

FINAL COPY

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba, Chairman
Chris Papastrat
Edward Crumb
Stephen Andrew
Bruce King
Ronald Lake

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Ronald Warwick, Assistant Superintendent (Exited 4:52PM)
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer (Exited 4:52PM)
Charles Pearsall, Business Manager
Chuck Robinson, Staff Accountant, City of Binghamton (Exited 4:30PM)
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Adam Afify, Senior Operator (Entered 3:30PM) (Exited 4:52PM)
Larry Travis, Electrical Engineer (Exited 4:52PM)
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Janet Smith, Transcriptionist

Guests: Billie J. Goodson, City of Binghamton Purchasing Agent (Exited 4:52PM)
Howard Weaver, Weaver Recovery Consulting (Exited 3:49PM)
Adam Brown, Village of Johnson City Trustee

Chairman George Kolba called the meeting to order at 03:30PM. Sign in sheet was passed and attendance was noted aloud by Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary. All six (6) Board Members were present. Chairman Kolba confirmed all present signed in. Fire exits were identified, and Chairman Kolba requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Privilege of the Floor

No one wished to speak.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion to approve the submitted April 12, 2022, Regular Draft Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes made and as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 6/0

Chairman Kolba gave Howard Weaver the floor. Mr. Weaver updated the Board on progress regarding FEMA financials and closing Project Worksheets (PW's). Mr. Weaver noted that while he's had several high-level meetings with FEMA and NY Albany staff, the staff members he has been meeting with are new employees and not familiar with all the background and intricacies of the 2011 emergency/disaster projects which creates a lag locating information which was previously submitted years ago. It appears that the NYS-DHSES-selected completion date of June 19, 2022, seems reasonable if they no longer need any new information or ask for paperwork which had been previously submitted. The September 30, 2022, end of the federal fiscal year is the "drop dead" date for FEMA to close-out the DR-4031 (Remnants of Tropical Storm Lee) disaster.

Mr. Weaver stated he will be sending an email to FEMA and NYS to request a final inspection. He feels they will not come on site to inspect and wants that response in writing.

Mr. Weaver concluded advising he will be preparing a new contract for submission to the Board to review for the June 2022 Board meeting.

(Mr. Weaver exited the meeting; Adam Afify entered the meeting)

Elliott Wagner presented the Superintendent's Report, copies of which were distributed in the Board folders.

Superintendent Wagner overviewed his report stating that today was day 82 since the viewport separated from Cell CN-1 and we are still in an emergency as far as our process is concerned.

Recent rainfall (4.87" in April) and an issue with a missing manhole cover in the Village of Johnson City's cross-river sewer main made it difficult to meet the SPDES Permit.

Superintendent Wagner called on Adam Afify to explain one of the processes they are currently working on to which will allow them to get back on track with the permit. Mr. Afify described that Plant Operators are modifying operations to use the DN Cells to remove BOD and perform nitrification.

A copy of Superintendent Wagner's written report appears below:

April Superintendent's Report

5/10/2022

We had 4.87 inches of April Showers last month. Our average flow jumped to 31.81 MGD.

With that also comes the discovery of a missing manhole cover in the Susquehanna River. The Village of Johnson City Department of Public Works was able to locate and replace the cover.

Effluent averages were:

CBOD5 = 58.47 mg/L. TSS = 27.2 mg/L. Phosphorous = 1.0 mg/L. The combination of temporary Chlorination and UV disinfection resulted in a Fecal count of only 27.

The temporary Chlorine storage tank passed inspection and was added to our Bulk Storage permit.

During inspection and Maintenance of the Actiflo system, mechanics have discovered a shroud cutting into one of the mixer shafts. Howard Reeve is contacting the SPX Mixer motor representative.

Mechanics have installed end bearings on the mechanical thickeners.

Plant operators are working in conjunction with Kruger/Veolia to temporarily run the Denitrification cells as carbonaceous cells which may reduce the TSS number and possibly give the Ammonia time to convert to Nitrite/Nitrate.

Matco has been on-site with several crews removing and replacing damaged wire and equipment. They have been testing submersible cables and rebuilding control panels and HOA ("hand or automatic") switches.

Vacri should be here shortly to place protective plates on CN-8 and DN-4.

We had a visit last week from the DEC. Tom Vigneault and Valerie Ellis toured the damage and recovery efforts of the plant workers and contractors.

Plant mechanics have started removing all valve actuators and will be delivering them to Rotork to be repaired or replaced as necessary

Business Manager's Report

Overviewing his Business Manager's Report, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders, Mr. Pearsall reported that the 2021 accounting and AUD (Annual Update Document report to the NYS Comptroller) is wrapping up. He is asking for Board approval of a 2022 budget transfer.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves a budget modification on the revenue side in the amount of \$400,000.00 added to budget line J.42680.CNBAF (Insurance Recoveries-CNBAF) and an increase of appropriations by \$350,000.00 to J8130. 54410.CNBAF (Professional Services-CNBAF) and an increase by \$50,000.00 to J8130. 54520.CNBAF (Equipment Lease-CNBAF) and that the corresponding Requests for Legislation be submitted to the Owner's Legislative Bodies.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorizes the Business Manager or his designee to advertise for a successor outside laboratory services agreement using the same form of request for proposal with changes in the dates.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 6/0

Mr. Pearsall stated to the Board that he has not yet received any bills from the Vestal Water Department.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Chuck Robinson presented the Fiscal Officer's report on behalf of Chuck Shager overviewing the numbers, a copy of which was distributed in the Board folders, stating that there are no issues at this time and that the check for the Village of Johnson City's quarterly credit will be distributed shortly.

Mr. Crumb presented the Lead Agency Capital Project Chart Report and Graph Report that was distributed in the Board folders. He explained how to review the Chart Report, as well as the color-coding system and the scaling of the graphs in the Graph Report detailing the various lines in the financials.

Board Committee Reports

Construction: George Kolba, Steve Andrew, and Ron Lake – Steve had nothing to report. Ron Lake stated that Superintendent Wagner is doing a fantastic job and reported that PC Construction is the only outstanding Lead Agency construction contract. Chairman Kolba briefly updated on the JC manhole cover issue.

Finance: Edward Crumb – Mr. Crumb wanted to mention that he received the draft 2021 Final Billing from the City’s Assistant Comptroller earlier this afternoon, and it will be scheduled to be presented and discussed at next month’s Board meeting. Mr. Crumb also wanted to thank and commend Mr. Pearsall for a job well-done for the past 8 plus years as Business Manager.

**Edward Crumb made a motion that upon the end of Charles Pearsall’s service by way of retirement the Board appoints the new Business Manager, Billie J. Goodson, as the authorized FEMA Applicant’s Authorized Representative and that the appropriate documentation be prepared and signed and submitted by Howard Weaver to FEMA and NYS-DHSES.
Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion carried 5/0/1 (SA, Abstain)**

Flow Management: Edward Crumb – Nothing to report.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – Mr. King stated that he will be scheduling a meeting to discuss the By-Laws. He would also like for there to be a meeting regarding the Procurement Policy and the Vestal water billing issue.

Personnel: Steve Andrew – Nothing to report.

Correspondence: Michele Cuevas – Ms. Cuevas went over her margin/ “Side Notes” on outstanding amounts in the monthly Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program report and pointed out the DEC Delivers Newsletter excerpts which outlines new grant funding opportunities available having June 17th and July 29th application deadlines, respectively.

Old Business: Previously discussed.

New Business: None

Executive Session:

**Steve Andrew made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss collective labor negotiations, pending litigation, and personnel matters.
Motion seconded by Ron Lake.
Motion carried. 6/0**

(Ms. Goodson and Messrs. Warwick, Afify, Reeve, and Travis exited the meeting)

At 4:52PM, the Board entered Executive Session.

(During the Executive Session, Mr. Papastrat briefly exited the meeting; a quorum of five Board Members remains)

**Steve Andrew made a motion to come out of Executive Session.
Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP, absent)**

At 5:49PM, the Board exited Executive Session. No action was taken during the Executive Session.

(Mr. Papastrat rejoined the meeting; all six Board Members are present)

The Board had a lengthy discussion about obtaining a new or updated Preliminary Engineering Report for the *Terminal Pump Station Improvements* in relation to solids handling (replacing the channel grinders with screening and debris removal) to obtain Owner approval to retain consulting engineering services for project design and any future grant applications.

**Steve Andrew made a motion for the Board to direct the Business Manager to submit to the Board a proposed Request for Qualifications and Proposal for a new or updated Preliminary Engineering Report for the *Terminal Pump Station Improvements* in relation to solids handling (replacing the channel grinders with screening and debris removal).
Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0**

**Steve Andrew made a motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion carried. 6/0**

Meeting adjourned at 6:08PM.

The next regular meeting is June 14, 2022 at 3:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Smith
Transcriptionist

cc: Board Members
Mayor Kraham, City of Binghamton
Mayor Meaney, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor, Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, Village of Johnson City Director of Public Services
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Engineer
File