

**MINUTES OF THE  
EASTON AREA JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD  
August 18, 2025 Meeting**

- ❖ The regular monthly meeting of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority Board was held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18, 2025, at the EAJSA Administration Building, 50 South Delaware Drive, Easton, Pennsylvania 18042, with Zoom Meeting option. The meeting was open to the public.
- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mr. Robert Lammi. Mr. Lammi ordered the roll to be called at 5:00 p.m. Board Members were present in-person and via video conference option. Board members present at the call to order were as follows:

#	Member	Municipality	Term Expires	Present	Absent	Time Entered
1	Robert Blanchfield Treasurer	Palmer Township	12/31/2025	X		*
2	Jeffrey Bracken	Wilson Borough	12/31/2029	X		*
3	Luis Campos	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		5:02
4	Patrick Caubel	City of Easton	12/31/2028	X		5:02
4	James Frank	Forks Township	12/31/2029		X	*
5	David Hopkins Vice-Chairman	City of Easton	12/31/2028	X		*
6	Paul James	West Easton Borough	12/31/2029	X		*
7	Robert Lammi Chairman	Palmer Township	12/31/2029	X		*
8	Joseph Mauro Jr	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		*
9	Stephen Riegel Secretary	Tatamy Borough	12/31/2029	X		*
11	Robert Werner	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		*
12	VACANT	City of Easton	12/31/2029			

\*Beginning of Meeting

\*\*Adjournment of Meeting

Board members attending via Zoom Meeting could hear each meeting attendee and be heard by each attendee.

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

Mike Gaul (King Spry law firm, Authority Solicitor), Jeff Morgan (SC Engineers, Authority Engineer), John Schimmel (Authority Accountant), Chuck Wilson (City of Easton Operations Manager of WWTP), Alexandria Hoffman (City of Easton Assistant Operations Manager of WWTP, and Authority IPP Manager), Yuslenny Zorrilla (City of Easton Office Manager of WWTP, and Authority Administrative Assistant).

❖ **Agenda and any Amendment Approval:**

A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Riegel, to approve the posted agenda without any amendments. **Motion Carried (8-0, Mr. Campos and Mr. Caubel were not present to vote).**

*Mr. Campos and Mr. Caubel arrived at the meeting at 5:02.*

❖ **Minutes Approval:**

A motion was made by Mr. Riegel, and seconded by Mr. Mauro, to approve the minutes of the Board's

July 21, 2025, regular meeting, as presented. **Motion Carried (9-0; Mr. James abstained ).**

❖ **Courtesy of the floor:**

Ms. Hoffman confirmed that the Authority had not received any correspondence through phone, email, or mail for public comment at the meeting. No members of the public attended the meeting.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Attorney Gaul stated he did not have a report.

**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT**

Mr. John Schimmel, EAJSA Accountant, had no report. An Audit update will be provided under Finance Committee section.

Mr. Blanchfield made a motion, seconded by Mr. James to approve the July 21, 2025, bills for payment in total amount of \$186,041.97 **Motion Carried (10-0).**

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Caubel, to approve the Bond Funds Requisition 25-C2025-08 in the amount of \$ 121,300.27 in accordance with the Authority Engineer's recommendation.

**Motion Carried (10-0).**

**ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Hopkins stated the Engineering Committee met on August 5, 2025. Mr. Hopkins stated a number of topics were discussed and projects updates, especially for the Force Main Project and Digester. Mr. Hopkins allowed Mr. Morgan to continue with the report.

Mr. Morgan stated at this time he only had project updates to provide to the Board, no approvals.

**First Update- Force Main Replacement Project:** Mr. Morgan reported that all permits for this project are up to date. Mr. Morgan stated he had a meeting with the Environmental Inspector and Construction Inspector concerning the work to be done on the Second Street side of the river and the park. Mr. Morgan stated work is scheduled to begin on August 25, 2025.

Mr. Morgan mentioned that, while at the work site, a helicopter was spotted flying extremely low. Mr. Hopkins stated it was spraying or fumigating the area for black flies.

Mr. Morgan stated he had a meeting with the drilling contractor and arranged couple of loose ends.

In response to Mr. Blanchfield's question, Mr. Morgan stated that the drilling is expected to occur between August 25, 2025, and October 1, 2025. Mr. Morgan stated that the parking lot restoration should be done by November 3, 2025.

Mr. Hopkins stated that, based on this update, the 36 temporary parking lot spaces should be posted.

