

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

**Thursday, January 9, 2025
450 Child Street (Boardroom), Warren, RI**

Board Members Present:

Juan Mariscal, Chairman
Thomas Kraig, Vice-Chairman
Christopher Stanley, Secretary/Treasurer
Robert J. Martin, Board Member
John M. Jannitto, Board Member
William F. Gosselin, Board Member
Stephen Gross, Board Member
Richard E. Fournier, Board Member
(1 Open Board Member Position)

Board Members Absent:

None

BCWA Staff Attending:

Stephen H. Coutu, Executive Director
Michael Crawford, Deputy Executive Director
Daniel Hughes, Finance Manager
Lauren DeRuisseau, HR/Executive Assistant

Others Attending:

Legal Counsel Joseph Keough

1. Call to Order

Pursuant to proper notice, the Special Board Meeting of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Juan Mariscal at 5:02pm.

2. Public Input

There was no public input.

Chairman Mariscal noted that the Town of Barrington is considering an appointment to the BCWA Board of Directors.

3. Finance Committee

i. FY 2026 Draft Operations and Maintenance Budget – Board Vote on Finance Committee Recommendation

Executive Director Coutu stated that the proposed O&M budget for FY2026 is \$9,639,543.00. This figure is a little over \$55K over last year's budget and represents a slight increase of 0.6%. This budget meets all of our needs, despite seeing double-digit increases in health insurance costs and increases in material costs.

Director Gross stated that the Finance Committee recommended the approval of both budgets.

Vice-Chairman Kraig moved the following motion seconded by Director Martin

**MOTION: To approve the FY2026 Operations & Maintenance budget.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.**

**ii. FY 2026 Draft Capital Budget – Board Vote on Finance Committee
Recommendation**

The proposed Capital budget for FY2026 is \$4,305,000.00. This Capital budget will provide continued funding for the Pawtucket Pipeline project, complete our FY2025 Water Main Rehabilitation project, and provide funding for the FY2026 Water Main Rehabilitation project that we have finalized in design and will be putting out to bid next month. It also has continued funding for our lead service line replacement program. Although this is not a capital expense, this budget also carries \$1M for the demo of the former water treatment plant if that comes to fruition.

Although the Board does not vote on the rate tonight and is only approving the O&M and Capital budgets, for the purposes of estimating revenues for the coming fiscal year, we have assumed a 3% increase.

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Vice-Chairman Kraig

**MOTION: We accept as presented.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.**

iii. Draft 10 Year Financial Plan for Information Only

For information only.

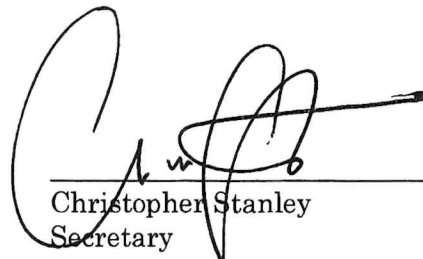
Executive Director Coutu stated that the rate hearing is scheduled for January 23rd. Modifications of minor rates and charges will also be presented.

4. Adjournment

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Gross

**MOTION: To adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm.



Christopher Stanley
Secretary