

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority was called to order at 12:01 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2018, Chairman Brian Nagle presiding. Other Members present at the commencement of the meeting were: Linda Rosenfeld, Jeff Morgan, Richard Bohner, Norma Cusick, Ted Lyons, and Deana Zosky. Authority Staff present were Liesel Gross, Brad Landon, Charles Volk, Ed Klein, Pat Mandes, Chris Moughan, Susan Sampson and Lisa Miller.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Chairman Nagle announced that today's Board meeting is being videotaped and streaming live and recordings will be posted to the Authority's website.

Liesel Gross noted changes to the agenda. Under Finance & Administration, the City Division – Monthly Billing Implementation will be moved to Executive Session. Also under Executive Session there will be an item for discussion regarding property acquisition. In addition, the memo regarding the Western Lehigh Interceptor High Flow – Emergency Declaration that was previously emailed to the Board and distributed at the meeting, will be discussed under Wastewater.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Richard Bohner offered minor grammatical corrections to the minutes. On a motion by Richard Bohner, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board approved the Minutes of November 12, 2018 meeting as corrected (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

2019 Board Meeting Schedule

The proposed Board meeting schedule for 2019 was presented for Board approval so the schedule can be advertised and posted to the Authority's website.

On a motion by Ted Lyons, seconded by Linda Rosenfeld, the Board approved the 2019 Board Meeting Schedule as presented (7-0).

Western Lehigh Interceptor High Flow – Emergency Declaration Memorandum

Liesel Gross introduced Jim Shelton from Arcadis and Diana Heimbach, Plant Manager of the pre-treatment plant to assist with the discussion regarding the sanitary sewer overflow conditions in the Western Lehigh sewer service area that have recently occurred and the action taken to investigate the condition of the line that may be contributing to the high flows during extreme wet weather.

Scott Bieber entered the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Liesel Gross reported that an internal team was created, meeting daily to develop a plan to investigate the condition of the Western Lehigh Interceptor and options for repairing any damage that is discovered. The biggest challenge has been to determine a method to inspect the system when the interceptor is completely full.

Kevin Baker entered the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

The team has developed a method that has been effective, using the Flow Equalization Basin (FEB), which holds 3.3 million gallons, at the pretreatment plant to hold back flows from the system, which allows the water levels in the interceptor to drop low enough so that inspection and televising crews can inspect the lines. Over the past two weeks, the emergency operations crews performed work running north to south from the pretreatment plant to Trexlertown. Several joint leaks and some debris were found along with silt and sediment in the pipes, however the interceptor is in very good condition overall. The next step is to check the lines from Trexlertown to the Spring Creek area. Upper Macungie Township has assisted with flushing key lines that were suspected of being partially blocked.

Scott Bieber asked if additional FEB would work for short term relief. Jim Shelton from Arcadis said that in the short term this is a viable option, but should not be the normal operation because the FEB needs to be available for its intended use during wet-weather events. Source reduction work coupled with conveyance projects and the regional conveyance work is needed to eliminate the overflows caused by excessive inflow and infiltration issues. This work is described in more detail in the Regional Flow Management Strategy that was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency and Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in August.

Ms. Gross reported that Authority staff met with DEP the previous week to discuss the problems described in this emergency declaration and also tour the impacted area. The Authority has asked DEP to review its strategy to investigate the problem and provide recommendations.

Ms. Gross explained the emergency operation has been successful thus far as leaks are very easily identified during this period of very high groundwater conditions. Under normal, dry conditions, the leaks are very difficult to identify and require a comprehensive "test and seal" process, which is expensive and time consuming to complete. Test and seal work was included in the 2019 capital budget but will not be needed if the investigation and repair work can be completed under this emergency declaration.

Board discussion followed regarding the scope of the emergency declaration, and the need to investigate the condition of the interceptor through the whole system, including downstream of the Spring Creek Pump Station.

On a motion by Linda Rosenfeld, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board approved the Western Lehigh Interceptor High Flow Emergency Declaration described in the memo, retroactive to November 28, 2018, and covering emergency inspection of the interceptor and rehabilitation of pipe defects discovered through the process (9-0).

Sanitary Sewer System Flow Metering for WLI

Pat Mandes recommended approval for two Professional Services Authorizations (PSAs) related to the Western Lehigh Interceptor System for the 2019 flow metering project, which will generate the data needed to recalibrate the flow model for design of additional conveyance capacity projects and evaluate the effectiveness of the source removal work completed to date. The PSA to TFE Resources, in the amount not to exceed \$350,000.00, is for installation of the temporary flow meters and ongoing data collection services during the scope of the nine-month project. The PSA to Arcadis

in the amount of \$89,000.00, is for quality control of the flow meter data collected by TFE Resources. Jim Shelton explained that the objective is to ensure the data is accurate since this data will then be used to recalibrate the hydraulic model.

On a motion by Scott Bieber, seconded by Jeff Morgan, the Board approved the Professional Services Authorization in the amount of \$350,000.00 to TFE Resources and the Professional Services Authorization in the amount of \$89,000.00 to Arcadis (9-0).

MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS

Liesel Gross reviewed the December 2018 project update report that was sent out with the Board packet and highlighted some items for discussion coming up in January 2019. Ms. Gross noted that the Preliminary 2020-2024 Capital Plans will be on the January 28, 2019 agenda for discussion and asked the Board if they would prefer to discuss all three plans at one meeting or spread out over a few meetings. The Board preferred to discuss the City plan at a meeting separately from a meeting to discuss the two Suburban plans.

The Monthly Financial Review and the Monthly System Operations Overview reports for November 2018 will be provided to the Board and published on the website sometime during the week of December 17, 2018.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / OTHER COMMENTS

None.

Chairman Nagle called a recess at 1:14 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:23 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held at 1:23 p.m. to discuss matters of real estate acquisition and potential litigation.

The Executive Session ended at 1:55 p.m.

The Regular meeting was reconvened at 1:55 p.m. at which time the Board approved Resolution No. 12-2018-1 which authorizes the filing of a declaration of taking and all necessary action for the condemnation of a parcel of land owned by Louise W. Kern for the purpose of constructing a water pumping station and appurtenant facilities.

On a motion by Linda Rosenfeld, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board approved Resolution No. 12-2018-1 (9-0).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

Richard H. Bohner
Secretary