

PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF
MARCH 20, 2013
(OPEN SESSION)

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

RIGO SANCHEZ, President

JEFFREY LEVINE, Vice-President

MENACHEM BAZIAN, Treasurer

GLORIA KOLODZIEJ, Secretary

IDIDA RODRIGUEZ

THOMAS P. DeVITA (Absent)

ROBERT VANNOY

A L S O P R E S E N T :

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, Counsel

JAMES G. DUPREY, Director of Engineering

JAMES J. GALLAGHER, Personnel Director

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

1 MR. AMODIO: Roll call.

2 Commissioner DeVita is absent.

3 Commissioners Levine and Rodriguez are not
4 here yet.

5

6 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
7 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
8 DeVita is absent. Commissioners Levine and
9 Rodriguez are not present yet)

10

11 MR. AMODIO: The time is 9:40 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.

21 Will you please rise.

22 Commissioner Vannoy, would you please lead
23 us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

24 We can start. We have a couple of members
25 of the public who wish to be heard.

1 Sir, if you would, please.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Are you guys together
3 or separate?

4 MR. CATANZARITE: Separate.

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Can you state your
6 name?

7 MR. CATANZARITE: Ross Catanzarite.

8 I have a property on Franklin Ave. in
9 Nutley; 66 Franklin Avenue. It's adjacent to the
10 easement that I believe your water lines run
11 through. We've been maintaining it. I purchased
12 the property a couple of years ago.

13 The property is stoned at this point and
14 we're asking if we could pave the property,
15 utilize it for parking. Unfortunately, Nutley
16 doesn't have overnight parking on the street so
17 the more parking on the property, the better.

18 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Is this a legal
19 matter, Joe?

20 MR. HANLEY: It's both legal and
21 engineering. This just sort of came up recently
22 but I got a report from Engineering saying they
23 have no objections subject to certain conditions
24 which I don't think are very --

25 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Are you happy with the

1 conditions that we --

2 MR. CATANZARITE: From what I understand,
3 the only condition I know is that I have to sign a
4 hold harmless or something of that nature. I'm
5 not sure if there's anything else.

6 MR. HANLEY: He hasn't seen it. I just
7 got it this morning. But it talks about
8 maintaining our access in case there's a break.

9 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Counsel, do you think
10 he needs an attorney on this or no?

11 MR. HANLEY: It's up to him.

12 MR. CATANZARITE: I don't believe so.

13 MR. HANLEY: It would be very similar to a
14 number -- we don't try to overburden somebody. We
15 just try to protect the Commission.

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: The bottom line,
17 if I may, Mr. Chairman. We've done these before.
18 We need to protect our ability for any liability
19 and we also need to have the ability to go in
20 there if anything happens.

21 So I'm ready to move this and have them
22 draft the standard thing.

23 If you have a problem with that then,
24 obviously, you're not going to be in agreement.
25 You have to agree one hundred percent to what

1 we're going to be putting in that.

2 MR. CATANZARITE: In case you don't have
3 the picture, just to make it real simple. This is
4 the property. This stoned area is my property.
5 This little bit that's left here is your property.
6 And, you know, we just want to add to it. So
7 there's a driveway that enters to that area. It
8 will stay.

9 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Joe, are you okay with
10 that?

11 MR. BELLA: We're okay. We'll look at it
12 more carefully and make sure there's not overtop,
13 some --

14 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: So we have a
15 consensus.

16 Anything else we can do for you?

17 MR. CATANZARITE: No.

18 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you.

19 MR. CATANZARITE: Who should I reach out
20 to follow-up?

21 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Go to Counsel.

22 Sir, what is your name? I'm sorry.

23 MR. ARROYO: Albert Arroyo.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: And you are here for
25 what?

1 MR. ARROYO: An issue for some of the
2 practices that pertains to billing of the Board of
3 the Commission.

4 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Have you tried to sit
5 down with anybody here before?

6 MR. ARROYO: I have done numerous phone
7 calls. This is going into a two year ordeal
8 already. And I have been able to change one
9 policy already as it pertains to the way that the
10 Water Commission handles certain aspects of their
11 billing. I was able to do that.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I'm sorry, sir.

13 John, will you get in here so you can
14 listen to this.

15
16 (Whereupon, Commissioner Levine is present
17 at 9:44)

18
19 MR. ARROYO: I was able to speak to
20 Commissioner Kelly. Is he present?

21 MR. KELLY: I'm not a Commissioner; John
22 Kelly.

23 MR. ARROYO: Okay. Are you representing
24 legal counsel or work --

25 MR. KELLY: Yes, I work for legal counsel.

1 MR. ARROYO: Okay. I was able to resolve
2 an issue with him about two or three years ago.
3 That was an issue where, if you remember, Mr.
4 Kelly, about two or three years ago, a gentleman
5 had called you where if an individual water bill
6 was due on the 1st and they paid it on the 1st at
7 3:00, they were still charging a late fee and we
8 changed that and I appreciate --

9 MR. KELLY: Mr. Weiss accommodated you.

10 MR. ARROYO: I appreciate that. That
11 policy has since been changed.

12 The issue that I have now is this. Two
13 things; one, if we have a bill that is due on a
14 certain date, particularly, on a Sunday or a
15 holiday and your offices are closed, you still
16 charge a late fee if you come the next business
17 day, which I can't understand. This is going back
18 two years when you did not have the option to pay
19 on-line either. Okay. That was the one issue.
20 That was the first issue that was addressed.

21 Now, if I could just pertain to you since
22 you're the head. If I can come through here.
23 Excuse me, sir.

24 As you can see this bill, amount paid
25 178.82. Is that correct?

1 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes.

2 MR. ARROYO: Here's the next bill. What
3 do you see as the amount of last payment?

4 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Ninety cents balance.

5 MR. ARROYO: What do you see the amount,
6 178 --

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: 02.

8 MR. ARROYO: 02.

9 It's simple. But that has not been
10 addressed and I've been trying to address that
11 forever. That's an example of number one. I have
12 my receipt and that's what I'm going to address.
13 So that was issue number one.

14 My next issue is this. If you pay a bill,
15 if your bill is two dollars --

16 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Can I see that again?

17 MR. ARROYO: Sure.

18 Here's the bill; July of '08. As you can
19 see, the receipt, 178.02. The previous bill after
20 that says, "Amount of last payment, 178.02."
21 Somehow there was a terrible error and the amount
22 was not properly credited, but yet, it continues
23 on. And this is going back to 2011, 2011. So
24 that was one issue.

25 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Let me hold this.

1 MR. ARROYO: All right. Now, my other
2 issue is, if I pay my bill, my bill is let's say
3 two dollars at 1:00. I come to the window and I
4 pay \$1.50. At 1:03 my bill now jumps to 51 cents
5 as a remaining balance. Why is the interest being
6 added the very same day as compared to the next
7 day?

8 If you notice on the receipt that each
9 receipt's given back, the remaining balance is
10 higher. If I could, he's looking at that, my
11 remaining balance, this is what I'm questioning.
12 This is what amount's due, 208.06. You see I paid
13 208.06 and then balance 109. Here it is,
14 remaining balance, 110. Immediately, within a
15 minute, my remaining balance is jumping. In my
16 case, what I'm disputing is under a dollar.

17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. President, may I
18 ask a question?

19 MR. ARROYO: Yes, sure.

20 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Out of curiosity,
21 this particular issue, with whom have you
22 discussed it so far?

23 MR. ARROYO: I discussed it with Mr.
24 Gallagher. I don't know if he's present.

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. Gallagher is not

1 present.

2 MR. ARROYO: Which, you know, I really did
3 not care, you know, after speaking with him. And
4 if I look at my notes, I look at my notes here --

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Mr. Arroyo, let me --
6 can we do one thing? I think you have a point
7 here and as a Commission we have questions about
8 it. Can we do one thing? Can we have either you
9 or John give us something in writing to specific
10 examples and copies and have my finance committee
11 go over and get back to you on that. Can we do
12 that?

13 MR. ARROYO: I really appreciate that.

14 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioners, are you
15 guys --

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I appreciate the
17 fact that this is obviously not a matter of money,
18 it's a matter of principle. So I think the
19 direction is perfectly right that we should
20 address it, because it would not be only this
21 customer, it would be other customers.

22 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I'm a hundred percent
23 for being inclined --

24 MR. BELLA: John, could you get copies of
25 the bills.

1 January --

2 MR. ARROYO: What I'm trying to say is, if
3 I came back that same day and paid, it should
4 still remain the same balance.

5 Even a credit card, if I have a credit
6 card balance which is two dollars in the morning
7 and I make one payment in the morning and I go in
8 the afternoon and make my second payment, the
9 interest has not accumulated that day --

10 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I don't think that's
11 the way it's working. That January 4th is 109.
12 That's a past due balance. So that's accumulating
13 interest from January 4th to February 1st, the
14 past due.

15 MR. ARROYO: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: So the 109 would be
17 110 on your February thing.

18 MR. ARROYO: Which I understand. What I'm
19 trying to say is, it says 110. That bill is not
20 the next day. That's still within the same day.

21 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioner, let's...
22 will you take Yitz also to the room and do that
23 meeting now.

24 Yitz, take some notes and come back with
25 an explanation. Will you please go?

1 MR. WEISS: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: It's a January 4th
3 bill is past due. So that 109 is accumulating
4 interest every single day. So between the 30 days
5 he pays or not, that 109 should probably be
6 higher --

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioner, let's
8 have Yitz --

9 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I just want to
10 explain.

11 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: He's a number guy.

12 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Mr. Chairman, you
13 just have to know that our committee will be
14 meeting on April the 11th. So it's going to take
15 awhile for us to meet together. You'll have a
16 start.

17 MR. ARROYO: I do appreciate that.

18 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Thank you.

19 MR. AMODIO: Moving on.

20 Is there any committee reports?

21 Personnel will be discussed in closed
22 session, I'm assuming?

23 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes.

24 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Finance.

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I'm trying to

1 remember. That meeting we went over the bills.
2 We got a write up from the CFO with regard to the
3 budget process. We're reviewing that and will be
4 discussed at the next meeting.

