

Special MetroCOG Board Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2025 at 1:00 PM
Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments
1000 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Name	Representing
Joseph Ganim, Mayor, (Proxy, Ken Flatto)	Bridgeport
David Bindelglass, First Selectman, Remote	Easton
William Gerber, First Selectman, Remote	Fairfield
Terry Rooney, First Selectman, Remote	Monroe
Laura Hoydick, Mayor, Remote	Stratford
Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman	Trumbull
Patrick Carleton, Deputy Director	MetroCOG
Matthew Fulda, Executive Director	MetroCOG
Colleen Kelleher, Finance Director	MetroCOG

Minutes

I. Call to Order:

Chairwoman Tesoro called the meeting to order at 1:06PM. A roll call was performed, and it was determined that there was a quorum of the MetroCOG Board of Directors.

II. Public Participation:

Chairwoman Tesoro asked if any members of the public were present and wished to participate. No members of the public asked to participate.

III. Other Business

a. Office Lease Renewal

Mr. Fulda explained that the office lease would need to be renewed in March 2026. MetroCOG was approached by building management and our real estate broker regarding the opportunity to expand into adjacent space that was previously held by the Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging. MetroCOG has been considering adding space to provide more room for anticipated new staff and operations. Mr. Fulda will continue conversations with building management and real estate broker and will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

A motion was made to enter Executive Session. The motion was made by Board Member Flatto and seconded by Board Member Bindelglass. The motion was then amended by Board Member Flatto to include the names of those to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Bindelglass. M. Fulda read the names of those attendees that would be convened in the Executive Session, which included Board Members Bindelglass, Flatto, Gerber (upon arrival), Hoydick, Tesoro, and Rooney and MetroCOG staff, M. Fulda and P. Carleton. The motion to enter Executive Session carried unanimously. Executive Session began at 1:15PM.

IV. Executive Session Contract Negotiations

First Selectman Gerber joined the meeting during Executive Session. First Selectman Rooney left the meeting during Executive Session.

Executive Session ended at 1:35PM.

V. Action Items

a. Legal

A resolution for MetroCOG to enter into contractual legal services to intervene on PURA Docket No. 25-04-03.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mayor Hoydick and seconded by First Selectman Gerber.

A motion was made to amend the resolution and the third whereas clause from "WHEREAS, MetroCOG and its member municipalities require professional legal services to..." to "WHEREAS, MetroCOG and its member municipalities require professional legal services to intervene on PURA Docket No. 24-05-03 in an amount not to exceed \$35,000." The second amendment will be made to amend the resolution to read "NOW, THEREFORE

IT BE RESOLVED BY CONNECTICUT METROPOLITAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS authorizes the Agency's Executive Director, Matthew Fulda, or his designee, to act on behalf of the Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments in negotiating and executing all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments as may be necessary for the contracting of Legal Services with Barclay Damon to intervene on PURA Docket No. 24-05-03."

A motion to approve the two amendments was made by First Selectman Gerber and seconded by Mr. Flatto. Discussion ensued. Mayor Hoydick suggested that the legal services would be more than the consultant services. Rather than split evenly the pot of funding, it should be managed appropriately. First Selectman Bindelglass agrees with Mayor Hoydick. There should be a pot of \$70,000 to be spent as needed on the intervention of PURA Docket No. 24-05-03.

Mayor Hoydick suggested having the legal firm hire the consultant and have all the funds come out of the same fund.

Mr. Flatto recommended having the third WHEREAS clause on the resolution include both legal and consultant services. The third WHEREAS clause will be amended to read that "WHEREAS, MetroCOG and its member municipalities require professional legal and consulting services to intervene on PURA Docket No. 24-05-03 in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 in its totality".

A motion to accept the amendment to the amendment was made by Mr. Flatto and seconded by First Selectman Gerber. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Flatto discussed the concerns of the possible sale of Aquarion and the impact on rate payers, cities and towns and the importance of intervening.

Mayor Hoydick clarified rate payers and taxpayers.

Motion on the floor is amended by the two amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Consulting Services

A motion to approve the resolution was made by First Selectman Gerber and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass.

First Selectman Bindelglass inquired if we need the resolution, as we just amended the previous resolution. There was a brief discussion regarding the working of the resolution.

Mayor Hoydick requested to amend the first resolution to be all encompassing.

First Selectman Bindelglass concurred.

A motion to withdraw the motion was made by First Selectman Gerber and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass.

A motion to withdraw item b. from the agenda was made by First Selectman Bindelglass and seconded by Mr. Flatto. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to reconsider item a. (Legal) was made by Mayor Hoydick and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mayor Hoydick to amend the resolution of MetroCOG authorizing the execution of an agreement for Legal and Consulting Services to read " WHEREAS, MetroCOG has received a Scope of Services and Quote from Barclay Damon for Legal Services and LMC LLC for Consulting Services."

The eighth WHEREAS clause should be amend to include "WHEREAS, MetroCOG's Executive Director has issued a bid waiver for Legal and Consulting Services based on the

reasoning in the Bid Waiver statement dated May __, 2025.

The “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED” clause will include Legal Services with Barclay Damon and Consulting services with LMC LLC on PURA Docket No. 24-05-03.

The motion was seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass.

First Selectman Bindelglass suggested increasing expenditures should only be done with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Fulda noted that the bylaws would need to be amended.

Mayor Hoydick recommended that if a board member was not available, they should send a proxy so all six municipalities were present.

There was a discussion regarding LMC LLC being either a direct consultant or a subconsultant.

The motion to approve the amendment carried unanimously.

The motion to approve the reconsidered resolution as amended carried unanimously.

VI. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hoydick and seconded by First Selectman Gerber.

David Bindelglass, MetroCOG Secretary