There were two suggestions. Number one  
17 was to do away with the final notice fee  
18 temporarily.

19 The second question, which I'm not sure if  
20 we got consensus out of the finance committee  
21 meeting or not, was whether or not we should be  
22 charging interest on late payments.

23 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: In my opinion,  
24 absolutely not, during this time as far as  
25 charging interest on late payments.

1                   COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Are we doing  
2                   shutoffs now?

3                   MR. WEISS: No shutoffs.

4                   COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I think we should  
5                   waive both, Yitz.

6                   MR. WEISS: Okay. So, again, if we're  
7                   going to waive both, this is something we're going  
8                   to have to work on programatically. It's not like  
9                   something we can just flip a switch. We can get  
10                  it done if the board wants to do it. We should  
11                  set, in my opinion, we should set a limit on when  
12                  we're going to go back and revisit this. We don't  
13                  want to do it indefinitely. I think that would be  
14                  a mistake.

15                  COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I think, Yitz, you  
16                  should look how things evolve. Once things start  
17                  getting normal, we'll just do it now for like six  
18                  months and then go back. We'll do a time so that  
19                  way we know when we're getting out of it.

20                  MR. WEISS: Yep. So the suggestion that  
21                  came out of committee was that we do it for three  
22                  months and then reevaluate it.

23                  COMMISSIONER VANNOY: We send the water  
24                  bills out quarterly, well, at least for  
25                  residential, so the three months would be good and



1 do it in three-month increments.

2 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Yes. We would bring  
3 it back up to the agenda and as it was expiring to  
4 see if we needed to continue it.

5 So the motion on the table is to stop  
6 final notices and to waive interest for the next  
7 three months, which will bring us to July 1 is  
8 what we're talking or July 31?

9 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: Why don't you do it  
10 to July 31.

11 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: July 31 it is.  
12 That's the motion on the floor. It's been made by  
13 Commissioner Sanchez; seconded by Commissioner  
14 Vannoy.

15 Any questions?

16 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: Did you include the  
17 \$40 to be deleted, the late fee?

18 MR. WEISS: Yes, that's included. That's  
19 the final notice.

20 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I do have one other  
21 thing. Obviously, we're not shutting anybody off,  
22 but as far as interest goes, I believe that the  
23 people who had currently been behind, they should  
24 still have to pay interest on that portion. So if  
25 somebody didn't pay their water bill and they were

1 due just say even in February, they hadn't paid  
2 it, that should not be wiped out as interest  
3 moving forward, but during this time that we're  
4 doing now obviously it should be. Because people  
5 will try to take advantage of the system, say, oh,  
6 I can't pay it, but they had already owed prior to  
7 what we're experiencing now.

8 MR. WEISS: So we don't have the ability  
9 to segregate those. That would have to be done on  
10 a case-by-case basis. The only thing we can do is  
11 programatically we can stop charging people  
12 interest going forward.

13 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Okay.

14 MR. WEISS: And we can stop the final  
15 notices. So if people are going to get over on  
16 us, cheat, I think it's still for the greater  
17 good.

18 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Okay. All right.  
19 Not a problem.

20 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: How do we get this  
21 out to everybody so they know about it? What  
22 about our publicist that we have? Maybe he should  
23 put a statement out that we're offering this.

24 MR. BELLA: Yes, no problem. We're  
25 already working on it. We'll get it done as soon

1 as possible. I'll call him up. I wanted to  
2 actually say that, but we'll get that done.

3 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: What's his name,  
4 Joe?

5 MR. BELLA: Joe Getz.

6 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Oh, Joe Getz.  
7 That's right. So he would put it out. We don't  
8 need to put anything in the bills.

9 MR. BELLA: The other thing we can do is,  
10 we can do it even faster is we can probably print  
11 it on the bills, put a notice on the bills.

12 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Or we just put it on  
13 our website.

14 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Or do all three  
15 things.

16 So it sounds to me like it will pass. We  
17 will do our best to make sure we take that to the  
18 public.

19 MR. AMODIO: And we can add that to our  
20 Frequently Asked Questions as well.

21 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: So the public knows  
22 we're doing our part and we're a little  
23 sympathetic and understand what's going on, just  
24 like other companies.

25 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Yes.

1 MR. AMODIO: Okay.

2 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Does everyone know  
3 what we're voting for?

4 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

5  
6 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
7 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
8 Cotton is absent)

9  
10 MR. AMODIO: Okay. So motion approved to  
11 stop the final notice and interest through  
12 July 31st of 2020.

13 Thank you.

14 Any other questions for the comptroller?  
15 Hearing none, can I have a motion for  
16 closed?

17 Okay. Commissioner Van Rensalier; second  
18 by Commissioner Sanchez. I saw your hand.

19 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Yes.

20 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner Van Rensalier  
21 offers the following Resolution for adoption:

22 Whereas, Section 8 of the Open Public  
23 Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public  
24 from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

25 Whereas, the public body is of the opinion

1                   that such circumstances presently exist;

2                   Now, therefore, be it resolved by the  
3                   Commissioners of Passaic Valley Water Commission:

4                   1. The public shall be excluded from  
5                   discussion of the hereinafter specified subject  
6                   matters; the general nature of the subject matters  
7                   being: Financial, Insurance, Personnel,  
8                   Contracts, Negotiations, Security, Law, and other  
9                   matters as may be discussed in camera.

10                  2. It is anticipated at this time that  
11                  the above-stated subject matters will be ratified  
12                  during public meeting following or as soon  
13                  thereafter as the reason for discussion no longer  
14                  exists.

15                  3. This resolution shall take effect  
16                  immediately.

17                  Second by Commissioner Sanchez.

18                  On the roll.

19

20                  (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
21                  present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
22                  Cotton is absent)

23

24                  MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

25                  The time is 10:40 a.m.



1 On the roll.

2

3 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
4 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
5 Cotton is absent)

6

7 MR. AMODIO: Thank you very much.

8

9 We have miscellaneous purchase orders  
10 placed for the period of March 5th, 2020 to  
11 April 1st, 2020.

12 Does the Chair accept, receive, and file?

13 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Yes.

14 MR. AMODIO: Thank you, sir.

15 Moving on. We have resolutions.

16 Would you like to do one roll call on all  
17 the resolutions?

18 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Yes, please.

19 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Do it as a group.

20 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Thank you.

21 Is there any questions on any of the  
22 resolutions?

23 Hearing none, do I have a motion to  
24 approve the group?

25 Okay. I heard Commissioner Van Rensalier  
and then Commissioner Sanchez. So Commissioner

1 Van Rensalier made the motion; second by  
2 Commissioner Sanchez.

3 Moving the group.  
4

5 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
6 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
7 Cotton is absent)  
8

9 (Whereupon, the following Resolutions were  
10 approved: (a) Resolution: Second Amendment to the  
11 Agreement for (Revised) "Government Relations and  
12 Public Affairs" with Gibbons PC of Trenton, NJ in  
13 the amount of \$7,500.00 per month for an  
14 additional one year not to exceed \$90,000.00.

15 (b) Resolution: Amendment to the  
16 Agreement for Project 19-P-20 "Professional  
17 Services for Medical Insurance Issues" with  
18 Fairview Insurance of Verona, NJ for an additional  
19 two years. No direct cost to PVWC.

20 (c) Resolution: Contract No. 20-B-10  
21 "Furnish and Deliver Valve Service Trucks and  
22 Appurtenances" Recommendation to award to Route 23  
23 Automall of Butler, NJ in the amount of  
24 \$453,864.00.

25 (d) Resolution: Contract No. 20-B-11



1 "Furnish and Deliver Vehicles" Recommendation to  
2 award Beyer Ford of Morristown, NJ the vehicles  
3 included in this Contract of seven year 2020 Ford  
4 Escapes (4 for the Laboratory and 3 for the  
5 operators) at \$23,730.00 each (subtotal  
6 \$166,117.00) and four (4 year 2020 Ford F150XL  
7 Pickup Trucks at \$32,322.00 each (subtotal  
8 \$129,288.00) in the total amount of \$295,405.00.

9 (e) Resolution: "State Contract Purchase  
10 of One Dump Truck for the Distribution Department"  
11 Recommendation to award to Route 23 Automall in  
12 the amount of \$94,243.00.

13 (f) Resolution: "Participation in the  
14 Water Research Foundation (WRF) Program for 2020"  
15 in the amount of \$47,584.00.

16 (g) Resolution: Contract 20-B-29  
17 "Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)  
18 Support Services" Recommendation to Award to  
19 Advantech Corp. of Fairfield, NJ in the amount of  
20 \$561,307.00.

21 (h) Resolution: Contract 20-B-30 "Wanaque  
22 Pump No. 2 Valve Replacement" Recommendation to  
23 award to J. Fletcher Creamer & Sons of Hackensack,  
24 NJ in the amount of \$472,300.00.)  
25

1 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Yes to the group.

2 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

3 We have New Business. We have summary of  
4 disbursements and payrolls through April 8, 2020,  
5 in the amount of \$7,185,312.15.

6 COMMISSIONER VAN RENSALIER: Yes, move it.

7 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

8 Move by Commissioner Van Rensalier.

9 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: Second.

10 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Friend.

11 On the roll.

12

13 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
14 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
15 Cotton is absent)

16

17 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Abstain on American  
18 Hose and Kyocera.

19 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Abstain on P&A and  
20 Gaeta.

21 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

22 Moving on. Recommendations from executive  
23 conference.

24 The Personnel agenda was held with the  
25 exception of Lisa Guzman.

1 Recommendation is to give a \$7,500 stipend  
2 for a six-month period.

3 Do I have a motion?

4 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: So move.

5 MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner  
6 Vannoy.

7 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Second.

8 MR. AMODIO: Second by Commissioner  
9 Sanchez.

10 On the roll.

11

12 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners  
13 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner  
14 Cotton is absent)

15

16 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: I agree with the  
17 action but not with the methodology to implement  
18 it. But that being said, it's not enough for me  
19 to vote against it, so I'll vote yes.

20 MR. AMODIO: Thank you, Commissioner  
21 Kolodziej.

22 Is there anything under Good and Welfare?

23 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I had one quick  
24 question for Yitz, not to just go back to this,  
25 but is six months enough to have everything in

1 place and the person that she would be training,  
2 is that enough time? I mean, obviously, I should  
3 have asked this before. Is that enough time to  
4 get her up to speed?

5 MR. WEISS: The answer is yes. The people  
6 that we have in place in terms of training people  
7 to be able to manage the system, we already have  
8 those people in place to be able to manage the  
9 system. This was more of a question of being able  
10 to do the implementation effectively.

11 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Okay. Very good.  
12 Thank you.

13 MR. AMODIO: Okay.

14 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Under Good and  
15 Welfare, I'd like to say, listen, I mean, we're  
16 six individuals, we may not all always agree on  
17 everything, but I do think it's important that we  
18 always try to do the best things for Passaic  
19 Valley Water Commission.

20 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

21 Anyone else?

22 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: Under Good and  
23 Welfare, I just want to wish everybody whatever  
24 holiday you're celebrating, be it Passover or  
25 Easter, to enjoy your holiday. We're all doing it

1 under different circumstances this year, but enjoy  
2 and most important of all stay safe and healthy.

3 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

4 MR. DUPREY: You too, Commissioner.

5 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Same here, even  
6 though, you know, I expect more communication,  
7 more open communication about the focus of  
8 Passaic Valley Water. It seems lately that we  
9 only call only the things that we don't know where  
10 they're coming from. So I expect that.  
11 Hopefully, there will be more communication.

12 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Next meeting is  
13 scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th at 9:30 a.m.  
14 Hopefully at that point we will all gather here in  
15 the boardroom. If not, we'll be once again  
16 meeting through Zoom.

17 It's my birthday, by the way, if anybody  
18 wants to buy me a gift.

19 PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Lou, can we get a  
20 motion to adjourn?

21 MR. AMODIO: Yes, sir.

22 Motion to adjourn, Commissioner Friend.

23 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I second.

24 MR. AMODIO: Second by Commissioner  
25 Vannoy.

1                   Any objections? Hearing none, motion to  
2 adjourn is approved at 11:51 a.m.

3                   Thank you, everyone.

4                   PRESIDENT KOLODZIEJ: Thank you.

5                   MR. AMODIO: Thank you, everyone and have  
6 a healthy and happy holiday.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, LYNANN DRAGONE, License No. XI01388, a  
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