

**SOUTH MONMOUTH REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING – AUGUST 29, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, August 29, 2011.

Moment of Silence and Salute: Led by Chairman Cory

Announcement: The Authority Counsel, Mr. Bonello announced that this Special Meeting was called in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act in that an announcement of the same will be published in the Asbury Park Press and the Coast Star as soon as administratively possible. The minutes of this meeting will be available after Board approval at a subsequent meeting.

Roll Call:
Present: Commissioners Blasi, Burne, Cory, Farrell, Lynch, Mattia and Schmeling.

Mr. Bonello, Mr. Bujak, Mr. Ruppel and Mr. Schussler, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Excused: Commissioner Nicol

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Ruppel made mention of the Emergency Meeting held by the Authority on Friday, August 26, 2011 for the purpose of declaring a local State of Emergency for the Authority.

Mr. Ruppel updated the Commissioners by giving a brief overview of the overall status of the SMRSA collection system by town as follows:

Collection Systems:

Belmar, Spring Lake Heights and Wall Township received no damage to their equipment or infrastructure and remained operational throughout the entire event/storm. However, Belmar and Wall Township collection systems remain surcharged.

The Borough of Lake Como’s entire collection system is extremely surcharged. There are sewer overflows occurring and will continue until both lakes within Lake Como recede to normal levels. The facility is operational with the use of a generator which has been placed on a temporary dike built by SMRSA staff.

The Borough of Spring Lake is 50-60 percent surcharged due to the rain and ocean water. The Pitney Avenue Pump Station is currently on bi-pass and as a result there is no surcharge on that side of Spring Lake. Penn Avenue Pump Station (which services most of Spring Lake) is submerged in 30 feet of water resulting in damage to two motors and three pumps. Wreck Pond is significantly surcharged and its waters currently extend to the North, past Penn Avenue to St. Catherine School. Waters are not receding as quickly as staff had hoped and the operation of this Pump Station is weeks away based upon the damage and other priorities. Once the lakes recede, staff will consider other alternatives to the current bi-pass.

Sea Girt collection system worked as designed. The recently installed trailer was moved from its site and returned after the event without any incidents. Since the trailer was mobile, staff was able to use its generator at the Brielle Pump Station.

Coastal Manasquan collection system (which is located on Ocean Avenue) required extensive preparation but remained operational using its emergency power throughout the entire event. Glimmer Glass Pump Station (which supports downtown Manasquan including Route 71 and South Street's section of Brielle) was where most of the problems occurred requiring additional staff. Power to the Station was lost two hours prior to the storm; then the first generator failed; after which a second generator failed. In addition, the Station took on water in its diesel fuel tank. Due to JCP&L unresponsiveness, this station currently does not have power.

Plant:

Within the first several hours of the storm event, high winds knocked down a tree which hit the overhead electric cabling bringing live wires down across the entrance gate and as far as the Digester. This resulted in no commercial power to the Plant. Even with repeated calls to JCP&L it took the utility company eight hours to cut off electricity to the damaged wires which impeded staff from leaving the Plant. As a result of this occurrence the SMRSA will be addressing the need for a secondary access road. Once commercial power was initially lost, the plant switched to its generators and are currently still using them to power the plant. External electronic devices were disrupted as Monmouth Telecom experienced extensive storm damage to both their primary and backup equipment.

Contract Labor:

Mr. Ruppel asked for concurrence from the Board of Commissioners to contract with the Authority pre-qualified contractors and engineering firms to address the many issues resulting from the Hurricane. These include:

- Little Silver Electric for electrical repairs
- Shafts and Sleeves for mechanical repairs
- CME Associates to provide alternatives for normal emergency power to be restored to the Glimmer Glass Pump Station
- CDM to schedule a dive to access possible storm damage to the SMRSA pipeline

Mr. Ruppel concluded his report stating he plans to re-assess post-storm damage and restore normal operations for both the collection systems and the plant.

BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION #60-11

Commissioner Mattia made the motion authorizing the emergency payment of certain unforeseen storm related expenses and the transfer of emergency funds amongst accounts on an as needed basis as a result of Hurricane Irene. Commissioner Schmeling seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

In the Affirmative:

Commissioners Blasi, Burne, Cory, Farrell, Lynch, Mattia and Schmeling.

ADJORNMENT:

Commissioner Mattia made the motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Commissioner Burne seconded the motion. On voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. The time was 1:40 p.m.