

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 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 MALASKA, THE ENGINEER, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG – MOMENT OF SILENCE

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present at the meeting.

APPROVE MARCH MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the March Minutes and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVE MARCH PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the March paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$169,312.57, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$509,904.04, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2615-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Kavitski explained to the Board the WIN-911 SCADA Call Out System is not working properly so he recommends paying WIN-911 for only 1 year at \$3,900.00 and not three years, which is in the invoice list in the Water Division for \$10,250.00, not sure if it is the software or the programming. There are never issues with the SCADA callout system at the Sewer Plant which uses the Exele Software. Mr. Kavitski asked Ryan Smith to contact Martin Auman regarding the Exele Software to see if it will work with the Water SCADA System or call Pat at Black Birch regarding this software to see if he could help Martin setup with the Exele for the Water Division. Mr. Kuklis stated to take the 1 year and investigate another software company. This adjustment makes the Water Division invoices total \$93,433.75.

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve payment of the revised current Water Division invoices totaling \$93,433.75, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$70,764.72, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$907.55, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2615-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2615-C.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2615-D).

Sewer Area

-SIUA and IPP Items – Chris Ferdik presented this portion of the Engineering Report. Citterio sent their April Progress Report to the Authority. First week of October is the schedule for the annual inspections of the SIU facilities. Sample station at Citterios is up and running and the pH sensor is being moved by Citterio to help stop the FOG from accumulating on the sensor. Citterio does show continued improvement with the IPP Compliance with their communications and responses. HRG was to check-in with Veolia and Citterio as requested at the Regular March Meeting with the Board, there was some pushback regarding another meeting, due to written reports given. Monthly reporting deficiencies have been completed. Flows, TDS, and BOD exceedance need to be addressed. Citterio exceeds their permitted flow value, which is 100,000 gpd, they are around 115,000 gpd. No slug discharge since February 2025. Citterio needs to inform the Authority how they are going to meet their BOD and TDS limits. Civil Penalties may be reduced by 25% credit to what was issued but be paid within 30 days. Chris Ferdik mentioned Veolia has been an improvement with Citterio compliance and they are making operational changes. Nov #25-008 was responded to on time by Citterio. Citterio's permit expires October 31, 2025.

The Municipal Service Work continues for the Sewer Use Ordinances.

Mr. Kavitski inquired with Attorney Malaska regarding the reduction of the Civil Penalties, does an appeal hearing need to be set up first. Attorney Malaska stated each NOV Citterio is entitled to a hearing, the Authority could bundle them together or separate each one and possibly decide with each one. The Board could decide how to handle it with the Attorneys later.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – PSI is to be onsite tomorrow to drop off equipment trailer to prepare for project to start next week.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the sludge hauling to begin when and is all equipment onsite to start the project. Ryan Smith said he spoke with the sludge hauler to inform him to start on Monday.

Brenden Miller stated the contractor, PSI, needs to make the calls to the hauler, they are responsible for the hauling coordination not the Authority. Ryan Smith said he knew, and he understood.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the percentage of the dewatering the Authority is doing right now.

Ryan Smith said the percent solids is around 10 percent and with the new equipment we are hoping to obtain 18 percent.

Mr. Kavitski explained to Mr. Fisher the cost of the hauling is included in the project until the new dewatering press comes online. The hauling is not 100 percent what is coming into the plant. The heavy solids are being hauled out.

Mr. Thomas inquired if this hauling would create an odor at the treatment plant. Brenden Miller said it is a possibility. Mr. Kavitski said he thought with the aerator and digester running it should be fine.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if July 25, 2025, is still the completion date and Brenden Miller said yes.

Five documents regarding the project:

-PSI Change Order #1 – Work involves the filtrate pumps replacement with larger pumps, replacement of select drainage piping and discharge pipes and the contract extension as result of the delays in receiving the equipment. Time and material basis and it may be possible to have a credit back at the end of the project. HRG will have a full time RPR on site when the filtrate pumps are being installed. DEP/PENNVEST said to proceed with the work as long as a permit is submitted within 30 days. The permit is ready for submission as soon as Mr. Kavitski signs the application. The press work will be completed first prior to the filtrate pumps. The filtrate pump work cannot be completed until DEP/PENNVEST gives approval of the work otherwise it will not be allowed to be funded through the project.

Mr. Tierney asked about completion of the project. Brenden Miller said completion by end of Summer.

-Hayden Change Order #1 – includes an additional length of VFD cable and the same contract extension as the General Contract.

-Hayden Change Proposal #2 – Presented labor costs due to the contract extension. Hayden needs to provide this information to HRG at an earlier timeframe which they did not. HRG responded requesting further backup and referencing portions of the Contract in relation to additional costs provided by Hayden. A letter was sent back to Hayden regarding issues HRG found with this change order or the amounts Hayden is requesting. The letter does not require action from the Board, but HRG wanted the Board to be aware of the situation.

-PENNVEST/DEP Change Order Form for Mr. Kavitski's signature which will be taking funds from one category and placing it into another category on the PENNVEST Loan.

-Water Quality Management Part II Permit Application – HRG prepared this paperwork for the Change Order regarding the Filtrate Pumps which Mr. Kavitski will need to sign. HRG will cover the cost of the permit for the Authority. Brenden Miller inquired if Mr. Kavitski wanted to be included in this meeting for DEP/PENNVEST regarding the permit and he said yes depending on when it is scheduled.

-NPDES Permit Renewal – No update.

-ACT 537 Special Study – HRG is waiting for the PAWC Agreement to be finalized.

Mr. Kavitski said PAWC should inform HRG exactly what they would like. Jacob Weinrich, PAWC Engineer, is very interested in the flows.

-Dynamic Separator – No update currently.

-Wyoming Street - PS Plug Valve – No update.

Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank – A virtual job conference to be held on April 24th at 10 AM, which were suspended due to no work being done during the winter. Linde and PPL, some miscommunication between both, but payment was received by PPL. Linde is supposed to communicate with PPL per the contract and then coordinate with the Engineer, this was discussed with Linde several times. Survey markers were not there when Brenden Miller checked the job site today and it is Linde's responsibility to secure the site. The tank submittal was returned to Linde, and it has been several weeks with nothing returned from them. HRG is awaiting resubmission for both submittals on the tank project. PPL said three weeks to start removal of the poles, should be in this month. Ryan Smith said he has had communication with PTD regarding the poles for the fiber network at the Oak St. Tank. PTD was inquiring if the Authority wanted to complete the pole survey now and Ryan Smith said he is leaning toward waiting until the poles are moved before proceeding with the survey. Ryan Smith wanted to confirm with the Board their agreement to wait on the pole survey. PTD did say the PPL pole survey could take up to 90 days, but it is toward the end of the project.

-SRBC Water Conservation Grant – HRG has made significant progress with the project. Staci Hartz has begun to set up the digital twin merging the existing FMA GIS system. Three parts to this are the software using existing FMA model, smart meters for commercial customers and leak loggers. 540 Technologies, Brenden Miller has been working with them and was in the areas where the leak loggers will

be installed. Some of the valve boxes need to be cleaned out and to make sure they are operational by Authority staff for the leak loggers to be installed. Installation may be scheduled for the first week of May. The leak loggers will read at 2 AM for five minutes only, and the antennas are in the valve boxes themselves. Brenden Miller said the mapping from Brittany Caskey FMA GIS Person is better and has come a long way and will be placed into digital twin software. The proprietary software for smart meters is somewhat an issue to tie into the software and HRG is investigating which way would work best. Mr. Kavitski suggested looking at Master Meter for the smart meters. Brenden Miller said he has had discussions with a few vendors to see who would work the best. HRG would like to have a meeting with Ryan, Brittany and Dave for meter setup input from FMA. HRG should have quotes for May Meeting regarding the smart meters. Mr. Fox from HRG asked if the Authority would allow HRG to use FMA for marketing purposes on this project. Mr. Kavitski stated the publicity may be good for the Authority. Brenden Miller of HRG stated this project may possibly be the first one in the state.

-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study – No comments/updates from PADEP.

-PFAS, Iron and Manganese Treatment – AdEdge Engineer has come back to HRG for additional information regarding Well 10, more water samples are needed before obtaining a quote with actual design drawings for construction cost estimates.

Mr. Kavitski explained to the Board this should be the focus of the Authority, the meter shown here is three months old and we can see the condition of the meter due to iron. The reservoir and Well 10 are the areas for concentration because of the water quality at these locations.

Brenden Miller said this project will be designed and that if in the future the PFAS needs to be added, FMA would have the ability to do so. Brenden Miller will research PENNVEST grants for this project.

-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, the final payment was received from CFA and the project is closed out now.

-Water Pigging – Grant application will be for \$418,645.00 with a match of \$73,879.00 for total cost of project to be \$492,524.00. The application is due April 30, 2025, once everything is approved, signed, it will be submitted.

Mr. Kavitski wanted to be sure if the Grant Money is not obtained the project does not need to be completed and Brenden Miller said yes that is correct but if there is a partial award maybe pig the water lines which need it the most.

Brenden Miller said there are a lot of different pigging treatment APS can do for the mains.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about the length of time a customer would have no water service for the pigging to take place. Brenden Miller said it would depend on a few items such as the subbing of the work for excavation of the test pits and other things.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if a boil advisory would need to be placed. Brenden Miller said maybe water boil advisory or disinfection of the water line, there will be disruption of water service, temporary service from another line but it is all case by case.

Mr. Kavitski said curb stops would be shut off, disconnect meter when turning the customer back on and flush the service line so that is an addition to all the pigging. This project depends on whether the Authority receives the grant money.

Brenden Miller informed the Board if grant money is received it would need to be used within two years.

Mr. Fisher inquired how clean the pipe will be after pigging and Mr. Kavitski said it will clean it and then the corrosion control treatment will work to stick to the mains.

Mr. Fisher is concerned about the customers service lines and faucet screens blocking after pigging.

Mr. Kavitski explained the service lines will be flushed prior to reconnection.

SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve Change Order No. 1 Dewatering Upgrade Project Contract #24-01 General Construction-PSI not to exceed price of \$56,956.31 and contract times will be extended to 301 days and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2617-A).

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve Change Order No. 1 Dewatering Upgrade Project Contract #24-02 Electrical Construction-Hayden in the amount of \$7,113.73 and contract times will be extended to 301 days and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2617-B).

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve PENNVEST/DEP Change Order Supplement Form in the amount of \$36,614.40 movement of funds between cost categories and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2617-C).

Mr. Kavitski stated contacting the PUC regarding PA American Water will be put on hold at this time. PA American Water draft agreement not to reference old agreements Mr. Kavitski asked for Attorney Malaska's guidance.

Attorney Malaska stated he is fine with the old agreements to be referenced as historical value only.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to have the Addendum Extension of the PA American Water Agreement until July 31, 2025, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-A).

WATER DIVISION

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the application to apply for \$418,645.00 PA Small Water & Sewer Grant from Commonwealth Financing Authority for Waterline Rehabilitation Project with 15% Local Match Requirement and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-B).

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve Resolution 2 of 2025 to Request a PA Small Water & Sewer Program Grant in the amount of \$418,645.00 for Waterline Rehabilitation Project from the Commonwealth Financing Authority and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-C).

Water Meter Failures – Mike Beck of Core & Main, took one of the meters apart which had a problem, iron and manganese is stopping the meters from reading and having zero usage. He went back to Core & Main, who are willing to exchange all the SRII meters for iPerl Meters at no additional cost to the Authority. The iPerl meters have no moving parts inside to seize or hold up the reading of the water. Mr. Kuklis inquired if they will work with the Authority's current system and the Secretary said yes, they will. Mr. Kavitski thought the Authority should switch to the iPerl meter. The Board agreed to the exchange offer from Core & Main for the stock the Authority has currently. The Authority will need to obtain a current price of the iPerl meters.

MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager report. (Reference 2618-D).

Mr. Kavitski stated the staff should all have flagger training.

Low coolant alarm on the Sewer Plant generator again. Mechanical Service Company is coming to investigate the generator. Five or six weeks ago, the coolant was topped off. Cicioni works with Medico regarding radiators if the Authority wants them to investigate what is wrong. Mr. Thomas said the Authority should contact Cicioni. Mr. Kuklis made the motion to have Cicioni check the radiator and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Confined Space Training Quotes – Breakdown Sheet - Ryan Smith recommends Karl Environmental Group. This company is doing an evaluation which would be to develop the training and supply binder with a slideshow of the Authority's spaces. Mr. Kuklis made a motion to hire Karl Environmental Group for confined space training and purchase any additional equipment the Authority needs for the training and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-E).

The BOD Sensor, Mr. Kavitski, suggested holding off on this equipment right now because of the cost of \$40,000.00 each. Ryan Smith would like to have one placed at Manhole #107 and at the influent at the Sewer Plant.

Chestnut Street Sewer Line – Rental of a 308 Excavator to help with the project more quickly. The employees will be able to work to a depth of 8 feet with the trench box the Authority has and possible water line project on North Street. Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the Cleveland Brothers quote for the 302 Excavator, at the cost of \$3,832.00 for month-by-month rental basis with \$400 transportation fee, and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-F).

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the NE Technical Sales Inc. for calibration & service visit to work on flow meters at the cost of \$2000.00 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-G).

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #192306 \$891.50; Invoice #192307 \$172.50; Invoice #192419 \$3,197.50; Invoice #192421 \$2,355.00; and Invoice #192541 \$5,572.79 and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2618-H).

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Malaska stated he has worked on the PAWC draft agreement and Citterio meeting.

Attorney Fagan was not present at the meeting.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Rainfall for the month was 2.99".

Mr. Thomas made the motion to purchase the two parcels, 22R9NE2005003000 & 22R9NE200503A000, behind the Authority building at the cost of \$50,000.00 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2619-A). Mr. Thomas inquired if the Authority would have the right-of-way and Mr. Kavitski said yes. Mr. Kavitski stated Freeland Borough is still working out the details on the purchase of the land located at the corner of Birkbeck and Johnson Streets. Attorney Malaska stated when he is needed to call him for the paperwork.

Office Copier – Prices obtained from Stratix Systems, Ricoh C3510 at the cost of \$8,309.86, Mr. Tierney made the motion to purchase and Mr. Kavitski second, including the maintenance/service agreement. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2619-B).

Mr. Kavitski and Mr. Kuklis said to check with the Borough Office if they could use the printer instead of trading it in.

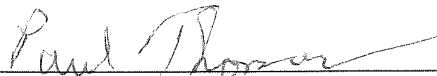
Mr. Tierney suggested purchasing tablets for Board Members and Technical Manager for the meetings and stop printing all items.

Mr. Kavitski said Carlene and I discussed this a while ago. Carlene suggested a Power Point presentation on the large screen, but no one would be able to page through or look ahead or behind during the meeting.


The Board was going into Executive Session for Personnel reasons after the meeting.

Mr. Tierney made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Kavitski 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