

**MINUTES OF THE  
EASTON AREA JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD  
October 17, 2022 Meeting**

- ❖ The regular monthly meeting of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority Board was held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 17, 2022, at the Palmer Library, 1 Weller Place, Easton, Pennsylvania 18045, with Zoom Meeting option. The meeting was open to the public.
- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Robert Lammi. Mr. Lammi ordered the roll to be called at 6:00 p.m. Board Members were in attendance 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	Palmer Township	12/31/2025	X		*
2	Luis Campos	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		*
3	David Hopkins Vice-Chairman	City of Easton	12/31/2022	X		*
4	Paul James	West Easton Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
5	Robert Lammi Chairman	Palmer Township	12/31/2024	X		*
6	Joseph Mauro Jr	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		*
7	James McGowan Treasurer	Wilson Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
8	Stephen Riegel	Tatamy Borough	12/31/2024	X		*
9	John Van Arman	City of Easton	12/31/2024	X		*
10	Robert Werner	City of Easton	12/31/2025	X		*

\*Beginning of Meeting

\*\*Adjournment of Meeting

Members attending via Zoom Meeting could hear each other meeting attendee and be heard by each other attendee.

- ❖ **The following personnel were in attendance:**  
Michael Gaul (Solicitor), Jeff Morgan (SC Engineers), John Schimmel (Accountant), Chuck Wilson (Operations Manager of WWTP), and Alexandria Hoffman (IPP Manager/Assistant Operations Manager of WWTP), and Erin Lane (EAJSA Recording Secretary/Office Manager of WWTP).
- ❖ **Agenda and any Amendment Approval:**  
A motion was made by Mr. James, and seconded by Mr. Hopkins, to approve the posted agenda without amendments. **Motion Carried (10-0).**
- ❖ **Minutes Approval:**  
A motion was made by Mr. Blanchfield, and seconded by Mr. Riegel, to approve the minutes of September 19, 2022 meeting. **Motion Carried (10-0).**
- ❖ **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 Michael Gaul, EAJSA Solicitor, reported that Weyerbacher Brewing Company's (WBC's) sale of its assets under the supervision of the Bankruptcy Court is now complete. The net proceeds from the sale will be distributed to Truist Bank, who has the first lien on WBC's assets. The bankruptcy case has now been dismissed

because WBC has no additional assets that could be distributed to creditors.

He requested the Board hold an executive session later in the meeting in order to discuss pending legal issue.

### ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Mr. John Schimmel, EAJSA Accountant reported the rebate calculations are complete for the municipalities. He will work on mailing out letters and checks.

#### **Calculation as follows:**

City of Easton	Refund:	\$461,001.35
Wilson Borough	Refund:	\$134,878.21
West Easton Borough	Refund:	\$ 22,788.29
Palmer Township	Refund:	\$368,653.57
Forks Township	Due:	\$ 12,182.96
Tatamy Borough	Refund:	\$ 1,044.88
Williams Township	Refund:	\$ 17,201.20
Bethlehem Township	Refund:	\$ 1,416.56
Lower Nazareth Township	Refund:	\$ 1,321.07
Stockertown Borough	Refund:	\$ 74.33

Mr. Schimmel further stated the 2023 Budget meeting will be taking place on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. He is awaiting the City of Easton's sewer budget. Mr. Hopkins stated he has this information and will connect with Mr. Schimmel prior to the meeting.

Mr. Schimmel presented the proposal from Barbacane, Thornton & Company which is a three-year agreement for 2022 in the amount of \$16,600; 2023 in the amount of \$17,400; and 2024 in the amount of \$18,300.