**Second Update-Digester Cleaning Project:**

Mr. Wilson provided an update on the Digester Cleaning Project.- Mr. Wilson stated it has been difficult with the solids percentage, which was 15% but 20% were expected, now cleaning is happening in the cones, a lot of grit and sand, is giving around 30% solids.

Mr. Wilson stated the work should be completed by next week or the following.

Mr. Morgan stated that once the work is completed, the General Contractor will make sure the tank is cleaned out.

Mr. Morgan stated that the inside and outside of the Digester will be structurally inspected. Also, the tank cover and some of the concrete work will be painted.

Mr. Morgan provided an overall Summary of 2024 Water Use and Estimated Sewer Use for all the municipalities served by the EAJSA. The water use and capacity owned data included in this table will be utilized to prepare the EAJSA's 2024 rebates and 2026 budget.

#### **PRETREATMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Mauro stated the IPP Committee met on July 10, 2025.

Ms. Hoffman stated that her many attempts and requests to obtain a final demonstration of the Govolution platform were unsuccessful. Ms. Hoffman will reach out to another bank the Authority does business with, PNC Bank, to obtain information and options, as well as Embassy Bank.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Blanchfield stated that some outstanding issues need to be addressed before the audit can be finalized. A Finance meeting was scheduled for earlier today but due to personal commitments, some of the parties could not attend. As a result, it was canceled.

Mr. Blanchfield recommended rescheduling a Finance Committee meeting sometime in early September before the next Board meeting on September 15, 2025.

Mr. Schimmel stated he provided the Auditors with the comments of Mr. Gaul, Mr. Blanchfield, Mr. Morgan, and himself, to the draft audit, and changes will be made to the draft audit.

Mr. Schimmel stated the rebates were listed for 1 million, but that was one of the errors found. Mr. Schimmel said the actual rebate amount should be \$361,439.00, after some line items were taken out of the equation.

Mr. Schimmel added that the Authority paid for sludge hauling in the amount of \$ 615,000.00.

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Schimmel to confirm the accuracy of the sludge cost amount after the meeting.

Mr. Morgan and Mr. Schimmel briefly discussed the accounting for the 2024 Bond issue and its costs of issuance.

Mr. Gaul recommended that Mr. Schimmel check with Mr. Hottenstein to go over these bond refunding numbers.

Mr. Wilson stated that the hauling of the new company is very consistent; the landfill costs with the new company, Waste Management, went up by 50%.

Mr. Blanchfield stated Mr. Hottenstein provided him with some RFP examples for potential loan options, for 5 years, 10 years, and 15 years. Mr. Blanchfield added all responses for the RFP's are due by September 5, 2025. Mr. Blanchfield said the RFP results will be presented at the next Board meeting on September 15, 2025.

Mr. Gaul stated that, if the Board intends to take action at the next Board meeting, Bond Counsel should prepare

a resolution in advance.

Mr. Gaul also recommended inviting Mr. Reid to the Finance Committee meeting in case his expertise is required for decision-making.

#### INSURANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Lammi stated there is no report.

#### OPERATIONS REPORT

Mr. Wilson stated work at the Bushkill Pump Station is about 90% done, and a fence is going up. Mr. Wilson stated the Telemetry will be installed in the SCADA system post-construction.

Mr. Wilson stated that, in regard to the Boiler project for Methane, some results are back from samples sent last month. Mr. Wilson stated the Salicin level was 2.55, which is the industry standard. Mr. Wilson stated that, even though it presents normal, it indicates a problem.

Mr. Wilson stated a scrubber can be used to remove the gas.

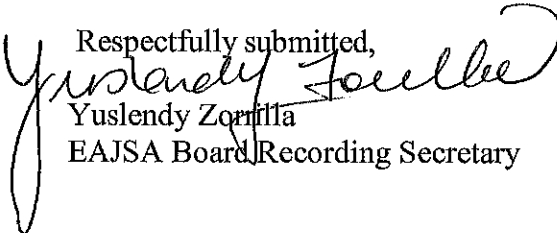
#### ADDITIONAL REPORT

- ❖ **Old Business:** N/A
- ❖ **New Business:** N/A
- ❖ **Unfinished Business:** N/A

Mr. Lammi asked Mr. Gaul if there was a reason for an Executive Session. Mr. Gaul responded, there was not.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Riegel, and unanimously carried, at 5:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Yuselendy Zorrilla

EAJSA Board Recording Secretary