

**ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY**

October 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority was called to order by Chairman Lockett and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting took place via Zoom conference on October 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Paul Lockett	Lauren Elliot	Donald Jensen, Esquire
Gloria Lance	David Rinaldi, Esquire	Mike Bisignani, Engineer
Donald Snyder	Paul Murphy	Frank Besten
Wayne Thorpe	John Pullo	Casey Monagan

Guest: Mr. Durkin

**Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2021 meeting, seconded by Ms. Lance, unanimously passed.**

Executive Session started at 6:32 PM- Litigation discussion  
Executive Session ended at 6:40 PM

**Directors Report:**

Ms. Elliot presented her directors report including Thermal Mass Flowmeter Replacement, 2022 Budget, Flowmeter Relocation and Spare Programming Logic Controller (PLC) processor.

Ms. Elliot reported that the mass airflow meter for the sludge holding tank needs replaced. The meter is designed to control the amount of air that is introduced into the sludge holding tank and allows for automatic adjustments of airflow. The cost of meter replacement is \$6,352.12 and is COSTAR pricing from LRM Inc, an Endress Hauser authorized service provider.

**Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the replacement of the Thermal Mass Flowmeter at the cost of \$6,352.12 from LMR Inc, seconded by Mr. Pullo, unanimously passed.**

Ms. Elliot reported that she has received all anticipated EDU counts from the municipalities and prepared and distributed a draft 2022 budget. Ms. Elliot discussed the budget is virtually the same as last year and falls approximately \$88 less. Mr. Pullo asked if there will be any issues with supply chain getting chemicals. Ms. Elliot stated she has been good and has been ordering earlier. She has ordered some ice melt anticipating the shortage. Mr. Rinaldi asked Mr. Murphy what the maximum amount for raises would be. Mr. Murphy stated that the budget is so in line for the last several years that there is no limit on it. Ms. Elliot stated she would complete her evaluations and circulate that with the Personnel Committee with the Health Insurance Information. Ms. Lance asked if Ms. Elliot can let her know when that is circulated so she doesn't miss them. Ms. Elliot said she would provide paper copies to anyone who would like one.

**Mr. Pullo made a motion to move forward with the 2022 Draft Budget, seconded by Mr. Murphy, unanimously passed.**

Ms. Elliot reported that she has been contacted by North East Technical Services to schedule the day to move the flowmeters. Three flowmeters were selected according to the Act 537 plan SSES prioritization schedule. The municipalities have been contacted to select their locations in preparation to the move. Mr. Thorpe asked what the flowmeter data is telling ARWA. Ms. Elliot discussed that the Authority needs to have the engineers analyze the data. There are areas worse than others. Mr. Bisignani stated GHD hasn't analyzed the data since they have taken on the Authority.

Ms. Elliot reported there have been several delays in production and shipment of electronics. Programming Logic Controller (PLC) unit controls all the major pieces of equipment. Currently there are several on site and are universal. PLC failure would require manual equipment adjustments 24/7. Due to the delays, Ms. Elliot suggests that a spare unit be purchase. The cost of the PLC unit is \$8,516.00.

**Mr. Murphy made Motion to approve the purchase of the spare Programming Logic Controller in the amount of \$8,516.00, seconded by Mr. Rinaldi, unanimously passed.**

Ms. Elliot presented the Operational Data for September 2021, reporting an average daily influent flow of 4.50 MGD. It was another higher-than-average month with 7.25 inches of rain.

Ms. Elliot presented the rain vs flow chart.

Ms. Elliot presented Anthony Luongo Operations and Maintenance highlighting the replacement of a pressure gage for the seal water feed line on return pump 3, and removal of debris building for proper parking lot drainage, McClure was on site and replaced the compressor for biosolids building HVAC roof top unit, cleaning of both 1 and 2 clarifiers along with service and inspection of UV Signa system and the cleaning and service of the Enviromix compressed gas compressors.

