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RWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 28, 2025

A regular meeting of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA) Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 2:15 p.m. at the Rivanna Administration Building, (2nd Floor Conference Room), 695 Moores Creek Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

Board Members Present: Mike Gaffney (participating remotely), Jeff Richardson, Sam Sanders, Ann Mallek, Brian Pinkston, Quin Lunsford, Lauren Hildebrand.

Board Members Absent: none

Rivanna Staff Present: Bill Mawyer, David Tungate, Lonnie Wood, Jennifer Whitaker, Betsy Nemeth, Scott Schiller, Austin Marrs, Victoria Fort, Katie McIlwee, Annie West, Deborah Anama, Jacob Woodson.

Attorney(s) Present: Valerie Long

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Jeff Richardson convened the January 28, 2025, regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority at 2:22 p.m.

Chair Mike Gaffney requested to participate in the meeting remotely. He stated that he was currently on vacation in Cape Coral, Florida.

Mr. Sanders moved the Board to allow Mr. Gaffney to participate remotely in today's meeting. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (6-0). (Mr. Gaffney did not participate in the vote)

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Sanders moved the Board to approve the agenda. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING ON DECEMBER 17, 2024

Mr. Pinkston moved the Board to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 17, 2024. Ms. Hildebrand seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

4. RECOGNITION

There was none.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

47
48 Bill Mawyer, Executive Director, welcomed the Water and Sewer Authority Board to the initial
49 meeting in 2025. He stated that they were expecting a tremendous year in the water and sewer
50 area, and you would hear more about it in the next two months when they discussed the Capital
51 Improvement Plan budget in February and the operating budget in March.

52
53 Mr. Mawyer stated that he would like to introduce Daniel Campbell, who had recently been
54 selected as the new Director of Operations and Environmental Services. He stated that Mr.
55 Campbell was previously their Water Department Manager, and upon the promotion of David
56 Tunge to Deputy Executive Director, an opportunity arose for Daniel. He stated that Mr.
57 Campbell was selected through a competitive process, and he would like to give him his
58 congratulations.

59
60 Daniel Campbell, Director of Operations and Environmental Services, stated that it was a
61 pleasure to meet everyone. He stated that he wanted to express his gratitude for the opportunity
62 to work with the senior management staff at Rivanna, and he was looking forward to the
63 challenges that came with his new role.

64
65 Mr. Mawyer stated that Mr. Campbell would be managing their water treatment plants,
66 wastewater treatment plants, reservoirs, and laboratory. He stated that he also wanted to
67 recognize Schuyler Deal, a wastewater operator, who had successfully passed his Class 2
68 wastewater operator's licensing requirements. He stated that Mr. Deal had been with them for
69 approximately two and a half years. He stated that Sally Rabun had passed her Class 2 water
70 operator test and worked at the South Rivanna Water Treatment Plant, where she had been
71 employed for about a year. He stated that they conducted safety training in December, which
72 included confined space training for approximately 75 of their employees. He stated that their
73 safety manager, George Cheape, had worked closely with a consultant to provide this training.

74
75 Mr. Mawyer stated that confined space training was a complex and hazardous process, requiring
76 careful safety precautions to prevent accidents. He stated that they did not permit any of their
77 solid waste employees to enter confined spaces at the Ivy landfill; however, their Operators,
78 Maintenance, and Information Technology (IT) personnel may need to access manholes and
79 other confined spaces in their water and sewer program, so they received proper training. He
80 stated that they appreciated George's efforts in providing this training.

81
82 Mr. Mawyer stated that in January, the Director of Engineering, Jennifer Whitaker, presented at
83 the Virginia Water and Power Resilience Workshop, along with Albemarle County Service
84 Authority (ACSA) staff and the Albemarle County Office of Emergency Management. He stated
85 that they appreciated Ms. Whitaker's leadership in this initiative. He stated that tomorrow night,
86 they would host a community information meeting about the construction project between the
87 Ragged Mountain Reservoir and the Observatory Water Treatment Plant at 6:00 p.m. He stated
88 that this meeting would be live-streamed and available on Zoom for those who could not attend
89 in person.

90
91 Mr. Mawyer stated that they had mailed letters to neighbors, issued a press release, and posted
92 information on their website about the meeting. He stated that they were working with UVA to

93 ensure the community was informed about the upcoming construction of a 36-inch underground
94 pipeline from the Ragged Mountain Reservoir to the Observatory Water Treatment Plant. He
95 stated that they would remove two pump stations from the UVA Piedmont Apartments area,
96 including the Stadium Road Pump Station which was located directly below Scott Stadium, and
97 a smaller pump station in the housing area. He stated that they would be building a large raw
98 water pump station on Reservoir Road across from the new Regents School.
99

100 Mr. Mawyer stated that they purchased approximately two acres for the pump station site and
101 piping easements from the UVA Foundation. He stated that this is where the pipe will be routed
102 back to the Rivanna Reservoir. He stated that they had already installed the pipe adjacent to
103 Birdwood Golf Course, but there was a connecting section of piping that needed to be
104 constructed as part of this project. He stated that Austin Marrs, Senior Civil Engineer, and his
105 team had done an excellent job in the work required to get the Sugar Hollow Water Line pipe
106 reinstalled this month. He stated that once that was completed, they would be able to resume
107 transfers of water from Sugar Hollow Reservoir to Ragged Mountain Reservoir.
108

109 Mr. Mawyer stated that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a draft sewage
110 sludge risk assessment for two per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) components,
111 perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), with a particular focus on
112 wastewater treatment plants. He stated that they were reviewing this draft, which was not a
113 regulation but rather a recommendation. A public comment period was open for 60 days. The
114 data showed that 55% of biosolids were land-applied across the nation, with 27% land-filled,
115 16% incinerated, and 2% sent elsewhere.
116

117 Mr. Mawyer stated that the biosolids they produced, approximately 14,000 tons per year, were
118 trucked to McGill Environmental in Waverly, Virginia, where they were combined with other
119 products, including food waste and old notes from the Federal Reserve, ultimately grinding these
120 materials into compost. He stated that they had taken a tour a couple of years ago, and he was
121 impressed by the McGill operation in Waverly. RWSA transports around 550 loads per year to
122 the McGill facility.
123

124 Mr. Mawyer stated that the chart provided some information. He stated that the draft risk
125 assessment set a threshold of 1,000 parts per trillion for PFOS and PFOA. He stated that their
126 biosolids testing in December 2024 showed 11,000 parts per trillion of PFOS, exceeding the
127 threshold. He stated that although their PFOA levels were below the threshold, they were higher
128 in 2021. He stated that if they were to consider land application of their biosolids in the future,
129 they would need to remove PFAS to comply with the draft risk assessment from EPA.
130

131 Mr. Mawyer stated that they also brought leachate from the Ivy landfill daily, which contained
132 PFAS at lower levels. He stated that the wastewater coming into Moores Creek, which was 4.5
133 parts per trillion of PFOS and 4.1 ppt of PFOA, was slightly higher than the wastewater leaving
134 the treatment plant. He stated that however, they did not specifically treat wastewater for PFAS.
135 He stated that they may need to assess where the PFAS is coming from, and that was why the
136 EPA's draft risk assessment was important. He stated that it highlighted the need to be aware of
137 the PFAS levels in their biosolids and to investigate their sources, including potential industries,
138 to determine if pre-treatment was necessary.

