THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. TIERNEY II, MR. KUKLIS, ATTORNEY MALASKA, ATTORNEY FAGAN, THE ENGINEER, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

# SALUTE TO THE FLAG - MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence for Dave Kavitski's Aunt Marguerite, Mike Carr and Paul Falatko.

# CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present at the meeting.

## APPROVE APRIL MINUTES

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated April 9, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated April 16, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 16, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

#### APPROVE APRIL PAID INVOICES

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to approve the April paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$141,401.71, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$147,134.31, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2625-A).

# **CURRENT INVOICES**

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$94,269.03, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$106,028.78, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$3,034.26, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2625-B).

## FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2625-C.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if Sandy Run residents are paying the extra monies per month to reimburse the Freeland Water System. The Office Manager said the extra payment has not been implemented yet still awaiting DEP if they will enforce a corrosion control plan to be installed at Sandy Run.

# **ENGINEERING REPORT**

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc., presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2625-D). Sewer Area

-SIUA and IPP Items – The meeting Monday regarding the items ongoing, upcoming permit this fall and Citterio's request for increased flows, BOD and TDS. At the meeting Ryan Smith, James Fisher, Atty. Malaska, Atty. Pompo and Chris Ferdik recommend not increasing flows at this permit renewal. Chemical overflows were received at the plant. Civil penalties need approval from the Board for 25-008 through 25-010. The Spill Slug Control Plan is sufficient after Chris Ferdik reviewed it; there are areas within the plan that could be improved. Mr. Kavitski inquired if Chris Ferdik responded with the deficiencies and Brenden Miller said not at this time but was not sure. Brenden Miller said one thing discussed in the meeting was the reasoning behind more flow which Citterio is requesting. Chris Ferdik is trying to understand why and what the plan is to reduce BOD & TDS. Veolia should be able to show what their plan is to lower the TDS & BOD. Mr. Kavitski said PAWC is limited to 250,000 gallons per day for flows currently. If Citterio wants increased flows PAWC would need to do an ACT 537 Plan with Freeland Borough and Foster Township approving the plan and this is why FMA needs Foster Township in the PAWC agreement. Chris Ferdik wants to meet in-person with Citterio's again possibly in July.

Mr. Kavitski asked Attorney Malaska to place wording into the PAWC agreement for any increase above 250,000 gpd to be approved by DEP.

A discussion took place regarding the TDS being over the limit from Citterio. TDS is a non-allowable discharge. A letter will be sent to Citterio from Chris Ferdik regarding the TDS limits.

Mr. Kavitski asked Ryan Smith to look at the NPDES permit and the DRBC for the limits on TDS.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – Electrical and General Contractors are fully mobilized, and construction is under way. A meeting to discuss the panels and the garage doors conflict. F & L Doors will order materials. One of the garage doors has plastic on it because it needed to be removed. Door rails need to be

raised. Left door has no issue to open and right door needs extra bend and slope. Ryan Smith is going to call F & L Doors tomorrow to see if Technical Person will come to plant to make sure things are going to work properly with the sludge dewatering equipment installed now. Mr. Kuklis inquired about roll up doors and Brenden Miller said too costly for this type of door. PENNVEST/DEP they are still reviewing the permit, but they gave the go ahead for moving forward with the work on the filtrate pumps. Mr. Kavitski inquired if Logan Jury is a PE. Brenden Miller said he is taking the test right now. He has

been working for eight years and is really good.

Mr. Kavitski asked about the platform with any type of safety concerns. Brenden Miller said HRG structural team looked at the platform and Jim had a few retrofits if the Authority is going to accept it. Mr. Kavitski said if HRG is recommending retrofits then they should be done. Mr. Fisher said if cosmetic retrofits no, but safety retrofits yes. Mr. Kavitski said the contractor needs to be fair to the Authority. Three AFPs were submitted this month – two from Hayden and one from PSI.

