
Authorities Budget Office Policy Guidance



Authority Mission Statement and Performance Measurements

Name of Public Authority: Buffalo Water Board

Public Authority's Mission Statement:

The Buffalo Water Board is a public benefit corporation of the State of New York and is dedicated to providing water service to its customers, in fulfillment of its obligations and the exercise of its authorities established by the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority Act of the State of New York and other applicable law. The Buffalo Water Board seeks to protect the health and well being of the personnel who operate and maintain the Buffalo Water System and the people it serves, with an efficient water utility that preserves and protects water infrastructure and the environment for future generations.

Date Adopted: July 8, 2015

List of Performance Goals (If additional space is needed, please attach):

- **Performance Goal:** Establish and collect equitable water rates, charges and revenues that will satisfy the revenue requirements of the Buffalo Water System.
- **Measurement:** Did the Board manage its rate structure and collect sufficient revenues to operate the Buffalo Water System?
- **Performance Goal:** Establish realistic budgets and capital improvement plans that are current and predictive of future needs of the Buffalo Water System.
- **Measurement Goal:** Did the Board prepare realistic budgets to pay for operations, maintenance and capital projects necessary and appropriate for the provision of services and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System?
- **Performance Goal:** Establish best management practices, in line with industry standards for other public water utilities comparable in size and age to the Buffalo Water System.
- **Measurement Goal:** How do policies and procedures for management, operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water Board compare to other public water facilities and systems of comparable size and age?

Additional questions:

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority? Yes

2. Who has the power to appoint the management of the public authority?

The Members of the Buffalo Water Board are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Buffalo, and confirmed by the City of Buffalo Common Council. Pursuant to the Financing Agreement by and between the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority and the Buffalo Water Board dated as of September 24, 1992, as amended, the Buffalo Water Board uses the services of the employees and officers of the City of Buffalo, including but not limited to, the Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets and the City Engineer to operate and maintain the Buffalo Water System. In addition, the Buffalo Water Board has engaged Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC since July 1, 2010 as its professional manager to manage the operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System.

3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority?

Yes, the policies are stated in the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority Act of the State of New York, the New York State Public Authorities Law, and other related laws of the State of New York and the Financing Agreement by and between the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority and the Buffalo Water Board dated as of September 24, 1992, as amended.

4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission.

The Buffalo Water Board meets regularly, in public sessions, in compliance with the New York Open Meetings Law and related laws. It regularly receives and reviews reports from the Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets, the City Engineer, its independent Consulting Engineers, Legal Counsel and Auditors, and Rate Consultant regarding the operation and maintenance of the Buffalo Water System to oversee the management of the Buffalo Water System. It also works cooperatively with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and various departments and agencies of State of New York, County of Erie, City of Buffalo, including but not limited to, City of Buffalo Commissioner of Public Works, Parks and Streets, City of Buffalo Comptroller, City of Buffalo Corporation Counsel and other City of Buffalo officers and employees and Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC to implement policies and procedures to achieve the mission of the Buffalo Water Board.

5. Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions? Yes