139
140 Mr. Mawyer stated that their landfill leachate contributed to the amount of PFAS in their
141 wastewater. He stated that there was also a regulation from the EPA issued last year that applied
142 to PFAS in drinking water. He stated that the standard for drinking water was four parts per
143 trillion. He stated that the PFAS level in the wastewater leaving the treatment plant was lower
144 than the drinking water standard, which was a positive indicator.

145
146 Mr. Mawyer stated that their biosolids exceeded EPA's recommended risk assessment for PFAS.
147 He stated that they would be keeping an eye on this legislation and its potential impact in the
148 coming years. He stated that additionally, at the General Assembly, there were several bills
149 worth monitoring, including one that required reporting anomalies in water treatment. He stated
150 that this bill was prompted by an incident in the Lake of the Woods neighborhood last summer
151 where a boil water notice was issued due to a leaking water pump that contaminated the water
152 with mineral oil.

153
154 Mr. Mawyer stated that this bill aimed to improve reporting on anomalies, but there was ongoing
155 discussion about what constituted an anomaly. He stated that interestingly, a similar issue
156 occurred in the City of Richmond, where a boil water notice was issued after a power outage and
157 flooding damaged their water treatment plant. He stated that Richmond was working to ensure
158 their backup equipment functioned properly. He stated that this bill would require utility owners
159 like RWSA to report anomalies promptly, which could help prevent similar incidents. He stated
160 that according to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) consent order issued to the City of
161 Richmond, one of the comments made was that they did not notify the state in a timely manner
162 as required.

163
164 Mr. Pinkston asked if Rivanna was in contact with the City of Richmond during their water
165 crisis.

166
167 Mr. Mawyer stated that the Department of Health called to inquire about staging trucks at
168 Moores Creek to haul drinking water to Richmond. He stated that he reached out to his former
169 colleagues in Henrico and offered assistance, as the City of Richmond had a 132 million gallons
170 per day (MGD) water treatment plant. He stated that Richmond's water plant also provided
171 drinking water to Henrico, Hanover, and Chesterfield Counties. He stated that as a regional
172 provider, Richmond's challenges impacted the entire region. He stated that he did not speak with
173 Richmond staff directly.

174
175 Mr. Mawyer stated that Richmond's utility director came from a customer service background,
176 and a bill was proposed to require utility directors to have an engineering or technical
177 background, but the bill was killed. He stated that the Department of Health faced significant
178 challenges regulating water treatment plants across the state, and none of Utilities was immune
179 to such difficulties. He stated that they also experienced problems with the Rivanna Pump
180 Station last year. He stated that the common thread in these situations was the maintenance of
181 equipment, particularly emergency equipment including power generators and switches that
182 automatically switched to emergency power without requiring on-site assistance, which was a
183 problem during the City of Richmond incident.

185 Mr. Pinkston asked if Rivanna had that kind of preventative maintenance testing in place.

186
187 Mr. Mawyer stated yes. He stated that they utilized their computerized maintenance management
188 system, Cityworks, and met with their management team after the City of Richmond faced that
189 challenge. He stated that they discussed how to address the issues Richmond encountered and
190 asked if they were prepared to deal with similar problems. He stated that they also inquired about
191 their maintenance programs and whether they could provide a copy of them to VDH. He stated
192 that their Maintenance staff had done an excellent job of maintaining their emergency facilities.

193
194 Mr. Mawyer stated that while they strove to prevent issues, they acknowledged that problems
195 could still arise. He stated that their staff was working diligently to ensure their emergency
196 facilities were well-maintained and in good condition. He stated that the issue in Richmond was
197 a significant discussion among professional organizations, including the Virginia American
198 Water Works Association, the Municipal Drinking Water Association, and the Water and
199 Wastewater Authorities Association. He stated that Aqua Law served as one of their primary
200 legal consultants, working closely with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and
201 VDH to address the requirements in these bills proposed at the General Assembly.

202
203 Mr. Mawyer stated that Senate Bill 1319 focused on PFAS monitoring, including leachate from
204 the landfill. He stated that House Bill 2482 was a procurement bill requiring construction
205 projects exceeding \$250,000 to have 12.5% of the total labor force comprised of individuals
206 enrolled in approved apprenticeship programs. He stated that this unique requirement presented
207 challenges, and they were monitoring its implementation.

208
209 Ms. Mallek stated that she had a quick question regarding the division between DEQ and VDH.
210 She stated that she recalled that there was a transfer of responsibility due to insufficient action,
211 which was the public perception at least, regarding VDH's handling of water-related issues. She
212 stated that she was wondering if there were any new developments regarding this matter.

213
214 Mr. Mawyer stated that he was aware of some challenges with the roles of the Department of
215 Environmental Quality and the Department of Health. He stated that Ms. Mallek was correct that
216 the DEQ regulated the amount of water that could be taken out of the rivers of the state, thereby
217 controlling water supply. He stated that VDH oversaw the treatment of water at the water
218 treatment plants, including the quality and chemicals, such as PFAS restrictions. DEQ was
219 responsible for wastewater regulations including landfill leachate.

220
221 Mr. Mawyer stated that they had a good working relationship with both groups and had not
222 encountered any challenges.

223
224 Mr. Gaffney had a question regarding the PFOA. He stated that according to his information, the
225 PFOA level was 11,000 ppt. He stated that it appeared that the state was asking them to identify
226 potential contributors to this issue. He stated that he was unclear about the specific agency or
227 agencies that would be responsible for investigating this matter. He stated that it would be
228 unclear whether it would be the responsibility of Rivanna, the City, the County, ACSA, or a
229 combination of all these entities.

Mr. Mawyer stated that EPA's draft health risk threshold was a recommendation, not a regulation. He stated that this meant that they did not have to take immediate action, but it did serve as a warning. He stated that if they were at 11,000 ppt and the recommended threshold was 1,000 ppt, their first step would be to investigate the source of the issue. He stated that the Significant Industrial Users (SIU) permit issued by RWSA was a key factor in their community's permitting process. He stated that when a new business entered their community, they had to submit information to the ACSA, City, or RWSA through the development review process detailing what was in the proposed wastewater discharge. Investigation of potential contributors would primarily be a RWSA responsibility in coordination with the ACSA or City.

Mr. Mawyer stated that they monitored wastewater discharges for metals, fats, oils, and grease, and had established thresholds for acceptable levels. He stated that this helped them identify potential contaminants, such as PFAS, in their system. He stated that, however, this approach worked by tracing the source of the contamination back upstream. He stated that it was a best management practice at this point.

Mr. Gaffney stated that it seemed that they should start looking at this.

Mr. Mawyer stated that yes, it was clear that they would have a higher degree of concern about this issue because PFAS had already been regulated in drinking water, and efforts were underway to address it in wastewater, leachate, and biosolids. He stated that as a result, there was a strong pitch to address PFAS throughout. He stated that the "one water" concept emphasized that a drop of water could be drinking water, then wastewater, and then drinking water again. He stated that regardless of whether it was water or wastewater, they needed to treat it similarly. He stated that he was aware that Mr. Pinkston had sent information about Dr. Berger at UVA, and they were planning to do a more detailed presentation on PFAS in April, which would include their program and numbers. He stated that they may also invite Dr. Berger to join them at that time.

Mr. Lunsford asked that the relationship between the 4.5 parts per trillion and the 11,000 parts in the biosolids. He asked if the difference was in the chemical composition that affected the removal of the substance from the effluent.

Mr. Pinkston stated that it was more concentrated.

David Tungate, Deputy Executive Director, stated that they were grab samples, representing separate samples for the sludge entering the system and separate samples for the effluent leaving. He stated that what came in one day may go out in three, five, or seven days. He stated that regarding the biosolids, they treated the sludge with secondary clarifiers, then placed it in the anaerobic digester, where it remained for 10 to 20 days, depending on the process. He stated that as a result, the biosolids could be anywhere from 10 to 30 days old, depending on the treatment process.

Mr. Mawyer stated that Mr. Pinkston mentioned that the concentration of PFAS in the sludge was higher, which was because they were removing the water from the digester and testing the remaining sludge. He stated that this process resulted in a more concentrated sludge compared to

the wastewater flow. He stated that in the wastewater flow, the mixture of water and waste was diluted, but in the digester, they were concentrating the sludge and getting as much water out of it as possible.

Ms. Mallek stated that numerous users and contaminants entered the system due to the various substances humans were introducing after they obtained the clean water. She stated that she believed these substances must be contributing to issues in wastewater, rather than just concentration. She stated that it appeared that all the cosmetics and other substances Mr. Tungate had discussed with them repeatedly were indeed a concern. She stated that she wanted to ensure that they were making progress with the approach. She stated that there was a great deal to discuss regarding the ongoing efforts.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dede Smith stated that she would like to bring up two points. She stated that first, she would like to extend her appreciation to Rivanna staff. She stated that she had a couple of questions earlier, seeking information, and Mr. Tungate was very responsive, providing her with the information she needed in a very timely manner.

Ms. Smith stated that Rivanna has consistently demonstrated a commitment to transparency and response to requests. She stated that her second point was a question regarding the pretreatment of water intended for the Ragged Mountain Reservoir. She stated that this was a component of the original plan. She stated that she believed Mr. Gaffney, who was part of the Board at the time, may be the only person who was aware of this aspect of the plan.

Ms. Smith stated that it was intended to ensure that the Rivanna water, which will eventually replace the Ragged Mountain water source, would not compromise its quality. She stated that the Ragged Mountain Reservoir is currently the only clean raw water source they had, and its quality will decrease significantly once the Rivanna water was introduced. She stated that therefore, pretreatment was necessary. She stated that she would appreciate clarification on this matter.

Mr. Mawyer stated that at this point, they did not plan to implement pretreatment when pumping water from Rivanna to Ragged Reservoirs. He stated that their extensive study of nutrients at the South Rivanna Reservoir had determined that pretreatment was not necessary. He stated that they did plan to adopt a strategic pumping approach, aiming to minimize the transfer of water from Rivanna to Ragged unless the water at Rivanna was of low turbidity and higher quality. He stated that this approach would help reduce the potential transfer of nutrients to Ragged. He stated that their recent studies had determined that the planned \$15 million pretreatment facility was not necessary.

Mr. Pinkston asked if the water was being treated at the water treatment facilities.

Mr. Mawyer stated that when the water reached Observatory or Rivanna treatment plants, it would be treated. He stated that there was a concept that the Rivanna Reservoir water was not as clean as the water in Ragged, so they would be decreasing the quality of the water in Ragged if they transferred water from Rivanna. He stated that they had studied this and determined that a

323 pretreatment facility, like a treatment plant, would be necessary to restore the water quality
324 before it could be returned to a reservoir. He stated that after working through this, they did not
325 feel that this was necessary.

326
327 Ms. Mallek stated that they had addressed nitrogen and phosphorus, but she would like to know
328 how they were addressing sediment in the water.

329
330 Jennifer Whitaker, Director of Engineering, stated that when they initially examined this issue,
331 they were fairly convinced that a pretreatment facility might be necessary. She stated that as they
332 delved deeper into the available technology and costs, it became clear that a more comprehensive
333 solution was needed. She stated that they considered total suspended solids, nitrogen, and
334 phosphorus levels in the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir. She stated that they had recently
335 installed a phosphorus meter at the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir, which was being monitored.

336
337 Ms. Whitaker stated that they also conducted modeling of transfer protocols for total suspended
338 solids, nitrogen, and phosphorus. She stated that when they compared these results to their
339 expected withdrawal and transfer rates, they found a window of time when they could
340 consistently meet the threshold for minimal transfer of solids and nutrients to Ragged Mountain.
341 She stated that as they continued to refine this protocol, they were monitoring water quality over
342 the next five years and working to develop a detailed plan for transferring water without
343 degrading the quality at the receiving facility.

344
345 Peggy Gilges stated that she was a resident of the Jack Jouett District. She stated that she had
346 been listening to the meeting this afternoon and she wanted to follow up on Ms. Smith's
347 comment. She stated that currently, the website stated that once the water came from Rivanna to
348 Ragged Mountain instead of directly from Sugar Hollow, more algae could be anticipated due to
349 the change in nutrients. She stated that she was happy to hear that they would be monitoring this
350 and taking steps to avoid it. She stated that she just wanted to bring this to their attention, as she
351 believed it may have gone unnoticed.

352
353 Mr. Mawyer stated that they had Frank Biller here, who was the UVA rowing coach. He stated
354 that on the consent agenda, they had an item to extend the waiver, and he would like to give Mr.
355 Biller a minute to speak to the board if they wished to hear his comments

356
357 Frank Biller stated that he was the Director of Rowing at the University of Virginia. He stated
358 that he was joined by Kevin Sauer, who had been a long-time presence and had recently retired
359 from his position as head coach this past spring. He stated that although it was part of his job
360 description to address some external issues, Mr. Sauer always sought approval from this Board
361 for his proposals, including the potential use of gasoline-powered launches for boaters at South
362 Fork Reservoir.

363
364 Kevin Sauer stated that he wanted to pass along a new acronym, NMR, which stood for "not my
365 responsibility." He stated that he was passing the responsibility to Mr. Biller. He stated that he
366 was here to support him and answer any questions from the Board.

367
368 Mr. Biller stated that because their goal was to have a fully electric motor solution on the

reservoir, it would be eliminating the need to request permission to use gasoline engines. He stated that over the years, since his involvement beginning in 2009, they had experimented with various solutions, investing significant time and resources, as there was no off-the-shelf solution that met the speed and velocity requirements for safely following a rowing shell.

Mr. Biller stated that in recent times, with advancements in developing technology, they were thrilled to start exploring new possibilities two years ago. He stated that they had begun this project seven years ago. He stated that there was a company called Pure Water, based in Seattle, Washington, which was a high-tech solution that met their needs. He stated that they received notice that the company had found alternative providers. He stated that as a result, they were uncertain about how this would proceed.

Mr. Biller stated that in an ideal scenario, someone would either continue to support the product or purchase it, ensuring its continuation and order was maintained. He stated that nevertheless, given the extensive electronics involved, he stated that it was similar to a Tesla, which relied heavily on software support to function. He stated that if the software was not maintained, the system would become obsolete. He stated that in this case, they must temporarily halt progress and wait to see what happens next, while also conducting research to explore alternative solutions that met their requirements.

Mr. Sauer stated that so far, they had successfully installed three electric motors on the women's launches, and they had been functioning exceptionally well. He stated that seven years ago, the debugging process that took place over the next four years was part of their efforts, and now they had a product that was largely debugged and working very well. He stated that the level of support, as Mr. Biller had mentioned, was minimal. He stated that currently, they had only two people working at the company, and they were hoping that someone would step up to purchase the company and take it over.

Mr. Sauer stated that the product was outstanding, and if they could maintain the current product versus exploring alternative options, it would be ideal. He stated that the Rivanna Rowing Club and the men's team were facing similar situations to the women's team, and they planned to purchase two more electric battery and motor operating units this year. He stated that as Mr. Biller had stated, they needed to break a little to figure out what would happen with this company. He stated that ideally, they did not want to venture into another company and try to figure it out. He stated that they preferred to stay with what was working rather than experiment again.

Mr. Biller stated that the investments were substantial. He stated that they could acquire an outboard rotor for approximately \$5,000, which was set up for an electric configuration. He stated that it was highly advanced and nearly intuitive to use. He stated that this was a significant investment.

7. RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

415 **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

416
417 *a. Staff Report on Finance*

418
419 *b. Staff Report on Operations*

420
421 *c. Staff Report on CIP Projects*

422
423 *d. Staff Report on Administration and Communications*

424
425 *e. Staff Report on Wholesale Metering*

426
427 *f. Staff Report on Drought Monitoring*

428
429 *g. Approval to Amend Professional Engineering Services Contingency – Central Water Line*
430 *Project – Michael Baker International*

431
432 *h. Approval of Engineering Services – Dam Concrete and Steel Repairs Design, Building,*
433 *and Construction Phase Services – GA1 Consultants*

434
435 *i. Approval of Waiver Extension for University of Virginia Rowing Programs and Rivanna*
436 *Rowing Club*

437
438 Mr. Pinkston stated that he would like to ask about Items G and I. He stated that he would like to
439 understand the situation with the Central Water Line project. He asked if they were increasing
440 the design contingency to \$223,000. He asked if that also included additional design services.

441
442 Mr. Mawyer explained that if they increased the contingency, it authorized increases in the work
443 authorization to the design engineer. He stated that recently, during the review of the design, it
444 became apparent that lowering the pipe would work better for City utilities. He stated that
445 originally, it was designed at a certain depth, but they decided to lower the pipe further. He stated
446 that they were going back to the consultant to make this adjustment, which would increase the
447 design contingency and allow them to increase the design engineer's work authorization.

448
449 Mr. Pinkston stated that the \$2.38 million was the total design budget for the entire design
450 project.

451
452 Mr. Mawyer stated that yes, it was for the total design budget.

453
454 Mr. Pinkston asked if they had to lower the water line throughout the entire project or just in a
455 specific section.

456
457 Mr. Mawyer stated that the pipe would be lowered within the entire project area, and even deeper
458 in some specific locations. He stated that he was working with Ms. Hildebrand and her staff to
459 review those locations.

Mr. Pinkston stated that he was seeking to determine if there were any implications for the overall project construction budget. He asked if Mr. Mawyer had a sense of what that may entail.

Mr. Mawyer stated that it was estimated to be \$82 million. He stated that it was originally \$41 million, and when they received the bid for the Ragged to Observatory pipe project, it exceeded their budget, prompting them to adjust the Central Water Line budget based on the unit prices received. He stated that as a result, their revised estimate was \$67 million. He stated that lowering the pipe further resulted in an estimated cost increase of about \$15 million, bringing the total budget to \$82 million.

Mr. Pinkston asked why this was needed. He asked if the initial assumption of the depth was not accurate, and the design process revealed that a deeper excavation was required.

Ms. Hildebrand stated that they were concerned about serving customers with sewer services. She stated that the existing city sewer lines, which relied on gravity, would be at the same depth as the central water line, making it challenging. She stated that to ensure they could continue providing these services without conflict during construction, they took a closer look at this issue. She stated that as a result, the Central Water Line had to be constructed deeper, which was a complex construction process.

Mr. Pinkston asked if this was due to constructability limitations.

Ms. Hildebrand stated that the rationale for this was to ensure that they could serve their customers in the future without the Central Water Line interfering with them.

Mr. Mawyer stated that an objective had been discussed early in the design process to locate the Central Water Line in a way that would not conflict with City utilities. He stated that their consultant had attempted to achieve this objective without locating the pipe any deeper than necessary to minimize costs.

Mr. Mawyer stated that they were trying to find a compromise between how shallow they could construct the pipe without conflicting with the existing sewer piping and other utilities. He stated that recent design reviews suggested that there may be conflicts, so the pipe may need to be lower. He stated that instead of being seven feet to the bottom of the pipe trench, it would be closer to 10 feet. He stated that in a few specific locations, it may be deeper, but they had been working with Ms. Hildebrand to determine those locations.

Mr. Mawyer stated that they were hopeful that this was a very conservative estimate, and that the prices would be lower than what they were currently estimating.

Mr. Pinkston stated that they did not have a contractor yet.

Mr. Mawyer stated that was correct; the plans with the new design elevations were scheduled to be reissued, and the bid date was currently set for March 27. He stated that they expected to ask the Board to award the contract in April.

507 Mr. Pinkston stated that he also had questions about Item I. He asked if this was a waiver that
508 they had been doing annually now, or had it been previously done every five years or so.
509

510 Mr. Mawyer stated that in 2023, the Board approved a one-year waiver. He stated that waiver
511 was granted in September 2023, so it was a bit past the initially approved period.
512

513 Mr. Pinkston asked when the first waiver was granted. He asked if there were any other gas-
514 powered boats permitted on the reservoir.
515

516 Mr. Mawyer stated that he was unsure. He stated that no other boats were allowed, other than
517 Rivanna's own, but that was on rare occasions.
518

519 Mr. Pinkston asked how often the rowing team was on the reservoir.
520

521 Mr. Biller stated that it was every day for about nine or ten months of the year.
522

523 Mr. Pinkston asked if they had conducted a risk assessment and were confident that they had the
524 capacity to clean the water.
525

526 Mr. Biller stated that they used six gallons of gas. He stated that the motors were all marine-
527 grade, meaning they were constructed in a way that they would not actually leak if such a
528 situation were to occur.
529

530 Mr. Mawyer stated that the reservoir contained approximately 900 million gallons of water.
531

532 Mr. Sauer stated that there was a gas study conducted 25 years ago. He stated that in this study,
533 they actually conducted an experiment where they did not dump the pollutants, but instead
534 measured the impact of dumping six gallons of gas at the dock, which was two miles from the
535 dam, by the time the pollutants reached the intake of the dam, the impact would be negligible by
536 the end of the day.
537

