MINUTES OF MEETING
THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY
James Julian Board Room
Tuesday, March 17, 2026

The meeting convened at 10:01 a.m. in the James Julian Board Room, with Chairperson Ransome presiding.

Chairperson Ransome called on the Authority Assistant Secretary to read the meeting notice. The Assistant Secretary announced that a notice of the meeting had been distributed to the offices of the Governor of New Jersey and the Governor of Delaware, to appropriate staff members and consultants, to the press in both States and to any other individuals who had indicated an interest in receiving a copy of the meeting notice.

The opening prayer was given by Vice-Chairperson Lathem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Ransome called on the Assistant Secretary to take the roll. A quorum was not present.

<u>Commissioners from New Jersey</u>
M. Earl Ransome, Jr., Chairperson
Heather Baldini- TEAMS
Debra Behnke
Sheila McCann
James Mehaffey
Shirley R. Wilson

<u>Commissioners from Delaware</u>
Samuel Lathem, Vice-Chairperson
Crystal Carey*
James Collins-Absent
Veronica Faust
Michael Houghton**
Michael Ratchford

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Chairperson Ransome called for a motion to move to Executive Session. Due to lack of quorum, the Personnel Committee elected to proceed with its meeting. Commissioner Faust made a motion to call the Personnel Committee into Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey at 10:04 a.m.

Members of the public and certain staff were excused from the room

*Commissioner Carey arrived at 10:10 a.m.

At the conclusion of the Personnel Committee's Executive Session, Chairperson Ransome called for roll call vote to take place a second time at 10:26 a.m. to register a quorum.

Commissioner Ratchford made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey, and the motion was carried out by a voice vote of 10-0.

Chairperson Ransome called for public comment.

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Chairperson Ransome called for a motion to move to Executive Session. Commissioner Mehaffey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and the motion was carried out by voice vote of 10-0.

Members of the public and certain staff were excused from the room during the Executive Session. The Executive Session started at 10:27 a.m.

At 10:41 a.m. Chairperson Ransome called for a motion to close the Executive Session, and recess to conduct Committee Meetings. Commissioner Ratchford made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey, and the motion was carried by a voice vote of 10-0.

The Committee meetings began at 10:41 a.m. and ended at 11:25 a.m. During that time, the following Committee meetings were held:

Budget & Finance
Economic Development
Personnel
Projects

** Commissioner Houghton arrived at 11:11 a.m.

At the conclusion of the Committee meetings, Chairperson Ransome called the Board meeting back to order at 11:25 a.m.

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12565. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY MINUTES

Commissioner Ratchford made a motion to approve meeting minutes for February 18, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Houghton, and approved by a voice vote of 11-0.

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12566. DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY – TRAFFIC AND REVENUE SUMMARY.

The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) presented charts showing Actual versus Projected Revenues for the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, Airports, Delaware City-Salem Ferry Crossing and Food Service for February 2026. Without objection, the charts were ordered filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

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12567. DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY – STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE.

The CFO presented charts showing statements of income and expenses for February 2026 with comparisons to the same periods last year.

Without objection, the charts were ordered filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

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12568. DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY – OPERATING EXPENSE BY DIVISION.

The CFO presented charts for February 2026 showing expenses by division for the quarter to date vs. the projected quarter and for year to date vs. total budget.

Without objection, the charts were ordered filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

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12569. DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

The CFO presented charts for February 2026 showing the capital budgets for crossings and economic development projects and dollars committed to date for the projects. The charts also included cash expenditures spent to date for the committed projects.

Without objection, the charts were ordered filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

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12570. DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY – CASH POSITION (MARKET VALUE) FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2026.

The CFO presented charts showing the cash fund balances for the entire Authority for February 2026.

Without objection, the charts were ordered filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

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12571. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ACTION ITEMS

Chairperson Ransome noted that two (2) Contract Awards, one (1) Contract Close-Out and nine (9) Resolutions were being considered at today's meeting.

All items requiring committee action have been reviewed and recommended for consideration during today's Committee meetings. He then called for public comments on any action items. There were no public comments.

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12572. AWARD OF CONTRACT # MIV-24-A CONSTRUCT 4-BAY BOX HANGAR AT MILLVILLE AIRPORT

The Chief Operations Officer (COO) noted that a public bid opening was held on February 18, 2026. The COO and Projects Committee recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bidder responsible, Fabbri Builders, Inc. of Vineland, NJ. The bid price is $2,275,555.69

A motion to award Contract #MIV-24-A to the aforementioned firm was made by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Behnke, and approved by a voice vote of 11-0.

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12573. AWARD OF CONTRACT #DMB-25-06 2026-2028 STRUCTURAL RESILIENCY, FIRST AND SECOND STRUCTURES

The Chief Operations Officer (COO) noted that a public bid opening was held on March 4, 2026. The COO and Projects Committee recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bidder responsible, J.D. Eckman, Inc. of Atglen, PA. The bid price is $32,477,825.31. The award included Additive Alternate No. 1.

A motion to award Contract #DMB-26-06 to the aforementioned firm was made by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and approved by a voice vote of 11-0.

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12574. CLOSE-OUT CONTRACT #CMLF-C22-29 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING HVAC IMPROVEMENTS

CONTRACT #CMLF-C22-29 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING HVAC IMPROVEMENTS to Gaudelli Bros. of Millville, NJ.

It is recommended that the Authority accept this project and make the final payment to the contractor. The final cost of this project is $1,772,069.

A motion to close-out Contract #CMLF-C22-29 was made by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and approved by a voice vote of 11-0.

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12575. CHAIRPERSON'S CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD

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RESOLUTION 26-09 - AUTHORIZING AUTHORITY EXPENDITURES PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 24-17 FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2026, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, The Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority") adopted Resolution 24-17 requiring Commissioner review and approval of any professional service contract, non-professional service contract, materiel contract, or supply contract valued at $50,000 or above and any construction management or construction contract valued at $200,000 or above; and

WHEREAS, the Authority anticipates expenditures at or above the aforementioned thresholds to the following vendors:

DELAWARE RIVER & BAY AUTHORITY
VENDORS PROJECTED BE AWARDED
A MATERIEL, SUPPLY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, OR NON-PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT
VALUED $50,000 OR ABOVE
OR
A CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT/CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
VALUED $200,000 OR ABOVE
DURING THE PERIOD 1/1/26 THROUGH 12/31/26

VENDOR	PURCHASE DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION	ESTIMATED $
DVL Group, Inc.	Uninterruptible Power Systems (UPS) Replacement DMB Administration Building	Proprietary	$300,000
Iron Bow Technologies LLC	Data Communications, Products and Services	State Contract	$600,000
Presidio Networked Solutions LLC	Data Communications, Products and Services	State Contract	$100,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Authority authorizes expenditures to the above-listed vendors for the described purposes and authorizes payment.

Resolution 26-09 was moved by Commissioner Houghton, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-09 Executive Summary Sheet

Resolution: Authorizing Authority Expenditures Pursuant to Resolution 24-17 for the period January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

Committee: Budget & Finance

Committee and Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: To receive Commissioner approval of the identified vendors and expenditures for those specific professional service contracts, non-professional service contracts, materiel, and supply contracts valued at $50,000 or above, and for those specific construction management or construction contracts valued at $200,000 or above, that otherwise would require a public competitive process per Resolution 24-17.

Background for Resolution: The proposed Resolution meets the requirements of Resolution 24-17, whereby the Authority shall not enter into any contract committing the Authority to spend or make any other expenditures relating to services, material and supplies in the amount of $50,000 or more, or a construction management or construction contract in the amount of $200,000 or more, unless it has first been approved by a vote of Commissioners.

Purchase Detail:
DVL Group, Inc.: Uninterruptible Power Systems (UPS) Replacement DMB Administration Building

The Authority utilizes the expertise of the DVL Group to provide infrastructure management solutions and services. The DMB Administration Building's Uninterruptible Power Systems (UPS) is essential for feeding the main server room for the Authority, playing a critical role in ensuring uninterrupted operations throughout the Authority. Within this server room there are vital components such as core switches, internet service providers, virtual stacks, and standalone servers, all of which are integral to the daily functioning of the Authority's services. Due to reliability issues of the existing aged system, the UPS will be replaced to ensure stability and safeguard against disruptions.

<u>Iron Bow Technologies LLC: Data Communications, Products and Services</u>
The Authority plans to purchase various Cisco Systems data communications, products, and services at prices pursuant to their current state contract for the same. Purchases are made via Iron Bow Technologies, a local authorized reseller of Cisco Systems under state contract *(GSS20579 Data Communications, Products and Services).*

<u>Presidio Networked Solutions LLC: Data Communications, Products and Services</u>
The Authority plans to purchase various Cisco Systems data communications, products, and services at prices pursuant to their current state contract for the same. Purchases are made via Presidio Networked Solutions, a local authorized reseller of Cisco Systems under state contract *(GSS20579 Data Communications, Products and Services).*

Classification Definitions:

Proprietary. A purchase necessary to support or maintain existing Authority equipment for which a vendor has the right to prohibit an equivalent product from being supplied. Similar products or services may be available, however the Authority must purchase from the original equipment manufacturer or service provider to uphold a contract, warranty, etc. A proprietary specification typically restricts the acceptable product or service to one manufacturer or vendor; although the product or service may be available from more than one distributor. In another typical example of this classification, a purchase of closed-source commercial software would be categorized as proprietary because the software remains the property of its owner/creator and is utilized by end-users (such as the Authority) under predefined conditions.

State Contract. A purchase of equipment, supplies, or non-professional services which, under normal circumstances, would require competitive bidding, however the vendor has agreed to provide the goods or services to the Authority at fees less than or equal to that vendor's respective contract as awarded by the State of Delaware or New Jersey. "*Any contract for the purchase of materiel and supplies and non-professional services….which contract individually exceeds $50,000, or in the combination with other contracts, exceeds $50,000 in any one calendar year shall be pursuant to a contract entered into by the Authority after competitive bidding. This provision shall not apply to purchases by the Authority from suppliers in cases where the Authority is purchasing at prices pursuant to contracts awarded by the States of Delaware or New Jersey for state agencies."* (DRBA Resolution 24-17 Part 2.a.).

RESOLUTION 26-10 - SECOND LEASE AMENDMENT BETWEEN THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND THE STATE OF DE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ON BEHALF OF THE DELAWARE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AT THE NEW CASTLE AIRPORT. (RESCINDING RESOLUTION 25-41)

WHEREAS, the Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority"), is the operator of the New Castle Airport ("Airport"); and

WHEREAS, the Delaware National Guard (the "Guard") currently leases approximately 24 acres of land known as the Army Aviation Support Facility at the New Castle Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Guard's original lease term expires October 4, 2043; and

WHEREAS, the Guard desires to extend the term of the Initial Lease Agreement by an additional twelve (12) years, two (2) months, and twenty-eight (28) days, extending the expiration date to December 31, 2055; and

WHEREAS, Landlord and Tenant desire to extend the term of the Initial Lease, and in consideration of such term extension, Tenant agrees to negotiate, in good faith and in a timely manner, the addition of Tenant to that certain Joint Use Agreement (as defined below); and

WHEREAS, this Resolution corrects a typographical error in the First Amendment dated November 10, 2003, to change the plan number as prepared by VanDemark & Lynch, Inc., Engineering Firm, from 30690-LE to 36835-LE; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to finalize the terms and conditions of the Second Lease Amendment with the State of Delaware Office of Management and Budget on Behalf of the Delaware National Guard, and, with the advice and consent of counsel, to have such Agreement executed by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and the Executive Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution 25-41 is hereby rescinded.

Resolution 26-10 was moved by Commissioner Ratchford, seconded by Commissioner Faust, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-10 - Executive Summary

Resolution: Authorizing the Execution of a Second Lease Amendment Between the Delaware River and Bay Authority and The Delaware National Guard, regarding New Castle Airport.

Committee: Economic Development

Committee Date: March 17, 2026

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: To permit the Executive Director, Chairman and Vice Chairman to execute and deliver a Lease Amendment for space at the New Castle Airport.

Background for Resolution: The Delaware National Guard currently leases space at the New Castle Airport, known as the Army Aviation Support Facility, with a term expiring on October 4, 2043. They entered into a Lease Agreement on October 3, 1988. They wish to extend their Lease Agreement for an additional twelve years, two months, and twenty-eight days, moving the expiration date to December 31, 2055. They are planning a construction project consisting of a micro-grid which requires a 30-year lease term to qualify for funding.

Resolution 25-41 stated that this amendment would take effect upon receipt of an Airport Joint Use Agreement (AJUA). The AJUA process is lengthy, and the Guard wishes to execute the Second Lease Agreement immediately for approval of the $21 million microgrid project while still working towards incorporating the Army Guard into the existing AJUA.

Additionally, this Resolution corrects a typographical error in the First Amendment dated November 10, 2003, to change the plan number prepared by VanDemark & Lynch, Inc., Engineering Firm, from 30690-LE to 36835-LE.

RESOLUTION 26-11– AMENDS THE AIR SERVICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (ASIP) OF THE WILMINGTON AIRPORT (ILG) OPERATED BY THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, The Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority"), is the operator of the Wilmington Airport ILG (the "Airport"); and

WHEREAS, The Authority desires to update its current Air Service Incentive Program (ASIP) dated October 10, 2022, to Air Carrier Incentive Program ("Program") and address FAA policy changes dated December 07, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to continue providing financial and operational incentives permitted under the Program to stimulate commercial air service at the Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Authority will offer Program incentives on a reasonable and not unjustly discriminatory basis to Airlines, taking into consideration all relevant factors; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VII(d) of the Compact, after the Board of Commissioners' approval, the Air Carrier Incentive Program must be filed with the Secretary of State of the States of Delaware and New Jersey and will take effect at that time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of said Program with the Secretary of State of the States of Delaware and New Jersey.

Resolution 26-11 was moved by Commissioner Ratchford, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-11 Executive Summary Sheet

Resolution: Amends the Air Service Incentive Program (ASIP) of the Wilmington Airport, ILG ("the Airport") operated by the Delaware River and Bay Authority.

Committee: Economic Development

Committee Date: March 17, 2026

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: The Authority desires to update its current Air Service Incentive Program (ASIP) dated October 10, 2022, to Air Carrier Incentive Program ("Program") and address FAA policy changes dated December 07, 2023.

Background for Resolution: The Authority has an existing Program established by Resolution 22-34 that provides financial and operational incentives to airlines providing qualifying air service at the Airport. The FAA updated its Air Service Incentive Program policy guidance December 07, 2023. This Resolution amends the Program to reflect changes in the FAA's updated policy.

RESOLUTION 26-12 – AUTHORIZES A LEASE TERMINATION BETWEEN THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND CAPE AIR FOODS, LLC AT CAPE MAY AIRPORT (RESCINDING RESOLUTION 24-62)

WHEREAS, the Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority"), is the operator of Cape May Airport ("Airport"); and

WHEREAS, Cape Air Foods, LLC, dba Flight Deck Diner ("Flight Deck") currently leases approximately 1,425 square feet within the former Cape May Airport Terminal Building ("Building") at Cape May Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Building has been rendered partially or wholly untenantable by casualty occurring on February 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the damage cannot, in the Authority's reasonable estimation, be materially restored within ninety (90) days of such damage; and

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to exercise its option to terminate the lease as of the date of the casualty; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to exercise the Authority's option to terminate the lease by written notice within sixty (60) days of the casualty, and, with the advice and consent of counsel, to have such termination executed by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and the Executive Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution 24-62 is hereby rescinded.

Resolution 26-12 was moved by Commissioner Ratchford, seconded by Commissioner Faust, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-12 - Executive Summary

Resolution: Authorizing the Termination of a Lease Agreement between the Delaware River and Bay Authority and Cape Air Foods, LLC, regarding Cape May Airport.

Committee: Economic Development

Committee Date: March 17, 2026

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: To permit the Executive Director, Chairman and Vice Chairman to execute and deliver a Lease Termination for space at the Cape May Airport.

Background for Resolution: The Cape Air Foods, LLC, dba Flight Deck Diner, currently leases space in the former terminal building at the Cape May Airport, with a term expiring on February 28, 2027. They entered into a Lease Agreement on March 1, 2025.

The former terminal building experienced a casualty on February 3, 2026, which rendered the building partially or wholly untenantable. The damage cannot, in the Authority's reasonable estimation, be materially restored within ninety (90) days of such damage and the Authority wishes to exercise its option to terminate the lease as of the date of the casualty.

RESOLUTION 26-13 – AUTHORIZES A NON-EXCLUSIVE UTILITY EASEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND DELMARVA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY AT THE DELAWARE MEMORIAL BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority"), is the operator of the Delaware Memorial Bridge (the "Bridge") and controls the I-295 approach from the base of the Bridge on the Delaware side of the Delaware River to Baylor Boulevard, including the land that abuts I-295 SB; and

WHEREAS, Delmarva Power & Light Company ("Delmarva") desires an easement to install certain underground and/or above-ground electric and communications facilities on the Property, including a utility pole and underground conduits for power and fiber optics; and

WHEREAS, Delmarva desires a perpetual Non-Exclusive Easement for the continued maintenance of communication facilities and accessories for which they will pay the Authority a one-time fee of One Dollar 00/100 ($1.00); and

WHEREAS, the granting of said easement shall not interfere with or be detrimental to the future use of the property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to finalize the terms and conditions of the Perpetual Non-Exclusive Utility Easement Agreement with Delmarva Power & Light Company and, with the advice and consent of counsel, to have such Easement Agreement executed by the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and the Executive Director.

Resolution 26-13 was moved by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26- 13- Executive Summary

Resolution: Authorizing the Execution of a Non-Exclusive Utility Easement Agreement between the Delaware River and Bay Authority along the I-295 approach to the Bridge on the Delaware side of the Delaware River.

Committee: Economic Development Committee

Committee Date: March 17, 2026

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose and Background for Resolution: Delmarva Power & Light Company plans to install certain underground and above-ground electric and communication facilities on the property, including a utility pole and underground conduits for power and fiber optics. The Authority grants Delmarva a perpetual non-Exclusive Easement Agreement on DRBA property located along the approach to the Delaware Memorial Bridge on the Delaware side of the Bridge. This will allow for the installation and maintenance of communication facilities.

RESOLUTION 26-14 – AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND ECS FEDERAL, LLC TO PROVIDE ON-SITE OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE SERVICES DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW VEHICLE/PASSENGER FERRY

WHEREAS, The Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority") is a bi-state Authority of the State of Delaware and the State of New Jersey, created by compact, that operates and maintains the Cape May-Lewes Ferry ("CMLF"); and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2025, the Board of Commissioners authorized the award of CONTRACT NO. CMLF-25-AR CONSTRUCTION AND OUTFITTING OF A NEW 75-CAR PASSENGER/VEHICLE FERRY to Senesco Marine of North Kingstown, Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, during the construction of the new vehicle/passenger ferry, the Authority will require the assistance of an expert(s) to serve as the DRBA's on-site owner's representative to ensure the successful completion of the vessel; and

WHEREAS, the Authority publicly advertised a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for On-Site Owner's Representative Services in compliance with Resolution 24-17, as amended, which governs the Authority's procurement rules and approval thresholds; and

WHEREAS, the Authority received five (5) responses to the RFP, performed a preliminary evaluation of each proposal, and ranked each response in accordance with the advertised selection criteria; and

WHEREAS, following preliminary review and evaluation, the Authority created a short list of those firms with the highest ranking and held interviews with those firms; and

WHEREAS, ECS FEDERAL, LLC, was awarded the highest ranking following interviews and final evaluation to complete the services for compensation not-to-exceed <u>One Million Seven Hundred Fifteen Thousand Forty-Eight Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents ($1,715,048.99)</u>, which the Authority has determined to be fair and reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Projects Committee reviewed this recommendation and concurs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to finalize the terms and conditions of a Service Agreement with ECS FEDERAL, LLC to provide the On-Site Owner's Representative Services During the Construction of a New Vehicle/Passenger Ferry, and, with the advice and consent of Counsel, to have such Service Agreement executed by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Director.

Resolution 26-14 was moved by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-14 Executive Summary Sheet

Resolution: Authorizes an Agreement Between The Delaware River and Bay Authority and ECS Federal, LLC to Provide On-Site Owner's Representative Services During the Construction of a New Vehicle/Passenger Ferry

Committee: Projects Committee

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: To authorize the Authority to hire ECS FEDERAL, LLC to provide On-Site Owner's Representative Services during the construction of a new vehicle/passenger ferry.

Background for Resolution: Throughout the construction of the new vessel, the Authority will require the assistance of expert(s) to serve as the Authority's on-site owner's representative.

The following firms submitted proposals:

Crowley Engineering Services
ECS Federal*
Glosten Associates*
Marine Design and Operations
Martin & Ottaway*

**Shortlisted/Interviewed*

The Authority performed an evaluation of each submission and utilized the advertised evaluation criteria to establish a ranked list, with ECS FEDERAL, LLC receiving the highest ranking.

The procedures leading to this Resolution followed the requirements of Resolution 24-17, which governs the Authority's solicitation and approval thresholds for all purchases.

RESOLUTION 26-15 – AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO SERVICE AGREEMENT CS-25-02 BETWEEN THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND GILBERT ASSOCIATES, LLC TO PROVIDE NAVAL ARCHITECT AND MARINE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE M/V NEW JERSEY AND M/V CAPE HENLOPEN EQUIPMENT REFIT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, The Delaware River and Bay Authority (the "Authority") is a bi-state Authority of the State of Delaware and the State of New Jersey, created by compact, that operates and maintains the Cape May-Lewes Ferry ("CMLF"); and

WHEREAS, two of the three CMLF vessels, M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen, are required by the American Bureau of Shipping ("ABS") and Unites States Coast Guard ("USCG") to undergo mandatory drydocking and inspections in the autumn of 2026 and spring of 2027, respectively; and

WHEREAS, during the time the vessels will be out of service for ABS/USCG inspection, the Authority intends for a contractor to replace various outdated equipment aboard each vessel (the "Projects"); and

WHEREAS, in order to design and bid and each individual Project, the Authority requires the assistance of a professional Naval Architect/Marine Engineering firm to review the existing equipment, recommend equipment replacements, develop technical specifications and design prior to competitive bidding of the project, and manage the ABS/USCG submittal and approval process during project construction (the "Services"); and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Resolution 24-17, which governs the Authority's procedures for procuring professional services, the Authority previously publicly advertised a qualifications-based Request for Proposals ("RFP") for similar services needed for the M/V Delaware equipment refit, and as a result of said RFP, the Projects Committee awarded Service Agreement CS-25-02 to Gilbert Associates, LLC ("Gilbert Associates") via Resolution 25-34; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the services received on the M/V Delaware and the need for uniformity and continuity in the services across the vessel fleet, the Authority wishes to amend the Service Agreement CS-25-02 to include the professional Naval Architect/Marine Engineering services necessary for the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen equipment refit projects; and

WHEREAS, Gilbert Associates has provided to the Authority a time-and-material proposal, at the same hourly rates as originally agreed upon for the M/V Delaware equipment replacement project, to deliver Naval Architect and Marine Engineering Services for the remaining Projects in amounts not-to-exceed One Hundred Sixteen Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents ($116,178.50) for the M/V Cape Henlopen project and Two Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Five Dollars and Sixty-Seven Cents ($242,005.67) for M/V New Jersey project; and

WHEREAS, following review of the proposal, the Authority has determined that the proposed rates and hours are fair and reasonable, and staff recommends the Authority accept the Proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Projects Committee reviewed this recommendation and concurs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to finalize the terms and conditions of an amendment to Service Agreement CS-25-02 with Gilbert Associates to provide the Naval Architect and Marine Engineering Services needed for the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen equipment refit projects, and to have such amendment executed by the Chief Operations Officer of the Authority.

Resolution 26-15 was moved by Commissioner Mehaffey, seconded by Commissioner Ratchford, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

Resolution 26-15 Executive Summary Sheet

Resolution: Authorizes an amendment to an existing Agreement between the DRBA and Gilbert Associates for professional Naval Architect and Marine Engineering Services needed to design, bid and construct a project to replace various outdated equipment systems on board the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen while in ABS/USCG-required inspections in dry dock.

Committee: Projects Committee

Board Date: March 17, 2026

Purpose of Resolution: To authorize the Authority to hire Gilbert Associates to provide the professional Naval Architect and Marine Engineering services necessary to design, bid and construct a project to replace various outdated equipment aboard the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen.

Background for Resolution: Cape May-Lewes Ferry staff has identified a need to hire a professional naval architect/marine engineering consultant to design and plan projects to replace various outdated equipment aboard the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen. The Authority has previously managed and awarded a competitive, qualification-based contract to Gilbert Associates for similar services for the M/V Delaware.

In consideration of the prior services received by the Authority on the M/V Delaware project and the need for uniformity and continuity in the services across the three-vessel fleet, the Authority wishes to amend the Agreement to include the professional Naval Architect/Marine Engineering services necessary for the M/V New Jersey and M/V Cape Henlopen equipment refit projects. Gilbert Associates has submitted a time-and-material proposal based on the hourly rates as previously negotiated for the M/V Delaware equipment refit project.

The procedures leading to this Resolution followed the requirements of Resolution 24-17, which governs the Authority's solicitation and approval thresholds for all purchases.

RESOLUTION 26-16: A TRIBUTE TO GIUSEPPE M. BELLANCA, AEROSPACE DESIGNER AND INVENTOR WHO ESTABLISHED BELLANCA AIRCRAFT CORPORATION IN NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE.

The Executive Director presented the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Giuseppe Mario Bellanca was born on March 19, 1886 in Sciacca, Sicily, graduating from the Technical Institute in Milan with a teaching degree in mathematics in 1908; and

WHEREAS, during his educational pursuits, Mr. Bellanca became enamored with aviation, evolving into a lifelong passion; and

WHEREAS, at the urging of his brother Carlo, who was already established in Brooklyn, New York, Giuseppe Bellanca immigrated to America in 1911; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bellanca applied his principles of lift, propulsion and control to construct the first cabin monoplane in America in 1922, a remarkable airplane that amassed 13 competitive victories in a single year; and

WHEREAS, the DuPont family actively recruited Mr. Bellanca to establish Bellanca Aircraft Corporation in New Castle in 1927; and

WHEREAS, the Bellanca Aircraft Corporation produced more than 3,000 civilian and military planes at its Delaware facility during its 26 years of operation; and

WHEREAS, visionary, innovator designer and builder of American aircraft, Giuseppe Bellanca designed the “Miss Veedol,” the first plane to complete a trans-Pacific nonstop flight in 1931; and

WHEREAS, a Bellanca airplane also broke the world's endurance record in 1931 by flying 84 and a half hours without refueling, a record that remained intact until 1986; and

WHEREAS, Giuseppe M. Bellanca, the father of Delaware Aviation, is enshrined in both the National Aviation Hall of Fame (1993) and the Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame (1999).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby recognize and celebrate the trailblazing life of Giuseppe M. Bellanca, his many aviation achievements and invaluable contributions to Delaware’s aviation history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority commemorates the one hundred forty year anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Mario Bellanca as well as his storied, impressive impact on the Delaware aviation community, which includes Wilmington Airport (ILG) and does hereby record our collective gratitude to August Bellanca, grandson of Giuseppe Bellanca and Bellanca Airfield Museum Board Member, with the presentation of this Resolution, adopted today, March 17, 2026.

Resolution 26-16 was moved by Commissioner Ratchforod, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

RESOLUTION 26-17: A TRIBUTE TO FORMER COMMISSIONER AND EXCECUTIVE DIRECTOR SCOTT A. GREEN AND DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO HIS FAMILY.

The Executive Director presented the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Scott A. Green, a proud son of Wilmington and a distinguished graduate of the University of Delaware and American University's Washington College of Law, dedicated his professional life to the betterment of the State of Delaware and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Green served with visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) both as a Commissioner from 2009 – 2012 and then as the Executive Director from 2012 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, as DRBA Executive Director, Mr. Green utilized his skills of creative problem-solving and relationship-building to successfully manage the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May – Lewes Ferry, and the Authority's five regional airports in New Jersey and Delaware; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Green revitalized the Authority by instilling a culture of fiscal responsibility, workplace safety, and a tireless emphasis on customer service, famously noting that the DRBA held a "special obligation" to be self-sustainable and member-focused; and

WHEREAS, his professional legacy extends far beyond the Authority, including his essential role in bringing minor league baseball to Delaware with the construction of the Wilmington Blue Rocks' Daniel S. Frawley Stadium, his service as Chairman of the Board for Delaware Technical Community College, and his tenure on the University of Delaware Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his lifetime of service, Governor Jack Markell recognized Mr. Green with the Order of the First State in 2017, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Governor of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Green was a man of immense humor, intellect, and heart, whose ability to navigate challenging business dealings with a joke and a smile made him a beloved mentor and a formidable leader; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Green will be remembered not only for his sharp legal mind and strategic brilliance but for his unwavering devotion to the community, his family, and beloved golden retrievers and an uncanny ability to put people at ease with genuine kindness.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby recognize and appreciate Mr. Green's outstanding, invaluable contributions to this bi-state agency and the citizens of Delaware and New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority family extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to his loving wife of 46 years, Barbara H. Green, and the entire Green family, and does hereby record our collective gratitude for the privilege of working under his leadership and knowing his friendship, by the presentation of this Resolution, adopted today, March 17, 2026.

Resolution 26-17 was moved by Commissioner Ratchford, seconded by Commissioner Mehaffey, and was approved by a roll call vote of 11-0.

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12576. <u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS</u>

Executive Director Coppadge commented on some past events:

He noted that the Lewes Chamber of Commerce was a great opportunity to showcase DRBA and its services to the business leaders, legislators and community members. Mr. Coppadge proudly indicated that the Director of Ferry Operations, Mr. Heath Gehrke, is the Chamber of Commerce Vice President. He added that he will continue to seek more opportunities to showcase the DRBA, explore potential economic development partnerships and educate our stakeholders about what the DRBA does and how it operates.

Executive Director Coppadge and Chief Operations Officer Meconi met with Congresswoman Sarah McBride to raise awareness of the DRBA's vast infrastructure responsibilities, to communicate our needs, and to seek her assistance on projects benefiting the region. Mr. Coppadge indicated that the Congresswoman is an aviation afficionado who understands the potential of Wilmington Airport. He indicated that future plans include meeting with all Delaware and New Jersey Congressional members, as well as local State legislators to ensure that the DRBA is a known commodity and positioned for growth over the next 5-10 years.

The Executive Director reminded the Board of the following upcoming events:

- On Thursday, March 19, Giuseppe M. Bellanca 140th Anniversary commemorative ceremony to take place at 4:00 p.m. inside the new departure lounge of the Wilmington Airport terminal building.
- Mr. Coppadge noted that he plans to host employee townhalls during the second quarter, hopefully in April 2026.
- Mr. Coppadge indicated that the Delaware Horticultural Society has secured 60 trees to be planted at Veterans Memorial Park. The trees were obtained through a federal grant and will replace ones lost to disease and the weather. The tree planting effort is expected to take place on March 31 and

April 1, 2026

- Mr. Coppadge also mentioned that next round of his Leadership Roundtable sessions will take place on April 1 and that the monthly Executive Strategy and Alignment meetings will start next month.
- Mr. Coppadge asked the Director of Communications and Marketing to provide some details on the upcoming Ship Collision Protection System Ribbon Cutting celebration event. Mr. Salmon noted that the event will take place on a ferry vessel, which will depart the Port of Wilmington. He noted that he is coordinating with Senator Coons' scheduling person to help facilitate a mutually beneficial date, either at the end of April or beginning of May. Mr. Salmon added that the decorating, stage, chairs, tables, sound system and podium will be loaded onto the vessel in Cape May prior to heading north and that the first meeting was held with Enstructure management to explore details and logistics of the event. Mr. Salmon noted that more information will be forthcoming as soon as a date is finalized.
- Lastly, Mr. Coppadge highlighted the Thomas R. Carper Terminal Dedication event will be held when the terminal work is completed – including concession operations and new bathroom facilities. The Executive Director indicated that he is targeting October 2026 for such an event.

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12577. <u>COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC FORUM</u>

Chairperson Ransome inquired about the TSA status at Wilmington Airport (ILG). Director of Airport Operations Ben Clendaniel indicated no issue so far and he maintains open communication with PHL, where TSA is staffed. ILG provides weekly lunch on Fridays to TSA employees stationed at ILG during the shutdown.

Executive Director Coppadge mentioned he received a call from Senator Siegfried about increased police presence at the Ferry. Mr. Coppadge noted that no current threats exist, but the heightened level of security is intended for safety purposes.

With no further comments, a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 12:04 p.m. was made by Commissioner Ratchford, seconded by Commissioner Faust, and approved by a voice vote of 11-0.

Respectfully submitted,

THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY

James Salmon
Assistant Secretary