

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority was called to order at 12:30 p.m., on Monday, October 26, 2015, Chairman Brian Nagle presiding. Other Members present at the commencement of the meeting were: Linda Rosenfeld, Emrich Stellar, Tom Muller, Richard Bohner, Norma Cusick, Scott Bieber, Ted Lyons and Deana Zosky. Authority Staff present were Aurel Arndt via video conference, Liesel Adam, Pat Mandes, Ed Klein, Frank Leist, Brad Landon, John Parsons, Phil DePoe, Bob Kerchusky, Linda Eberhardt and Lisa Miller.

Present from the public were Rob Hamill, Mike Siegel, Dave McGuire, Joe Hilliard, Jan Keim and John Donchez.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Chairman Nagle said that there will be an Executive Session following the regular meeting regarding potential litigation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 14, 2015 Workshop Meeting Minutes

Chairman Nagle has one change. Under Action and Discussion Items, the dates for the Capital Plan should read 2016-2025. On a motion by Richard Bohner, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes of the September 14, 2015 Workshop Meeting as changed (9-0).

September 28, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Richard Bohner said that under Action and Discussion Items, Well WL-20 and Reservoir-3 – Coordinated Capital and Operational Changes, the Capital Project Authorization shows a different total cost as to what is being requested and what is listed in the actual paperwork. Since this is not a typo, the Minutes will be tabled until the correct amount of the CPA is determined.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Hilliard of South Allentown was present and expressed his concerns of transparency with the Board. He read from a list of items that he believes would improve the Authority's transparency. The Board requested the list be supplied to the Authority in writing for consideration.

Rob Hamill was present to discuss his concerns with transparency and the monitoring of Wells 8 & 12. He states that he believes the Authority is not completing the monitoring work it agreed to do to ensure the wells would not impact the Little Lehigh Creek. Liesel Adam responded that LCA has provided Lower Macungie Township with the information on the monitoring wells and also reached out to assist them with any questions and so all terms of the monitoring requirements have been met.

David McGuire with the Sierra Club of Allentown was present to comment on the monitoring wells and also the EPA Administrative Order (AO).

Jan Keim was present and discussed her concerns regarding sewage overflows in the Little Lehigh Creek and the solutions that the municipalities and LCA were proposing to correct the problem. Some discussion followed regarding a presentation that Bill Erdman from Keystone Consulting Engineers had presented to some of the Western Lehigh Signatories and their engineers to discuss the options on the EPA AO. The Board did not have a copy of, nor were familiar with Mr. Erdman's presentation, and therefore requested additional information about this topic be presented at a future meeting.

Mike Siegel, President of the Little Lehigh Watershed Coalition was present. He stated that the Coalition has been essential in getting water quality improved in the Little Lehigh Creek. He also wanted to let the Board members know that the Coalition has hired an attorney to monitor LCA's activity for the past six years. He said that his attorney will sue LCA and its signatories if there is another sewage overflow on the Little Lehigh Creek. The Coalition is watching and will hold LCA and its signatories accountable.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**2016 Budget**

The preliminary 2016 Budget had been presented at the previous Workshop meeting and is now up for approval. Liesel Adam gave an overview and Ed Klein presented a PowerPoint slide show highlighting debt service ratios and any changes made from the preliminary Budget. There was discussion on the signatory rates. Ed Klein also explained the use of reserves to fund capital improvements.

There was public comment on the transparency of LCA's budget review and approval process and also capital improvement costs.

There was discussion on the Budget timeline. Ed Klein explained that the 2016 budget timeline was compressed significantly to meet Concession financing bondholder requirements of budget adoption prior to November 1st. Future budget timelines can be modified if needed, which the Board will discuss at a future meeting.

Norma Cusick proposed a motion to adopt the 2016 Budget as presented, seconded by Richard Bohner. To ensure a clear record of this action, a roll call vote was requested, with the following votes cast:

Linda Rosenfeld – yes
Emrich Stellar – yes
Tom Muller – yes
Brian Nagle – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Scott Bieber – yes
Ted Lyons – yes
Deana Zosky – no

With such votes cast, the Board adopted the 2016 Budget (8-1).

Pat Mandes gave an overview of the proposed 2016 Wastewater User Charges report. The report consists of the proposed rates for the Western Lehigh Signatories. LCA stated that rates were lowered 14% last year.

On a motion by Ted Lyons, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board unanimously gave preliminary approval of the Proposed 2016 Wastewater User Charges (9-0).

Allentown Division – Miscellaneous Water Filtration Plant/Water Distribution (Approval)

Frank Leist gave an overview of the project that consists of repainting the processed water pipe at the Water Filtration Plant. The work includes the preparation (sand blasting) of processed water piping including connection joints, support posts and miscellaneous pipe support steel. He is asking for approval of the Capital Project Authorization for the Construction Phase in the amount of \$122,097.00, which includes the Professional Services Authorization to D'Huy Engineering in the amount of \$9,200.00 and the General Contract Award to D.M. Coatings, Inc. in the amount of \$82,897.00.

On a motion by Scott Bieber, seconded by Tom Muller, the Board unanimously approved the Capital Project Authorization for the Construction Phase in the amount of \$122,097.00, which includes the Professional Services Authorization to D'Huy Engineering in the amount of \$9,200.00 and the General Contract Award to D.M. Coatings, Inc. in the amount of \$82,897.00 (9-0).

Allentown Division – Miscellaneous Projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (Approval)

Frank Leist gave an overview of the project that consists of the purchase and installation of a new 250 kW standby generator with sub-base fuel tank, concrete pad, automatic transfer switch, interconnecting conduit

and wiring and tie-in to an existing Motor Control Center. He is asking for approval of the Capital Project Authorization for the Construction Phase in the amount of \$162,200.00, which includes the Professional Services Authorization to D'Huy Engineering in the amount of \$13,500.00 and the General Contract Award to Wind Gap Electric in the amount of \$108,700.00.

On a motion by Emrich Stellar, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board unanimously approved the Capital Project Authorization for the Construction Phase in the amount of \$162,200.00, which includes the Professional Services Authorization to D'Huy Engineering in the amount of \$13,500.00 and the General Contract Award to Wind Gap Electric in the amount of \$108,700.00 (9-0).

There was a brief discussion on Boston Beer and their pretreatment plant rates.

SYSTEM OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

Robert Kerchusky reported that in September, the Water Filtration Plant produced 20.5 million gallons per day. The projects that were completed were the #23 standpipe was cleaned inside and out and surface coated, the #2 High lift motor was removed for rebuild, and one of the Crystal Spring motors was removed for rebuild. Kline's Island Wastewater Plant treated 30.09 million gallons per day. Major projects that are ongoing are the motor control center replacement and the SCADA system. All parameters were met at both plants.

Tom Muller left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Linda Rosenfeld commented that she recently toured the Wastewater Treatment Plant. She said it was terrific and was amazed at how well it was working compared to when she had toured it in the past. She thanked Steve Stahlberg for the tour.

STAFF COMMENTS

Liesel Adam recognized Linda Eberhardt for her tremendous effort in the Budget process. The Board thanked her.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

None.

OTHER COMMENTS

David McGuire commented on the Inflow and Infiltration issue. The Board commented that LCA is and has been trying to get the right solution for all those involved. Joe Hilliard stated that the City has oversold its capacity for years. Mike Siegel commented on the odor issues in the Lehigh Parkway area and in sections of the Little Lehigh Creek. Deana Zosky commented that she is aware that LCA is working on the odor issues with the residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman called an Executive Session at 2:10 p.m. to discuss potential litigation.

Linda Rosenfeld left the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

The session ended at 3:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Richard H. Bohner
Secretary