

ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

November 10, 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 November 10, 2021, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

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

Absent: Mike Bisignani, Engineer

Ms. Lance made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Pullo unanimously passed.

Executive Session started at 6:31 PM- Litigation discussion
Executive Session ended at 6:38 PM

Directors Report:

Ms. Elliot presented her directors report including Employee Evaluations, Personnel Policy Updates, and Insurance Renewal.

Ms. Elliot reported that Employee Evaluations were completed, and she completed the evaluation synopsis and will distribute them to committee members. Ms. Elliot also reported she has reviewed the health insurance renewal information from Creative Benefits. All information will be sent out shortly to the Personnel Committee so they can make their 2022 recommendations at December meeting.

Ms. Elliot reported that a new Covid-19 vaccination policy and the Emergency Response Procedure Pandemic Policy was updated. Both policies will be distributed following the solicitors Review

Ms. Elliot reported that the Insurance Renewal process has begun with Knowles Insurance. All policy applications have been completed and submitted. The quotation will be sent to the board for review when it is received.

Ms. Elliot presented the Operational Data for October 2021, reporting an average daily influent flow of 4.07 MGD. There were 2 high flow events.

Ms. Elliot presented the rain vs flow chart.

Ms. Elliot presented Anthony Luongo Operations and Maintenance report highlighting the winter preparations; removing fountain pumps and piping and started heaters and heat tracers for outside piping. The report also included Staff working with South Abington Twp using the sewer inspection camera to locate lateral lines for new construction; flowmeter relocation date secured, skid steer inspection by Bartron supply, and the October 26, 2021 wet weather event producing 2.21 inches of rain.

Unpaid Bills Detail:
 Unpaid Bills 11/10/2021

Abington Regional Wastewater Authority

11/11/2021 8:29 AM

Register: Fidelity Operating Expenses

From 10/14/2021 through 11/11/2021

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
10/31/2021			Facility Operating Exp...	Service Charge	35.00	X		175.55
11/05/2021	4159	American Arbitration...	Accounts Payable	Arbitrator fee	2,500.00			-2,324.45
11/05/2021	4160	Amrex Chemical Co.	Accounts Payable	Sodium Perma...	1,334.00			-3,658.45
11/05/2021	4161	Amy Waters	Accounts Payable	Recording Secr...	100.00			-3,758.45
11/05/2021	4162	Chapman Supply Co.	Accounts Payable	Stainless steel ...	1.17			-3,759.62
11/05/2021	4163	Dempsey Uniform	Accounts Payable	Mud Rug Rental	35.86			-3,795.48
11/05/2021	4164	Fox Ledge, Inc.	Accounts Payable	Bottled Drinkin...	30.56			-3,826.04
11/05/2021	4165	GHD	Accounts Payable	Quarterly Retai...	2,625.00			-6,451.04
11/05/2021	4166	HACH	Accounts Payable	021805-001	2,400.00			-8,851.04
11/05/2021	4167	Hawk Mountain Lab...	Accounts Payable	Contract Lab A...	1,988.25			-10,839.29
11/05/2021	4168	Highmark Blue Shield	Accounts Payable	Health Insurance	4,516.47			-15,355.76
11/05/2021	4169	Hydrodyne	Accounts Payable	Bagging Casset...	1,191.00			-16,546.76
11/05/2021	4170	Jensen & Jensen	Accounts Payable	Legal Services	656.25			-17,203.01
11/05/2021	4171	Justus Home & Garden	Accounts Payable	Ice melt, Rock ...	858.72			-18,061.73
11/05/2021	4172	Keystone Sanitary La...	Accounts Payable	Sludge Disposal	4,866.61			-22,928.34
11/05/2021	4173	Lackawanna County ...	Accounts Payable	Wireless Internet	65.00			-22,993.34
11/05/2021	4174	McClure Company	Accounts Payable	AC Compresso...	324.75			-23,318.09
11/05/2021	4175	Melborne Electric	Accounts Payable		8,839.96			-32,158.05
11/05/2021	4176	Nicholson Tire Service	Accounts Payable	Truck Tires	844.00			-33,002.05
11/05/2021	4177	PA American Water ...	Accounts Payable	Domestic water	297.99			-33,300.04
11/05/2021	4178	PICA HVAC	Accounts Payable	Annual Boiler ...	350.00			-33,650.04
11/05/2021	4179	PPL	Accounts Payable	Electric	11,202.15			-44,852.19
11/05/2021	4180	RJ Walker Co.	Accounts Payable		113.87			-44,966.06
11/05/2021	4181	Saul Ewing Arnstein ...	Accounts Payable	Special Counsel	3,673.50			-48,639.56
11/05/2021	4182	UGI	Accounts Payable	2379801011-4	211.21			-48,850.77
11/05/2021	4183	United Concordia	Accounts Payable	364001819	424.69			-49,275.46
11/05/2021	4184	USALCO	Accounts Payable	Alum	4,479.05			-53,754.51
11/05/2021	4185	Waste Management .	Accounts Payable	Sludge Hauling	3,319.87			-57,074.38
11/05/2021	4186	Waste Management I...	Accounts Payable	821-90844	76.91			-57,151.29
11/05/2021	4187	Zen Design Firm	Accounts Payable	Web and Email...	85.00			-57,236.29
11/11/2021			Fidelity Income & Inve...	Funds Transfer			57,966.05	729.76

Ms. Elliot discussed there were three bills that came in late that were included in this month bills 1) Cardmember Services \$181.54, 2) Convenient Food Marts \$100.71, 3) Deluxe Checks \$271.96

Motion was made by Mr. Murphy to approve payment of bills for 10/13/2021 in the amount of \$57,966.05, seconded by Mr. Thorpe passed.

Ms. Elliot presented the budget and statement of balances. CD Rates are still low.

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. GHD attended the committee meeting on 11/2/21 to provide feedback on discussion items and have also reviewed, prepared, and submitted questions to DGS via their representatives Reilly Associates.

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 November 10, 2021 = \$2,879.03

Money Market Account as of November 10, 2021 = \$174,754.75 (Done Quarterly)

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

Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve the requisitions #526- \$28,000 to the Payroll Account and #527- \$1,000 to Treasurer's Account, seconded by Mr. Monagan, unanimously passed.

State Hospital Committee: Mr. Pullo discussed the committee findings following the committee meeting. He discussed that the sewer lines are owned by the Abington Heights School District and not the township. The committee is currently waiting additional information from the State Hospital. They are getting close to understanding the nature of the investigation they need to go through. It was clear in the Reilly Report there was several issues that still need to be worked through including the rerate study. There is still an issue with the biological loads. Mr. Murphy asked if there is any obligation to take on the township. Mr. Pullo stated that they believe there would only be an obligation to take on the schools and the State Hospital but would like the Solicitor to review. Mr. Besten discussed that one of the issues would be with the schools and how many more students can they take on in the future. Mr. Pullo stated that one question would be how many EDUS is the State Hospital seeking and what formula they used. Mr. Rinaldi complemented the committee on their analysis. He asked about the second bullet point on Page 2 of the report that stated, "With the permission of the Township, the School District connected the elementary School to the Sewer System." Mr. Pullo discussed the litigation that stated that the Abington

Heights School District Owns the Line and Woodhaven development could not connect to the line. He believes that the only obligation would be to connect the State Hospital and the two schools. Mr. Rinaldi discussed some other observations from the report. He stated that the wording of a, “feasibility study” is a great idea. Mr. Lockett Thanked the committee on a thorough report.

Public Relations Committee: No Report

Personnel Committee: The committee discussed the updated Pandemic Policy update. She discussed the Covid testing policy to return the return to work and updating the policy to not require employee testing to return to work. The updated policy stated that the Authority will pay employees up to 30 days after the employees uses all their paid time off and they would not be required to provide a negative test but would require a Physicians Release. She also discussed the return-to-work portion of the Pandemic Policy Update. Ms. Elliot also created a Covid-19 vaccination policy, but this policy will be tabled until current litigation in the news completes. Solicitor Jensen’s discussed the current litigations and rerecommended the Authority hold off on this policy.

Mr. Besten asked if an employee is out for a medical reason what is required for them to return. Ms. Elliot stated they require medical note after 3 days. Mr. Rinaldi asked if the 30 days was per instance or per year. He would like to see that clarified. Ms. Elliot will clarify and circulate the committee.

Litigation Committee: No Report

Finance Committee: No Report

Solicitor’s Report -

Board Member Comments: None

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

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:27 PM by Mr. Thorpe seconded by Mr. Monagan unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Besten, Assistant Secretary