

# MINUTES PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY May 13, 2025

The Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority (PTRWA) met Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 12:00 noon in the PTRWA Conference Room, 7297 Adams Farm Road, Randleman, NC. Chairman Rich Glover called the meeting to order.

Present:

Mr. Rich Glover

Mr. Robert Bald Mr. Lewis Dorsett

Ms. Melissa Allred Blalock

Mr. Darrell Frye Mr. Thomas Phillips Mr. David Parrish

Absent:

Mr. John Bencini

Mr. John Thomas Mr. Dennis Mabe

### Welcome, by PTRWA Chairman Rich Glover

Mr. Glover welcomed the PTRWA Board members and guests.

#### 1. Approval of March 11, 2025 PTRWA minutes

Mr. Glover asked if there were any revisions to be made in the March 11, 2025 minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to approve the March 11, 2025, PTRWA minutes as presented.

# 2. Executive Session – Personal Matters (NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6)) Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Motion was made by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Blalock and carried unanimously to go into the executive session for the purpose of NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6) considering the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.

E-X-E-C-U-T-I-V-E S-E-S-S-I-O-N

E-X-E-C-U-T-I-V-E S-E-S-S-I-O-N E-N-D-E-D

Motion was made by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to end the Executive Session and return to the public meeting. Mr. Glover reconvened the meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Frye, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to continue the IT contractual services with Mr. Mark Flory under the same terms, with the exception that all future invoices will be reviewed and approved by Adam Conn, Deputy Executive Director.

## 3. Resolution to Authorize Borrowing on Behalf of the Authority Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory presented a resolution authorizing designated individuals to borrow on behalf of the Authority for the purpose of obtaining purchase cards. He noted that the Authority is currently utilizing banking services through Pinnacle Bank for some of its needs and intends to transition its purchasing card program from Truist to Pinnacle due to ongoing service challenges with the current provider. The resolution formally designates Rebecca Brown, Finance Director, and Gregory Flory, Executive Director, as authorized representatives to execute this borrowing arrangement on behalf of the Authority.

Motion was made by Mr. Bald, seconded by Ms. Blalock, and carried unanimously to adopt the resolution authorizing Rebecca Brown, Finance Director, and Gregory Flory, Executive Director, to borrow on behalf of the Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority for the purpose of obtaining purchase cards.

# 4. Membrane Replacement Discussion Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory presented a quote for the replacement of two membrane cells, sourced from Memcor which would produce them in Australia, in the amount of \$734,400.00. The quote is valid through July 30, 2025, after which the price is expected to increase due to tariff adjustments. He noted that one of the vendors expected to submit a proposal for the RO system also supplies these membranes and may include a competitive offer as part of their bid. Mr. Flory recommended deferring the purchase at this time but noted that doing so could potentially incur an additional expense of \$56,000 if membranes were procured under proposed tariffs; the Board concurred with Mr. Flory's recommendation.

# 5. Construction Updates Gregory Flory, Executive Director

Mr. Flory informed that Board that early work packages for the expansion and advanced treatment projects had identified potential stream impacts that could require mitigation under Department of Environmental Quality regulations. On the north side of the water treatment plant grounds an existing power line is going to need to be moved from the northside fence line to the edge of the Authority's property. He explained that a significant portion of the wooded area is owned by the Authority and

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the land will be needed for future portions of the advanced treatment facilities. Relocating the power line now would clear the area in anticipation of future facility needs; because it is being moved as part of the expansion project which will require upgrading the raw water transformer Duke Energy officials have indicated the relocation may be eligible for cost forbearance. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) officials have identified a stream in the area where the line is going to be moved to, because of the watershed regulations mitigation is required for any crossing. Through negotiations and redesign of the crossing, we believe we will be able to reduce mitigation cost from the original estimate of \$47,000 toto \$0.

On the southside of the site, mitigation is required in the area behind the finished water pump station to gain access to the area behind the clearwells, which will serve as the contractor's laydown yard. To accommodate routine access to this area, the curve of the road must be widened. The slope of the curve is going to impact the stream buffer. The mitigation cost for this work is \$9,483.75. Mr. Flory noted that this cost is a one-time expense and will remain valid indefinitely, provided the road proceeds as currently designed—even if the broader expansion or advanced treatment plans are delayed.

Motion was made by Mr. Parrish, seconded by Mr. Bald, and carried unanimously to approve the mitigation cost of \$9,483.75 for the construction of the access work for the contractor's laydown yard.

Mr. Flory reported that the 60% design Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) is expected to be completed this month. He plans to meet with partner managers prior to the next Board meeting to review the preliminary figures. The current estimate excludes sludge treatment components; the focus remains on interim improvements that will sustain operations until regionalization plans are finalized. The goal is to present the GMP at the June meeting for approval to begin Phase Two contract negotiations.

An early work package was presented by the contractor, initially intended for approval at this meeting. However, due to incomplete documentation, no action was taken. The proposed package totals \$14,587,663.00 and includes raw water pumps, associated piping, site work, and utility relocations.

Mr. Flory also discussed bonding, insurance, and the PSPL policy requirements. He is working with an independent insurance consultant to ensure adequate coverage is in place, with the goal of improving the level of coverage provided to ensure the authority is protected in the event of issues during and after construction.

Permitting efforts for the NPDES discharge are ongoing. Representatives from NCDEQ are scheduled to visit on May 15, 2025, to review future discharge projections in coordination with HDR and Hazen & Sawyer.

Finally, Mr. Flory noted that the mobile PFAS testing laboratory is expected to be operational by fall.

### Executive Director's Report Gregory Flory, Executive Director

<u>Legislation:</u> Mr. Flory provided an update on recent legislative developments. Senate Bill 605 (IBT Subbasin/TMDL Transport Factor), sponsored by Senator Berger, has

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advanced. House Bill 765 (Local Government Development Regulations Omnibus), which is supported by real estate and development interests, seeks to regulate water and wastewater capacity. Mr. Dorsett reported that he had recently discussed the bill with several lawmakers, while Mr. Frye noted that the bill appears to have stalled in the House.

Regionalism: Mr. Flory reported on a Water and Wastewater Master Planning meeting held with Guilford County on May 12, 2025. The discussion indicated a growing interest from the County in understanding how they might participate in regional efforts. County representatives inquired about the implications of financial contributions and the extent of governance involvement. Mr. Flory described the meeting as a productive first step, with Guilford County requesting assistance in understanding utility operations. He emphasized the importance of developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to define expectations and responsibilities, which would help guide future collaboration.

<u>Operations:</u> Mr. Flory informed the Board that Greensboro continues its corrosion control and water quality study, including extensive flushing and chemical sampling at sites such as Lynwood Lakes and Groometown Road. Mr. Bald has been actively involved in the process working on behalf of Greensboro. Greensboro is evaluating a change to its corrosion inhibitor, and PTRWA is working closely with them to assess whether similar changes should be considered for PTRWA and what potential impacts could be expected from a change. Regular coordination meetings are ongoing to address any concerns.

Mr. Flory also provided an update on the Randolph/Asheboro water line project, which is nearing the bidding phase. PTRWA is collaborating closely with project partners and will assume responsibility for specific components, including a valve at the Authority's tank, a SCADA control unit at Asheboro's tank, and another at the meter vault. These items will be managed directly by PTRWA, with reimbursement from the County.

Regarding the Wolfspeed project, Mr. Flory reported that it has been mentioned that the project my be placed on hold for a three year period. Although the State allocated \$55 million to support the water line extension, an additional \$15 million is still needed. Asheboro is seeking further funding from the General Assembly.

Mr. Flory reported that the recent Pulsator washout was successful, though signs of wear are becoming evident due to the facility's continuous operation. He noted that the main valve on the dual media filters requires replacement at a cost of \$27,000. Additionally, a new radiator is needed for the generator at the route 62 pump station at an estimated cost of \$87,000.

<u>Marina:</u> Mr. Flory noted that PTRWA Staff have been actively cleaning the accumulated trash in the Cantor Road area, with recent rainfall aiding their efforts.

PTRWA will host the Operation North State "Top Shelf" Fishin' Festival on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, from 6:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event, which marks the organization's 100th, will welcome Wounded Warriors and Disabled Veterans for a day of fishing and community support.

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Mr. Flory requested approval to reallocate funds in the current fiscal year towards the purchase of a new Ford truck for the wardens, replacement was originally intended for the next fiscal year, those funds will be allocated to expenses associated with larger scale regionalization work. Motion was made by Mr. Parrish, seconded by Mr. Frye, and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a new Ford truck in an amount not to exceed \$53,000.

#### 7. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### 8. New Business

Mr. Flory reminded members of the Steering Committee that the next meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

### 9. Next PTRWA meeting date - Tuesday, June 24, 2025

The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 12:00 noon in the PTRWA conference room.

#### 10. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Secretary

Recording Secretary

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