538 Mr. Pinkston stated that he would appreciate Ms. Mallek's thoughts on this matter. He stated that
539 he did not feel like they had a choice because they could not kick the rowing team out. He stated
540 that he had been on this Board for three years and were still dealing with the issue.
541

542 Ms. Mallek stated that this issue has been discussed since she joined the RRC- Rivanna Rowing
543 Club in 1993, so it was not a new topic. She stated that there are other places in the country
544 where similar practices were not allowed, and even their own high school team in Beaver Creek
545 does not use gas launches, except for a brief period when they experienced a major failure and
546 received a temporary exemption. She stated that given that a group of high school students can
547 successfully manage this, she finds it puzzling why the university continues to downplay its
548 importance. She stated that for a \$5 billion portfolio, it was unacceptable that they could not
549 secure the right equipment.
550

551 Ms. Mallek stated that they had all seen how a single drop of gasoline can spread in the rain and
552 contaminate an entire driveway. She stated that it did not take much to impact water quality. She

553 stated that while she was a strong supporter of the rowing team, she believed they needed to do a
554 better job. She stated that her proposal would be to grant them a six-month extension and require
555 them to report back in six months on their progress. She stated that she would like to see this
556 issue resolved within a year, and she stated that this was the last chance.

557
558 Ms. Mallek stated that the university needs to prioritize this and take action. She stated that it
559 was not a criticism of the individuals, who are likely juggling many responsibilities; someone
560 needs to make this a priority. She stated that this was her proposal. She stated that there was no
561 reason why a high school team could handle this and the university could not.

562
563 Mr. Richardson asked if there were any other comments or questions regarding Item I.

564
565 **Mr. Pinkston moved the Board to pull Item 8(i) from the Consent Agenda and vote on it**
566 **separately. Ms. Mallek seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).**

567
568 Ms. Mallek stated that regarding Item F, she was reviewing the drought monitoring chart that
569 had been provided, which showed a significant decline of over 20 inches in rainfall over the past
570 two years. She stated that she wanted to know what the plan was for ongoing, everyday
571 conservation of water resources for all customers on a daily basis. She stated that she had
572 mentioned this before, and she saw it mentioned in the stewardship initiatives, but she would like
573 to learn more about Rivanna's efforts and partnership with ACSA to emphasize the importance
574 of this issue. She stated that as everyone knew, it could take 24 hours to make a change, and
575 although they had current snow moisture, it was unlikely to last. She stated that she would
576 appreciate knowing what steps Rivanna would take to address this in the future.

577
578 Mr. Mawyer stated that staff would follow up on that issue.

579
580 **Ms. Mallek moved the Board to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Mr. Pinkston**
581 **seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).**

582
583 Mr. Richardson stated that regarding Item 8(i), Ms. Mallek had suggested exploring alternatives
584 to a one-year waiver extension.

585
586 Mr. Pinkston stated that he did not want to be unreasonable, but he had been on the Board for
587 three years and every time, it seemed like they were told that they would get there next time. He
588 stated that he was not hearing that they were not trying, and he did think that if they had six
589 gallons of gas, the impact would be minimal; they would clean it out on the other end. He stated
590 that on the other hand, it was a gas motor that they were using, or a reservoir, so he was more
591 frustrated about why this could not be resolved.

592
593 Mr. Pinkston stated that he felt like they were making a special case, and while he loved UVA
594 and the school's sports, after a while, it started to feel arbitrary. He stated that he was just trying
595 to process this and understand why they could not seem to resolve this issue.

596
597 Mr. Richardson stated that he believed Ms. Mallek would present a motion, which he thought he
598 understood as suggesting they revisit this issue in six months, effectively sending a message to

the university that they expected them to make progress in transitioning away from gasoline engines within that timeframe.

Ms. Mallek moved the Board to approve Item 8i, the waiver extension for the Virginia Rowing Program and Rivanna Rowing Club for one year from today, with the expectation that a report on their progress would be submitted in six months.

Mr. Pinkston stated that to clarify, Ms. Mallek was proposing a six-month period during which the UVA would periodically check in with them, and six months after that, the waiver would expire.

Ms. Mallek stated that yes; otherwise, there was no real enforcement and it simply continued indefinitely, which was what they had been doing since 1993.

Mr. Pinkston stated that a year from now, they would still have the capacity either to support a waiver or not.

Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Biller stated that six months from today would be July 28.

Mr. Richardson stated that they would like them to work with the Rivanna staff to get back on the agenda and receive an update in half the time, specifically six months, to hear about their progress. He stated that there should be some progress reported between now and the six-month check-in point, and then the Board would review and react to that at the time.

Mr. Mawyer stated that it was a one-year extension with a six-month review period.

Mr. Richardson said what was different was that by the six-month point, they wanted to hear a progress report on a game plan to transition from gas to electric by the end of the year.

(Combined Session with RSWA)

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Presentation: Rivanna Authorities Strategic Plan Update

Betsy Nemeth, Director of Administration and Communications, stated that this was a six-month update on their strategic plan. She stated that she was approaching it in a different way this time. She stated that in the past, she had provided a comprehensive overview of each topic, but she thought this time she would focus on one key aspect per topic, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding.

Ms. Nemeth stated that their strategic framework was the foundation of their plan, and it was essential to their vision, mission, and values. She stated that their vision, mission, and values were outlined, including the definitions of integrity, teamwork, respect, and equality. She stated

that moving forward, she would like to highlight their communication and collaboration team. She stated that she was particularly excited about this initiative, as she would be leading it. She stated that their first project was already underway, and she was eager to share its progress with them.

She stated that Rivanna.org is the only website they have, but they are about to expand to three separate sites: rivanna.org, RivannaSolidWaste.org, and RivannaWater.org.

Ms. Nemeth stated that she was excited about this development, as one of the reasons they decided to do this was because they analyzed their website metrics. She stated that they found that about 90% or more of their website traffic was related to solid waste and basic services, such as collection and special collections. She stated that on their current Rivanna.org, they would notice a picture of a dam, which had no relation to solid waste. She stated that they thought it would be a good idea to reorganize and make it more user-friendly.

Ms. Nemeth stated that Rivanna.org would be a landing page, allowing users to easily access the specific site they were interested in. She stated that therefore, visiting the old Rivanna.org, they would see a link to either RivannaWater.org or RivannaSolidWaste.org. She stated that she was also excited about the new RivannaWater.org, which will feature a video of the Sugar Hollow Reservoir drone flyover, a stunning visual and she would like to give credit to Rob Woodside from their IT department for creating it.

Ms. Nemeth stated that additionally, the RivannaWater.org website will include a section on construction projects, which will be updated frequently as they have several projects underway in a short period of time. She stated that they will be able to access a list of their specific construction projects that are underway, including where they are and what they are doing. She stated that for example, if they were currently working on the Central Water Line in Charlottesville, they would be able to see that information. She stated that this was an ongoing project scheduled for this spring.

Ms. Nemeth stated that she had been sitting in on calls with the Environmental Stewardship Committee, during which they discussed ways to engage employees in environmental stewardship, and one idea that stood out was the Found Object Ornament Contest. She stated that on the screen was the flyer, which was created by Annie West. She stated that as part of the contest, employees were invited to create ornaments using items found around the house. She stated that the winner was a spigot, which was transformed into a unique ornament by Kenny Lawhorne, one of their maintenance mechanics. She stated that she found his spigot ornament to be quite interesting.

Ms. Nemeth stated that Mr. Mawyer's wife also participated, and everyone's work made it a pretty neat contest. She stated that the ornaments were featured in the office throughout the holiday season. She stated that the next slide was very busy, but she hoped it made a point. She stated that the workforce development had been an ongoing process with growing their people from within, and she wanted to share a few things that she thought were really important.

Ms. Nemeth stated that on the left, all the certificates, including those from their maintenance

team. She stated that there was at least one person from solid waste who had taken courses at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) for Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) and Valley Vo-Tech. She stated that she thought at least half of their maintenance team was taking courses there every semester. She stated that the second item in the middle showed their college tuition reimbursement program, which was currently being used by several employees. She stated that they had seen a few degrees come out of it, including an associate's degree for Brian Haney, a bachelor's degree for David Rhoades, and a certificate for Leah Beard. She stated that Duane Houchens was due to receive an associate's degree later this year.

Ms. Nemeth stated that Mr. Mawyer had previously mentioned that they had a diversity awareness training workshop for all management staff and the workforce development team. She stated that her point here was the last row, which highlighted their internal promotions in 2024. She stated that given that they were a relatively small authority, this was a significant number of people who had grown within the organization. She stated that they were very proud of this team's accomplishments.

Ms. Nemeth stated that regarding optimization and resiliency. She stated that the Moores Creek Advanced Water Resource Recovery Facility aeration basin operations was a notable example of their success. She stated that the cost savings from this project were evident, particularly in the electricity they were spending on running their blowers. She stated that the aeration basins required air to remove ammonia, and they had five blowers in the blower building, which were shown on the left. She stated that they had previously maintained a minimum airflow into the basins to remove ammonia, and they had added a sensor to track when air was needed. She stated that this had resulted in a savings of \$17,000 on their annual electric bill.

Ms. Nemeth stated that the second component of this optimization involved caustic, a chemical that adjusted the pH and added alkalinity to the basins. She stated that in essence, it made the microorganisms in the basins happy and allowed them to function properly. She stated that by lowering the minimum alkalinity settings, the staff had reduced the required amount of caustic, resulting in a cost savings of over \$180,000 last year. She stated that she believed Rob Haacke, the now retired Wastewater Manager, was the driving force behind this initiative.

Ms. Nemeth stated that regarding planning and infrastructure, more detail would be shared by Katie McIlwee about asset management and Cityworks in the next presentation, and one of the goals of their strategic plan was to continue adding assets to Cityworks. She stated that in 2024, they had added over 1,000 new assets to the system. She stated that horizontal assets were pipes and vertical assets were above ground. She stated that she also found it impressive that their work orders were being managed through Cityworks, with a total of over 4,000 completed work orders for the entire year.

Ms. Nemeth stated that their maintenance team was enthusiastic about showing her how the system worked, and she was particularly impressed by the ability to access and view specific asset information, such as manuals, inspection documents, and safety information like Arc Flash documents. She stated that the team was also working to upload lockout/tagout information, and they were able to see firsthand how they were using iPads to complete work orders and access these documents.

737
738 *b. Presentation: Asset Management Update*
739

740 Katie McIlwee, Asset Management Coordinator, stated that she wanted to provide an update on
741 the Asset Management Program. She stated that their asset management program was guided by
742 the asset management policy, which emphasized the commitment to implementing the program
743 and providing established levels of service while minimizing lifecycle costs and managing risks.
744 She stated that this program is linked to their strategic plan, strategic framework, and goals for
745 asset-related investments, and maintenance.

746
747 Ms. McIlwee stated that asset management was a long-term program aimed at attaining and
748 sustaining the chosen level of service for the life cycle of an asset at the most cost-effective
749 manner. She stated that their program consisted of three major components: the computerized
750 maintenance management software (CMMS), the asset register and Geographic Information
751 System (GIS), and the decision support software (DSS).

752
753 Ms. McIlwee stated that the Government Accounting Office had identified six key characteristics
754 to define an effective asset management framework which they are implementing. She stated that
755 they had established formal policies and plans through their strategic and tactical asset
756 management plans, and they were working to maximize asset portfolio's values through the use
757 of decision support tools. She stated that they maintained leadership support by obtaining
758 authority-wide buy-in for the program. She stated that they utilized quality data through tools
759 such as the new asset workflow procedure, promoted a collaborative organizational culture by
760 coordinating with maintenance, water, wastewater lab, and engineering staff, and continually
761 evaluated and improved their processes through the health check report and user feedback.

762
763 Ms. McIlwee stated that, as Ms. Nemeth had mentioned, they made significant progress in 2024
764 utilizing their CMMS, Cityworks. They completed over 4,000 work orders, with 3,700 being
765 preventative maintenance work orders and 375 being corrective maintenance work orders. She
766 stated that they had also added approximately 1,000 assets to their vertical asset inventory.

767
768 Ms. McIlwee stated that within the Cityworks program, they had several key data integrations,
769 EKOS, their fuel management system, and DocLink, their document management system. When
770 fleet vehicles refilled at the fuel pumps, the vehicle mileage was registered by the EKOS system,
771 which was then integrated with Cityworks. She stated that as a result, the fuel mileage was used
772 to automatically generate certain types of preventative maintenance work orders based on
773 mileage within the system. She stated that this meant they did not have to manually track every
774 7,500 mile service.

775
776 Ms. McIlwee stated that DocLink housed their lock-out/tag-out procedures, operational manuals,
777 warranty information, and other records. Through this integration they could access these records
778 by following a link provided directly on the work order in Cityworks.

779
780 She stated that Cityworks was also directly integrated with ESRI GIS, their spatial management
781 system. She stated that the two systems work hand-in-hand, and it was impossible for Cityworks
782 to function without using data from GIS. She stated that the next slide would demonstrate this

783 integration. This slide provided a video demonstration of how to navigate to a building within the
784 GIS map using Cityworks. She stated that to do this, she would select the building, and on the
785 left-hand side, the building would appear, along with its asset details. She stated that she could
786 also view open or completed work orders.

787
788 Ms. McIlwee stated that she would pull up a work order, which appeared to be for a pump. She
789 stated that if a mechanic or operator needed to know something about the asset from a safety or
790 operational manual standpoint, she could click on the DocLink link, which would bring up the
791 relevant information, which could include lock-out/tag-out procedures, as mentioned earlier, and
792 this example also included an Arc Flash report. She stated that warranty information, operational
793 manuals, and other relevant documents could also be accessed in the field.

794
795 Ms. McIlwee stated that to ensure accurate data quality, they had multiple ways to obtain assets
796 information for their inventory. She stated that one method was through the Capital Improvement
797 Plan (CIP) process, which at the end of a project the contractor would compile a list of assets and
798 work with her to ensure the correct hierarchy and information. She stated that they would
799 conduct a QA/QC process to verify the accuracy of the data, and the contractors would submit it
800 to her when finalized. From the contractor provided information, they would then create
801 preventative maintenance work orders within Cityworks and integrate the asset into their formal
802 asset register.

803
804 Ms. McIlwee stated that additionally, they had an internal asset process for on-site repairs, such
805 as pump replacements, or when a mechanic or operator discovered a piece of equipment not
806 previously accounted for. She stated that they could fill out a form, which would submit to her,
807 providing required information, including preventative maintenance details, installation date,
808 hour meter readings, manufacturer, model, serial number, cost, and condition. She stated that this
809 process ensured accurate asset information, as it came directly from the operator or mechanic
810 involved in the process.

811
812 Ms. McIlwee stated that everyone was familiar with the Rivanna Pump Station. She stated that in
813 2024, one of the action items that came out of the malfunctioning of the pump station was
814 ensuring that all of their assets were accurately listed in their asset inventory and receiving the
815 proper preventative maintenance. She stated that as a result, they launched the on-valve
816 inventory program in March 2024, which was completed by December 2024. She stated that she
817 visited every facility, along with water, wastewater, and maintenance staff, to verify and add any
818 valves that were not currently in their register. Ms. McIlwee stated that they added
819 approximately 428 valves through this process. She stated that next, they created preventative
820 maintenance work orders based on manufacturer recommendations or best practices from those
821 who owned and operated valves, specifically operations and maintenance staff.

822
823 She stated that they used condition assessments as one tool to assess their assets for replacement
824 or repair. First, they conducted a Level 1 desktop assessment, where maintenance, water,
825 wastewater, and engineering staff gave each asset a standard one to five condition score, with
826 one being very good and five being very poor. Ms. McIlwee stated that this was done by
827 reviewing an Excel spreadsheet and providing a one through five score based on their best
828 knowledge. She stated that the next step was the Level 2 Field Condition Assessment, which

involved a hands-on evaluation of the asset to obtain a real-time, accurate assessment of its condition. She stated that initially, this would be conducted on the top 10% of their vertical assets, which were determined by their business risk exposure or criticality. She stated that these assets included not only the most expensive assets, but also those with the highest impact to service, for their customers and the community.

Ms. McIlwee stated that Level 2 Field Condition Assessments were more in-depth when they were assessed, this condition assessment would provide a specific one to five rating scale, rather than the general one used for the desktop assessment. She stated the rating scale uses asset-specific questions to determine the condition, using the same 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad) scale, but set to asset specific criteria. She stated that the example on the slide illustrated the rating scale for assessing the condition of a building roof.

Ms. McIlwee stated that lifecycle was another key performance indicator that helped determine when assets needed to be replaced. She stated that the two columns in the chart demonstrated that sometimes the percent life consumed based on install date and percent life consumed based on condition did not align. She stated that lifecycle consumed based on condition was based on the level one condition assessment, which is a best estimate of the asset's condition, and that the lifecycle consumed based on install date was based on the management strategy group that the asset belonged to which is an estimate of an asset's lifespan.

Ms. McIlwee stated, for example a pump that is perfect condition with no real-life variables factored in, could result in a maximum potential lifespan of 30 years. She stated that the actual lifespan can vary due to operating conditions, so it was essential not to rely on a single key performance indicator for replacement decisions, it is important to take all factors: lifecycle, level 1 condition, and level 2 condition into account when deciding on an asset's replacement needs. She stated that once level two condition assessments are completed, they can use a combination of install date, level one condition, level two condition, business risk exposure, and criticality to determine the best replacement cycle for their assets.

Ms. McIlwee stated that their next steps include completing the level two condition assessment and implementing a decision support tool to perform funding projections for assets and repair/replacement costs in different scenarios. She stated that they will continue to refine their usage and tools within Cityworks. She stated that they are also working to bring the Solid Waste Authority into Cityworks, so they can utilize more formalized tools for their asset management needs.

Mr. Lunsford asked if they had selected a decision tool for this matter.

Ms. McIlwee stated not yet. She stated that the screen shot on the slide was taken from a tool called Predictor, which would be able to tie directly into GIS utilizing the same information as Cityworks to produce accurate asset assessments.

Ms. Mallek stated that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. She stated that to her, it would be helpful if there was a clear indication of potential hazards, such as a flag or alert, to warn the person that they were about to engage in a high-risk activity. She stated that it would be

great to have access to the information. She stated that she was also impressed with the work Ms. McIlwee was doing here, as it was not just the big-ticket items, but also the smaller components, like \$3.00 gaskets, that could sometimes cause issues with the \$10 million machine. She stated that she appreciated the effort Ms. McIlwee was putting into pulling everything together.

Mr. Pinkston stated that he would appreciate it if staff could elaborate on the decision support system (DSS).

Ms. McIlwee stated that the DSS will allow staff to consider all key performance indicators; the criticality of the asset, the lifecycle, the installation date of the asset, and the condition they have placed on it to determine replacement. Ms. McIlwee stated that the DSS will allow them to model different scenarios to assess what the future will look using at various funding levels. This will help to determine the optimal funding level for maintaining or replacing assets, to ensure the best use of funds in the long term. For example, deciding whether an asset should be allowed to deteriorate over the course of 10 years, to the point where significant funding is requested for replacement, versus is it more fiscally responsible to maintain that same asset over the cost of the same timeframe.

c. Presentation: Grant Applications Update

Annie West, Sustainability and Grants Coordinator, stated that she would like to provide an update on the grant funding, awards, and processes. She stated that this presentation would cover the current capital project and operational project grants, as well as those that were pending and those the organization was currently applying for. She stated that she would also provide a brief overview of how they had been seeking out these funding opportunities.

Ms. West stated that she would begin with the capital grants funding projects. She stated that from Albemarle County, they received \$750,000 in 2022 for the Red Hill Water Treatment Plant upgrade and Scottsville Lagoon Liners. She stated there was a photograph of the lagoon liners shown on the slide. She stated that in 2024, they received the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which had been beneficial for them as it allowed them to conduct flood protection and resiliency studies and designs on their critical infrastructure. She stated that this program helped them identify ways to make their infrastructure more resilient in response to their 100-year flood elevation studies.

Ms. West stated they had been receiving funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Virginia Department of Health's emerging contaminants program since 2022, and they had received over \$6 million for the Crozet Water Treatment Plant granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment. In 2023, they received \$1 million in funding from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) through the Dam Safety and Rehabilitation Program, which allowed them to conduct an environmental assessment of the Beaver Creek Dam and a preliminary design.

Ms. West stated that the other image on the slide shows a proposed spillway, which was similar to what they had proposed for the Beaver Creek Dam. She stated that she would next discuss more recent capital project funding. In December 2024, they were awarded an additional \$1 million for fiscal year 2025 for the Emerging Contaminants Funding, which would be allocated

921 towards the Crozet Water Treatment Plant GAC expansion. She stated that this would bring the
922 total funding for that project to \$7.2 million.

923
924 Ms. West stated that in December 2024, they received funding from the federally declared
925 disaster 4644, which was related to the severe winter storm weather in 2022, and they also
926 received money to help replace the Scottsville Wastewater Facility Generator. She stated that this
927 brought the total funding for capital improvement projects to just over \$10.5 million. She stated
928 that moving forward, she would like to discuss operational maintenance grants and projects. She
929 stated that in 2020, they applied through the Virginia Department of Health's set-asides program
930 for water signage at some of their reservoirs and received approximately \$14,000 for that project.

931
932 Ms. West stated that they had also had success with annual grants, such as the Virginia Risk
933 Sharing Association, which they received funding for this year. She stated that in addition, they
934 had applied to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for both competitive and non-
935 competitive grants. She stated that the competitive funding this year allowed them to purchase
936 reusable cooler bags and donate them to the Blue Ridge Food Bank. She stated that Mr.
937 McKalips and she visited the Blue Ridge Food Bank just before Thanksgiving to make this
938 donation.

939
940 Ms. West stated that the non-competitive funding went towards the cost of the recycling center,
941 which was split between the City and the County. She stated that this brought their total grant
942 funding for operational projects to just over \$87 thousand. She stated that next, she would share
943 some of the projects they had been able to accomplish with Virginia Risk Sharing Association
944 funding. She stated that on the solid waste side, they built the cantilever gate at the Ivy Transfer
945 Station, which helped keep customers in line outside while equipment was running through the
946 transfer station. She stated that on the Water Authority side, they obtained new gas monitors and
947 safety vests.

948
949 Ms. West stated that to summarize, since 2018, they had applied for 21 total grants and received
950 15 of them, with a total of nearly \$10.6 million in funding. She stated that they were still waiting
951 on two funding opportunities this year, which she would discuss in a separate section. She would
952 also like to discuss the grants they had not received since 2018. She stated that the majority of
953 these were the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grants that she had
954 previously mentioned. She stated that they had applied for the new baling facility on the solid
955 waste side in previous years.

956
957 Ms. West stated they also applied for the Central Water Line project, as well as the South
958 Rivanna Reservoir to Ragged Mountain Reservoir pipeline project. She stated that additionally,
959 in 2021, they submitted an application for a Homeland Security program to install a control
960 system at the Moores Creek facility, which was not awarded. She stated that she would like to
961 discuss the pending grants for this year. This year, they applied to the state senators for
962 Congressionally Directed Spending Fiscal Year 2024 for the South Rivanna powder-activated
963 carbon replacement at the water treatment plant, requesting \$880,000 for that project. Ms. West
964 stated that this request was still pending.

965
966 Ms. West stated that they were able to qualify for assistance for storm damage as a result of

Hurricane Helene in September of last year. She stated that the disaster was declared by FEMA, and they were able to apply for reimbursement through the public assistance program. She stated that their estimated cost of damages from the hurricane was \$560,000 and were working closely with Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and FEMA to address that. She stated that displayed on the slide was just one example of the damage incurred from Hurricane Helene.

Ms. West stated what Mr. Mawyer had mentioned earlier, that the Sugar Hollow raw water line pipe, had been in place since the 1920s and carried raw water from Sugar Hollow to Ragged Mountain Reservoir. She stated that during the flooding event, a piece of the pipe broke off and traveled downstream, requiring their organization to repair the pipe and create a new pier support. She stated that the repair had been completed, and the new pier support had been installed.

Ms. West stated that she had another image of the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. She stated that at Ivy Creek, the bank had eroded significantly, posing a risk to the Stillhouse water line, which was located between these two markers. She stated that the erosion was concerning because the pipe could become damaged or fall into the creek. She stated that to stabilize the area temporarily, they had sandbagged the site, which would remain in place until they worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a more permanent solution. She stated that they had been working with FEMA since September to gather the necessary documents and had both projects categorized as urgent or high priority.

Ms. West stated that as a result, Rivanna was working to submit applications to establish a reimbursement fund. She stated that she would like to provide an overview of her grant application process. She stated that Grants.gov was the website where federal funding opportunities were located, and she consistently checked for updates. She stated that Rivanna was part of a network of state and federal agencies, including FEMA, the Department of Health, and the Department of Environmental Quality, which sent out notifications about upcoming grant opportunities and deadlines. She stated that they also had a third-party grant consultant who helped organize their applications, which could be lengthy.

Ms. West stated that additionally, they monitor for federally declared disasters like Hurricane Helene to apply for public assistance. She stated that she would like to discuss the upcoming grants and what they would be looking for in the next couple of years. She stated that they would be focusing on grants that funded solar power installation, electric vehicles, and electric vehicle charging stations. She stated that they had been working with local organizations, such as Tiger Solar and ChargePoint, to explore these opportunities.

Ms. West stated that in June or July, they would be applying for funding for the Beaver Creek Dam construction through the NRCS program. She stated that later in the summer, they would be reapplying for the annual grants they had had success with, including the Virginia Risk Sharing Association and Department of Environmental Quality programs. She stated that they would also be applying for the Virginia Department of Health and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Emerging Contaminants Application for the Fiscal Year of 2026. Currently, she was focused on FEMA's flood mitigation assistance and BRIC applications, which had recently been announced.

Ms. West stated that for the flood mitigation assistance program, they would be applying for their flood resiliency project at the Moores Creek Pump Station, as they had received results from the flood elevation studies and were hoping to secure funding. She stated that for the BRIC program this year, they were reapplying with the South Rivanna Reservoir to the Ragged Mountain Reservoir Pipeline.

Ms. West stated that this was one of the projects they had not received funding for before, but they were hopeful that this year they would secure some funding. Regarding dam safety, she stated that they would be applying for the Department of Conservation Resources Dam Safety Program. She stated that the installation of blanket drains at the Ragged Mountain Dam, as part of the Dam Raising Water project, would help prevent seepage and ensure adequate drainage. She stated that they were continuing to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the decommissioning of the North Rivanna Dam which had been funded by them.

Mr. Mawyer stated that the \$50 M BRIC grant they were currently applying for would support the South Rivanna to Ragged Pipeline and Pump Station Project.

10. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD/STAFF NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Pinkston stated that he would like to ask a question. He stated that this topic related back to their earlier discussion about boating. He stated that it was not just UVA Rowing; it was also the Rivanna Rowing Club, a boating organization.

Bethany Houchens, Water Resources Coordinator, stated that they did allow other organizations, such as emergency services, to use gas-powered motors on the reservoir for training exercises, as well as the Department of Wildlife. She stated that, however, when it came to the rowing point, it was simply a club affiliated with the University of Virginia, rather than an organized group.

Mr. Pinkston stated that he was curious about the purpose of these boats. He stated that it was likely that the rowers were rowing without a motor, but there appeared to be another boat behind them, possibly tracking their progress.

Ms. Houchens stated that that was correct, the coaches would have a megaphone to instruct the participants on the rowing technique, and they would be training them to keep pace with the rowing boats in time.

Mr. Pinkston asked if the Rivanna Rowing Club used a boat that tracked along with them, accompanied by a megaphone, as well.

Ms. Houchens stated yes; they also used the boat launches for that purpose. She stated that it was the coaches who used the term "launches." She stated that that was the technical term they used for these boats that tracked alongside the rowers.

11. ADJOURNMENT

1059 At 3:56 p.m., Ms. Mallek moved to adjourn the meeting of the Rivanna Water and Sewer
1060 Authority. Mr. Pinkston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (7-0).

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1062 Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Samuel Sanders
Secretary-Treasurer