A motion was made by Mr. Blanchfield, and seconded by Mr. Campos, to approve the three-year Auditor proposal from Barbacane, Thornton & Company. **Motion Carried (10-0).**

A motion was made by Mr. Hopkins, and seconded by Mr. James, to approve the October 2022 bills in the amount of \$1,430,307.41. **Motion Carried (10-0).**

A motion was made by Mr. James, and seconded by Mr. Mauro, to approve Bond Funds Requisition 21-C2022-10, in the total amount of \$305,047.47, in accordance with the Authority Engineer's reports. **Motion Carried 21-C2022-10 (10-0).**

### ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Hopkins had nothing to report.

Mr. Morgan reported a new grinder is needed to be purchased and installed in the digester sludge recirculation piping system at the plant. The purchase would be through the COSTARS program, on a quote, from Riordan Materials for a Super Shredder grinder in the amount of \$24,855 which would be paid from the sewage treatment capital line item from the 2022 Budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. James to approve the COSTARS program purchase of a super shredder grinder in the amount of \$24,855 for Memorandum Item #10-01. **Motion Carried Memorandum Item #10-01 (10-0).**

Mr. Morgan reported a proposal for continued construction observation services for D'Huy Engineers (DEI). This

increase goes through June 2023 for the New Administration Building and the Bar Screen replacement Projects. This proposal is in the amount of \$130,500. John Tench is retiring, and the new inspector is Mike DePodwin with support from other staff, if necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. Mauro and seconded by Mr. Riegel to approve the continued construction observation through June 2023, in the amount of \$130,500 for Memorandum Item #10-02. **Motion Carried Memorandum Item #10-02 (10-0).**

Mr. Morgan stated a manhole overflowed in one of the Authority's common use lines in West Easton, damaging a homeowner's basement. It will be reported to DEP. Follow up by IPP will be completed to check on the grease and rags that come through that line.

Mr. Morgan provided an update on the Disk Filters. After the storms last weekend there were some operational and hydraulic issues the team came out to review the system's set-up and will be working on addressing.

Mr. Morgan also reminded the Board that the 2021 rebate was based on the 2019 flow data projections. Due to the pandemic, the water use data fluctuated greatly, so the 2022 rebates will be based on 2020 flow data, and some municipalities may use the 2019 again, with the expectation that the flow data will be more consistent in future years again.

#### **PRETREATMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Mauro had nothing to report.

Ms. Hoffman reported Weyerbacher Brewing Company (WBC) closing inspection is complete and went well. The permit was terminated as of October 12, 2022. The new applicant, Savant Beverages LLC, will receive a permit that will become effective Tuesday, October 18, 2022. Savant is taking over the chemicals on-site, having the spent grain hauled and removed and beer in tanks will be bottled and sold. The bottled beer will be disposed, which is a couple pallets. She wrote up a document that closes out the violation for pH and the outstanding fines will be documented and that will complete WBC's closure within IPP.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Lammi stated a committee meeting will be held Thursday, October 20 at 1:00 p.m. to work the 2023 budget.

#### **AD HOC DOCUMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Hopkins had nothing to report.

#### **INSURANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Atty. Gaul advised an executive session will be held regarding the insurance committee.

#### **OPERATIONS REPORT**

Mr. Wilson reported the plant is running well and effluent is running clear.

Mr. Wilson reported at South Delaware Optimum Control cards for #5 and #6 are replaced, and #1 is a temporary drive. The OCC wants to provide a different manufacturer for the drive in #1. The #3 mixer that was taken out of Digester #2 has been repaired and reinstalled.

#### **ADDITIONAL REPORTING**

- ❖ **Old Business:** Mr. Hopkins inquired about Forks Township assigning a Board Member as they have been without representation for months now. The City of Easton also needs to find someone.

❖ **Unfinished Business:** None

❖ **New Business:** None

At 6:46 p.m. – A motion was made by Mr. Hopkins, and seconded by Mr. Campos, and unanimously carried, to enter an Executive Session to discuss legal advice with Solicitor Gaul.

At 7:13 p.m. – A motion was made by Mr. Riegel, and seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously carried, to enter into Public Session.

Following the Executive Session, no action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Werner, and seconded by Mr. Blanchfield, and unanimously carried, at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Lane, EAJSA Recording Secretary