

-Northern Westchester Joint Water Works

NWJWW Board of Trustees Meeting – June 13, 2025

Raymond A. Reber Catskill Water Treatment Facility 2065 East Main Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY

Convened at 9:35 A.M.

Adjourned at 10:14 A.M.

A.M. Present:

Edward Lachterman, Chairperson	Matthew Geho, Operations Directore
Richard Becker, Vice Chairperson	Catherine Paget, Business Director
Craig Rodrigues, Treasurer	Michael Cunningham, Attorney
Robert Scorrano, Trustee	Donna Albanese, Recording Sec’y
Steve Ferreira, Director of Environmental Services, Town of Cortlandt	

A motion was made by Trustee Scorrano to adopt the May 16, 2025 minutes. Motion was seconded by Trustee Becker. Motion approved 4-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Becker at 9:36 A.M. to enter into Executive session. A motion was seconded by Trustee Scorrano. Motion approved 4-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Becker at 9:58 A.M. to exit Executive session. A motion was seconded by Trustee Scorrano. Motion approved 4-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Scorrano for the following resolutions. As per Mr. Cunningham there will be salary adjustments for the following effective immediately: Senior Account Clerk salary increased to \$70,000, Intermediate Clerk salary increased to \$80,000, Office Assistant Financial Support salary increased to \$60,000. For the part time Accounting Clerk, the Board is authorizing up to \$12,350 for the remainder of the year with a rate of \$25 an hour. The Joint Water Works will be able to hire an Intern Accounting Clerk at a rate of \$20 per hour with an amount not to exceed \$12,800 for the remainder of the year. A motion was seconded by Trustee Becker. Motion approved 4-0.

Review results and request for award of the following bids and request for proposal:

Bid# 2025.2 Electrician Contractor services

Mr. Geho mentioned that we advertise bids for different services for different needs. The electrical services contract ended this year so we put out a bid for the electrical services. The two bidders that

replied were Acorn Electrical Contractors who we are presently using and Dole Electrical. Dole Electrical came in twice as much as Acorn, therefore we are requesting Acorn Electrical be awarded the 2025.2 bid.

Bid# 2025.3 Chemical Supply and Residuals Removal

Mr. Geho reported that we annually bid out the chemicals and residuals removal. The Board was given the spreadsheet which outlines the different chemicals. The chemicals which are highlighted on the spreadsheet are the lowest prices per unit. This is calculated into our budget when we set the budget for 2026 and the remainder of 2025. There is a moderate increase of 5% to 10% over the course of this year.

Bid# 2025.4 Emergency Contractor Services

Mr. Geho said we have a renewal clause with the contractor emergency services for one year if mutually agreed upon but this is only for the Joint Water Works. There has been a change in laws regarding piggybacking for bids. It used to be that any member can use this contracting firm. We would call them if we had an issue with the 16", 20" or 24" transmission main in which if none of our members can assist, we could call in a contractor to come in and do the work. The two contractors who bid are Morano Brothers which is out of Cortlandt Manor and Grounds Control which is out of Warwick.

Ground Control was our past emergency contractor and we had no issues with them. We are looking to award Morano Brothers who came in less than Grounds Control. This would be only if we required their services in an emergency situation where we could not get assistance so there is no guarantee of work.

Request for Proposal Laboratory Services

Mr. Geho mentioned that every two years we put out a request for proposal for all our members for laboratory services. We found that this is less costly in doing it per unit price. The two bidders were Phoenix Laboratories and Pace Analytical Services. Pace is our current laboratory and they were the only lab that provided all of the analysis which we required. Pace's Analytical's bid came in at \$17,272 and Phoenix Laboratories came in at \$18,250. Phoenix Laboratories could not provide us the PFAS analysis which the Town of Cortlandt and NWJWW are both required to complete. Our recommendation is to continue to work with Pace Laboratories.

A motion was made by Trustee Scorrano to award the following bids: Electrical Contractor services to Acorn Electric, Chemical Supply and Residuals Removal to various vendors, Emergency Contractor Services to Morano Brothers and Laboratory Services to Pace Analytical and not to exceed \$17,272. A motion was seconded by Trustee Becker. Motion approved 4-0.

Budget transfer to fund repair to 2015 Chevy Silverado Truck

Mr. Geho said that the 2015 Chevy Silverado Truck has 90,000 miles and is a posi traction duel diesel heavy duty truck. The rear differential went on it. We had to get the rear end replaced on it and then they found that the posi control unit failed so the cost was \$1,300. Since the truck was already on the lift, Mr. Geho approved the cost via phone. It exceeded the equipment maintenance line by \$3,000. We are looking to transfer funds from one line to another to pay for this cost. There is no budget increase and the truck has been back on the road. Mr. Geho mentioned that our fleet is ageing out and we looking to budget another truck for next year.

A motion was made by Trustee Becker to authorize a budget transfer to fund the repair of the 2015 Chevy Silverado truck. No additional funds are expended and the total of the annual budget remains the same. A motion was seconded by Trustee Scorrano. Motion approved 4-0.

Rescind approval of proposal to Gentile Construction for Route 35 repairs

Mr. Geho said that because we can no longer piggyback off the Town of Cortlandt's paving contractor, we are going to use the paving contractor from the Town of Somers to do the work on Route 35 which is where the water main break happened in November 2024. Mohansic Creek Road had been washed out. The price that the contractor gave us was about \$2,000 more than the previous contractor and Trustee Scorrano mentioned that the Town of Somers would pay the bill and bill the Joint Water Works for services rendered.

Mr. Geho said that they would fund the project on the estimate provided by Gentile Construction. Mr. Nick DeVito, the Town of Somers Highway Superintendent would handle it for us. Gentile had become non-responsive. We will send a letter to the 6 residents alerting them stating that we will be fixing the road.

A motion was made by Trustee Becker to rescind approval of proposal to Gentile Construction for Route 35 Repairs. A motion was seconded by Trustee Scorrano. Motion approved 4-0.

Mr. Steve Ferreira, Town of Cortlandt Director of Environmental Services, mentioned that the Town of Cortlandt has a big spike in unaccounted water. He wanted the members to be on the lookout for anything they might see on the interconnect. He said more likely it is in the Town of Yorktown or the City of Peekskill. He said that we have found from time to time valves were turned and that we are supplying different towns with different water.

He also reported that we have been trying to tackle all of our leaks and we have a leak detection for our entire system. The Town of Cortlandt had about 42 leaks in their system. We have 10 of the 42 leaks complete. Mr. Ferreira mentioned that they are trying to get a handle on the situation but he may try to reach out to the Water Superintendent of Yorktown to discuss water issues.

Trustee Becker mentioned that when it was discussed there was a miss match between the water use and the bill. He said that the Town Board approved the leak detection. We found the 42 leaks but nothing that would explain the entire volume. Mr. Geho said that he knows that Mr. Rob Zawacki and Mr. Nick Hunt from the Joint Water Works Maintenance Department would be happy to assist the Town of Cortlandt with the leaks. Mr. Nick Hunt who is the Water Meter Repairer is competent that would he would be of great assistance.

Mr. Ferreira said that the Town of Cortlandt had a request to read the meters ourselves. He thought the plan was to put the Sensus meters in there to try to get a flex net down in that area to read. He would like to proceed in that direction instead of us having to read it if they can come directly here. Mr. Geho said that the problem with flex net is that we cannot get out of the shadow of the river and the path goes down to Rockland. If we can get linked to the Town of Cortlandt's system and get access then that would give the ability to look at real time at the data and see if something is wrong.

A motion was made by Trustee Scorrano at 10:14 A.M. to adjourn the meeting. A motion was

seconded by Trustee Becker. Motion approved 4-0.

Resolution #2025-52

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Resolution #2025-54

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