

## PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF

JANUARY 23, 2013

(CLOSED SESSION)

## C O M M I S S I O N E R S       P R E S E N T :

RIGO SANCHEZ, President

JEFFREY LEVINE, Vice-President

MENACHEM BAZIAN, Treasurer

GLORIA KOLODZIEJ, Secretary

IDIDA RODRIGUEZ

THOMAS P. DEVITA

ROBERT VANNOY

## A L S O       P R E S E N T :

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, Counsel

JAMES G. DUPREY, Director of Engineering

JAMES J. GALLAGHER, Personnel Director

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

(CONFIDENTIAL)

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The figure consists of two horizontal bars. The bar on the left is shorter and represents the number of male respondents. The bar on the right is longer and represents the number of female respondents. Both bars are filled with a dense, dark, textured pattern.



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**Figure 1**



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MR. AMODIO: Moving on.

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Under Administration. We have Draft  
Amended Administrative Consent Order for Water  
Storage Improvements.

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COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Can I ask you a  
question on that?

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I don't know if this is out of line or  
not. I read it and it's calling for us to make --  
this is the Administrative Consent Order covering  
the reservoirs.

1 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Okay.

2 Administrative Consent Order of reservoirs.

3 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: They asked us to  
4 provide formal comments. Okay. Everybody's going  
5 crazy over covered reservoirs and enclosing; all  
6 the towns and everything else. Is it out of line  
7 to ask them to comment directly to the DEP? I  
8 mean, they're blaming us for something that --

9 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Who are you talking  
10 about?

11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Whoever is clamoring  
12 that we're doing something wrong.

13 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Right, right.

14 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Is it out of line  
15 saying --

16 MR. BELLA: People are and people have the  
17 right to comment directly.

18 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Let me say this to  
19 you, Tom.

20 Tom, we had a meeting and, you know, like  
21 everything else, we disagree to disagree.

22 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Agree to disagree.

23 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Exactly.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: And that's fine. My  
25 whole thing with this is that when you said



1           they're forcing to do this, I haven't seen the  
2           Order. I haven't seen how they're forcing us to  
3           do anything.

4           COMMISSIONER DeVITA: It's right there.

5           PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: No, no, but in terms  
6           of a specific way that we want to do it. You  
7           know, like, what --

8           COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The problem, I think  
9           there was a letter --

10          PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I saw the letter. I  
11          read the letter.

12          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: You know what an  
13          Administrative Consent Order is?

14          PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I know what it is. It  
15          doesn't say by time. It doesn't say how it has to  
16          be done.

17          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Well, then, Mr.  
18          President, you can sit down.

19          Next time you have a meeting with the  
20          State, I suggest you take Mr. President with you.

21          PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: That's the only thing,  
22          I mean.

23          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Just go with  
24          them.

25          COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Let's say we contest

1           this all and bring it to court and draw it out  
2           what the people are saying, you know.

3                   COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'm certainly not  
4           going to do that.

5                   COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Somebody else should  
6           be doing it.

7                   COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: That's what he's  
8           saying.

9                   COMMISSIONER VANNOY: I had meetings with  
10          Joe. We didn't have a direction. This is what  
11          they're telling us to do.

12                   COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: The State and  
13          Federal Government is telling you to do something.  
14          Any Commissioner that thinks that we should not be  
15          following that direction, fine. If you get  
16          consensus, for that, go ahead.

17                   MR. BELLA: The only other important thing  
18          about this document is that when we started, the  
19          original documents said that we should have this  
20          done by, we were proposing 2019. They wanted  
21          2017. We're now at 2020 for the first two phases.  
22          That doesn't include phase 3. Before we they  
23          wanted all phases done by 2017.

24                   So this gave us a lot of time and a lot of  
25          time to deal with all the other issues that are

1           going along here. And they've been very  
2           cooperative in the responses that they gave on  
3           projects that we really need to do. I mean, this  
4           hurricane really, really pointed out the fact that  
5           we need to do this and even Irene did the same  
6           thing.

7                   COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Are we entitled  
8           to any hazard litigation grants money?

9                   MR. BELLA: We're applying for that.  
10          We're applying. In fact, one of our engineers  
11          here worked for FEMA for years, five years. And  
12          he knows exactly what he's doing. He knows the  
13          players and he's doing a great job.

14                  COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: There's a lot of  
15          money. A lot of buckets out there under the  
16          radar.

17                  PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: So my question is, do  
18          we need to do it by time? Is it something they're  
19          asking us?

20                  MR. BELLA: You have to enclose these  
21          tanks. There's a whole bunch of reasons to  
22          enclose the water, I'm sorry, and build a tank.  
23          To do it otherwise would be -- first of off, if  
24          you were to put in, as the newspaper suggested,  
25          put in membrane filter treatment plants, you're

1 talking about \$220 million, whatever it is. It's  
2 a lot bigger number.

3 The other thing is, building those things  
4 would be just as ugly as --

5 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Worse.

6 MR. BELLA: Worse. Aesthetically, it's a  
7 big building, that kind of thing. So this was all  
8 in our study that we did.

9 Now, we're going to review --

10 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: When you finish,  
11 I'll...

12 MR. BELLA: Now, we're going to review  
13 that and see if maybe there is a better way of  
14 coming up. As one of the first steps once we hire  
15 the recommended consultant, we're going to, you  
16 know, review all that so that we not only do we  
17 have one consultant's opinion, we're going to have  
18 a second one. So, you know, as with any big  
19 project or event that involves, except for  
20 lawyers, of course, you always get a second  
21 opinion. Lawyers never get a second opinion.

22 But anyway, that's where we're at.

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Mr. President. My  
24 concern is a little different.

25 Our three reservoirs, what we're going to

1           be doing with them actually is going to affect  
2           people.

3                     Now, this Administrative Consent Order  
4           specifically gives us approval for tanks and not  
5           for anything else. It may very well be, in fact,  
6           probably is, that everything we have said around  
7           this table in terms of tanks are being the right  
8           way to go for any number of reasons is correct and  
9           that's the way we're going to have to do it.

10                    The problem is, is that there's a dozen  
11           people that are hearing this and before we start  
12           moving forward, we have to deal with the public.  
13           Imagine for a moment, if you will, that the Water  
14           Commission decides to put some kind of a pumping  
15           station or treatment facility right a block away  
16           from your house where you can see it or across the  
17           street. It's already approved. The State says,  
18           go. You got to do it. And you haven't had a  
19           chance to say word one. That's where we're at  
20           right now.

21                   MR. BELLA: Commissioner, see that's --

22                   COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: If you wanted to  
23           make the second phase to be a review of this and  
24           not include the Levine Reservoir in the next  
25           contract, so the next contract in effect is going

1 to do the review and then we have the open public  
2 meetings and all of that and then we have -- you  
3 can't contract to do the Levine Reservoir if we  
4 don't know what we're doing.

5 MR. BELLA: See, the way the contract will  
6 work, correct me if I'm wrong, is the first phase  
7 is to review the existing documents; make sure  
8 that that is in fact correct. That that is the  
9 right way to do it. That's the cheapest way to go  
10 and the most aesthetically pleasing. And it's  
11 also the way that provides the very people who  
12 were -- not the very people, those people are  
13 really worried about that, don't really care about  
14 the public safety and health of the people that  
15 we're trying to protect. They will review all  
16 that. If there is something wrong, we stop and  
17 come back to the Commission.

18 Now, when I say there's something wrong  
19 with that, at that point, we'll have conceptual  
20 drawings; what it will look like. We'll have view  
21 drawings. In other words, who will be able to  
22 view, whose view will be affected.

23 One second.

24 And we'll have all that to go and do our  
25 public presentation. We don't have that right

1 now.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Joe, can I say  
3 something?

4 MR. BELLA: That's the argument I've been  
5 trying to make, but people don't get it.

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Joe, you know us here,  
7 we know that you are very right. You are right in  
8 what you're doing is the right way to do it. But  
9 public opinion, we're losing public opinion.

10 Let me say this to you. We know you're  
11 doing the right thing in terms of getting your  
12 plans, going by the mandate that you have. You're  
13 going about your business. The problem that we  
14 have as an entity is that the people, the very  
15 people we serve, they don't like this idea because  
16 it hasn't been properly explained to them maybe.  
17 I don't know if that's the case. But that's  
18 another problem, that we're trying to do something  
19 wrong here, which we are not doing that.

20 So the last meeting is how do we help  
21 people understand what we're doing. That's my  
22 question. What's the proper channel to have  
23 people involved? Communities involved? People  
24 that are going to be affected by it? Because I  
25 think somehow people need to be informed what's

1 going on.

2 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Let me say this,  
3 first. This, obviously, has been going on for  
4 quite some time. People who are talking about,  
5 you know, these things. Obviously, their only  
6 concern is the aesthetics of what it's going to  
7 look like.

8 So now, when you get these people, I  
9 brought people to Joe who have been concerned. If  
10 you have people, organizations, whatever, we can  
11 set up these meetings. But we don't want to go  
12 too far too fast because we don't know exactly  
13 what they're going to look like anyway. But that  
14 is the way.

15 I've taken several groups to him so at  
16 least they can feel a little bit more at ease  
17 about what we're trying to do. First of all, is  
18 safety first, and then, you know, like you said,  
19 the people who are complaining about these things,  
20 they're just concerned about just the way it looks  
21 and nothing else.

22 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I know that, Bob, but  
23 whatever concern people have, you know --

24 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: We have to be  
25 proactive and not reactive. The approach that has



1 to be taken, and I think that's where you're  
2 going, is not waiting for that. We got to do  
3 retail. In other words, we can't do wholesale.  
4 We got to do retail. In other words, we got to do  
5 retail, whether it be Paterson Alliance and  
6 whatever, the Clifton Rotary.

7 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: We've already did  
8 Clifton.

9 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: I'm using as an  
10 example. If it's the UPO or whatever. One of the  
11 community services, the Jewish Community Center,  
12 whatever, that piece of the feasibility was not  
13 done. And it was really supposed to be up to us.  
14 So people don't know what it is and we're letting  
15 the West Paterson -- the people that have the  
16 houses by Great Notch and those places dominate,  
17 dominate the perception of the good we're trying  
18 to do here.

19 But I agree. I don't think we should wait  
20 for people to come to us. I think you should put  
21 something together, Community Outreach, you get  
22 everybody involved and do it.

23 MR. BELLA: I'll do it, Commissioner.

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Two hands. Go ahead.

25 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So just to bring

1           this all around. That, the safety first. I agree  
2           with that one hundred percent. Let's start off  
3           from that standpoint. It's not a question of what  
4           but how. We have to cover these reservoirs.  
5           That's not a question.

6                     The issue is to be able to get this done  
7           in the most efficient and efficiency includes, not  
8           only the process of the design and the building,  
9           but also dealing with the public because we have a  
10          responsibility to them. Okay.

11                    Part of the problem that we have is that  
12          whenever we get into a discussion of safety, we  
13          have to get into things like cryptosporidium,  
14          which people glaze over. They don't understand  
15          it. They say, I've been drinking this water for  
16          so long why is this a problem now when it hasn't  
17          been a problem before. The only information out  
18          there is bad information.

19                    My concern is, is that if we just move  
20          forward with a contract now that includes X number  
21          of dollars for doing the Levine Reservoir, that X  
22          number of dollars being predicated upon the review  
23          that was done before, meaning tanks or whatever,  
24          and then we go out to the public and say this is  
25          what we're looking at, they're going to look at us

1           and say, no, you've already decided so then what  
2           is the purpose. And in reality that would be  
3           true, because we're putting out a contract with a  
4           dollar amount to do Levine based upon something  
5           that we already have. It doesn't really sound  
6           like we're open to maybe a different approach if  
7           one presents itself.

8                     I'm not suggesting that the timing change.  
9           I'm not suggesting that anything change other than  
10          the process. That we start out with, we do what's  
11          called a value engineering. That's what Joe has  
12          been talking about. That's how he termed it to  
13          me. We do the value engineering. We do the tank  
14          in Verona because we have to do the tank in  
15          Verona. We have to do the improvements at the  
16          water treatment plant, that's the electrical  
17          improvements. Those are desperately needed  
18          regardless of what we do. And that's as far as we  
19          take it.

20                    We do the value engineering. We go out to  
21          the public. We sell our idea. If any changes  
22          need to happen in our plan, they'll happen at that  
23          point and then the actual implementation contract  
24          that happens after that is based upon a plan that  
25          has actually been discussed with people, whether

1           they agree with us or not, at least they can't  
2           come to us and say you're doing it without getting  
3           my input.

4           And you know something, they're entitled  
5           to that input. You know, we may say that they  
6           don't care about public safety. This is their  
7           homes. It doesn't get anymore personal than my  
8           home and I get that. This is where their children  
9           live. This is where their children play. That's  
10          the other side of the coin and we have to be  
11          sensitive to that.

12          That's my argument.

13          COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I wanted to do this  
14          before, Paterson has done this and maybe Clifton  
15          has done this. Why can't we now hold like almost  
16          like a town hall meeting that we hold here in the  
17          Passaic Valley Water Commission in the back and we  
18          invite the EPA to come here and answer their  
19          questions? And maybe invite the EPA to answer  
20          their questions and we put it in the paper and put  
21          it to rest. We get some good publicity that we're  
22          actually listening to the people. And all the  
23          people come out and have Joe Bella, the Executive  
24          Director. Let them answer their questions what  
25          it's going to look like and just hear some of

1. their concerns and maybe have the EPA or DEP,  
2. whoever it is, invite them to come to the town  
3. hall meeting. Maybe they'll decline.

4. COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I agree with the  
5. concept. I think you're going about it wrong.

6. Has Haledon asked you to come and do a  
7. presentation for them?

8. MR. BELLA: No.

9. COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Do you remember  
10. that overaggressive councilman who absolutely  
11. demanded answers and Joe said, look, we'll take  
12. all our things up to your community and put on a  
13. program. Nothing.

14. So if you know, and Idida rattled off  
15. several groups and you can get coalitions of  
16. people, we'll send out invitations. But I don't  
17. think you're ever going to convince The Herald  
18. News, you're ever going to convince the Board of  
19. Freeholders, who can give a darn about how much  
20. it's going to cost every rate payer to take care  
21. of this mandate. But as far as going out to the  
22. community, I want to know who they are before I  
23. send these guys out. And if you want to hold it  
24. here, that's fine. But let's put together a  
25. group.

1                   Passaic knows what people want to hear.  
2                   Paterson knows what people want to hear. Put  
3                   together that and then we got something.

4                   COMMISSIONER LEVINE: You don't think it  
5                   should be a public hearing?

6                   COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: It will be public  
7                   hearing. But I want to know who's going to be  
8                   attending; who they're representing. Because  
9                   right now, in my opinion, you got a handful of  
10                  deceptors. You got a handful of deceptors who are  
11                  enabled by the editorial board of the Herald News.  
12                  But it was very telling to me, the last article by  
13                  Richard Cowen, I actually said to myself, he's  
14                  finally got it right. But his editorial board  
15                  just put it right back to where they want to put  
16                  it.

17                  Your idea is right to have a public  
18                  hearing, but I want to know who is going to be  
19                  coming to this public hearing.

20                  COMMISSIONER LEVINE: You wouldn't want an  
21                  announcement in the paper saying the Passaic  
22                  Valley Water Commission is having --

23                  COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: No, no. Because  
24                  if Passaic would like us to come there and talk or  
25                  Paterson, or they want to get the two communities

1           together, fine.

2           The Board of Freeholders could have  
3           invited us down to one of their meetings, but they  
4           haven't. They have taken the potshots through the  
5           newspaper.

6           PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Commissioner  
7           Kolodziej, how was your experience with Clifton?  
8           Tell us about that.

9           COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Well, it was very  
10          interesting because you have the Mayor here and  
11          one of the council people.

12          MR. BELLA: They called me up and said I  
13          would like to come down and talk to you.

14          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Because they had  
15          gotten the Resolution from the Board of  
16          Freeholders to join in, you know, bashing. So  
17          rather than just join that, they called Joe and  
18          said, we want a presentation. We want to know  
19          what's going on before we send a Resolution.

20          Joe, you tell them what they said when  
21          they left here and why Clifton has not put forward  
22          a Resolution.

23          MR. BELLA: Not just them, everyone.  
24          Everyone said, we don't understand why you haven't  
25          had this done 40 years ago. I mean, that's what

1 people are saying. Because they're saying their  
2 water is exposed --

3 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: That's the  
4 administration part. What about the citizens?  
5 The people?

6 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: The citizens of  
7 Clifton trust their elected officials and their  
8 elected officials chose not to join the party; the  
9 party which was basically to bash the Commission.  
10 That's Clifton.

11 But I basically know -- it doesn't matter.  
12 Your idea is good, but we should not be  
13 initiating. Anybody with a question, we will take  
14 that. Or you want to stage it here, give us a  
15 list of people who want to do that. Because what  
16 you're inviting, and take it from a 28 year  
17 politician, what you're inviting there is to give  
18 those dissidents a forum to continue to attack  
19 this Commission. So if that's your objective,  
20 then do it. But I'm saying the more effective way  
21 to deal with it is to tell it to the Board.

22 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: How about setting up a  
23 page?

24 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: If you want to do  
25 that.



1 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Is that something that  
2 you think would hurt? What do you think?

3 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I don't know.  
4 Let them come back and give us some  
5 recommendations.

6 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Do you think if we  
7 make an effort to listen to people and go on this  
8 page and send us any questions you have.

9 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Well, any  
10 questions you might have might be a good thing.  
11 But what I'm trying to avoid is the politicians  
12 who really view us as the enemy here. We're not  
13 the enemy when you want to ensure people's health  
14 and safety. You're not the enemy when you're  
15 complying with the Federal and the State  
16 government, you know. So if there's a positive  
17 way to get input, Commissioner, absolutely, you're  
18 right.

19 MR. BELLA: Can I say something?

20 Right from the beginning, first article, I  
21 got a call from Bob Guarasci from CDC and we went  
22 down and talked to them. Everything was fine.

23 What I explained to them at that time,  
24 it's difficult to do a good presentation because  
25 we don't have the presentation quality, drawings

1 and, you know, conceptual designs. And by the  
2 way, if there's a way we can do without it and  
3 unturn that going forward in the future with the  
4 contract, which we're not asking you to approve  
5 today. We're not asking you that. We're just  
6 asking you to let us continue to do what this  
7 ACO --

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Right.

9 MR. BELLA: That's it.

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Are you  
11 suggesting that we start with part of the Consent  
12 Order and invite people to respond to that? Is  
13 that what you're saying?

14 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: No, no. I'm not  
15 saying --

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: What are you  
17 saying?

18 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: What am I saying? I'm  
19 saying let's find a way to communicate to people  
20 before we do it. If people have a question, give  
21 them a place to direct those questions. So what  
22 I'm saying is putting up a page and taking  
23 questions. That's what I'm saying.

24 MR. BELLA: And another thing is, the  
25 other thing you have to understand is, in the

1 consent letter it says we have to address the  
2 community's concerns, whether it's historic,  
3 whether it's the zoning, the view. That all has  
4 to be addressed before they even let us go forward  
5 with the project.

6 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Can you take a  
7 historical view over to --

8 MR. BELLA: Yes. Yes, we did. We took  
9 the park, the head of the park and everything like  
10 that.

11 And by the way, we took them down. They  
12 went down to the -- they were invited along with  
13 ten other community groups were invited down with  
14 the DEP to sit in our meeting with them when we  
15 were negotiating. And out of this meeting, we  
16 ended up with an extra, you know, basically ten  
17 years to get to the second phase of this. And  
18 almost an unlimited amount of time on the other,  
19 at the far end with the Notch.

20 And so what that does is that spreads our  
21 costs over a much larger period of time and to a  
22 point where it also spreads our costs to a point  
23 where our debt for the plant that we just built  
24 will be diminished and that is key.

25 And when I spoke to the Commissioner of

1 the DEP, that was key in his thing that we were  
2 planning for that.

3 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So are you saying  
4 that this Administration Consent Order as we're  
5 going forward, particularly, on the outside edge  
6 can again be amended?

7 MR. BELLA: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Yes. So,  
9 therefore, as we finally get some hard plans,  
10 right, and then we're sitting down and inviting  
11 whoever or however we're going to get that public  
12 input, which is part of our requirement, it's  
13 feasible that we can change and amend.

14 MR. BELLA: It makes it difficult to do  
15 rate studies. We have all that. It's really  
16 difficult to move forward and to break out the  
17 first phase, break it into tanks and if I were  
18 going to break anything out, I'd put the tanks in  
19 the first phase because that's what's most  
20 protective to the health. And our duty is to  
21 provide public health and public safety. It just  
22 seems --

23 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner Bazian.

24 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Vice-President  
25 Levine --

1 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Now it's this young  
2 man's question.

3 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Menachem, one minute  
4 question.

5 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I just would like to  
6 know whether it is in the plan to hold public  
7 hearings?

8 MR. BELLA: Absolutely.

9 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I understand the  
10 concern --

11 MR. BELLA: Excuse me, I'm sorry, it's not  
12 only in the plans, it's mandatory.

13 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So, again, when we  
14 have public hearings, is this just to present what  
15 we're going to do or are we actually open to  
16 listening to the concerns of the people?

17 MR. BELLA: That's the whole point in the  
18 first phase to capture all of that. And to  
19 capture what the people are actually going to make  
20 it happen.

21 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Are you looking to  
22 have a public meeting sooner than later?

23 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: What I'm trying to  
24 understand is, if we're going to issue a contract  
25 that includes putting tanks in at the Levine

1           Reservoir, if that's in that contract, that kind  
2           of indicates that regardless of what anybody says,  
3           that's the direction we're going. We've issued a  
4           contract for that. I mean, am I not being clear  
5           here?

6                   MR. BELLA: You're not understanding. The  
7           design is not cast in stone. That can be modified  
8           and changed in accordance with the input that  
9           we're going to get, which we know we're going to  
10          get.

11                   But, you know, frankly, you know, we  
12          believe this is the right thing to do. That's our  
13          professional opinion. But the right thing to do  
14          is to get these people on board; the people that  
15          are going to actually end up doing the design.  
16          And then we modify things as we move forward.

17                   COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: How do we get a  
18          price on the work at Levine if we don't even have  
19          a design?

20                   MR. BELLA: We have an estimate. That's  
21          what we have, an estimate.

22                   COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Based upon tanks.

23                   MR. BELLA: Based upon tanks and all the  
24          other stuff.

25                   COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Let's put it this

1 way, are tanks the only option that we're willing  
2 to consider or when we're going to the public, if  
3 there's another idea are we going to be  
4 considering other options?

5 MR. BELLA: Of course we're willing to do  
6 that. But you're going to have to come back and  
7 you're going to have to make the decision, not us.

8 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I get that.

9 MR. BELLA: We're going to say, they said,  
10 okay, you can put in a membrane filter plant or  
11 the generators that go by and a building and all  
12 the appurtenances that have to go on. That's  
13 going to cost you an extra \$10 million, let's say.  
14 We're not going to make that decision. You're  
15 going to make that decision and that's going to be  
16 your decision.

17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I get that.

18 MR. BELLA: And the decision not to have  
19 it, to do it or leave it open, is not going to  
20 come from us, it's going to come from you and  
21 that's your responsibility.

22 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Obviously. And  
23 that's exactly where I'm going with this.

24 My point is to approve a contract that  
25 includes the actual work at the Levine Reservoir

1 based upon the concept of tanks is indicative that  
2 we make a decision we're going to make.

3 MR. BELLA: You have to do that, because  
4 if you don't, how do they price up the contract?  
5 You have to come to them and say, this is what we  
6 think. This is the conception design --

7 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: We just did that  
8 with the BPR. We just did a review of our entire  
9 organization. They came to us and said, okay,  
10 this is a we need to do. Here's how we're going  
11 to accomplish it, A to Z, there's your cost.

12 MR. BELLA: Right.

13 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So what I'm  
14 suggesting is phase 1, okay, the first contract on  
15 phase 1, is in effect going to do that. Do your  
16 value engineering. Do the work at the plant. Do  
17 the work at Verona, because obviously, we have to  
18 do because we need more capacity in Verona.

19 In terms of the Levine, you go as far as  
20 this what we're going to do. This is the design  
21 or at least enough so we can go out and say, okay,  
22 let's put it out to the public. Let's come up  
23 with a completed design so we know what our cost  
24 is and we'll contract for the cost.

25 I don't understand what --



1           MR. BELLA: Because they all interrelate.  
2           If you make your generators bigger, your tanks get  
3           smaller. Your tanks get bigger, your generators  
4           get smaller. The piping changes. All that stuff.  
5           That's why. It's so interrelated.

6           PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Let me say the last  
7           thing, Commissioner. These kind of people --

8           MR. BELLA: That's another thing.

9           PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: One people is the one  
10          because financially they're going to get hurt  
11          because of the rates going up. That's one --

12          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I agree with you  
13          there.

14          PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: That's one, rate  
15          payers are being affected.

16          The second one is the minority affecting  
17          two ways; one, it's going to have it in the  
18          backyard and look at it and also think it's going  
19          to cost them financially. So that's a lot of  
20          people involved. That's my point.

21          MR. BELLA: Well, one of the reasons we  
22          worked so hard and planned so hard to get it --

23          COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I'm Not concerned  
24          about these people, Commissioner.

25          COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I'm not either.

1 I'm worried about the quality of water. All  
2 right.

3 All right. So the suggestion came out  
4 there's some organizations in Paterson that would  
5 benefit by a presentation. One they mentioned was  
6 Great Falls Alliance. Who else? Who else?

7 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: The Paterson  
8 Historic --

9 MR. BELLA: We already contacted them.

10 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Let's recontact  
11 them and ask them if they think it would be  
12 valuable for them to co-sponsor something. So the  
13 Paterson --

14 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: That's the  
15 historical. They've already come out, though.

16 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Against it?

17 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: No, came out to look  
18 at it.

19 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: But what they're  
20 saying is, some Commissioners say we're getting  
21 bashed detrimentally. I don't feel that way. I'm  
22 willing to take their suggestion if there is a  
23 willingness of these people to hold it. They're  
24 probably going to say no.

25 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Joe, the AWWA.

1 The AWWA is the big conference. The thing is and  
2 I always encourage, one day this goes by two days,  
3 because you get a real sense of how you can  
4 accommodate. I can see us with a tank up there  
5 with the brick facing, which is not -- it's just,  
6 you know, as long as aesthetically, because we got  
7 to do this, I mean, whether it's today or 2020.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, LYNANN DRAGONE, License No. XI01388, a  
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date hereinbefore set forth.

I further certify that I am neither attorney  
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parties to the action in which this meeting was taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or  
employee of anyone employed in this case, nor am I  
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