Unpaid Bills Detail:  
 Unpaid Bills 10/13/2021

Abington Regional Wastewater Authority

10/14/2021 9:13 AM

Register: Fidelity Operating Expenses

From 09/09/2021 through 10/14/2021

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
10/13/2021	4120	Admin Partners	Accounts Payable	Pension Plan A...	80.80			129.75
10/13/2021	4121	Amrex Chemical Co.	Accounts Payable	Sodium Perma...	2,382.00			-2,252.25
10/13/2021	4122	Amy Waters	Accounts Payable	Recording Secr...	100.00			-2,352.25
10/13/2021	4123	Bartron Supply Inc.	Accounts Payable	1111274024	773.86			-3,126.11
10/13/2021	4124	BDI Industries	Accounts Payable	HVAC Filters	244.50			-3,370.61
10/13/2021	4125	Cardmember Service	Accounts Payable	Credit Card Pa...	15.89			-3,386.50
10/13/2021	4126	Convenient Food Mart	Accounts Payable	Gasoline	278.34			-3,664.84
10/13/2021	4127	Dempsey Uniform	Accounts Payable	Mud Rug Rental	35.86			-3,700.70
10/13/2021	4128	Fox Ledge, Inc.	Accounts Payable	Bottled Drinkin...	23.89			-3,724.59
10/13/2021	4129	Frontier	Accounts Payable	Telephone and ...	236.89			-3,961.48
10/13/2021	4130	GHD	Accounts Payable	Biosolids Build...	2,165.00			-6,126.48
10/13/2021	4131	Greenfield Powder E...	Accounts Payable	GS Safety Toe ...	125.00			-6,251.48
10/13/2021	4132	HACH	Accounts Payable	021805-001	2,400.00			-8,651.48
10/13/2021	4133	Hawk Mountain Lab...	Accounts Payable	Contract Lab A...	3,037.50			-11,688.98
10/13/2021	4134	Highmark Blue Shield	Accounts Payable	Health Insurance	4,516.47			-16,205.45
10/13/2021	4135	Industrial Appraisal ...	Accounts Payable	Industrial Appr...	410.00			-16,615.45
10/13/2021	4136	IWC Group	Accounts Payable	Workers Comp...	2,932.67			-19,548.12
10/13/2021	4137	Jensen & Jensen	Accounts Payable	Legal Services	1,093.75			-20,641.87
10/13/2021	4138	JS Instrumentation &...	Accounts Payable	Annual Calibra...	560.00			-21,201.87
10/13/2021	4139	Justus Home & Garden	Accounts Payable	Gravel, Cleanin...	815.48			-22,017.35
10/13/2021	4140	Kappe & Associates	Accounts Payable	UV Signa Bulb...	6,166.00			-28,183.35
10/13/2021	4141	Keystone Sanitary La...	Accounts Payable	Sludge Disposal	6,367.42			-34,550.77
10/13/2021	4142	Knowles Associates ...	Accounts Payable	Treasurer Bond...	158.00			-34,708.77
10/13/2021	4143	Lackawanna County ...	Accounts Payable	Internet	65.00			-34,773.77
10/13/2021	4144	North End Electric	Accounts Payable	NCSS02	320.07			-35,093.84
10/13/2021	4145	PA American Water ...	Accounts Payable	Domestic Water	285.13			-35,378.97
10/13/2021	4146	PA Rural Water	Accounts Payable		1,002.00			-36,380.97
10/13/2021	4147	Pena-Plas	Accounts Payable	Tubing	30.20			-36,411.17
10/13/2021	4148	Pennsylvania Paper ...	Accounts Payable	paper towels	54.00			-36,465.17
10/13/2021	4149	PPL	Accounts Payable	Electric	11,516.66			-47,981.83
10/13/2021	4150	PRM Filtration	Accounts Payable	Clarifier Distri...	1,707.73			-49,689.56
10/13/2021	4151	Saul Ewing Amstein ...	Accounts Payable	Special Counsel	3,361.94			-53,051.50
10/13/2021	4152	Smith Air Center Inc.	Accounts Payable	Compressor M...	1,990.67			-55,042.17
10/13/2021	4153	UGI	Accounts Payable	2379801011-4	11.63			-55,053.80
10/13/2021	4154	United Concordia	Accounts Payable	364001819	424.69			-55,478.49
10/13/2021	4155	USALCO	Accounts Payable	Alum	4,483.04			-59,961.53
10/13/2021	4156	Waste Management .	Accounts Payable	Sludge Hauling	1,789.93			-61,751.46
10/13/2021	4157	Waste Management I...	Accounts Payable	821-90844	77.52			-61,828.98
10/13/2021	4158	Zen Design Firm	Accounts Payable	Web and Email...	85.00			-61,913.98
10/13/2021			Fidelity Income & Inve...	Funds Transfer			67,724.53	5,810.55

**Motion was made by Mr. Murphy to approve payment of bills for 10/13/2021 in the amount of \$62,124.53, seconded by Mr. Monagan, passed.**

**Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the ACH payment to Mass Mutual for pension fund in the amount of \$5,600, seconded by Mr. Rinaldi, unanimously passed.**

Ms. Elliot presented the budget and statement of balances.

**Engineers Report**

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed GHD continues to coordinate with retained special council Mr. William Warren on an as needed basis fielding phone calls, providing descriptions and feedback as requested. There were no necessary interactions this past month.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed the DRAFT agreement from PA DGS associated with the sewer system consolidation and ARWA WWTP paper re-rate.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that NPDES permit renewal process should be started the beginning of 2022.

**The Treasurer's Report** was presented by Mr. Murphy as follows:

Fidelity Bank as of October 13, 2021 = \$3,179.03

Money Market Account as of October 13,2021 = \$259,939.89 (Done Quarterly)

Requisitions: #524- \$28,000 to Payroll Account  
#525- \$1,000 to Treasurer's Account

**Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the requisitions #524- \$28,000 to the Payroll Account and #525- \$1,000 to Treasurer's Account, seconded by Mr. Rinaldi, unanimously passed.**

**Public Relations Committee:** No Report

**Personnel Committee:** No Report

**Litigation Committee:** No Report

**Finance Committee:** No Report

**Solicitor's Report** - Solicitor Jensen reviewed the Draft Agreement from PA DPS associated with the paper re-rate. Solicitor reviewed all previous concerns the board members previously had on the agreement including precedent that ARWA would set taking in a non-member municipality; taking on landowner with approximately 100 building sites and two schools; cost since the government only wants to take on the cost associated with their connection; concern about the effect on the member municipalities and their ability to expand in the future. Solicitor Jensen discuss that the agreement uses the figures that GHD provided to just do the studies and not looking at paying excess of these studies

and not looking to pay anymore more than what was quoted. He stated that the board needs to decide if they would like to move forward and how they would like him to respond to the utility agreement. Mr. Murphy stated that the authority needs to save the extra capacity it has for the member municipalities. Mr. Murphy also mention that the authority was built to ultimate capacity of the member municipalities. Chairman Lockett asked if this study would be funded by the state, would they be legally bound to continue. Solicitor Jensen advised the board not to go down the road of the study and not bring the State Hospital. Mr. Durkin discussed that the State at no time has mentioned that they would force the Authority to allow them to connect. Mr. Thorpe asked if the State could force ARWA to connect. Mr. Durkin also stated they were contracted to study two scenarios; 1) being connect to the authority and 2) to upgrade their current plant. He also stated that if they moved forward with the study and they found that there is sufficient capacity then the state would want to connect. He stated that it would benefit them and the environment if they connected to the authority and believes the has the capacity to allow the connection. Mr. Durkin stated the state agreed to pay for the study up front. If it showed insufficient capacity, then they would move on. If the study showed that there was sufficient capacity, then they would pay for the study but not anything more than what they needed. If the authority used the excess capacity the authority would have to pay. Mr. Snyder discussed that there is a developer in Glenburn that discussed building in the past and that development is back on the building block. He also stated that the authority can't tell taxpayers that they can't connect. Discussion continued and it was determined to form a committee to decide. Chairman Lockett agreed that a committee would be the best solution and would form one in the next few days.

**Board Member Comments:** None

**There were no members of the public present and no public comment.**

**Motion to adjourn was made at 8:03 PM by Mr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Monagan unanimously passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Frank Besten, Assistant Secretary