

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION

555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Monday, January 8, 2018

Present: Commissioners Andrew Adil, John Avedisian, Clifford Avery Buell, Luis Caban, Daniel Camilliere, Donald M. Currey, William A. DiBella, Timothy J. Fitzgerald, Peter Gardow, Denise Hall, James Healy, Allen Hoffman, Jean Holloway, Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn, Byron Lester, Maureen Magnan Alphonse Marotta, Whit Osgood, Dominic M. Pane, Pasquale J. Salemi, Raymond Sweezy, Alvin Taylor, Richard W. Vicino (23)

Absent: Commissioners Mary Anne Charron, Matthew B. Galligan, David Ionno, Sandra Johnson, Bhupen Patel, Michael Solomonides and New Britain Special Representative Michael Carrier (7)

Also

Present: Citizen Member Ron Angelo
Citizen Member Martin Courneen
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
John M. Zinzarella, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Business Services
R. Bartley Halloran, District Counsel
Christopher Stone, Assistant District Counsel
Brendan Fox, Assistant District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Director of Operations
Sue Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Technology
Kelly Shane, Director of Procurement
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities
Robert Zaik, Director of Human Resources
Marcy Wright-Bolling, Manager of Human Resources
Nick Salemi, Special Services Administrator
John Bourgoin, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
John Fleming, Superintendent of Operations
James Riley, Assistant Superintendent of Operations
Dave Ruty, Superintendent of Command Center
Nefertere Whittingham, Administrative Clerk
Kerry E. Martin, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer
Cynthia A. Nadolny, Executive Assistant
Victoria S. Escoriza, Executive Assistant
David Silverstone, Consumer Advocate
Diane Ritucci, President and CEO of Workers Compensation Trust

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by District Counsel R. Bartley Halloran at 5:41 PM

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM

The District Clerk called the roll and informed District Counsel Halloran that a quorum of the Commission was present, and the meeting was declared a legal meeting of the District Board of The Metropolitan District of Hartford County, Connecticut.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

R. Bartley Halloran, District Counsel, called for the election of the Chairman. Commissioner Pane placed Commissioner William A. DiBella's name in nomination, Commissioner Sweezy seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner William A. DiBella of Hartford was elected Chairman of the District Board of The Metropolitan District for 2018 and 2019. Chairman DiBella assumed the Chair and thanked the Commission for their nominations and confidence in re-electing him Chairman for the next two years.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman DiBella called for the election of the Vice Chairman. Commissioner Taylor placed Commissioner Maureen Magnan's name in nomination, and the nomination was duly seconded by Commissioner Camilliere.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Maureen Magnan was elected Vice Chairman of the District Board of The Metropolitan District for 2018 and 2019.

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION
FOR THE YEARS 2018 - 2019**

To: District Board

From: District Chairman

January 8, 2018

The Chairman hereby appoints the following Commissioners to the Committee on Organization for the years 2018 and 2019:

Clifford Avery Buell
Luis Caban
Daniel Camilliere
Donald M. Currey
William A. DiBella
Timothy J. Fitzgerald

Allen Hoffman
Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn
Raymond Sweezy
Alvin Taylor
Richard W. Vicino

Respectfully submitted,

William A. DiBella
District Chairman

On motion made by Commissioner Camilliere and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

RECESS

At 5:49 PM, District Chairman DiBella recessed the District Board meeting to enable the Committee on Organization to prepare its report on appointments for 2018 and 2019.

RECONVENE

At 5:58 PM, District Chairman DiBella reconvened the meeting of the District Board.

COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2018-2019

To: District Board January 8, 2018

From: Committee on Organization January 8, 2018

At a meeting of the Committee on Organization held on January 8, 2018, it was:

Voted: That pursuant to the Charter of the Metropolitan District, the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following to serve as Citizen Members to serve until December 31, 2019;

Ronald F. Angelo – Board of Finance
Martin B. Courneen – Board of Finance
Linda King-Corbin – Board of Finance
Ram Aberasturia – Board of Finance
Hector Rivera – Strategic Planning Committee

**Further
Voted:**

That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following Bureau, Committee, and Board appointments for the years 2018 and 2019:

Committee on Organization

Clifford Avery Buell	Allen Hoffman
Luis Caban	Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn
Daniel Camilliere	Raymond Sweezy
Donald M. Currey	Alvin Taylor
William A. DiBella	Richard W. Vicino
Timothy J. Fitzgerald	

Water Bureau

Andrew Adil	Georgiana Holloway
Clifford Avery Buell	David Ionno
Daniel Camilliere	Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn
Mary Anne Charron	Domenic Pane
Timothy Fitzgerald	Pasquale Salemi
Peter E. Gardow	Raymond Sweezy
Denise Hall	Alvin Taylor

Bureau of Public Works

Andrew Adil	Maureen Magnan
John Avedisian	Alphonse Marotta
Luis Caban	Domenic Pane
Donald M. Currey	Bhupen Patel
James Healy	Raymond Sweezy
Allen Hoffman	Alvin Taylor
Byron Lester	Richard W. Vicino

Board of Finance

Luis Caban	Ram Aberasturia
Allen Hoffman	Ronald F. Angelo
Pasquale Salemi	Martin B. Courneen
	Linda A. King-Corbin

Personnel, Pension & Insurance Committee

Daniel Camilliere	Alphonse Marotta
Donald M. Currey	Domenic Pane
Timothy J. Fitzgerald	Bhupen Patel
Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn	Pasquale Salemi
Byron Lester	Raymond Sweezy
Maureen Magnan	Alvin Taylor

Committee on MDC Government

John Avedisian	Georgiana Holloway
Clifford Avery Buell	David Ionno
Peter Gardow	Maureen Magnan
Denise Hall	Alphonse Marotta
Allen Hoffman	Alvin Taylor

Audit Committee

Mary Anne Charron	Alphonse Marotta
Donald M. Currey	Raymond Sweezy
Peter E. Gardow	Alvin Taylor
Allen Hoffman	Richard W. Vicino
Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn	

Community Affairs

Clifford Avery Buell	Maureen Magnan
Daniel Camilliere	Raymond Sweezy
Mary Anne Charron	Alvin Taylor
Georgiana Holloway	Richard W. Vicino
David Ionno	

Commission on Regional Planning

Daniel Camilliere	Raymond Sweezy
Alphonse Marotta	

General Policy and Planning Committee

Luis Caban	Domenic Pane
Donald Currey	Pasquale Salemi
Denise Hall	Raymond Sweezy
Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn	Alvin Taylor
Maureen Magnan	

Strategic Planning Committee

Andrew Adil	Byron Lester
John Avedisian	Alphonse Marotta
Luis Caban	Raymond Sweezy
Daniel Camilliere	Alvin Taylor
Timothy J. Fitzgerald	Richard Vicino
James Healy	Hector Rivera
Allen Hoffman	

Energy Committee

Pasquale Salemi	Richard Vicino
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Farmington River Watershed Committee

Clifford Avery Buell Georgiana Holloway

James Healy Bhupen Patel

CRRRA Steering Committee

Maureen Magnan Alvin Taylor

Pasquale Salemi

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Pane and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Camilliere and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of December 4, 2017 were approved.

Commissioner Magnan abstained.

DISTRICT CLERK

SERVICE OF TAX WARRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

To: District Board

From: District Clerk

January 8, 2018

Pursuant to the Charter of the District, Section 3-13, the District Clerk reports that Tax Warrants for Fiscal Year 2018, drawn by the Chairman of The Metropolitan District, in favor of the Treasurer have been served on the following:

- Town Clerk, Marguerite Phillips, Bloomfield
- Town Clerk, Robert J. Pasek, East Hartford
- Town and City Clerk John V. Bazzano, Hartford
- Town Clerk James Krupienski, Newington
- Town Clerk Office Attn: Stuart Topliff, Rocky Hill
- Town Clerk Essie S. Labrot, West Hartford
- Town Clerk Dolores G. Sassano, Wethersfield
- Town Clerk Anna Posniak, Windsor

Receipts for these tax warrants have been received and are on file in the Office of the District Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard

REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

Without objection, the District Chairman postponed his report until after the CEO Report.

REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Scott W. Jellison presented the Chief Executive Officer's Report and thanked the operational staff for their continued service and hard work during the recent water main breaks.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

Chairman DiBella presented the District Chairman's Report

PERSONNEL, PENSION & INSURANCE COMMITTEE WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL CARE PLAN

To: District Board

January 8, 2018

From: Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee

In the early 1990's The Metropolitan District reviewed its insurance coverage and modified some of its coverage policies to be self-insured for the first layer of coverage. The District is currently self-insured for workers compensation insurance. The District has a long relationship with Workers' Compensation Trust as its Third Party Administrator. Workers' Compensation Trust assists in the processing, tracking and administration of workers compensation claims.

Staff has realized that within the scope of its contract, Workers' Compensation Trust can provide additional services without creating additional costs.

One area suggested by Workers Compensation Trust to improve the District's management of workers' compensation claims is to seek approval by the State of Connecticut Workers' Compensation Commission of a Medical Care Plan. The Workers' Compensation Trust administers medical care plans for many employers across the state and has a network of experienced and skilled medical professionals in its network to provide top-level care to employees seeking treatment under workers' compensation. The medical care plan will allow the District to gain better control of the employee's treatment, rehabilitation and recovery processes. The employee will still be able to secure access to their own specialists under this plan.

Staff has endorsed this plan of action.

At a meeting of the Personnel, Pension and Insurance Committee held on January 8, 2018 it was:

VOTED: That the Personnel Pension and Insurance Committee recommend to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Chief Executive Officer authorize Workers Compensation Trust, a Third Party Administrator, to seek approval of a Medical Care Plan by the State of Connecticut Workers' Compensation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Magnan and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

Commissioner Marotta left the meeting at 6:40 PM

**BOARD OF FINANCE
2017 OPERATING BUDGET TRANSFER**

To: District Board

January 8, 2018

From: Board of Finance

The 2017 Adopted operating budget is forecasting deficits in the following functional areas: Legal Administration and Debt Service. The forecasted deficits in Legal Administration result of continued litigations. The forecasted deficit in Debt Service is due to the 2017 Adopted budgetary assumption of an advanced refunding of bonds during fiscal 2017 which did not occur due to the current external market conditions.

CERTIFICATIONS:

In accordance with Section 3-8 of the Charter of The Metropolitan District, I hereby certify that there exists free from encumbrances, in the following appropriation, the amounts listed:

From:	General	Water	Total
Department 13 - Administrative	7,154.00	7,446.00	14,600.00
Department 18 - Finance	7,350.00	7,650.00	15,000.00
Department 19 - Environment Health & Safety	27,440.00	28,560.00	56,000.00
Department 21 - Emergency Command Center	34,000.00	66,000.00	100,000.00
Department 35 - Laboratory Services	19,200.00	20,800.00	40,000.00
Department 40 - Operating Office	30,870.00	32,130.00	63,000.00
Department 402 - Water Pollution Control	422,000.00	-	422,000.00
Department 404 - Maintenance	151,900.00	158,100.00	310,000.00
Department 741 - Special Agreements & Programs	200,086.00	-	200,086.00
	<u>900,000.00</u>	<u>320,686.00</u>	<u>1,220,686.00</u>

John M. Zinzarella
Chief Financial Officer

At a meeting of the Board of Finance held on January 8, 2018, it was:

Voted: That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution.

Resolved: That transfers within the 2017 Budget Appropriations be approved as follows:

From:	General	Water	Total
Department 13 - Administrative	7,154.00	7,446.00	14,600.00
Department 18 - Finance	7,350.00	7,650.00	15,000.00
Department 19 - Environment Health & Safety	27,440.00	28,560.00	56,000.00
Department 21 - Emergency Command Center	34,000.00	66,000.00	100,000.00
Department 35 - Laboratory Services	19,200.00	20,800.00	40,000.00
Department 40 - Operating Office	30,870.00	32,130.00	63,000.00
Department 402 - Water Pollution Control	422,000.00	-	422,000.00
Department 404 - Maintenance	151,900.00	158,100.00	310,000.00
Department 741 - Special Agreements & Programs	200,086.00	-	200,086.00
	<u>900,000.00</u>	<u>320,686.00</u>	<u>1,220,686.00</u>

To:	General	Water	Total
Department 14 - Legal Administration	40,000.00	60,000.00	100,000.00
Department 701 - Debt Service	860,000.00	-	860,000.00
Department 801- Contingency	-	260,686.00	260,686.00
	<u>900,000.00</u>	<u>320,686.00</u>	<u>1,220,686.00</u>

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Camilliere and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

**COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT
APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS**

To: District Board

From: Committee on MDC Government

January 8, 2018

Over the past several years, the firms of Doyle, D'Amore & Balducci, Capitol Strategies Group, LLC and Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. have provided exemplary service in the area of government relations and advocacy within state government on behalf of the District. Based upon their collective past performance, and to maintain the necessary level of continuity within the District's legislative and administrative lobbying activities, District staff recommends the reappointment of Doyle, D'Amore & Balducci, Capitol Strategies Group, LLC and Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. and the new appointment of DCB Strategies, LLC to represent the District during the 2018 legislative session of the State general assembly, and to provide additional services in the area of government relations as may be necessary during the one year term of their respective contract. The term of these appointments would be from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Furthermore, in the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends that the annual fees for Doyle, D'Amore & Balducci, Capitol Strategies Group, LLC remain \$25,000.00; Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. remain at \$40,000 and DCB Strategies, LLC receive \$20,000, for a total of \$110,000.00. Payments would be prorated over a 12-month period, commencing January 2018.

At a meeting of the Committee on MDC Government held on January 8, 2018, it was:

Voted: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

Resolved: That the firms of Doyle, D'Amore & Balducci, Capitol Strategies Group, LLC and Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. and DCB Strategies, LLC be retained to perform lobbying services for a period commencing

on January 1, 2018 and terminating on December 31, 2018. Doyle, D'Amore & Balducci and Capitol Strategies Group, LLC fees will remain at \$25,000.00 each; Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. fee will remain at \$40,000, and DCB Strategies, LLC will receive \$20,000, for a total of \$110,000.00, to be prorated over a twelve-month period, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel may specify.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Magnan and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted, by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Allen of West Hartford Submitted the following written comments:

Comments for the MDC District Board meeting Jan. 8, 2018

While the election of a chairman for 2018 - 2019 will happen before any public comment, I want to express my belief that new leadership is needed to face changes the MDC must make. When leadership has been in place for long periods of time there is a tendency to get stuck in old thinking, that the way things have always been done are the best way forward, but this can hinder real change.

Several suggestions were made at the last district meeting by commissioners. These included exploring the option of greater community involvement through things such as community television, exploring a low income program, and finding "out of the box" solutions for the rising for ad valorem tax. I hope progress on these ideas can be reported on at each board meeting.

I would like to see that when a vote is taken on any resolution coming before the board commissioners be given an opportunity to express their reasons for voting for or against the resolution, and that those reasons be part of the minutes of that meeting. I believe this is important because the taping of each meeting and the minutes of each meeting are an MDC official record. This is information important to be documented.

And finally I would like to express my concerns about the resolution to spend \$110,000 to renew contracts with 2 legal consultants and add one more. It's not clear where in the budget this item is included. However, in the legal department \$95,700 is for consultants, \$1,000,000 is for legal services, and \$1,019,400 if the payroll for 7 attorneys. Attorney Chris Stone and attorney Brendan Fox as well as Chairman DiBella all spend considerable time at the Capitol and follow legislation. It is not clear to me why this additional money for lobbyists is needed.

Judy Allen
West Hartford

COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Currey asked about workman's compensation and overtime.

Commissioner Vicino asked about training and safety programs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval