

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY II, MR. KUKLIS, ATTORNEY FAGAN, ATTORNEY MALASKA, THE ENGINEER, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

#### SALUTE TO THE FLAG – MOMENT OF SILENCE

#### SCOTT LINDE OF LINDE CORPORATION

Mr. Linde stated he is present at the meeting tonight to try and keep the Oak Street Tank Project going. He said they have started the project but there is an electrical line that is right in the middle of the road. The pipeline and installation of the road are on hold until PPL moves poles. Mr. Linde said he has made phone calls, and he keeps hearing next month but the following month comes and goes with nothing completed. He cannot mobilize his crew because they cannot complete anything until the electrical line is moved.

Mr. Linde showed the Board pictures and a map for the explanation of the problem. (Reference 2595-A).

Mr. Linde stated the new design has the poles and line removed from his area, but he is not sure who created it; was it the Engineer or PPL. Mr. Linde stated the Work Order was made to the Engineer and not the Authority, and this is the hold-up.

Mr. Kavitski explained to Mr. Linde that the Authority will be voting to pay for the Work Order, it will be red lined making it payable to the Authority only. Mr. Kavitski said may be a phone call to the PUC to bring light on the situation and how it is holding up a major project.

Mr. Linde explained PPL was not paid and it cannot go into the Work Order Phase without payment.

Mr. Kavitski inquired with Attorney Malaska about writing a letter to PPL to explain the situation.

Attorney Malaska said he can devise a letter to be to PPL.

Mr. Kuklis said the letter should state a stoppage on the project due to PPL not moving the line.

Mr. Linde said the work stoppage is due to the non-payment of the Work Order.

Attorney Malaska inquired about the letter from HRG regarding the Work Order; he would like to add additional language to the letter prior to sending.

Brenden Miller explained the check must be sent to Missouri for payment of the Work Order. He recommends sending the letter with the check to get the scheduling to start. He will call the local office to get a schedule for the Work Order. HRG Electrical Engineer originally started conversation with PPL back in the fall of 2023, asking for the design, which took 15 months for PPL to complete. When the application went to PENNVEST for approval the design cost was estimated high because PPL was not responsive to HRG. PPL approved the design, then onto the right-of-way agent which took another month of discussion with Attorney Malaska. The invoice for the moving of the line and poles was then sent to HRG and not the Authority. HRG sent the invoice back to PPL stating the invoice needed to be placed in the Authority's name. PPL accounts payable department needs to correct the invoice. After discussion with Authority counsel, HRG will redline the invoice along with a letter to send the payment to the Missouri office. PPL stated they will accept the payment like this, once the payment is received HRG will coordinate with PPL Construction Team, to help speed up the process for Linde Corporation.

Mr. Kavitski explained invoices need to be made to the Authority, we cannot make payments when they are not invoiced to us. The Authority Auditor would not be happy. The Authority will approve the invoice tonight and it will be sent tomorrow.

Attorney Malaska is fine with the steps the Authority is taking for the approval of the invoice. Attorney Malaska said the invoice and copy of the check should be sent to HRG so they can show PPL the payment is approved and maybe PPL can start the construction right away.

Mr. Linde stated the Water Tower design has been submitted and he is asking HRG to start the process to approve it.

Brenden Miller said HRG is reviewing those plans right now.

Attorney Fagan inquired about the reduced size of the swale near Attorney Senape's home and Mr. Linde said they will work it out.

Mr. Linde thanked the Board for their time tonight.

#### CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present at the meeting.

#### APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Executive Minutes dated February 19, 2025, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Regular Minutes dated February 19, 2025, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Executive Minutes dated February 20, 2025, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Executive Minutes dated February 25, 2025, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

#### APPROVE FEBRUARY PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the February paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$162,208.60, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$185,127.66, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2596-A).

#### CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Tierney inquired about the amount of money left in the PV Sludge Dewatering Account and the Office Manager explained the remaining amount is the five percent payment for the new Sludge Dewatering Equipment.

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$104,404.29, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$421,878.32, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$229.07, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2596-B).

#### FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2596-C.

The Office Manager explained the refund for the property located at 549 Front Street, Mr. Kavitski made the motion to approve the refund and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2596-D).

#### ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2596-E).

##### Sewer Area

**-SIUA and IPP Items** – Chris Ferdik presented this portion of the Engineering Report. HRG is waiting for the Spill/Slug Control Plan from Citterio USA. The sampling station at Citterio USA needs heat installed and the 24 composite sampler hopefully is being used since the meeting. There were twenty-three people in attendance at the Citterio meeting with the Authority, Attorneys, Citterio and HRG. HRG was happy with the meeting for the compliance issue discussions and the attendance of the decision makers from Citterio. Citterio seemed to understand the seriousness of the compliance issues. There may be an opportunity for negotiation of the civil penalties, if Citterio becomes compliant.

Mr. Tierney inquired if Veolia and HRG can set up a monthly meeting for updates of the progress Citterio is making on the items listed in the meeting. Chris Ferdik stated he can reach out to Veolia to see if this could be arranged.

Attorney Malaska inquired about the deadline that was discussed in the meeting. Where do all the items stand for being resolved and to make sure it is completed.

Chris Ferdik said a summary was emailed to HRG for everything done in the past month. They asked for an extension of two weeks for the Spill/Slug Control Plan.

Mr. Kavitski mentioned the importance of this Spill/Slug Control Plan which has not been received yet. He agrees with Chris Ferdik about the extension of the plan and being due within the two-week extension.

Attorney Malaska wants to see the steady progress from Citterio.

Chris Ferdik said the NOV's were responded to and seem to be adequate and detailed. The pH contingency plan was submitted, and they are trying to move the sensor.

There is a Wastewater Pretreatment Plant Operator opening online for Citterio through Indeed.

Chris Ferdik said the second round of civil penalties were issued to Citterio and their Attorney appealed the same day of issuance. He mentioned the EQ Tank Citterio is pointing to the mixer for the slug issues.

Mr. Kavitski inquired how the EQ mixer produces the slug issue.

Chris Ferdik stated he is not completely sure that the mixer is the issue for slug discharges.

The electronic EPA Pretreatment Plan was submitted and certified as of March 18, 2025, and he thanked the Authority for all the help gathering the information.

Mr. Kavitski thanked Chris Ferdik for all the help with the EPA Pretreatment Plan submittal.

**-Sludge Dewatering Project** – Currently working on a finalized construction schedule with PSI and Hayden Power Group. They are looking to mobilize the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, once it has been completed HRG will distribute to the Authority. The filtrate pumps, CW Sales, approved the pump size. PSI gave a Change Order and HRG was not comfortable with the quote. HRG will submit a Water Quality Permit to DEP at no cost to the Authority. The Work Change Directive is on the agenda for approval tonight and if

approved, PSI will be authorized to purchase the pumps and equipment they need to complete the work. HRG said there is a four-week lead time on the pumps so PSI can complete all work at one time. HRG wants to do as time and materials, if PSI is mobilized at the same time, it would be no additional cost for mobilization, sludge hauling and the crew is already on site to complete the work. HRG will make sure there is an RPR on site for these days and will track the hours. It will be 30 feet of pipe and there will be no install of a wet well. The Work Change Directive approximate cost is \$60,200 and it should be under this amount.

**-NPDES Permit Renewal** – No update.

**-ACT 537 Special Study** – HRG is waiting for the PAWC Agreement to be finalized. PAWC is emailing to request a meeting soon.

**-Dynamic Separator** – No update currently.

**Wyoming Street - PS Plug Valve** – No update.

#### **Water Area**

**-Oak Street Water Storage Tank** – Mr. Linde was in attendance to discuss his concerns regarding PPL pole location. Approval of the red-lined invoice later in the meeting. Hopefully once payment is received PPL will work with Linde Corporation on the relocation of the line and poles. HRG does have the Oak Street Tank Project submittal right now, once the submittal is approved, Linde will order and get the tank onsite as soon as possible.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the lead time on the water tank being delivered.

Brenden Miller thought it was four to six months after approved submittal.

Mr. Fisher inquired if the tank will be done this year.

Brenden Miller said substantial completion should be but without looking at the contract cannot be sure; it may be early 2026. The approved tank submittal should be done by end of April. Linde will be completing all piping and concrete work prior to the tank arrival.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if Attorney Fagan received any phone calls from neighbors regarding the project and Attorney Fagan said no not in the past couple months.

**-SRBC Water Conservation Grant** – The water meters HRG is still working with LB Waters. Meter sizes have been given to HRG from Authority staff. HRG is looking at the Sensus Meters and is investigating how to get out of the SCADA system and into the billing system. Sensus platform has some AI software but there is a separate billing for this feature. There is another way with a cellular data collector via third party vendor. HRG will look at Badger meters too.

Leak loggers with 540 Industries will have a kickoff meeting for discussion of the project. Brenden Miller inquired if Ms. Caskey can attend the meeting due to GIS information. Ryan Smith asked for a firm date and time for the meeting. Ryan Smith inquired if Keystone Engineering should sit in this meeting and Brenden Miller of HRG said not at this time. At some point HRG will need to speak to Keystone regarding the integration of the leak loggers into the SCADA system.

**-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study** – No comments/updates from PADEP. Once HRG has information from PADEP, HRG will report back to the Board on a schedule for the design and construction schedule of the Corrosion Control System.

**-PFAS, Iron and Manganese Treatment** – Dave, Ryan and Carlene from the Authority, Brenden Miller of HRG and James Connor, the Representative from AdEdge met today at the Authority Office. He saw Well 10 and the Birkbeck Reservoir Building.

Mr. Kavitski does not recommend doing anything with PFAS now, the Authority will wait for the specific requirements prior to spending the additional money. The Authority does need the iron and manganese removed and it does need to be removed for the treatment of PFAS in the future. It makes sense to move forward with the iron and manganese. Ryan Smith is trying to relocate the one truck to the pole building so the treatment for the iron and manganese can be placed into the Birkbeck Street Reservoir Building.

Mr. Kavitski explained to the Board Members it was a good meeting, and Mr. Connor is up on the current treatment of iron and manganese. The equipment is on a skid which can be placed inside the Birkbeck Street Reservoir building. Mr. Connor will develop quotes for the Authority.

Brenden Miller said HRG will work with Mr. Connor and hopefully have cost estimates next month.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if this will be for all wells and Mr. Kavitski said for here at the reservoir and Well 10.

Mr. Kavitski said at Well 10 the Authority may need to purchase additional land to place a pole building or shipping container for the equipment. The skid, with the equipment on it is 10 by 20.

Brenden Miller of HRG will look at costs for bidding the project and construction.

**-ARPA Grant Administration** - Authority staff are completing any necessary grant closeout processes, with coordination from HRG as needed.

**-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant** – The Centre St Main Replacement Project, HRG has everything from the Authority to submit the final required information to CFA for grant closeout.

**-Water Pigging** – HRG is working with FMA Staff, Ryan Smith is obtaining quotes from the contractors. The application deadline for the Grant is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the Work Change Directive No. 1 from PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc. and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2598-A).

Discussion on Meeting with PAWC Draft Agreement – Attorney Malaska stated the Authority has gone back and forth with PAWC with multiple drafts of the agreement. PAWC counsel, in-house and out-house, stated the agreement is going in the wrong direction and requested a sit-down meeting with the Authority. Attorney Malaska said the areas of dispute are I & I with maximum calculations, term of the agreement, billing cycle, acceptance of the paying for entire system, and timeline of their reports to the Authority. Attorney Malaska is requesting a sit-down with their decision makers. Attorney Malaska asked Ryan Smith what PAWC has provided the Authority with, since a list was provided to them.

Ryan Smith said the first agreement gave them a list of items which the Authority expected from them and the Authority has not seen anything.

Attorney Malaska would like a list from Ryan Smith for what was to be provided and has not been given. Mr. Kavitski stated PAWC needs to understand their sewage is coming to the Authority for treatment and they need to understand the billing system set up for all customers.

Attorney Malaska stated this will be an Executive Session between the Authority and PAWC as soon as a date and time can be set.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to set up an in-person meeting, between March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>, and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Kavitski stated there will be an Executive Session following the Regular Meeting regarding personnel.

#### WATER DIVISION

The PENNVEST Payment Request #6 in the Amount of \$3,630.50 for the Oak Street Water Storage Tank Project, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2598-B).

PPL Utilities Relocation Costs Invoice – The invoice was sent to HRG, which the invoice is supposed to be in the Authority's name, invoice has been redlined, and a payment for \$17,129.31 will be sent to PPL. Mr. Kavitski made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2598-C).

Discussion on the Iron & Manganese Analyzers – Hach Company gave the Authority estimates on analyzers. The cost is approximately forty thousand for the equipment and approximately twelve thousand for the chemicals. Mr. Connor of AdEdge said analyzers would not be needed with the green sand equipment he is quoting. Mr. Kavitski said he wanted an idea of the cost for analyzers.

WIN-911 Pro Subscription Renewal 1 Year or Three Year – Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the three-year renewal at the cost of \$10,250.00, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2598-D).

#### MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager report. (Reference 2598-E).

Generator failure of the ATS main office. The Authority is waiting for a quote on the price of the switch. The control panel had burnt parts which control the display panel.

Mr. Kavitski explained to the Board there has been a lot of money spent on this generator to get it running properly.

Chlorine injection point for the chemical pump at Well 9 is being worked on.

Tank Inspection Quotes for Birkbeck and Harding St. Tanks – Atlantic Underwater Services, Inc., the quote is \$3,500.00, Mr. Kavitski made the motion to approve and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2598-F).

Chlorine Probe is not compatible with high pH. There is another probe which would work with the Authority equipment, a quote will be available at the next meeting.

Authority did a precast for manhole located at Chestnut & Laurel intersection and installation by staff soon. Mr. Kavitski inquired about the precast – how the employees did it and what material was used.

Ryan Smith said the mud mixer was used, the staff built a form for the manhole, and high-grade concrete used. Ryan Smith believes it is Quikcrete. Mr. Kavitski said there are other concretes, and we will see how well it holds up.

Ryan Smith said this manhole was made of bricks and the manhole is falling apart.

Sewer Actuator A1 and A2 have failures. Moyer Instruments tried to troubleshoot the actuators for two days but could not correct the issues. Moyer Instruments voided the invoice and suggested calling Tri-State, who is certified for this type of actuator. Tri-State came, investigated the actuators, and supplied a quote for rebuilding or new actuators. A2 actuator was caused by over torque on the limit switch.

Mr. Kavitski asked about the over torque, it was caused exactly how.

Tri-State Quote, a brand-new actuator, is eighteen weeks out price is \$5,362.00 and the other option is to rebuild which is a two-to-three-week timeframe for the cost of \$5,890.00. Eastern Controls Inc. was priced higher for a brand new one and the lead time was also longer. A third quote did not come prior to the meeting.

Mr. Thomas inquired how often the actuators need to be operated on manually.

Ryan Smith said it needs to be manually operated seven days a week.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the size of the pits where the actuators are housed.

Ryan Smith said the pit is approximately 6 feet dig and small area, it is a confined space.

Mr. Kavitski said this is confined space and we should not have employees in there. The actuators are heavy duty, price is reasonable and inquired if they were replaced during upgrade of the WWTP.

Ryan Smith said they were replaced during the upgrade.

Mr. Thomas inquired about warranty information on the actuators.

Mr. Kavitski said the employees need to be certified for confined space training.

Ryan Smith said the employees open all doors and air it out before entering and test with the meter.

Mr. Thomas inquired about who was qualified and Ryan Smith said no one. Mr. Kuklis inquired about the certification process. Mr. Kavitski said this was talked about numerous times and a certified class should be scheduled quickly.

Mr. Thomas inquired if there was a company who would come on-site to conduct the training.

Mr. Kuklis recommended calling a few construction companies to see where they send their employees.

Brenden Miller of HRG said call Linde Corporation they may have a company name.

Mr. Kavitski recommended searching online for a few companies.

The Board agreed to make it a priority for this training program. Mr. Tierney made a motion for all employees to obtain the confined space training and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Kavitski said this training needs to be done now.

Mr. Kavitski made the motion for the rebuilt actuators with Tri-State Technical Sales Corporation at the cost of \$5,890.00 per actuator and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2599-A).

Generator at WWTP continues to leak coolant. Tunnessen's cannot test this large of a radiator. Cicioni Radiator was called they do not do the troubleshooting they contact Cleveland Brothers.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if you could see where it came from. The size of the radiator may be the problem to pressure test with the employees.

Ryan Smith said every two weeks a low coolant alarm shows after testing the generator.

Mr. Thomas suggested calling Mike Pollack to see if he would be willing to take the radiator and test it.

Sewer Main around Chestnut Street should be replaced, it is approximately 554 feet long with depths ranging from 3 feet to 15 1/2 feet deep. I & I are present there within the sewer main. FMA shoring box is 8 feet high only. Mr. Tierney inquired if the staff would be able to perform the work if FMA rents the equipment necessary to complete the job.

Mr. Kavitski said the staff normally do not work in deep holes and would not want to see staff completing a job this big.

Mr. Thomas inquired who is the contractor doing the storm water project in this area, maybe they would be willing to also complete the sewer main.

Mr. Kavitski said the job was not placed out for bid yet, so Freeland Borough would not know who the contractor would be.

Brenden Miller asked if Freeland Borough is bidding the job.

Mr. Kavitski said yes it needs to be bid but PENNVEST would be involved and not sure if the Authority would be able to add the Sewer Main to the Project if Freeland Borough approved. The bigger question would be if PENNVEST would approve. Mr. Kavitski inquired about the amount of money in sewer budget for I & I removal. The Office Manager said \$86,000 is in the budget. Mr. Kavitski said it could be put toward the project.

Ryan Smith said the FMA staff will complete the sewer main up to the point they can. The Authority can only complete about half of the entire area. Mr. Kavitski said this should be put out to bid.

Fiber Quote installation at the Wyoming St PS through PenTeleData was discussed. FMA would need to install underground conduit from the Wyoming St PS to the CSO on Carbon Street. Mr. Kavitski said this project should be tabled for now. The cellular data could be used for here. Ryan Smith said a camera will not work without data fiber. Maybe PA American Water will install a camera at the PS.

Wyoming St PS Plug Valve – the quote from Ferguson is the best price at \$10,940.00, Mr. Kavitski inquired if PA American Water was contacted regarding this cost. Ryan Smith said he has been in contact with PA American the last several weeks regarding this plug valve. PA American was aware of the quotes which were higher in price range of \$15,000 to \$17,000.

Mr. Tierney said to make sure an email is sent to PA American Water with the price of the quote, and he made the motion to approve the quote from Ferguson and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2600-A). NE Tech Marc Gradwohl, meter service for the Flow Meter Units, Manhole 107 has issues, and the annual calibration is \$2,000.00 for all the meters. Ryan Smith asked for the approval of the calibration. Mr. Kavitski stated the item was not on the agenda so it cannot be approved until next month.

#### ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #191525 \$521.50; Invoice #191526 \$1,567.50; Invoice #191744 \$2,355.00; and Invoice #190880R \$5,003.59 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2600-B).

#### ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Malaska stated he has worked on the PAWC draft agreement and Citterio meeting. Attorney Fagan had nothing to report this month.

#### OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Rainfall for the month was 2.96".

Garland Communications quote for company laptops, Lenovo ThinkPad E16Gen 1, 16" Notebook at the cost of \$1,549.41 each, one for ArcGIS Person and one for Office Manager, Mr. Tierney made the motion to purchase and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2600-C).

1117 Walnut Street – Request Refund of Sewer Tap-On Fee – Mr. Dale Peters paid the tap on fees for Water & Sewer Connections, FMA ran the water line from the main and installed the curb box, Mr. Peters has not connected a water service line from the curb box to the property. FMA has the curb box off. Mr. Peters has stated he cannot find a contractor willing to dig up the road to install a sewer lateral from the main to the home because the contractor needs to restore the road. Mr. Peters was supposed to place an apartment on top of the garage. Mr. Thomas made a motion to refund the sewer tap-on fee and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2600-D).

PGA Inc. – The Office Manager would like to charge off the three accounts. The building was sold at a free and clear, so the liens are null and void. The total of all three accounts is \$8,258.88. Attorney Malaska said he will check to see if the corporation has been dissolved. Mr. Thomas made the motion to charge off PGA, Inc. and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2600-E).

Mr. Kavitski informed the Board the electricity contract was awarded at a cost of 0.06440 per kWh with Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. for August 2025 through August 2029. (Reference 2600-F).

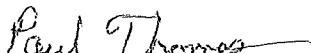
Server - Garland Communications and Keystone Engineering, FMA needs to have a sit down with both regarding the UPS shutting down after 10 minutes. There are two UPS for the servers, one for camera system and one for the office.

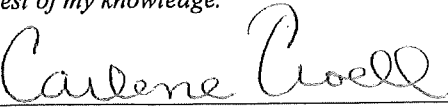
925 Chestnut St – Homeowner called FMA, dumpster company damaged the curb box after picking up the dumpster. Mr. Kavitski made a motion to bill the homeowner, the time and material, homeowner can go after the dumpster company for reimbursement and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2600-G).

Mr. Fisher inquired if a motion was made to purchase the land behind the FMA pole building. The purchase price was \$50,000 for certain parcels, it will be added to the agenda next month.

Mr. Kavitski made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

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

  
Paul Thomas, Secretary

  
Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary