

**HUDSON RIVER-BLACK RIVER REGULATING DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**November 13, 2025  
10 AM**

Sacandaga Field Office  
737 Bunker Hill Road  
Mayfield, NY 12117

Remote Location  
336 Buck Lane  
Forestport, NY 13338

Participants were invited to join the meeting via computer, tablet or smartphone.

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Mark M. Finkle called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Board Chair Mark M. Finkle; First Vice-Chair Kenneth F. DeWitt; Board Members Albert J. Hayes, Richard Bird, Nicole T. Allen and Timothy J. Reagan; Executive Director John C. Callaghan; General Counsel Robert P. Leslie; Chief Engineer Robert S. Foltan and Chief Fiscal Officer Timothy M. Maniccia and the Director of Administrative Services Stephanie V. Ruzycky.

**Video:** Second Vice-Chair Alfred J. Candido, Jr. (Caregiving)

**MOTION TO ADOPT OR REVISE THE MEETING AGENDA**

Chair Finkle asked for a motion to adopt or revise the agenda. Mrs. Allen moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. DeWitt seconded. The Board approved the motion in a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Finkle opened the meeting to public comment; hearing none.

## **APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2025 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Finkle asked for a motion to adopt the October 15, 2025 regular board meeting minutes. Mr. Hayes advanced the motion to approve the October 15, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Mr. DeWitt seconded. The Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

## **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Callaghan presented his report; referring the Board to his written report. He took the occasion of the Regulating District Board's final meeting this year to note several significant milestones reached in 2025. Staff, experiencing a period of success under the Board's leadership, rolled out new functionality within the online permit system; making it possible for the first time to apply for work permits online. Staff processed and approved 116 such work permits entirely online; representing over 25% of such permits processed in just the first year of the rollout. Mr. Callaghan noted that the Regulating District wrapped-up the successful Hawkinsville Dam Rehabilitation Project in early 2025 and later this year completed the design, and initiated work, on the emergent Indian Lake Dam gatehouse foundation work as part of the Indian Lake Dam Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Callaghan highlighted Regulating District staff's work with state government colleagues at the Office of General Services to advance to final design on the first major overhaul of the Conklingville Dam in nearly a century. He also reported that all design, permitting and competitive procurement work on the generational investment on the Fulton Chain of Lakes has progressed so that, just two weeks ago, staff provided a notice to proceed to the chosen contractor at the Old Forge and Sixth Lake Dam Rehabilitation Projects. Mr. Callaghan noted that Regulating District staff, while simultaneously advancing the major rehabilitation projects at Hawkinsville, Indian Lake, Old Forge/Sixth Lake and Conklingville described above, completed major upgrades to the Regulating District's facilities; including rebuilding the porches; installation of new energy efficient doors and ADA-Compliant thresholds; and the installation of rooftop solar here at SFO; and the replacement of the garage at the BRFO at Stillwater. Mr. Callaghan explained that investments in new equipment allow our personnel to work more effectively, efficiently and safely on these in-house projects. Mr. Callaghan applauded the leadership team's success during this exceptionally productive period, noting Counsel's success advancing the AG's effort to hold Brookfield Renewable accountable and seeing that Brookfield's Erie Boulevard pays their fair share for the use of the Conklingville Dam. He championed the CFO's success achieving a major milestone in the stabilization of the Regulating District's finances; ending the fiscal year with a positive net position for the first time in nearly a decade. Mr. Callaghan thanked the Chief Engineer for shouldering the laboring oar to advance the aforementioned projects, and the efforts of the Director of Administrative services in her various roles. Finally, Mr. Callaghan thanked each of his teammates, not just those sitting around the table, but each and every individual at the Regulating District, who serve the public each and every day and thanked the Board without whose support, and the support of Governor Hochul and the Legislature, none of these milestones would have been possible. 2025 represents, not a completion of the Regulating District's mission, but a solid foundation upon which staff, and those who follow us, will build.

## **CONTRACTS**

### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST IN THE HUDSON RIVER AREA**

Mr. Callaghan presented a resolution to authorize hiring a Maintenance Specialist in the Hudson River Area. He noted the need to maintain its facilities and infrastructure to ensure safety, compliance, and operational efficiency and that a Maintenance Specialist is vital to the ongoing upkeep and repair of HRBRRD properties and assets. Staff posted the vacant maintenance specialist position in accordance with the procedural requirements of the current CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement and staff determined Noah MacVean qualified to fill the role. Mr. Callahan explained that the CSEA salary schedule for fiscal year 2025-2026 sets forth compensation levels for Maintenance Specialists, and proposed that Mr. MacVean be hired at Step 2 of this schedule.

Chair Finkle asked for a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the hiring of Noah MacVean as Maintenance Specialist, effective November 20, 2025, at an annual rate of \$44,879, Step 2 of the CSEA salary schedule for fiscal year 2025-2026 and authorizing the Director of Administrative Services to complete the hiring process and onboarding in accordance with District policies and procedures. Mr. Hayes so moved. Mrs. Allen so moved and the Board adopted the motion by unanimous vote.

## **STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING BPAS TO PERFORM GASB 75 VALUATION FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026**

Audit Committee Chair Hayes asked Mr. Maniccia to present the resolution. Mr. Maniccia reported that Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* requires an actuarial valuation or a calculation using the specified alternative measurement method of the total OPEB liability to be performed at least every two years. BPAS performed the last valuation for fiscal year June 30, 2024 and has performed all of the Regulating District's valuations in an efficient and cost effective manner. Mr. Maniccia recommended that the Board accept BPAS's proposal to employ the annual alternative measurement method for the 2024 valuation for a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$7,000 and an interim valuation fee for Fiscal Year 2027 not to exceed \$2,000.

Board Chair Finkle asked for a motion. Mr. Reagan moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with BPAS to perform the actuarial calculation of the total OPEB liability required by GASB Statement No. 75 for the not to exceed amount of \$7,000.00 and the interim valuation for Fiscal Year 2027 not to exceed \$2,000. Mr. DeWitt seconded and the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

## STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Leslie presented his report. The General Recoveries Unit of the OAG's Civil Recoveries Bureau has prepared a final demand letter and continues to prepare a Summons and Complaint effecting the commencement of an affirmative case seeking redress against Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P. in the state and/or federal court system. Counsel also continues to work with counsel for its insurance carrier with respect to discovery demands received concerning an injury alleged to have befallen a mason working for a sub-contractor on the Indian Lake rehabilitation project.

Ms. Ruzycky presented her report to the Board. Ms. Ruzycky reported upon her oversight of the recruitment process for the maintenance specialist and completion of the comprehensive training as the agency liaison for the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV), including specialized workplace safety planning. She noted the completion of the SFO IC compliance audit reconciliation and HRAO quarterly compliance audit.

Mr. Maniccia presented his report to the Board. Therein he noted that at the close of October 31, 2025, the general fund balances for the HRA and BRA were approximately \$6,162,695 and \$2,649,565 respectively. When combined (in the amount of \$8,812,261), this total is \$2,363,481 or 36.7% more than the same period last year. Year-to-date Regulating District Revenue exceeded Expenses by \$1,529,644. This amount is \$2,251,665 more than the July-October 2024 period. This arises largely because Revenue can vary significantly if a single assessment is received a few days earlier or later than it was in the prior fiscal year. Significant disbursements for the period include: Payroll, Health Insurance, CD Perry and HDR. Mr. Maniccia noted that when the Board authorized the installation of rooftop solar and electric vehicle charging stations at the Sacandaga Field Office in March 2024 (via Resolution 24-05-03), Solar Liberty's proposal included the possibility that the Regulating District would be eligible for clean energy tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. In order to accomplish this, the Regulating District is required to submit an IRS Form 900-T and supporting schedules. The tax unit of EFPR Advisory, LLC, the Regulating District's independent auditor, is assisting with this task. Mr. Maniccia reported that the Regulating District's transactional processing and reporting are current.

Mr. Maniccia presented an affidavit evidencing necessary and reasonable Board expenses incurred by Chair Finkle, (\$295.99) in the course of his duties as a Board Member. Mr. Reagan moved to approve payment of such expenses. Mr. DeWitt seconded and the Board passed the motion in a unanimous vote.

Mr. Foltan presented the Chief Engineer's report. Therein Mr. Foltan noted that the October average daily release from the Sacandaga Reservoir (Great Sacandaga Lake) was approximately 1,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). Precipitation during the month of October was below average across the Great Sacandaga Lake and the Indian Lake watersheds. The monthly inflow to Great Sacandaga Lake and Indian Lake reservoir was approximately 8% and 16% of historic average, respectively. Monthly release of water from Great Sacandaga Lake and Indian Lake measured 78% and 48% of historic average, respectively.

The October average daily release from Stillwater Reservoir was approximately 250 cfs. Monthly total precipitation measured 62%, 52%, and 51% of historic average at Stillwater, Old Forge, and Sixth Lake, respectively, as of October 26<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation in the month of October was below average at Stillwater, and below average at Old Forge and Sixth Lake. The monthly inflow to Stillwater Reservoir was approximately 19% of historic average. The inflow to Sixth Lake and Old Forge Reservoir totaled 0.04 and 0.08 billion cubic feet, respectively, in October. Release of water from Stillwater Reservoir averaged 73% of historic discharge.

## **BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

### **RESOLUTION SCHEDULING DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF THE JANUARY 13, 2026 REGULAR BOARD & ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS**

Chair Mark Finkle asked for a motion to adopt a resolution setting the date, and time for the 2026 Organizational and Regular Board meeting of the Board of the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District for Tuesday January 13, 2026 at the Regulating District's Sacandaga Field Office, 737 Bunker Hill Road, Mayfield, NY 12117, at 10:00 A.M. Mrs. Allen moved to adopt the resolution setting the date, time and location of the Organizational and Regular meetings. Mr. Hayes seconded and the Board adopted the resolution by unanimous vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Mark Finkle called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bird advanced the motion. Mr. Reagan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

### **25-38-11 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST IN THE HUDSON RIVER AREA**

Chair Finkle asked for a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the hiring of Noah MacVean as Maintenance Specialist, effective November 20, 2025, at an annual rate of \$44,879, Step 2 of the CSEA salary schedule for fiscal year 2025-2026 and authorizing the Director of Administrative Services to complete the hiring process and onboarding in accordance with District policies and procedures. Mr. Hayes so moved. Mrs. Allen so moved and the Board adopted the motion by unanimous vote.

### **25-39-11 RESOLUTION APPROVING BPAS TO PERFORM GASB 75 VALUATION FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026**

Board Chair Finkle asked for a motion. Mr. Reagan moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with BPAS to perform the actuarial calculation of the total OPEB liability required by GASB Statement No. 75 for the not to exceed amount of \$7,000.00 and the interim valuation for Fiscal Year 2027 not to exceed \$2,000. Mr. DeWitt seconded and the Board approved the motion by unanimous vote.

**25-40-11      RESOLUTION SCHEDULING DATE AND TIME OF THE JANUARY 13,  
2026 ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS**

Chair Mark Finkle asked for a motion to adopt a resolution setting the date, and time for the 2026 Organizational and Regular Board meeting of the Board of the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District for Tuesday January 13, 2026 at the Regulating District's Sacandaga Field Office, 737 Bunker Hill Road, Mayfield, NY 12117, at 10:00 A.M. Mrs. Allen moved to adopt the resolution setting the date, time and location of the Organizational and Regular meetings. Mr. Hayes seconded and the Board adopted the resolution by unanimous vote.

Robert P. Leslie  
Secretary

Mark M. Finkle  
Board Chair