

# TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

The meeting of the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority was held on the above date at the Authority Administration Building, 224 Roosevelt Avenue, Oakhurst, New Jersey.

Present: Galvin, Theodora (6:46 PM), Miller, Valentino, Johnson

Absent: Engineer Keith Chiaravella

Others: Executive Director Timothy Shea, Technical Service Manager Anthony Dimino-remotely, General Counsel Carol A. Berlen, Esq., Recording Secretary Amy Stewart

Chairman Galvin called the meeting to order and all recited The Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Galvin announced that the Meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975 and adequate notice had been duly posted where required and sent to the Asbury Park Press and the Coaster, mailed to its service communities and posted on its website. The Minutes of this meeting will be available after Board approval at a subsequent meeting.

The meeting is available in real time to the public by logging into [meet.google.com/hvy-nivn-pdi](https://meet.google.com/hvy-nivn-pdi) or calling 857-323-2408, PIN 182 159 490#.

## WORK SESSION

The chairman opens the work session by asking Mr. Shea to update the Board on his report.

Executive Director Report- Mr. Shea reminds the Board that next month is the re-organization meeting and he suggest keeping with the same professionals but also wants any input should any of the Board members feel differently. He wants to discuss the resolution on the agenda in reference to the NJDEP and the reconsideration of the proposed PFAS Criteria. The substance they are referring to containing is such a tiny amount it is nearly impossible to manage. TOSA doesn't make it, can't treat for it, or dispose of it. It is 2 nanograms per liter which is nearly zero. This resolution is not opposing the DEP it is just asking them to reconsider.

Attorney Report- Carole Berlin has no report at this time, she would like to wait for executive session.

Engineering Report- Nothing at this time.

Auditor Report- Historically he comes and presents the audit report and then the following month it can be adopted. The Board would like advanced copies to be ready with questions at the presentation next month.

Technical Service Manager's Report-

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

**BUSINESS SESSION**

Resolution

Mr. Miller makes a motion to approve the bill list and Mr. Valentino seconds the motion.

**RESOLUTION 25-01**

**BILL LIST**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority, in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (not less than three (3) members affirmatively concurring) as follows:

1. All bills or claims as reviewed and approved by the Executive Director and as set forth in this Resolution are hereby approved for payment.

2. The authorized signers of checks are hereby authorized and directed to sign checks in the payment of bills and claims which are hereby approved.

The computer print-out of the list of bills will be on file in the Purchasing Agent’s Office.

CURRENT FUND	\$294,644.97
REVIEW and INSPECTION	256.75
RENEWAL and REPLACEMENT	0
EIT and CONSTRUCTION	21,106.46
PAYROLL ACCOUNT	<u>82,688.42</u>
<b>TOTAL BILLS PAYABLE</b>	<b>\$398,696.60</b>

Roll Call, Galvin, Miller, Johnson, Valentino

Yes    Yes    Yes    Yes

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Galvin			X			
Johnson			X			
Miller	X		X			
Theodora						X
Valentino		X	X			

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

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Secretary

Resolution

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Miller offered the approval of the following as a Consent Agenda and Mr. Valentino seconded the adoption of the Consent Agenda.

- a) Approval of Minutes of the December 3, 2024 regular meeting and closed session minutes.
- b) Approval to receive and file the Operator's Report
- c) Resolution 25-02 appointing Connor Strong & Buckelew Risk Management Consultant
- d) Resolution 25-03 Calling upon NJDEP to Reconsider Proposed PFAS Criteria

Mr. Theodora arrives.

**TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER REPORT**

DATE: January 7, 2025

TO: Board of Commissioners, Timothy Shea Executive Director

FROM: Anthony Dimino, Technical Services Manager

RE: January Commissioners Meeting

**Operations**

For the month of November, all necessary paperwork and lab results have been submitted to the DEP with no permit violations or issues. We also have a new Collection Operator, Corey Forman, starting January 6, 2025.

I have been working with Dan DeSoucey on creating line graphs to start trending our hypo usage and sludge hauling to determine the efficiency of our treatment process. We now have a baseline over the last few years created to progress forward in showing us this information. I will also be working with Vinnie to create similar graphs for each pump station to show run hours and flows, giving us data to document and mitigate I/I issues.

# TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

On December 2nd, Keith S. reported that the belts on Grit Pump No. 2 were missing. Upon inspection, the pump was found to be clogged and partially frozen. After clearing the blockage and replacing the belts, it was discovered that the main shaft seal was leaking excessively, preventing the pump from holding a prime. The damage was similar to that experienced with Grit Pump No. 1 earlier this year, which was beyond repair and required replacement. Given the planned overhaul of the grit system in 2025, Grit Pump No. 2, along with the grit classifier and cyclone, were taken offline, and the flow was redirected to Grit Chamber 1. The DEP was notified of the equipment failure under case # 24-12-03-0649-15.

On December 3rd, the cellular modem at the Longview Pump Station failed. The program was recovered and successfully loaded onto a spare modem, restoring communication with SCADA.

Nic P. installed the Voltus Box in the electrical room and is awaiting JCP&L to complete the installation, after which the box will go live.

On December 4th, employee evaluations were conducted for the staff. This process had not been performed in several years and will be an essential tool for tracking employee growth and motivating staff with merit-based yearly percentage raises.

Lucity continues to be utilized on the plant site, and the collection crew has begun entering routine preventative maintenance data into their workflow. As the staff becomes more familiar with the system, we will begin exploring how reports are processed and will include them in future monthly reports.

On December 23rd, both influent and effluent composite samples were found to be frozen. After thawing the sample lines, heat tracing was installed to prevent this issue during the colder winter months. The samplers and sample lines will continue to be closely monitored.

## **November reported numbers**

Avg. Daily Plant Flow – 3.602 MGD  
Sludge Holding Tank % solids – 3.94 %  
Gallons Hauled – 301,600 Gallons  
Rainfall – 3.14 in.

## **November DMR**

Percent Removal TSS – 98.2 %  
Percent Removal CBOD - 94.1 %  
All other reported numbers were within set DEP parameters

## **Collections**

### **Routine Maintenance**

Total amount cleaned: **14,885 ft.**

### **Line maintenance/TV inspection**

# TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

Total amount inspected: **3,110 ft.**

## **Pump stations**

All stations were cleaned and inspected

Rebuilt bioxide pump at Whalepond PS

#2 pump at Whalepond PS was taken out of rotation while the pump and check valve were cleared of rags. This station is currently operating without a Muffin Monster and will be ordered in the new fiscal year.

New thermostats were installed on all 3 VFD's at Interlaken PS

No new news on the Wayside School pump station project, waiting on JVS to put finishing touches on the station

## **Miscellaneous**

TOSA responded to 16 calls of various nature around town

4 Emergency calls from Allenhurst DPW for their Cedar Ave PS.

Covered LBSA while their Jet Truck was out for service and TOSA responded to 5 calls

## **Markouts**

74 markouts were conducted during the month

## **Training/Licensing**

I successfully passed my collections level 2 license exam. Nic Patterson attended Rutgers Operation and Maintenance of Pumps course.

## **Safety**

Our monthly safety meeting was conducted for December, where we continued to discuss the importance of PPE. A safety walk around of the plant and pump stations was conducted on 12/5. All fire extinguisher, eye wash/emergency shower stations, and safety lighting/exit signs are up to date and in working order. Our Maintenance Dept. added a set of stairs to our Division Chamber to make for easier access when grabbing samples. Confined space work was done in Whalepond pump station. A permit was filled out and Asbury Fire Department was notified. Gas meters were also calibrated and a monthly calibration work order was created in Lucity.

