

**NEW JERSEY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY JOINT MEETING  
OPEN MINUTES  
MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2022  
2:00 PM**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cuccia. The Open Public Meeting Notice was read into the record by Mr. Thorpe.

**ROLL CALL OF 2022 COMMISSIONERS:**

<b>NJ SEM</b>	
<b>State Wide Representatives</b>	
	<u><b>State Rep.</b></u>
Region 1	Silvio Esposito, Hanover Township
Region 2	Charles Cuccia, Maywood
Region 3	Joseph Catenaro, Fairfield Twp.
Region 4	Thomas Nolan, Brielle Borough
Region 5	Michael Theokas, Bordentown Twp.
Region 6	David Taraschi, Audubon Borough
Region 7	Diane Lapp, Manchester Twp.
	<u><b>Alternate Rep.</b></u>
Region 1	Ralph Blakeslee III, Netcong Borough
Region 2	Greg Franz, Edgewater Borough
Region 3	Tim Dacey, Piscataway Twp.
Region 4	Michael Gianforte, Two Rivers Water Rec. Authority
Region 5	Meghan Jack, Riverside Twp.
Region 6	Cassandra Duffey, Collingswood
Region 7	Veronica Laureigh, Lacey Twp.

Present from the above group were: Charles Cuccia, Joseph Catenaro, Thomas Nolan, Michael Theokas, David Taraschi, Diane Lapp, Ralph Blakeslee III, Greg Franz, Tim Dacey, Michael Gianforte, and Cassandra Duffey.

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Executive Director/ Administrator	<b>PERMA Risk Management Services</b>	Stephen Sacco	Absent
Attorney	<b>Maley Givens</b>	James Maley, Esq. Erin Simone, Esq.	Absent Present
Treasurer		Jon Rheinhardt	Present
Energy Consultant	<b>Gabel Associates</b>	Bob Chilton	Present
Qualified Purchasing Agent	<b>The Canning Group</b>	Sean Canning	Absent

**Also Present:**

Jason Thorpe, PERMA  
Carol Friedman, Gabel Associates  
Loren Altshuler, Gabel Associates  
Michaela Benton, Gabel Associates  
Mike Willoughby, WINstorm  
Karen Martin, WINstorm

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 7, 2022**

**MOTION TO APPROVE OPEN MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

<b>MOTION:</b>	Commissioner Catenaro
<b>SECOND:</b>	Commissioner Gianforte
<b>VOTE:</b>	Unanimous

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

**NJ SEM Management Committee** – Mr. Thorpe reported that the Management Committee met on March 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the anticipated challenges for the upcoming Electric Supply Bid. He advised that there are extremely elevated energy markets that will most likely jeopardize the SEM’s ability to obtain favorable pricing. Mr. Thorpe reported that Gabel Associates has suggested two modifications to past practice to combat the adverse market conditions and modestly improve the SEM’s chances for success. He advised that the Management Committee was in agreement with the suggestions and is recommending approval of the modifications. Mr. Thorpe then referred to the resolution authorizing the approval of the strike price process modifications.

**MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 8-22 AUTHORIZING GABEL ASSOCIATES TO MODIFY THE PROCESS OF SETTING THE STRIKE PRICE AS OUTLINED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE NJ SEM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

Moved:	Commissioner Nolan
Second:	Commissioner Gianforte
Vote:	Unanimous

**Electric Supply Bid** - Mr. Thorpe indicated that the NJ SEM’s strike price for the Electric Supply bid will need to be set and approved during the meeting. He then asked that Gabel Associates lead the discussion. Mr. Chilton referred to the Strike Price Evaluation memorandum that was distributed prior to the start of the meeting. He advised that the market is very challenging right now and that it will be challenging to get successful bid prices. Mr. Chilton then reviewed the process of developing the strike prices for the various bid groups. He reported that the opt-out

period will conclude at 4:00 p.m. on April 8<sup>th</sup>, the bids will be issued on April 13<sup>th</sup>, and the bid opening will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. He advised that once again, the day before the bid opening a current market evaluation will be conducted and an Expected Price report will be put together. After a review of the recommended strike prices for the various bid groups, Commissioner Theokas asked how the current strike prices compare to the previous ones. Mr. Chilton advised that, for the most part, the strike prices are slightly higher, which reflects the current market conditions. Chairman Cuccia asked if there were any additional questions from the Committee. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adopt Resolution #9-22.

**MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 9-22 AUTHORIZING A STRIKE PRICE FOR THE RFB TO BE ISSUED ON APRIL 13, 2022 SEEKING BIDS FOR ELECTRIC SUPPLY CONTRACTS.**

Moved:	Commissioner Theokas
Second:	Commissioner Gianforte
Vote:	Unanimous

**Electric Supply Bid Revised Timeline** – Mr. Thorpe referred to the key list of dates and events leading up to the electric supply bid. He noted that the opt-out period ends on April 8<sup>th</sup> and the next SEM meeting will be scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> to conduct the bid opening.

**Current Opt-Out List** – Mr. Thorpe referred to the current list of members who have opted-out of the upcoming electric supply bid. Mr. Chilton added that 11 of the 12 members who have opted-out have not participated in the last several bids.

**GPANJ Conference** – Mr. Thorpe reported that the NJ SEM has been invited to attend the annual Governmental Purchasing Association of New Jersey Educational Symposium in September. He noted that the conference is being held Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and asked for a motion to approve attendance.

**MOTION TO APPROVE REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE FOR SEM PROFESSIONALS AT THE GPANJ EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AND AUTHORIZE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONFERENCE.**

Moved:	Commissioner Nolan
Second:	Commissioner Catenaro
Vote:	Unanimous

**ENERGY CONSULTANT REPORT:**

Mr. Chilton advised that he had nothing additional to report.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

Mr. Rheinhardt referred to the February 2022 Treasurer Reports and the March bill list contained within the agenda packet. He then asked for a motion to approve the Bills List.

<b>FUND YEAR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>March Bills List</b>	
Fund Year All	\$ 117,176.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 117,176.30</b>

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10-22 APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT  
OF MARCH 2022 BILL LIST**

Moved: Commissioner Lapp  
 Second: Commissioner Blakeslee  
 Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

**ATTORNEY REPORT:**

Ms. Simone reported that Governor Murphy has adopted a new law that affects public contracts. She advised that the new law prohibits awarding contracts to individuals who interests in Russia and will require the SEM to add a new certification to the RFB.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gianforte  
**SECOND:** Commissioner Blakeslee  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned: 2:16 PM

*Respectfully submitted,*

---

Prepared by J. Thorpe, Assistant Secretary