

**LEHMUA
Regular Meeting**

January 6, 2026

The regular meeting of the Little Egg Harbor Municipal Utilities Authority was held on January 6, 2026 at 12:00 PM at the Authority headquarters, 823 Radio Road, Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kenneth Miller, Chairman; Marie Skelly Treasurer; Peter Cicco, Secretary; Kenneth Maxwell (via tele-conference); Suzanne Musto-Carrara (via tele-conference); Christopher Filiciello; Arlene Keenan

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Earl F. Sutton, Jr., Executive Director; Michael S. DiFrancia, Superintendent; Nicole M. Princiotti, Executive Secretary/QPA; Trace Dittenhofer, Authority Engineer; Debra Rumpf, Esq., Authority Attorney

THOSE ABSENT: None

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicole M. Princiotti read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, this meeting has been duly advertised in the Atlantic City Press and the Asbury Park Press, posted on the Authority bulletin board and posted and filed in the office of the Little Egg Harbor Township Clerk. Resolutions are posted on the Authority's bulletin board.

Prior to the meeting commencing, Mrs. Rumpf swore in re-appointed members, Kenneth Maxwell, Christopher Filiciello and newly appointed member, Arlene Keenan.

PRIOR MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Carrara to approve the December 9, 2025 minutes of the Authority's regular meeting. Roll call vote, Kenneth Maxwell – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the Executive Session minutes of December 9, 2025. Roll call vote, Kenneth Maxwell – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Carrara to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Roll call vote, Kenneth Maxwell – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

BILLS RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mrs. Carrara to approve the operational account bills resolution. Roll call vote, Kenneth Maxwell – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1 – Mr. Sutton began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. We have a continuation of our major capital improvement plans. Phase III of the Mystic Island Water and Sewer Main Replacement should be kicking off soon, we will be expanding our offices and the overall infrastructure will continue to improve. Once Phase III is completed by the end of the year, we will have replaced nearly 55% of our entire infrastructure.

2 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that budgeting for the next fiscal year is still underway and will be introduced and adopted in March of 2026. We are still exploring alternative health insurance options which won't affect the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement in place.

3 – Mr. Sutton stated that Resolution #2026-01 is on the agenda re-appointing Dynamic Testing Services as our approved alcohol and drug testing company for CDL compliance. Approval is recommended.

4 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that Resolution #2026-02 is on the agenda reappointing him as the Authority's Public Agency Compliance Officer. Approval is recommended.

5 – Mr. Sutton stated that there was a recent deposition regarding the Landmark legal matter. A special thank you to former Superintendent Mark Heinrichs who was required to participate and Deb Rumpf for her continued efforts regarding this.

6 – Mr. Sutton stated that there are no customer committee matters, nor a need for executive session.

That is all for his Executive Director's Report unless there are any questions. There being none a motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Cicco to approve the Executive Director's Report as submitted. All in favor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. DiFrancia began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

1 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that unfortunately, the Authority was required to respond to a sewer collapse on South Portland Drive. He and Authority personnel mobilized to the collapse and removed and replaced approximately 35 feet of compromised sewer. Authority personnel performing this repair in-house saves our rate payers significantly.

2 – Mr. DiFrancia stated the replacement of the failing chlorine contact tank at Well No. 13 is substantially complete. There are some minor restoration issues. Testing was completed and the Authority's engineer found the report to be satisfactory. The well came offline for approximately 8 hours while the piping was tied into the existing main. This was after all the bacteria and VOC samples came back from the laboratory.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that recommendation is being made as part of the bills resolution for the payment of \$172,671.10 to JVS Industrial & Commercial Contractors for substantial completion of the Well No. 13 Chlorine Contact Tank. The engineer's letter is attached and approval is recommended.

3 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that in mid-December the Authority assisted the Township Public Works Department with clearing a blockage within their sewer line for the septic system at the public works yard on Route 539. Authority personnel also repaired the broken clean out for them as well.

4 –Mr. DiFrancia stated that his work order management report is attached and reviewed it with the Board.

Mr. DiFrancia explained that there are a significant amount of meter repairs and stated that this is because of the life span. Some have 15 years, and some have 20 years. The company actually gives you money toward the newer ones if you don't hit the 20-year mark. We are approaching that mark and are concerned with our entire system going out at the same time. We are being proactive in getting these MTUs and meter repairs done as quick as possible.

Mr. Cicco asked if these were the meters in the house.

Mr. DiFrancia clarified, that they were not, and stated that they are the MTUs on the outside of the house and is the device for the radio frequency readings that come back to our office.

Mr. Sutton stated that the other issue, this is going to cost the Authority a substantial amount of money in order to provide the same service we always have. Our current system works by notifying us of any customer water usage over 1,000 gallons in a given day, and then we reach out to the customer and notify them of this potential problem. This can potentially save them a lot of money, or even property damage. If these MTUs were not replaced in a timely manner, we would not be able to provide this service.

Mr. Sutton stated that a lot of companies will be in the same position, but we want to get ahead of this. It is going to cost a substantial amount of money. For the equipment alone, we are looking at about 1 million dollars. But we are able to do the work in-house and that is a huge savings. To sub this out, it would be around \$200-300 per MTU installed. Doing it in house will save the Authority a lot of money, and the person installing them is able to get 25-30 done a day. We have 7500 of them that need replacement.

Ms. Keenan asked if after Storm Sandy, and new homes were built, were new meters installed as well.

Mr. DiFrancia stated, yes new meters were put in at that time and were covered by FEMA as long as we installed water-proof meters.

Mr. Sutton mentioned that Sandy was over 13 years ago, and those meters only have about another 7-8 years before their life span is over and they need to be replaced. Fortunately, when we replaced those meters we received FEMA funding and it basically cost the Authority nothing at that time.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that was all for his report unless there were any questions. There being none a motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the Superintendent's Report as submitted. All in favor.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dittenhofer thanked the Board for having him and congratulated the re-appointed members as well as our newly appointed member. There are a few things he would like to review from his report.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that in terms of capital projects, the first item is Mystic Island Phase II Water and Sewer Main Replacement Project, he believes there are still some outstanding documents for H2 Loans, state funding and the long-term loan processes.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that with regard to Mystic Island Phase III Water and Sewer Main Replacement, we are hoping that this project will be moving along very shortly. We just got an email stating that this project is being considered for the short-term loan financing in this round of bonding.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that the Well No. 13 Rehabilitation is being completed at the end of January 2026. Obviously, the Authority has a lot of capital projects going on and praised the Authority staff for being able to juggle all of this while maintaining the systems.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that with regard to Well No. 6, a 60-day contract extension was recommended by his office in order to sequence the work already being performed by the Authority.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that with regard to Well No. 13 Contact Tank, the work has been substantially complete and our office generated a letter as mentioned earlier by the Superintendent regarding the bacteria and VOC testing.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that the Sea Oaks Water Tower Rehabilitation was completed last fall and we received the one-year inspection of the tank from the contractor. There are some deficiencies that should be rectified. Our expectation with regard to the provisions have been made clear with the contractor. We are just waiting for some further correspondence.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that was all for his report unless there were any questions. There being none, a motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the Engineer's Report as submitted. All in favor.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mrs. Rumpf began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and congratulating the new and re-appointed members.

Mrs. Rumpf stated that her report has been submitted and mostly entails communications as it relates to the wireless communication litigation.

Mrs. Rumpf stated that was all for her report unless there were any questions. There being none, a motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Cicco to approve Attorney's Report as submitted. All in favor.

Mr. Miller stated that we can take the resolutions at this time.

*Mr. Maxwell dropped off the tele-conference. Mr. Filiciello was called upon in his place.

A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Cicco to approve Resolution #2026-01 accepting the contract for professional services with Dynamic Testing Service for CDL Random Alcohol and Drug Testing Program. Roll call vote, Christopher Filiciello – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

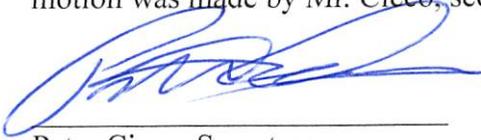
A motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve Resolution #2026-02 appointing Earl F. Sutton, Jr. as the Authority's Public Agency Compliance Officer. Roll call vote, Christopher Filiciello – yes, Suzanne Carrara – yes, Peter Cicco – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes.

A motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mr. Filiciello to accept and file all general correspondence. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Cicco to open this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

There being no public in attendance, a motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Cicco to close this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Mr. Miller asked if there was anything else to come before the Board. There being nothing, a motion was made by Mr. Cicco, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.



Peter Cicco, Secretary