Minutes of the 891st Meeting - Virtual "Celebrating Over 60 Years of Continuous Environmental Excellence"

Alexandria Renew Enterprises Tuesday, February 15, 2022

On Tuesday, February 15, 2022, the Alexandria Renew Enterprises Board of Directors held its regular Board of Directors meeting electronically using the Zoom software with no members physically present. The meeting was recorded, and a recording has been posted on the Alexandria Renew website. The following individuals attended electronically:

Members: Mr. John Hill, Chairman

Mr. James Beall, Vice Chairman

Mr. William Dickinson, Secretary-Treasurer

Ms. Adriana Caldarelli, Member Mr. Kerry Donley, Member

Staff: Ms. Karen Pallansch, Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Christine McIntyre, Chief Financial Officer Ms. Allison Deines, Director of Strategy and Policy Ms. Caitlin Feehan, RiverRenew Program Director

Ms. Lorna Huff, Secretary to the Board

Counsel: Mr. Jonathan Rak, General Counsel,

McGuireWoods LLP

Fairfax County

Representative: Mr. Shahram Mohsenin, Director,

Wastewater Planning & Monitoring Division

City Representative: Ms. Erin Bevis-Carver, Acting Division Chief,

T&ES/Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Division

Consultants: Mr. Justin Carl, Owner's Advisor

Brown & Caldwell

Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

The Chairman requested that members review the agenda and inquired if there were changes. There being no changes, the Chairman requested a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Caldarelli moved, and Mr. Donley seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Rak who reviewed the procedures for holding an electronic meeting.

Explanation of Required Procedures for an Electronic Meeting

Mr. Rak reported that City Council has extended the local State of Emergency through June 30, 2022. The Alexandria Renew Enterprises Board can meet virtually under Board-approved procedures. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic emergency, the February 15, 2022, Alexandria Renew Enterprises Board of Directors meeting is being held electronically pursuant to our electronic meeting guidelines and the local state of emergency declared by the Alexandria City Council. The meeting is being recorded, and a recording will be posted to the Alexandria Renew website. The public has been notified that if they wish to comment during the public comment period, they can do so through the Zoom platform.

Public Comment Period

There were no members of the public in attendance wishing to speak. The Chairman moved to the Consent Agenda.

Consent Agenda

The Chairman noted the following Consent Agenda items for review simultaneously and inquired if members wished to remove an item for separate consideration.

- A. Minutes of the January 18, 2022, Board meeting
- B. Action Item to replace the roof on Building G1 and the Intermediate Pump Station (IPS)

The Chairman recognized the CEO who noted two minor modifications to the Minutes.

Members inquired about the State's wastewater surveillance dashboard, Promise Pay, Building G1s location on the AlexRenew campus. There were no additional questions or comments, and the Chairman requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Donley moved, and Ms. Caldarelli seconded. The Chairman called the roll with all members voting aye.

<u>Unfinished Business</u>

A. None

New Business

A. Request for Board Participation on Ellen Pickering Award for Environmental Excellence

Discussion

The Chairman reported on the annual request for Board member participation on the Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award Selection Committee. Various members have participated over the years and participation on this committee has provided an opportunity for members to learn about environmental activities in Alexandria.

The Chairman nominated Mr. Beall to participate for 2022. Ms. Caldarelli volunteered to serve as back up. The CEO noted the City would hold Earth Day activities this year and the presentation date of the Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award has not been determined. Staff will contact Mr. Beall to advise him of the process.

There were no other questions or comments and the Chairman moved to the CEO Outcome Report.

CEO Monthly Outcome Reports

The Chairman reported that he had attended AlexRenew's public outreach meetings and commended the team for presenting complex information in a lively and easy to follow format.

Ms. Pallansch concurred and commended the RiverRenew staff. She reported that her written report did not reference the Board Governance Committee meeting that was held in January and apologized for the oversight. She noted that the policies reviewed at the Governance Committee meeting have been reviewed and those with minor edits have been corrected and posted to BoardEffect. The remainder are being reworked and will be presented in the April/May time frame. There being no additional questions on the CEO Report, Ms. Pallansch moved to the RiverRenew Dashboard. She noted it was a busy month in terms of public outreach and contractor mobilization on the various sites. The Project is going well but experiencing supply shortages and labor issues. Staff will continue to monitor and work with the contractor. There were no additional questions on the Dashboard and the CEO moved to the financial report.

<u>Financials</u>

Ms. Pallansch reported that revenue is up 7%. The operating budget is currently under budget, and staff is beginning to see the effect of inflation. She reported a positive position is expected through the end of the fiscal year. The operations and maintenance budget has been steady over the years but labor shortages, supply chain issues, and inflation may cause an increase. Members will receive a briefing when the FY23 Budget is presented.

Ms. Pallansch reported on the delinquencies and the distribution of AlexRenew CARES funding. The first allotment was \$439,000 in CARES money which was delivered to 662 accounts meeting CARES Act criteria. AlexRenew hired Promise Pay who helped with marketing and reaching customers who met the guidelines. In August and September AlexRenew was awarded an additional \$228,000. \$125,000 was awarded to customers meeting those eligibility requirements and \$103,000 returned. Overall, AlexRenew distributed over \$500k in grant funds that were awarded to AlexRenew through the City to cover sanitary sewer bills that were more than 60 days in arrears. Ms. Pallansch reported Promise Pay uses a variety of marketing tools including social media, texts, and emails which are targeted to the eligible population. Eligible customers do not pay back the grants. Promise Pay works under a fixed price contract.

There being no additional business, the Chairman requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Beall moved, and Mr. Donley seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer