

MINUTES OF THE EASTON AREA JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

September 21, 2020

- ❖ The regular monthly meeting of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority was held at 6:00 pm via Zoom video conference on Monday, September 21, 2020.
- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Robert Lammi, who ordered the roll to be called at 6:01 p.m. Members in attendance via Zoom video conference.

#	Member	Municipality	Term Expires	Present	Absent	Time entered
1	Robert Blanchfield	Palmer Township	12/31/2020	X		*
2	Tim Weis	Forks Township	12/31/2019	X		*
3	John Van Arman	City of Easton	12/31/2024	X		*
4	Dave Hopkins Vice-Chairman	City of Easton	12/31/2022	X		*
5	Paul James	West Easton Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
6	Robert Lammi Chairman	Palmer Township	12/31/2024	X		*
7	Joseph Mauro	City of Easton	12/31/2020	X		*
8	James McGowan Treasurer	Wilson Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
9	Charles Peterson	City of Easton	12/31/2023	X		6:07
10	Steven Riegel	Tatamy Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
11	Robert Werner	City of Easton	12/31/2020	X		*

* Beginning of meeting

** adjournment of meeting

❖ **The following personnel were in attendance via Zoom:**

Mr. Michael Gaul (Solicitor), Mr. Jeff Morgan, (SC Engineers), Mr. John Schimmel, (Accountant) and Mr. Chuck Wilson, (Operations Manager of WWTP).

A motion by Mr. Weis, seconded by Mr. Riegel to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2020 reorganization meeting, was passed by a voice vote (10-0). Mr. Peterson was not in attendance at the time of the vote. **Motion Carried**

A motion by Mr. Blanchfield seconded by Mr. James to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2020 regular meeting with the corrections to be

submitted by Mr. Gaul, was passed by a voice vote (10-0). Mr. Peterson was not in attendance at the time of the vote. **Motion Carried**

❖ **Courtesy of the floor:** None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gaul reported that he had nothing to report during the regular meeting and will be giving his report during the Authority's Executive Session.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Mr. Schimmel reported that he submitted all the reports for the Bond Audit, including the rebate calculation. Mr. Schimmel reported that he sent out rebate checks to the member municipalities and bills to the ones that still owe money.

Mr. Schimmel reported that he will be getting the budget committee together to review the 2021 budget.

A motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Riegel for approval of the September 2020 bills, all in favor by voice vote, (11-0).

Motion Carried 2020-09-21 A

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Morgan had the following item for board approval;

❖ **ITEM 09-01-2020 Approval of Proposal for Additional Second Street Pump Station Force Main Support/Protection Work**

Mr. Morgan reported that there is a memo and proposal in the packet about the repair work for the force main underwater work. After the hurricane on August 4, 2020 some erosion occurred, and debris was lodged under the pipe. Mr. Morgan stated that UGI is proposing placing support bags around the pipe then blowing sediment around the pipe to support the exposed section of pipe.

A motion by Mr. James, seconded by Mr. Mauro for approval of the proposal submitted by UGI in the estimated amount of \$51,000.00 to excavate, remove all debris, install concrete bags to support and protect a portion of the force main, all in favor by voice vote, (11-0).

Motion Carried 2020-09-21 B

OPERATIONS REPORT

Mr. Wilson reported that the August 4, 2020 storm was the biggest issue this month. The CSO estimate is biased high due to the 36-inch line being filled completely and continuing to read as completely full.

Mr. Wilson stated that blending occurred during the storm event to prevent washing out the plant.

Mr. Wilson reported that the Primary sludge pumps were clogged due to the aftereffects of the storm. The plant had lost most of the nitrifying bacteria, with the addition of purchased bugs that plant is almost back to normal. No violations occurred during this time.

PRETREATMENT REPORT

Ms. Hoffman was not in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. Wilson reported that there were pH violations for Two Rivers, R&R, and Weyerbacher. Mr. Wilson stated that the Weyerbacher's inspection went very well this year and the facility was very clean.

Mr. Lammi stated that EAJSA IPP won the EPWPCOA Award for 2020.

- ❖ **New Business**: None
- ❖ **Unfinished Business**: None
- ❖ **Old Business**: None

Chairman, Robert Lammi closed the regular meeting of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority at 6:33 pm.

❖ **Executive Session**:

At this point in the meeting the Board Members, Solicitor Gaul and Jeff Morgan moved into Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Also, at this point member Robert Werner left the meeting.

After the Executive Session Dave Hopkins motioned and Steve Riegel second to return to the open meeting. Based on the Executive Session discussion the following motions were made:

Motion by Paul James and seconded by Tim Weis to authorize the Authority Solicitor to institute a legal action against Kressler, Wolff & Miller in the event that Kressler, Wolff & Miller fails, by September 30, 2020, to commit to pay the Authority's expenses, totaling \$14,217.81, related to the Barbara Kipp worker's compensation injury. (10-0). **Motion Carried 2020-09-21 C**

Motion by Bob Blanchfield and seconded by Chuck Peterson to approve the Solicitor's draft response to the Williams Township Solicitor's inquiry as to whether the Authority recognizes transfers of sewage capacity between private individuals. (10-0). **Motion Carried 2020-09-21 D**

Motion by Joe Mauro, Jr. and seconded by Paul James to approved the establishment of an informal working group (to be known as the "Document Review Committee") to review, and consider updates to, Authority organizational documents, consisting of Dave Hopkins (as Chair), Joe Mauro, Jr., and Tim Weis. (10-0). **Motion Carried 2020-09-21 E**

Motion by Joe Mauro, Jr. and seconded by Chuck Peterson to authorize the Solicitor to file a collection action against Weyerbacher for unpaid surcharges and fines arising subsequent to confirmation of Weyerbacher's Chapter 11 Plan. (10-0). **Motion Carried 2020-09-21 F**

At this point member Jim McGowen left the meeting.

Jeff Morgan raised the topic of financing for the WWTP FOG Receiving/Pre-Treatment Facility and Combined Heat and Power System Project and other Capital Projects. The estimated cost of the FOG/CHP project is \$6,000,000 and since the Authority will be receiving \$1,737,000 from a PA DCED ACE grant this will leave \$4,300,000 to finance. The cost to do the projects in the 5-year Capital Plan is estimated to be \$6,100,000 thus totaling \$10,200,000 in funding. Ryan Hottenstein, the Authorities Financing Consultant presented several options of bond financing to the members. Further discussion will take place at the October 19, 2020 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Lambert- Laboratory Manager
Alexandria Hoffman-EAJSA Corresponding Secretary/IPP Manager