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

**AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF CONNER STRONG &  
BUCKELEW AS RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority is a member of the New Jersey Utility Authority Joint Insurance Fund (“Fund”); and

**WHEREAS**, the bylaws of the Fund require the Authority to obtain a Risk Management Consultant to perform various professional services required by the Fund and the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the judgmental nature of the Risk Management Consultant’s duties renders comparative bidding impractical; and

**WHEREAS**, Conner Strong & Buckelew has submitted a proposal for risk management services to the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, Conner Strong & Buckelew, through its representative Michael C. Avalone, has provided the Authority with quality risk management consulting services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority’s Executive Director has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services as risk management consultant will not exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of this contract is for one (1) year from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the services to be performed are “professional services” as defined in the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(6) and therefore are excepted from the Local Public Contracts Law requirements for competitive bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i); and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority’s Executive Director has certified that funds are available for this contract in general insurance (50-500-318), fees are included in the Authority's 2025 NJUA JIF assessment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority as follows:

1. Conner Strong & Buckelew is hereby appointed as Risk Management Consultant for the Authority in accordance with the attached proposed contract for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a professional service under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because the services involved are of such a qualitative nature and are not readily susceptible or subject to competitive bidding and further,

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

Oakhurst, NJ

January 7, 2025

that the above-named firm has been determined to have expertise in this area and, in the opinion of the Authority Members, this firm can best provide the appropriate risk management services required.

3. A notice of this action shall be published according to law.

Roll Call, Galvin, Miller, Johnson, Valentino, Theodora

Yes    Yes    Yes    Yes    Yes

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Galvin			X			
Johnson			X			
Miller		X	X			
Theodora			X			
Valentino	X		X			

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Secretary

25-03

**RESOLUTION to call upon the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to reconsider the amendments to Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS) at N.J.A.C. 7:9B, New freshwater and saline water criteria for PFNA, PFOA, and PFOS**

**Whereas,** The Mission of the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority is to ensure sustainability in the collection, treatment, and reclamation of water throughout our region; and

**Whereas,** PFAS substances are a threat to human health and the environment; and

**Whereas,** the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority is ready and willing to do its part to mitigate the proliferation of PFAS substances to protect public health and the environment using methods that are based on sound science, existing analytical capabilities, and feasible technology; and

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Oakhurst, NJ**

**January 7, 2025**

**Whereas**, on Nov. 21, 2024, the NJDEP announced its plans to propose amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:9B SWQ Standards “new freshwater and saline water criteria for PFNA, PFOA, and PFOS; and

**Whereas**, the amendments would establish limits that are not consistent with current detection capabilities; and

**Whereas**, the amendments would require wastewater treatment plants to install enhanced secondary and tertiary treatment technology that are not yet well-proven; and

**Whereas**, it appears that the NJDEP plans to propose the amendments without fully considering the implications for sludge management; and

**Whereas**, it appears that the NJDEP plans to propose the amendments without assessing the impacts of increasing the carbon footprint of increased energy consumption and increased greenhouse gas emissions generated by the transport of sludge; and

**Whereas**, it appears that the NJDEP is vastly underestimating the costs of sampling, monitoring, laboratory analysis, engineering, design, construction, and operations that would be necessary to achieve compliance; and

**Whereas**, the cost of compliance would run to the tens of millions for most plants individually and to the tens of billions for New Jersey wastewater treatment plants in total; and

**Whereas**, the cost of treatment would force wastewater treatment plants to redirect funds away from important plant repairs and modernization projects that are desperately needed; and

**Whereas**, the excessive costs would be passed on to the wastewater customers, many of whom live in disadvantaged communities and have low to moderate levels of income.

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Township of Ocean Sewerage Authority calls on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to reconsider the amendments to Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS) at N.J.A.C. 7:9B, “New freshwater and saline water criteria for PFNA, PFOA, and PFOS”.

Roll Call, Galvin, Miller, Johnson, Valentino, Theodora  
                   Yes     Yes     Yes     Yes     Yes

	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Galvin			X			
Johnson			X			
Miller		X	X			
Theodora			X			
Valentino	X		X			

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David Miller, Secretary