

Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board
December Monthly Meeting Notes
12/9/2020, by Telephone and Zoom (Online) Only

Board Members Present

Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky, Chair
Abby Pozefsky
Tony Ewing, Vice Chair
Rasheia Johnson

Also Present

Daniel W. Cantú-Hertzler
Susan Crosby
Robert Ballenger
Scott Schwarz
Ji Jun
Andre Dasent
Melissa LaBuda
Art Wawiernia
Danielle Lavery
Steven Liang

Mr. Popowsky called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

1. Ms. Pozefsky moved to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2020 monthly meeting. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Mr. Cantú-Hertzler gave an update regarding the status of the Rate Board contract renewals. All three contracts: with the Hearing Officer, Marcy Chestnut; the Public Advocate, Community Legal Services; and the Technical Consultant, Amawalk Consulting, LLC, were well under way. Ms. Pozefsky asked if there were any issues with the scopes of work for the contracts and Mr. Cantú-Hertzler confirmed that there were none, only an increase in the amount of compensation.

3. Mr. Dasent then gave an update on the Water Department’s upcoming 2021 Rate Proceeding. Mr. Dasent reiterated the Department’s planned schedule: the filing of the Advanced Notice is tentatively scheduled for January 11, 2021, followed by the filing of the Formal Notice on February 10th or 11th, 2021. Mr. Popowsky also asked about the scheduling of the TAP Rider Proceeding. A formal tentative schedule had yet to be drafted but the Department’s intent was that the Proceeding would run in parallel to the broader Rate Case so that a decision could be made in or around June.

5. The Board then briefly discussed logistical issues concerning access to the upcoming rate hearings. Mr. Ballenger assured the Board that CLS would do what it could to ensure that people could participate.

6. Ms. Crosby gave a brief update as to her work status; she had left the Law Department and had accepted a position as Deputy Water Commissioner.

7. Mr. Popowsky invited other Board members and attendees to raise other questions or issues. No one having done so, the Board voted to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.