5 We also took a look at our financing; some
6 options that we have in terms of what we might go
7 out to and what our debt might look like when
8 moving forward. I believe Yitz was going to
9 discuss this before the Board. But, basically,
10 showing us a plan on how we can handle the
11 reservoirs and everything and how much debt we
12 would accumulate and what it would look like.

13 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Everybody is
14 going to get a copy of that or they have it?

15 All right.

16 MR. BELLA: As soon as it's all finalized.

17 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Because it really
18 helps make our final decision better. Two things;
19 it's your initiative, Mr. Chairperson, is the
20 budget review process. You know, you explain it
21 but we need input from each one of our colleagues.
22 We batted this around because we want to fully
23 understand how we go about budgeting. We're
24 looking to improve how we do that. So we can get
25 the budget together sooner so we can get it to the

1 Commission as a whole sooner so everybody's on the
2 same level playing field.

3 So, Commissioner, you want to tell the
4 Commissioners what you would like them to do if
5 they're so inclined as to giving us input as to
6 how they would see the process being better.

7 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The budget process?

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Right.

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Okay. Well, the
10 first thing that we had said at the meeting, we
11 got a write up for how the budget process works.
12 Our initial thing that we're going to review is
13 review the write up that we got from the CFO, from
14 Mr. Weiss. After that, we're going to have some
15 internal discussions how we think the budget
16 process is going to work in terms of what
17 information is passed back and forth. When we
18 have done that, I think it would be appropriate to
19 share what the entire process as we've learned
20 what it is for all of the Commissioners so the
21 Commissioners can weigh in on how we are able to
22 make the process more efficient, more cost
23 effective, et cetera.

24 We're not ready yet to put that out to
25 you. I'm expecting that will probably happen

1 probably in June, because in May we'll have our
2 initial discussion and hopefully, by June we'll
3 be --

4 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Is that only from the
5 committee perspective?

6 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Just from the
7 committee perspective.

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: But if you have
9 input now, I would appreciate having it now. One
10 of the things we would appreciate, because we both
11 run businesses, we focused on inventory and how
12 this Commission should be doing inventory. You
13 know, it's always been a hassle to find out what
14 we have, the stuff that's laying someplace and
15 nobody knows about.

16 So if you have any ideas as to how we can
17 better a system to have tighter inventory control,
18 give it to us now before we come back to you.

19 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I have a question now
20 that you brought up a point.

21 Joe, let's say we want to repair a main
22 break and that main break is metal.

23 MR. BELLA: Scrap.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Scrap. That scrap
25 belongs to the Water Commission by law.

1 MR. BELLA: Absolutely.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I heard that some of
3 the people on their own are stealing this scrap.
4 I'd like to find out more about that. That's
5 illegal. That's immoral. I'd like to find out
6 about that.

7 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: It's definitely
8 illegal.

9 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I think you should
10 come back here, they're not supposed to do it.
11 That's easy to prove because there's only a few
12 scraps around here. So I think we should make a
13 decision because I got phone calls from people
14 telling me some people are taking the scraps.

15 So I want some information about that. I
16 want some policy and I want to make sure that --

17 MR. BELLA: So if they're doing it,
18 they're stealing it. That's a problem. That's
19 not only a policy problem, it's a legal problem.

20

21 (Whereupon, Commissioner Rodriguez is
22 present at 9:56)

23

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I don't know how you
25 guys feel.

1 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: What I'm saying,
2 if you have any input, give it to us now rather
3 than wait until later so we can factor it in our
4 discussion.

5 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: If I may? The
6 inventory situation for something that we
7 discussed both in IT, and this was a couple of
8 months ago, and in finance is very much tied into
9 the results of our BPR process. One of the
10 significant issues that we have with our current
11 system is that our software doesn't really give us
12 the support we need to do the inventory controls
13 that we need to do.

14 I spent some time with Joe, who was very
15 kind to walk me through where, you know, where the
16 inventory is and what the current procedures are
17 and things like that. We are definitely, any
18 ideas that you might have in terms of the
19 inventory are welcome, but we have to factor in
20 the fact that we already have a report from Westin
21 and we should review the report from Westin and
22 factor in any ideas that we have from there.

23 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: My thing is, limit,
24 though, it has to be a perceiving, stocking and --

25 MR. BELLA: We have a whole system set

1 up --

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: -- And maintaining.
3 If we don't have those three processes, then we
4 don't have an inventory process.

5 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Absolutely.

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: So since you are
7 technology and IT and all that, can you look into
8 something to check out the situation?

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Absolutely. It's
10 definitely on the agenda of the committee to look
11 at both of those processes and try to find a way
12 to increase control, increase cost effectiveness,
13 and things like that.

14 Other things that we discussed, for
15 example, are inventory in the trucks. And seeing
16 how often those are being done, how often should
17 they or could they be done. Certainly, we have a
18 lot that is on these trucks; how we can get better
19 control over that inventory and things like that.

20 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you so much.

21 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: And I think
22 there's one other important point. I'm reading my
23 notes from our meeting and Commissioner Rodriguez
24 was a big help in this. We're reviewing how we
25 bond and what we do. And Commissioner Rodriguez

1 feels very strongly about the cost that we pay the
2 bonding counsel. So she was going to give us some
3 additional input as to what we may do. You
4 explain it better than I do, Idida. You know, to
5 really get the most for our money.

6 In other words, there are certain fixed
7 costs that we can't do anything about, but then
8 each bonding counsel puts in their percentage,
9 it's not always necessarily the same.

10 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Right. Right.

11 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Did I listen
12 correctly?

13 And I think she should be commended for
14 pointing that out. There's a lot of money. A
15 percentage of what that big bond is means money we
16 might be able to save for another project. So we
17 are also going to be addressing that at our next
18 meeting, correct?

19 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

20 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you.

21 Moving on.

22 MR. AMODIO: IT.

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The IT committee
24 met. We discussed the issues that we have going
25 forward. The expectation is that the BPR RFP for

1 phase one should be ready within about a week, I
2 believe.

3 MR. DUPREY: The Customer Service
4 information was advertised.

5 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: It was advertised?

6 MR. DUPREY: Yes.

7 So it's on the street and I think, if I
8 recall correctly, we're going to receive the
9 proposals on April 16th.

10 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Excellent. That's
11 an update to the Commission.

12 We discussed --

13 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Heads up to our
14 fellow colleagues, going through my notes again,
15 some of this is so technical that it takes a lot
16 of time to straighten it out and Administration is
17 to be commended, in my opinion, for doing that.
18 But we talked an awful lot about designing a web
19 site. And I think one of the initiatives we've
20 taken and we've used it before, hiring an intern
21 from one of the colleges who has that expertise.
22 They get credit for school and we get their help
23 and that's another issue.

24 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Which actually, just
25 two things; the suggestion that the committee is

1 making to the Administration on the web site, we
2 discussed web site. We also discussed social
3 media. I was going to cover both of those.

4 The web site, first thing we need to do is
5 determine what it is we want the web site to do.
6 And I'd like to, again, ask our colleagues if you
7 have any thoughts on what the web site should do,
8 specific functionality that you think we're
9 lacking, please let us know as soon as possible.
10 But the idea is before you start deciding that
11 we're going to build a web site or who is going to
12 build a web site or what even it's going to look
13 like, you first have to decide what the thing is
14 going to do. So that's step one.

15 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Let me ask you this,
16 Commissioner. Not you, but the Administration.

17 Joe, will you wake up.

18 MR. BELLA: I'm here.

19 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Have you guys, looking
20 to other public utilities' web site and find out
21 what's valuable about it, what is it that we want
22 to emulate or imitate that is useful to --

23 MR. BELLA: I look at them all the time.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Can you come up with
25 an idea or a bunch of points or whatever that we

1 can put in there?

2 MR. BELLA: Yes.

3 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Informational,
4 Customer Service. I don't know --

5 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Can I?

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioner
7 Rodriguez.

8 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes. I think
9 I'm, I'm not going to say challenged, I'm not a
10 techy and I'll be the first to admit it. I also
11 know that, you know, in my other aspects of
12 business, I've always brought someone in. I think
13 people that come in and do this all the time can
14 look at what you're talking about and know what
15 our needs are.

16 Commissioner Bazian, in his experience in
17 information technology, and I agree with
18 Commissioner Kolodziej, I think with other eyes
19 aside, we know what we need and I don't know how
20 much. We've never done a Customer Service. I
21 don't know how many people go on our web site. It
22 has to be user friendly if it's for somebody like
23 me. That's all I know. That's important.

24 But in terms of, I think we should
25 probably look at, you know, all of the above

1 alternatives that you were talking about to design
2 or upgrade or whatever it is that we want to do
3 with the web site and see how important it is.
4 Aside from being able to pay our bill and getting,
5 you know, water shutoff notices and things like
6 that, I really wouldn't know what else. You know,
7 me, personally, I wouldn't know.

8 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I have to explain,
9 like a seven year old. If a seven year old can do
10 it, I can do it; so.

11 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: You were
12 masterful to appoint the two of us to that
13 committee. Believe me, we are the same level you
14 are and we always have to put the restraints on
15 Commissioner Bazian because we want to be sure
16 that we're going to be spending money, this is
17 money well spent, that we're not taking from
18 something else. And he agrees that people like us
19 need to be there to balance him.

20 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Okay. Rolling right
21 along.

22 The next thing we discussed was social
23 media; Twitter, Facebook.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Instagram, too.

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Instagram.

1 Joe has some ideas on that and Joe is
2 going to be working on it.

3 The main issue is not technological, as
4 with so many of these things. The main issue is
5 more procedural, inhouse. For example, general
6 rule, anything you put out on the Internet is
7 there forever. So there has to be a review
8 process. If you're going to Tweet something on
9 Twitter and however many people are going to see
10 it, there has to be some sort of review process.
11 There has to be a security process put in place.
12 So you won't have somebody tweeting their
13 girlfriends, whatever, on Passaic Valley Water
14 Commission's Twitter account. So whatever it
15 might be.

16 So Joe has some thoughts. Also, with
17 regards to personnel might do it and he is going
18 to come back to the committee, we expect in a
19 month or two.

20 MR. BELLA: Yes, that's correct.

21 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: About a month or two
22 until he comes back to us.

23 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: You have a valid
24 point, once you do that, you need somebody to keep
25 up, to manage those accounts, to keep them up to

1 date. So that's something that needs to be part
2 of the package.

3 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Absolutely. That is
4 indeed something that we are discussing.

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioner Levine
6 has a question.

7 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I just want to know
8 where we're at with the blocks and lots. Are we
9 looking at RFPs? What our final -- how are we
10 getting it matched up?

11 MR. BELLA: I had a schedule to do that in
12 my Executive Director's report. Here's what we
13 have. This week we're doing a test period because
14 we have to work together and make sure all of this
15 is, you know, our people are working with their
16 people properly. So we're doing that for the next
17 two weeks. That probably will be about, maybe a
18 couple of thousand places, you know, homes and
19 spots and that kind of thing. So that's all going
20 on. It's working there.

21 Customer Service people are going to our
22 database, getting them prepared for when we switch
23 over the CIS to a new software and it also plays
24 into this whole thing make sure that, you know,
25 all the simple stuff, like "street - Str" has to

1 be "St." We're just going down the whole database
2 so these databases merge together. We're moving
3 on that and we're actually --

4 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I guess my question
5 is, what's our process to get all the blocks and
6 lots matched up? I mean, that's a merger. When
7 is the whole process going to be done or how does
8 it --

9 MR. BELLA: You know, we awarded that at
10 the last Board meeting.

11 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: But we gave out an
12 RFP on that?

13 MR. BELLA: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: It's done already
15 and it came in at considerably less money than we
16 thought.

17 MR. AMODIO: Six eighty.

18 MR. BELLA: Six eighty. We were budgeting
19 1.2 million.

20 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Is it possible that
21 I voted on that?

22 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Big savings.

23 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I remember we were
24 at it. One of the prices we came up with was 1.2
25 million, 1.4. I heard all that. I didn't hear

1 the 680. All right. So we voted on it.

2 So you're merging it and then going --

3 MR. BELLA: We're doing the test right
4 now.

5 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: How long did they
6 say?

7 MR. BELLA: To get through the whole
8 system, one year. One year.

9 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: What about keeping
10 it updated from that point --

11 MR. BELLA: Then it's our responsibility.

12 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: All right. Thanks.

13 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Two last points; one
14 with regard to cost on these things. Obviously,
15 redoing a web site and perhaps some of the other
16 things we're looking at will have a cost attached
17 to it.

18 I do need to remind the Commission,
19 though, that the last time we did our web site,
20 which I believe was about ten years ago, the bills
21 for that amounted to approximately, \$65,000, which
22 to me is nothing short of mind blowingly
23 outrageous. Maybe ten years ago that's what it
24 was, but today, I wouldn't imagine it being
25 anywhere near that. Be sure that everything that

1 we look at in the committee is going to pay very,
2 very close attention to the costs.

3 There will be some personnel
4 recommendations at some point. Bear in mind that
5 Westin has recommended that we add some technology
6 personnel. We are seeing a need, perhaps,
7 especially, during the implementation for the BPR,
8 for somebody available with a higher business/IT
9 knowledge, strategic knowledge to help us with the
10 transition from one system to the other. That
11 might be something.

12 The intent of the IT committee is to try
13 to review everything, be it the social media, the
14 web site, the implementation of the BPR, et
15 cetera, and try to come up with some
16 recommendations that make sense overall rather
17 than just dealing with individual issues. I
18 prefer to deal with the whole picture as best we
19 can to try to make some recommendations.
20 Obviously, any recommendations we have in terms of
21 personnel would eventually go to personnel in
22 terms of what we feel are positions that need to
23 be opened or people need to be transferred or
24 whatever it might be.

25 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you.

1 MR. AMODIO: Moving on.

2 Legal affairs.

3 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The chairman is out.

4 Legal affairs, we went through a whole
5 bunch of issues at our last meeting. We just got
6 the quarterly reports. By the way, kudos to
7 George.

8 MR. HANLEY: Really, to Lisa, but I'll
9 take the credit.

10 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Let's put it this
11 way, if it doesn't work, you're the person we're
12 coming after; so when it does work, you're the
13 person who gets the credit.

14 Quarterly reports, the status on our cases
15 and things like that. We're just trying to keep
16 an eye on the cases, much of which we don't have
17 to go into because it will come into closed
18 session and things like that.

19 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Can we move on?

20 MR. AMODIO: Executive Director's report.

21 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Actually, I'd
22 like to update on security.

23 As to be expected, things went well in
24 some areas and there's a couple of areas that
25 we're concerned about. It's miraculous to me that

1 a vendor can turn around and get up and running in
2 two weeks time, because we would have been in a
3 disaster situation.

4 What is particularly commendable is the
5 fact that we had a Plan B in case they couldn't
6 order enough cars to come here for their employees
7 and we were going to scrounge up ours. Somehow,
8 they were able to deliver that and the cars were
9 up and running.

10 There is a minor concern about, obviously,
11 they told us when we were listening to them that
12 because it's such a short turnaround time, they
13 had to hire additional people. So when you're
14 going out to hire additional people, you want to
15 make sure you're getting the best of the pool and
16 their background check and everything.

17 There has been some concern that maybe
18 they have not been doing that. So we have decided
19 to call a committee meeting and call United
20 Security in to answer each specific concern.

21 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Joe, Counsel, are
22 those people using our background company to do
23 the background check of the employees or they're
24 using their own?

25 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: They pay for

1 their own.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: They pay for their
3 own. Are we okay with the background checks that
4 they're doing?

5 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I think so.

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: You are?

7 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I think so. They
8 have an eight year reference from United Water and
9 they had no problem. But because of the short
10 turnaround time, the cars were the issue and the
11 additional employees and we will be calling them
12 in to answer directly any of the glitches.

13 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Weren't their
14 problems with the employees and the cops were here
15 and stuff? From what I understand, there was a
16 problem.

17 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Before we
18 understand gossip, we're calling a committee
19 meeting. If you have any information that you
20 think the committee needs and you can give it to
21 your fellow colleague and we will be sure --

22 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I'm just wondering,
23 what's the out clause in case there is problems?

24 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: We can do it
25 tomorrow if we wanted to.

1 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: How long does the
2 out clause end? That's what I'm saying.

3 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Every year it's
4 renewable. So any time during that year period.

5 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I'm talking about
6 the beginning of the contract.

7 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'm telling you
8 right now. If you wanted to get rid of them
9 today, you can do that. You can do that for this
10 whole year.

11 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Oh, we can?

12 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Yes, yes.

13 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Oh, I thought it was
14 like 60 days.

15 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: No. No. No.

16 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: That's what I
17 thought.

18 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: No. No.

19 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: We'll address it and
20 come back to you.

21 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I want to deal in
22 facts, not hearsay.

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. President, at
24 the last IT meeting Jim mentioned some glitches
25 with 911 on the new system and I believe we had

1 the police here once or twice because of the 911
2 that came out of the phone system. I'm not
3 totally clear on the details, but I can account
4 for some of this as well.

5 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: That has nothing to
6 do with it.

7 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: They were saying we
8 had the police here.

9 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: No, they called --

10 MR. AMODIO: Moving on, the Executive
11 Director's report.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Guys, thank you.
13 Executive Director.

14 MR. BELLA: Commissioners, we covered a
15 lot of what I wanted.

16 One thing I wanted to tell you about is
17 the work that we're doing down at the river
18 crossing down in Kearny is starting today. We
19 have Route 21, that ramp shut down. It will be
20 shut down for about two weeks. They actually
21 started to do excavation today. It's very tricky.
22 Actually, can be a dangerous job, too, but it's
23 something that has been in the ground for over a
24 hundred years and we're repairing.

25 A big part of our system supplies our

1 entire Bergen County and whatever we supply in the
2 Hudson County system. So the Engineering
3 Department so far has done a great job on getting
4 that squared away.

5 We talked about the GIS. That's moving
6 along very well. Pat Porcaro is managing the
7 project. He's doing a great job.

8 Things at the plant are doing well.
9 Water quality conditions are excellent.
10 And other than that, moving along just
11 fine.

12 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Any questions?

13 MR. BELLA: As a matter of fact, I was
14 going --

15 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Can I hear what
16 he has to say, for the record, please. It's a
17 good thing.

18 MR. BELLA: We're really, you know,
19 projects are flowing, are moving, because of the
20 foresight of the Commission to get the Engineering
21 Department beefed up. We're working on some
22 additional methods and procedures on how to make
23 sure that in the future once we get all the
24 database and everything straightened out, on an
25 ongoing basis that will be updated and kept up to

1 speed and additional controls.

2 MR. AMODIO: Any other questions?

3 Hearing none, moving on. We have a
4 request for permission to advertise RFPs in the
5 year 2013. These are all of the professional
6 services that we do annually.

7 Any questions?

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I notice the one
9 that was done for a P.R. person, we chose not to
10 choose one last time, so I don't think I want to
11 spend money going out on a P.R. So can we remove
12 that one from the list of proposals, please?

13 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: We also put the
14 grant proposals on hold.

15 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: All right. The
16 one that's not used.

17 MR. AMODIO: Yeah, I believe it's on hold
18 so at any point if the Commission --

19 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: We left them on
20 here.

21 MR. AMODIO: We leave them there only in
22 case you choose in the future to do it, we can go
23 back to it and we have a project number assigned
24 to it. It's easy to identify.

25 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: You'd rather not

1 remove and keep it open and stagnant.

2 MR. AMODIO: Unless you want to remove it,
3 we can remove it. That would be it. It's up to
4 you.

5 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Right now I think
6 it should be removed. There's no way that we're
7 going to be lobbying in Washington right now with
8 what's going on down there.

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: That's not to say in
10 three or four years.

11 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: In three or four
12 years, we may not even be here. I just got
13 reappointed. You want to leave it open. Please,
14 leave it open.

15 MR. AMODIO: Okay. We'll leave it open.

16 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I may only be here
17 officially through the end of the year, but I
18 still have a responsibility to look ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Absolutely.
20 Okay.

21 MR. AMODIO: We have an advertising date
22 on here and receipt date. In the past, we would
23 do a special meeting to make these awards, if the
24 Commissioners so choose to do that. Otherwise, we
25 can do it, Mr. Duprey, I think it's the May

1 meeting we agreed on?

2 MR. DUPREY: Yeah, whenever the Board
3 wants. The time to review them and make
4 recommendations at any time whenever the Board
5 is --

6 MR. AMODIO: Our May meeting is scheduled
7 for the 15th of May.

8 Would the Commission like to do a special
9 meeting for that?

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Yes. I think we
11 did last year, right?

12 MR. AMODIO: Right. So Mr. Duprey, what
13 was the earliest you said we can do a meeting?

14 MR. DUPREY: If we're opening the
15 proposals April 16th, figure a week or two to
16 review them, allow the Commissioners to come in
17 and review everything and then the special meeting
18 would be at the Commission's convenience any time
19 after that.

20 MR. AMODIO: May 1 would be a Wednesday.
21 Is that okay for everyone? Commissioners?
22 9:30 a.m. I will let Commissioner DeVita know.

23 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: What else?

24 MR. AMODIO: Next, we have a request for
25 Passaic County Police Academy. They would like to

1 do in-service training at the Point View
2 Reservoir, Thursday, May 2nd to Wednesday, May 8th
3 and Tuesday, May 14th to Monday, May 20th from
4 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

5 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'll move it
6 subject to the hold harmless that they always
7 provide.

8 MR. AMODIO: Do I have a second?

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Second.

10 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Bazian.

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

15
16 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita is
17 absent.

18 Thank you. Motion approved.

19 Next we have the Controller's report.

20 MR. WEISS: Cash on hand is 17 million.

21 Our accounts receivable is at
22 14.8 million. Our 30 days or less accounts
23 receivable is at 14.3 million, which is a bit over
24 96 percent.

25 Our accounts payable is 4.6 million.

1 Our collections are going strong.

2 I just want to give you a quick update on
3 St. Mary's. We worked out an arrangement with St.
4 Mary's where they're paying us. We're collecting
5 checks from them weekly equating to approximately
6 double what their regular billing is each month.
7 So this way they're actually catching up, which is
8 a very good thing.

9 And the RFP for banking has been
10 finalized, approved by Legal and will be released
11 by the end of the week.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: When you say you have
13 an agreement with St. Mary's, who approved that
14 agreement?

15 MR. WEISS: It was not an official
16 agreement, it was an arrangement.

17 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Who approved that
18 arrangement?

19 MR. WEISS: It was not offered for
20 approval. It was just, they had a large bill --

21 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Who agreed to do it?

22 MR. WEISS: I did. I worked with them. I
23 went to them and met with them.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Are you comfortable
25 with that?

1 MR. WEISS: Yes.

2 MR. AMODIO: Any further questions?

3 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: If they don't pay,
4 it's your --

5 MR. WEISS: We actually have someone
6 picking up the check.

7 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: That's the point.
8 We have to go get that check.

9 MR. WEISS: Their regular bill is about
10 \$25,000 a month, we're collecting from them 50,000
11 a month.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Two questions;
14 number one, I see, at least according to the
15 report that we got from Joe, February, 2013 -- is
16 it okay for me to mention the amount? Is there
17 any reason why I can't?

18 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Please do.

19 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: According to our
20 report, I see a total delinquency of 136,000,
21 total that to 153. You're saying we're getting an
22 extra \$25,000 per week or \$25,000 a month?

23 MR. WEISS: A month.

24 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So you're estimating
25 about, about seven months?

1 Does the anticipated sale of the hospital
2 in any way affect us?

3 MR. WEISS: I don't believe so. I'm told
4 that the sale of the hospital, when the hospital
5 is finally sold, all the debts are going to be
6 paid off; all the prior bills will be paid off.

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Move on.

8 MR. AMODIO: Nothing further.

9 Do I have a motion for closed session?

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

11 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.

12 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Second.

13 MR. AMODIO: Whereas, Section 8 of the
14 Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of
15 the public from a meeting in certain
16 circumstances; and

17 WHEREAS, the public body is of the opinion
18 that such circumstances presently exist;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the
20 Commissioners of the Passaic Valley Water
21 Commissioner:

22 1. The public shall be excluded from
23 discussion of the hereinafter specified subject
24 matters; the general nature of subject matter
25 being: Financial, Insurance, Personnel,

1 Contracts, Negotiations, Security and Law;
2 Summary/Aging Report, North Arlington/Lodi v.
3 PVWC, Excess Liability Policy. Personnel -
4 Appointment: Jeffrey Baig - Supervisor Water/TA,
5 New Hire: Jeanelle M. Jarvois -Laboratory
6 Technician-Water Analysis. Under Administration,
7 we have the matter of the Great Falls National
8 Park, and any other matter as may be discussed in
9 camera.

10 2. --

11 MR. HANLEY: Just add North Arlington to
12 that.

13 MR. AMODIO: I did. North Arlington and
14 Lodi. I got you covered, Counsel.

15 2. It is anticipated at this time that
16 the above-stated subject matters will be ratified
17 during public meeting following or as soon
18 thereafter as the reason for the discussion no
19 longer exists.

20 3. This Resolution shall effect
21 immediately.

22 Second by Commissioner Vannoy.

23
24 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
25 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner

1 DeVita is absent)

2

3

4

5

MR. AMODIO: The time is 10:37 a.m.

6

You have a quorum.

7

8

We have Consent Agenda, minutes of the
Passaic Valley Water Commission in camera and
Regular Public Meetings held February 20th, 2013.

9

10

Do I have a motion?

11

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: So moved.

12

13

PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Second by Commissioner
Vannoy.

14

MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Rodriguez.

15

Second by Commissioner Vannoy.

16

17

18

(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
DeVita is absent)

19

20

21

MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita is

22

absent.

23

Thank you.

24

25

Does the Chair accept, receive, and file
Miscellaneous Purchase Orders placed by Linda

1 Beckering, Purchasing Agent, for the period of
2 February 11, 2013 to March 10, 2013?

3 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes.

4 MR. AMODIO: Thank you, sir.

5 Moving on. We have Requests For Action.

6 We have Contract #13-B-4 "Water Systems
7 Installation and Repair Services" Recommendation
8 to award two year contract to Reivax Contracting
9 Corporation, Harrison, New Jersey in the amount of
10 \$2,790,200.

11 I'll go through the rest.

12 Next item, Contract #13-B-8 "Furnish and
13 Deliver Makeup Filter Media" Recommendation to
14 award a two year contract to Prominent Systems,
15 Inc. of Houston, Texas in the amount of \$692,610.

16 I have number 8, Contract #13-B-9
17 "Roll-Off Container-Trash Removal Services"
18 Recommendation to award a two year contract to
19 Gaeta Recycling Company, Incorporated, Paterson,
20 New Jersey in the amount of \$65,460.

21 And last, we have Contract #12-B-39
22 (Re-Bid) "Flocculation Aid Dry Polymer"
23 Recommendation to award a two year contract to
24 Polydyne, Inc. of Riceboro, Georgia in the amount
25 of \$390,870.

1 Question?

2 Motion?

3 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Hold it.

4 I have a question on 13-B-9. I don't
5 understand the number. The lowest bid, according
6 to the Resolution, is 65,460. But there's an
7 attachment here, the total contract amount is
8 \$235,615. I didn't understand where that number
9 came from. Wasn't it the certification of
10 availability of funds, amount of project, or
11 contract, 235,615.

12 MR. DUPREY: Commissioner, which contract
13 was this?

14 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: B-9.

15 MR. AMODIO: I believe that's a typo by
16 Mr. Weiss.

17 MR. DUPREY: Sixty-five thousand four
18 hundred sixty is the Resolution.

19 MR. AMODIO: It's a typo by the
20 Controller.

21 MR. DUPREY: Yeah, that number should be
22 65,460.

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Thank you.

24 MR. AMODIO: Do I have a motion?

25 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

1 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.

2 Do I have a second?

3 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Second by Commissioner
4 Vannoy.

5

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

9

10 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita is
11 absent.

12 Motion approved.

13 All contracts have been approved.

14 We have New Business. Summary of
15 Disbursements and Payrolls through March 20, 2013
16 in the amount of \$4,725,693.02.

17 Discussion?

18 Motion?

19 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: So moved.

20 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.

21 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Vannoy.

22 Second by Commissioner Kolodziej.

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: This is the
24 disbursements?

25 MR. AMODIO: Yes, it is.

1 On the roll.

2 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Abstain on Dell.

3 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Abstain on American
4 Hose.

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Abstain on Montana.

6

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

10

11 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita is
12 absent.

13 Moving right along. We have
14 recommendations from closed session.

15 Promotion of Jeffrey Baig - Supervisor
16 Water/TA with a salary of \$67,418.

17 Range of 18,357 to 67,418.

18 Jeanelle Jarvois - Laboratory
19 Technician-Water Analysis.

20 Salary of 38,000.

21 Range of 25,000 to 57,616.

22 Do I have a motion?

23 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.

24 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.

25 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Question. There's

1 no proposed salary?

2 MR. AMODIO: Yes. Mr. Gallagher
3 inadvertently left it out. It's 67,418. He said
4 it in closed session.

5 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Okay.

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Second by Commissioner
7 Vannoy.

8 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

9 On the roll.

10

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

14

15 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita is
16 absent.

17 Thank you.

18 Approved.

19 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you, guys. This
20 is a sweet, short agenda. We got it done.

21 MR. AMODIO: For the record, the next
22 meeting is April 17th at 9:30 a.m.

23 Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, LYNANN DRAGONE, License No. XI01388, a
Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State
of New Jersey, certify that the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of the meeting at the time and the
date hereinbefore set forth.

I further certify that I am neither attorney
nor Counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the
parties to the action in which this meeting was taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or
employee of anyone employed in this case, nor am I
financially interested in this action.

LYNANN DRAGONE, CCR
Certified Court Reporter