



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

(340) 774-3552 • communications@viwapa.vi / www.viwapa.vi

WAPA Governing Board Approves FY2025 Budget

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – October 26, 2024 – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or the “Authority”) is pleased to announce the Governing Board’s approval of the FY2025 budget at Thursday’s meeting, alongside several key action items that further reinforce WAPA’s focus on operational stability and strategic growth.

The FY2025 budget approval marks a significant step in aligning WAPA’s resources with its strategic goals, supporting crucial initiatives in energy, water, and infrastructure development. This budget was initially discussed with the Finance Committee in July, with extensions granted to accommodate review under WAPA’s new Executive Director. Having this approved budget enables WAPA to move forward confidently in executing initiatives critical to the community.

In addition to the budget, the Board approved all remaining action items, reflecting a shared dedication to WAPA’s continuous improvement and service reliability:

- **Time Extension for Kami Metals LLC, Contract SC-18-24** – Extending the contract to support continued partnership on essential service needs.
- **Employee Handbook Update** – Approving updates that ensure WAPA’s policies reflect current standards and support a fair and productive work environment.

The Board’s **Finance and Audit Committee** also approved several items to reinforce WAPA’s operational priorities:

- **Amendment to Arcadis Contract Terms (SC-11-22)** – Enhancing terms in the Master Service Agreement for air consulting and engineering services to ensure compliance and environmental stewardship.
- **2025 Employee Benefits Renewal** – Renewing employee benefits to provide comprehensive, competitive offerings to WAPA’s workforce.
- **Alternative USLD Fuel Supply for Richmond Power Plant** – Ensuring a reliable and cost-effective fuel supply for Richmond Power Plant operations.
- **Trident Industries, Contract SC-12-23** – Finalizing a contract to secure specialized services essential to WAPA’s mission.

“Each action item approved at the board meeting underscores the Authority’s dedication to advancing initiatives that benefit our community, support our employees, and contribute to the reliable and efficient delivery of utility services,” said Karl Knight, CEO and Executive Director of the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority.

Additionally, the Board held discussions on personnel and legal matters; however, no formal action was taken. During the CEO’s executive report, the CEO provided updates on ongoing efforts and highlighted recent progress made in addressing key operational needs.

For more information on WAPA’s recent initiatives and the impact of the FY2025 budget and approved action items, please visit www.viwapa.vi.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication’s department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

###

About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.