Ryan Smith has concerns regarding buried conduit and recycled water lines in the area for the filtrate pumps. He said there are pipes right outside of the building. Brenden Miller said HRG will check the Borton Lawson drawings. PSI was provided with site drawings.

- -NPDES Permit Renewal No update.
- -ACT 537 Special Study HRG is waiting for the PAWC Agreement to be finalized.
- -Dynamic Separator No update currently.
- -Wyoming Street PS Plug Valve No update.

## Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank - Virtual job conference was held on April 24th by HRG with Linde, GR Noto and FMA. HRG is asking Linde for an updated schedule for the project due to the tank submittals being approved. Tank delivery is scheduled for mid-July with majority of the project to be completed by the beginning of next year.

Mr. Kavitski inquired that the SCADA system is set up to be ready when the contractors are there; run to the tank and to the RTU and everything that would go along with it. Brenden Miller asked about PTD. Ryan Smith said he is waiting for the poles to be moved prior to contacting PTD. Ryan Smith thought there were two more poles needed to be placed up in the tank area. Brenden Miller will check on the pole situation.

Mr. Fisher questioned when the tank would be filled and put into service. Mr. Kavitski said the tank would need to be flushed, and lab testing completed prior to being placed into service. Brenden Miller thought early Spring the tank would be placed into service. Ryan Smith said the order for tank mixer was delayed, trying to have the warranty period covered longer so it was not ordered yet.

Mr. Kavitski questioned if the tank pieces are arriving in mid-July, why would it take until January to put together. Brenden Miller was not sure of the timeline between the tank construction and the electrical construction. Brenden Miller said COSTARS purchase for the Rosemount Pressure Logger, he reached out to Moyer Instruments and has not heard back yet. Ryan Smith said he spoke with Bob from Moyer, and he will be working on this shortly. Ryan Smith inquired if the Authority is going to order a spare and Mr. Kavitski said yes, have a spare on hand. Mr. Kavitski inquired about the solenoid valve for the tank, and why this type when the tanks are to be balanced. Brenden Miller said the levels in the tanks will be the same. Staci Hartz will investigate the matter and have answers for the Authority in a week or so.

-SRBC Water Conservation Grant - Brenden Miller handed out a schematic of the SRBC Consumptive Use Mitigation Project. (Reference 2626-A). HRG will set up a meeting with the Board to go over how the digital twin, data loggers etc. will all work together at a later date. HWM is a company that manufactures data loggers for 540 Technologies, the loggers were installed last week. They record sound at 2 AM for five minutes and place that data into an online software which 540 Technologies owns, this is a stand-alone platform. 540 Technologies will come to the Authority to explain the maintenance and upkeep of the loggers. Brenden Miller believes there are 4 years of maintenance with the data loggers, which is part of the grant, and 540 Technologies will come out for the next four years and maintain the loggers.

Mr. Kavitski inquired how long 540 Technologies have been in business. Brenden Miller thought five years, and they are a subsidiary of LB Water.

Mr. Kavitski inquired who is HWM. Brenden Miller said this company is out of Germany.

Mr. Kavitski asked if the server is in Germany and Brenden Miller said he thought the server is local at the 540 Technologies company in Selinsgrove, PA.

Mr. Kavitski thought the data was going to come into FMA server. Brenden Miller said the cellular data gets collected to HWM, short cut out of that and will go to the digital twin, and there will be an application solely for the leak loggers. Brenden said a subscription fee for two years was included in the quote and he believes \$3500 per year after. The software is proprietary. Brandon Miller is not quite sure how the software goes into HWM system.

Mr. Kavitski is concerned about the data going to the cloud first and another company having access to our data. Brenden Miller said the meeting will be with Staci Hartz, Integration Team, Chief IT Person; all to meet with FMA to discuss how this will work in more detail.

Brenden Miller said cellular transmission is more expensive through Sensus than Badger. Master Meter would not inform HRG how their data was collected. Brenden Miller said the flow meters are not finalized yet. The flow meters are for the fifteen largest customers and the benefit will allow FMA to know where the water is going. Badger transponders, HRG is recommending, were responsive to all questions. An API will be put into the software through excel to transfer to gallons into the Digital Twin, using the Badger Transponders with the Sensus meters. Maybe have Badger Representative come to FMA. The Digital Twin will have a dedicated computer and will need to coordinate with Keystone Engineering and Garland, so all cyber security issues are taken care of.

Mr. Kavitski asked what OFOSC stands for and Brenden Miller was not sure. Mr. Tierney found the meaning online as Open Flows On-Site Data Coordinator. Mr. Miller said the OFOSC is part of the Bentley software. Brenden Miller stated Brittney has done a very good job with the FMA GIS mapping system.

Mr. Kavitski asked about the battery life for the data loggers and are they solar. Brenden Miller stated there is a five-year battery life on the data loggers and they are not solar.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about the time for the noise loggers to record, why 2 AM.

Brenden Miller will investigate what type of computer will be needed to be dedicated to this software. Mr. Kavitski stated HRG IT people should know what type of core, ram speed etc. will be needed for the computer.

- -Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study No comments/updates from PADEP.
- -PFAS, Iron and Manganese Treatment FMA conducted water sampling at Well 10 using the parameters requested by AdEdge. After results, AdEdge will be able to provide the type of equipment needed and HRG will obtain pricing information for the Authority.
- -ARPA Grant Administration No update.
- -CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant The Grant was submitted for the Water Main Pigging with the anticipated award date of March 2026.

## SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Tierney made a motion to authorize issuance of notices of civil penalty assessment against Citterio USA Corporation as recommended by the Industrial Pretreatment Program Coordinator for NOV #s 25-005, 25-006 and 25-007 and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve the Dewatering Upgrade Project Contract #24-01 General Construction Pay App #2 - PSI Pumping in the amount of \$122,943.60 and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2627-A).

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to approve the Dewatering Upgrade Project Contract #24-02 Electrical Construction Pay App #1 – Hayden Inc. in the amount of \$21,888.90 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2627-B).

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to approve the Dewatering Upgrade Project Contract #24-02 Electrical Construction Pay App #2 — Hayden Inc. in the amount of \$33,286.50 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2627-C).

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve PENNVEST Payment Request #9 in the amount of \$217,810.98 for the Sludge Dewatering Project and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2627-D).

Schwing Press Walkways were discussed in the Sludge Dewatering Project Engineering Report.

# WATER DIVISION

The updated schedule for the Oak Street Tank Project was discussed. Mr. Kuklis asked why the tank arrives in July of this year and the project is not complete until July of 2026. Mr. Kavitski inquired about the tank; is it a welded tank. Brenden Miller said it was a welded tank.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the coating of the interior of the tank. Brenden Miller said it is coated, but not sure what type of material without the information to reference.

# MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager report. (Reference 2627-E).

Caustic pump roller bearing failure which was repaired. Mr. Kavitski asked if it was the same pump as before. Ryan Smith said he thought it was.

The main water replacement should HRG design plans for the Authority to follow inquired Ryan Smith. Brenden Miller said if just replacing the existing water line, they would not need to draw plans.

Mr. Kuklis inquired exactly whether the area being replaced is Laurel, Chestnut to North and North Street from Yale to Ridge and Ryan Smith said yes.

Summer part-time help for grass cutting, maybe reach out to someone else or a company.

Water System Flushing must be done. DEP requirement is to dechlorinate the water with tablets using hydrant diffusers.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to purchase 2 hydrant diffusers with adapters at the price of \$2,892.36 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2628-A).

Mr. Kavitski inquired about the budgets and how they are looking and Ryan Smith said he did not look but with the water main replacement would be over budget. Ryan Smith said it will be approximately \$20,000 over. The Board will consider taking funds from the ESSA Savings Account if needed for the water project. Materials needed for the water replacement project, Core & Main had the best price with a quote of \$35,342.08, Mr. Kavitski said to order 10 additional pieces of pipe for spares. Ryan Smith will have Core & Main add additional pieces of pipe to the quote and write it stating COSTARS quote. Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the quote up to \$40,000 and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2628-B). Wachs Replacement Hose Assembly 3" x 20' Vacuum Line Quote for \$1,474.00 Mr. Fisher made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2628-C).

Mr. Kavitski asked Ryan Smith to check the budget line items for balances prior to bringing quotes to a meeting.

Radiator Coolant Repair at WWTP – Cleveland Brothers had the best quote for re-core of radiator at the cost of \$19,897.00 with a three-year warranty, Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2628-D).

Mr. Kavitski inquired how do we know the leak is in the core and normally you see staining. Ryan Smith said the company pressure tested and investigated where it was coming from.

Martin's Electrical Service for Sludge Pump – Flygt Pump for the Clarifier, installed the spare, Martin's took the pump, which was removed to inspect, and the inspection cost was \$267.50, a rebuild kit was given to Martin's. They will clean, inspect, test components, and use rebuild kit and return to the Authority for cost of \$1,577.50. Total cost of the quote is \$1,845.00 and this would be a spare. Mr. Kavitski recommends holding on to this quote until next month.

Ferguson Waterworks Quote for the Wyoming St PS – Plug Valve was purchased prior, adapters and coupler with pipe are needed to complete the job. PAWC has approved the quote from Ferguson already for the shared cost per Ryan Smith. The Ferguson quote is \$8,189.19, Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2628-E).

Ryan Smith inquired about the weekly reports he sends to the Board on Fridays, that is more comprehensive, and should he keep the report going now.

Mr. Kavitski stated the quotes are what should be brought to the meeting, and the monthly report should be on violation or injuries.

Mr. Tierney said he has taken notes and will discuss things with Ryan at a later date.

Mr. Kuklis stated the report should also include what the guys will be doing the following week.

F& L Door Quote for the Sludge Dewatering Project Mr. Kavitski made the motion for the approval of the quote totaling \$6,380.00, with the condition if it does not work, it is on them to make it work or get other means of fixing the door.

Mr. Tierney stated he really did not want to vote on this quote due to it being an oversight on the project. It should have been caught prior to the project starting. Better oversight into the larger projects is needed. Mr. Kavitski inquired about the raised concrete on the floor to distribute the load on press equipment with Logan Jury of HRG, how did HRG determine strength of the concrete.

Brenden Miller said HRG had the record drawings from Borton Lawson of the Sewer Plant Upgrade Project.

Mr. Kavitski asked if they were the structural drawings and Brenden Miller stated HRG has the entire set. Mr. Kavitski inquired if the new Press Equipment is heavier than previous unit and Brenden Miller said he could not answer the question.

Mr. Kavitski said no one looked at the height of the press equipment. Mr. Kuklis inquired if the new Press is in the same physical imprint of the old Press. Mr. Kavitski said roughly it is. Mr. Kuklis inquired what is the weight of the old one compared to the new one. Mr. Kavitski said the new one is a little bigger and he asked why the floor was not cut and enforced instead of risers. Logan Jury stated HRG did not devise this way due to cost. Mr. Kavitski said it is a costly lesson and the project is millions; hopefully the last.

Brenden Miller said next projects should have meetings over the entire length of the project so plans can be discussed. Mr. Kavitski stated the engineering firm is ultimately responsible for the design of the project. Brenden Miller said he thinks there has been a lapse between FMA and HRG with both projects, they were long design projects and moving forward there will be target dates for in-person meetings to go over this piece by piece.

Mr. Tierney stated this was a costly lesson. Mr. Tierney said he will second the motion to approve the F & L Doors Quote at this time. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2629-A).

## **ENGINEERING INVOICES**

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #193094 \$7,314.50; Invoice #193504 \$1,623.86; Invoice #193512 \$789.50; Invoice #193093 \$6,246.50; Invoice #193095R \$28,415.67; Invoice #194039 \$14,074.60; Invoice #194040 \$2,077.50; Invoice #194041 \$13,882.50; Invoice #194042 \$4,710.00; Invoice #194148 \$1,336.50 Invoice #194149 \$558.00 and Invoice #194150 \$3,276.14 and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2629-B).

# ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Malaska stated he discussed the items during executive session and there is a typo on his legal report. The Zoom meeting listed should have the date of 05/19/2025.

Attorney Fagan had nothing to report.

# **OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS**

Rainfall for the month was 9.22".

Mr. Kavitski inquired about the two parcels which FMA will purchase. After the purchase should FMA obtain a quote for surveying the property from Baer & Evans, who the Borough used. The Board all agreed to obtaining a quote for survey.

DLT Solutions Civil 3D Software Annual Renewal Quote for \$3,390.79, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2629-C).

Garland Quote for the Technical Manager Laptop at the cost of \$1,549.41, current one is not upgradeable to Windows 11, Mr. Fisher made the motion to approve and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Ref. 2629-D). Ryan Smith inquired if the laptop is rugged. Mr. Kavitski said it is not used in the field so it is not, and he asked Ryan Smith to bring the laptop into the Authority for him to see if it can be repurposed.

Small Swale by Schwabe Street at the paper street called Lehigh, which is wooded over by Ms. Avillion's property, the Authority owns the lot, the swale would catch the water and channel it to the wooded lot. Borough to do the work and FMA to help with backhoe work only. Mr. Kavitski explained the land is for the water line for Well 12 to the Harding St. Tank. Mr. Fisher made the motion to allow the Borough to install the swale and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0.

Ryan Smith discussed the WIN-911 software subscription at this time. Last month it was approved for one year renewal only. He received a call yesterday that the subscription ended this month. The Office Manager said WIN-911 cashed the check at the end of April. Ryan Smith said it was an automated call through SCADA System.

Mr. Kavitski inquired about a few items:

- -Update on the Exele Software Program to be used at Water Division and Ryan Smith said he is waiting for the information from Martin at Keystone.
- -Office Generator is working properly and Ryan Smith said yes.
- -Well Depths; Ryan Smith said Brittany was having issues with the LGH Inspector Software and he informed her about the meeting today, but she has had continued issues with the software. Mr. Kavitski said this software needs to be straightened out. Companies seem to be upgrading their software and then there are all kinds of issues, and the renewals are not cheap.
- -Full Time Inspector at the Treatment Plant Brenden Miller of HRG said once per week or at key times an Inspector is onsite at the Sludge Dewatering Project. Mr. Kavitski said the Authority talked about obtaining one and going forward need to make sure it is included in future projects. He asked if there is a full time one for the Oak St Tank Project and Brenden Miller said yes.
- -New Compliance Monitoring for PFAS & PFOA; there will be trigger levels coming and this will need to be monitored within a table on the quarterly testing results.

-Mr. Kavitski inquired when Brenden Miller will be taking his Engineering Test. Brenden Miller said next July. Mr. Kavitski has asked for an Engineer from HRG to attend monthly meetings at least quarterly. Brenden Miller said HRG is hiring additional personnel so he will ask for an Engineer to attend. Mr. Kavitski said Brenden, you are doing a great job going over the Engineering Report, but the Authority

is requesting an Engineer from HRG attend quarterly for legality purposes.

Mr. Fisher inquired if HRG could attend via Zoom.

Mr. Kavitski said with all the projects and the changing of regulations, the Authority should get familiar with an Engineer.

Mr. Tierney made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0.

These minutes are certified true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Paul Thomas, Secretary

Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary