

ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

January 10, 2024

The regular meeting of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority was called to order by Chairman Pullo and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting took place at the Abington Area Wastewater Treatment Plant on January 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

John Pullo	Lauren Elliot	Paul Lockett
Gloria Lance	Donald Jensen, Esquire	
Frank Besten	Murli Rajan	David Rinaldi, Esquire
Wayne Thorpe	Casey Monagan	Michael Bisignani, Engineer

Absent: Donald Snyder

At this time solicitor Jensen started the 2024 Reorganization of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority.

Reorganization Committee (Ms. Lance, Mr. Rinaldi and Mr. Besten)

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Frank Besten as Chairman of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Frank Besten as the Chairman of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Casey Monagan as Vice Chairman of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Casey Monagan as the Vice Chairman of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Murli Rajan as Treasurer of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Murli Rajan as the Treasurer of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Wayne Thorpe as Secretary of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Wayne Thorpe as the Secretary of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Gloria Lance as Assistant Secretary of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Gloria Lance as Assistant Secretary of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Attorney Don Jensen as Solicitor of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Attorney Don Jensen as Solicitor of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Lauren Elliott as Director of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Lauren Elliott as Director of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Michael Bisignani and GHD as the Engineering Firm of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Michael Bisignani and GHD as the Engineering Firm as of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Amy Waters as Recording Secretary of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Amy Waters as Recording Secretary of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended Gloria Lance as the Pension Trustee of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to have Gloria Lance as the Pension Trustee of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

Mr. Rinaldi and the Reorganization Committee recommended to retain all current Authority Depositories (Fidelity Deposit and Discount Bank and Peoples Security) of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority for 2024. No other nominations came to the board. **Solicitor Jensen took a vote, and it was unanimous to retain all the current Authority Depositories (Fidelity Deposit and Discount Bank and Peoples Security) of Abington Area Wastewater Authority for 2024.**

2024

Chairman-	Frank Besten
Vice Chairman –	Casey Monagan
Treasurer -	Murli Rajan
Secretary-	Wayne Thorpe
Assistant Secretary-	Gloria Lance
Director-	Lauren Elliott
Engineer-	Michael Bisignani and GHD
Recording Secretary-	Amy Waters
Solicitor-	Attorney Don Jensen
Pension Trustee-	Gloria Lance
Authority Depositories-	Fidelity Bank and Peoples Security

This concludes the 2024 reorganization and Chairman Besten took over the meeting.

Mr. Pullo made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2023 and December 18, 2023 , seconded by Mr. Thorpe, unanimously passed.

Executive Session:

Start: 6:40 PM

End: 7:43 PM

Mr. Rinaldi made a motion to accept the engagement letter to hire Granger Bowman as the Mediator at the rate of \$377.50/hour for the ARWA Portion for the Biosolids building litigation and to Authorize Chairman Besten to Execute any/all documents to complete the transaction, seconded by Mr. Thorpe,unanimously passed.

Directors Report:

Ms. Elliot presented her directors report including Plant Worker Position, Grant, Insurance/Retaining Wall Repair and March Board Meeting.

Ms. Elliot reported that she has a few interviews scheduled for this week for the Plant Worker Position and hopes to schedule second interviews for those qualified with the personnel committee shortly after.

Ms. Elliot announced that ARWA was awarded a \$500,000 grant under the COVID-19 ARPA H2O PA Program. This grant will be used to fund replacement of the Trojan UV 4000 unit.

Ms. Elliot reported that Knowles Insurance has remained in contact with the insurance carrier regarding the flood claim from September. The Authority should have an answer soon if the claim will be covered. Ms. Elliot has also been regularly checking the status. Work on the retaining wall has been delayed due to high water levels and was Scheduled to start January 8, 2024, but delayed again due to the rainfall Tuesday evening. Ms. Elliot requested an extension of the PADEP emergency permit and was granted until April 30th. Ms. Elliot discussed that she heard from Bob Knowles and the damaged equipment and building damages will be covered in the approximate amount of \$93,000 and the Damage to the retaining wall will not be covered. Ms. Elliot also discussed that she needs to have the fencing rebid and then submit to the insurance for a possible supplemental payout.

Ms. Elliot discussed that an opportunity came for her to visit Spain the week of the next Board meeting. She asked if the board would be able to move the meeting up a week to Thursday March 7th. Ms. Elliot will advertise the change.

Ms. Elliot presented the Operational Data for December 2023, reporting an average daily influent flow of 5.31 MGD. Average daily effluent flow was 3.53 MGD.

Ms. Elliot presented the rain vs flow chart.

Ms. Elliot presented Anthony Luongo Operations and Maintenance report highlighting staff inspected and reset HVAC controllers in the biosolids building and control building; staff cleaned polymer mixing tank feed line solenoids for the centrifuge and gravity belt thickener; Return pump 2 impeller was cleaned of debris and leaves-the impeller was reinstalled with a new housing gasket and drive coupling; the sprayer outlets on the grit snail were inspected and cleaned, the bar screens and conveyor system of the grit system were greased; staff replaced and calibrated dissolved oxygen probe on bioreactor 1 zone 7 and is now online and reading the SCADA system; ARWA experienced two (2) high flow events: 12/10/23 with a max influent flow of 17.9 MGD and rainfall total of 1.02 inches and 12/18/23 with a max influent flow 20.7 MGD and rainfall total of 2.35 inches.

January 10, 2024

Abington Regional Wastewater Authority

1/11/2024 5:33 AM

Register: Fidelity Operating Expenses

From 12/31/2023 through 01/11/2024

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
12/31/2023	5080	Admin Partners	Accounts Payable	Annual Pensio...	200.00			265.10
12/31/2023	5081	Ameriflex	Accounts Payable	POP Document...	225.00			40.10
12/31/2023	5082	Amy Waters	Accounts Payable	Recording Secr...	100.00			-59.90
12/31/2023	5083	Elan Financial Services	Accounts Payable	NASSCO Trai...	4,959.07			-5,018.97
12/31/2023	5084	Greenfield Power Eq...	Accounts Payable	MG Safety Toe...	102.60			-5,121.57
12/31/2023	5085	Highmark Blue Shield	Accounts Payable	Health Insurance	4,361.74			-9,483.31
12/31/2023	5086	IWC Group	Accounts Payable	Workers Comp...	2,274.00			-11,757.31
12/31/2023	5087	Knowles Associates ...	Accounts Payable	Insurance Ann...	45,511.70			-57,269.01
12/31/2023	5088	PMAA	Accounts Payable	2024 Members...	2,500.00			-59,769.01
12/31/2023	To Print	BDI Industries	Accounts Payable	Relays	189.73			-59,958.74
12/31/2023	To Print	CCI Waste & Recycli...	Accounts Payable	Sludge Hauling	497.65			-60,456.39
12/31/2023	To Print	Dempsey Uniform	Accounts Payable	Mud Rug Rental	36.99			-60,493.38
12/31/2023	To Print	Fisher Scientific	Accounts Payable	149198-001	108.33			-60,601.71
12/31/2023	To Print	Fox Ledge, Inc.	Accounts Payable	Bottled Water	18.30			-60,620.01
12/31/2023	To Print	GHD	Accounts Payable		19,746.50			-80,366.51
12/31/2023	To Print	Greenfield Power Eq...	Accounts Payable	Uniform	243.64			-80,610.15
12/31/2023	To Print	HACH	Accounts Payable	021805-001	2,400.00			-83,010.15
12/31/2023	To Print	Hawk Mountain Lab...	Accounts Payable	Contract Lab A...	2,437.50			-85,447.65
12/31/2023	To Print	ICON Technologies	Accounts Payable	Telephone and ...	66.19			-85,513.84
12/31/2023	To Print	Jensen & Jensen	Accounts Payable	Legal Fees	1,812.50			-87,326.34
12/31/2023	To Print	JGF Funding	Accounts Payable	Printer Lease	80.02			-87,406.36
12/31/2023	To Print	Keystone Sanitary La...	Accounts Payable	Sludge disposal	9,425.30			-96,831.66
12/31/2023	To Print	Lackawanna County ...	Accounts Payable	Wireless Intern...	65.00			-96,896.66
12/31/2023	To Print	PA American Water ...	Accounts Payable	Domestic Water	327.51			-97,224.17
12/31/2023	To Print	Pennsylvania Paper ...	Accounts Payable	Paper Towels, ...	150.64			-97,374.81
12/31/2023	To Print	PICA HVAC	Accounts Payable	Boiler Service ...	150.00			-97,524.81
12/31/2023	To Print	Polydyne, Inc.	Accounts Payable	974180	3,927.94			-101,452.75
12/31/2023	To Print	PPL	Accounts Payable	Electric	15,873.70			-117,326.45
12/31/2023	To Print	The Times Leader	Accounts Payable	Meeting Ad 2024	156.10			-117,482.55
12/31/2023	To Print	Travelers Insurance	Accounts Payable	Treasurers Bond	1,297.00			-118,779.55
12/31/2023	To Print	UGI	Accounts Payable	2379801011-4	2,731.79			-121,511.34
12/31/2023	To Print	Uline	Accounts Payable	Paper Towels ...	121.86			-121,633.20
12/31/2023	To Print	USA Blue Book	Accounts Payable	935510	128.42			-121,761.62
12/31/2023	To Print	USALCO	Accounts Payable	Alum	7,230.24			-128,991.86
12/31/2023	To Print	Waste Management L...	Accounts Payable	821-90844	155.25			-129,147.11
12/31/2023	To Print	Zen Design Firm	Accounts Payable	Web and Email...	85.00			-129,232.11
01/11/2024			Fidelity Income & Inve...	Funds Transfer			129,697.21	465.10

Motion was made by Mr. Locket to approve payment of bills for 12/31/2023 for \$69,463.10 and 1/10/2024 totaling \$60,234.11, seconded by Mr. Thorpe, unanimously passed.

Review of Operating Budget and Administration Budget. The Electric, sludge hauling, and salaries were over.

Statement of balances

One CD came up and was moved over to the Fidelity Sweep Fund in the meantime.

Engineers Report

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed GHD continues provide support on an as needed/requested basis in support of the ongoing litigation. Minimal services were provided this month.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that GHD continues to support the Leggets Creek retaining wall reconstruction providing construction administration and part time construction oversight. The work has been delayed due to ongoing weather systems.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that GHD has been progressing on design of the bio solids building improvements and has a progress meeting scheduled with Ms. Elliot and the operation team on 12/18/23 with a scheduled draft deliverable in January.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that ARWA was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the small projects H2O ARPA funds. GHD has reached out to DEP in an effort to identify who will be the grant administrator to set-up an initial consultation and planning associated with the funds. All funds must be spent by 9/30/2026.

The Treasurer's Report:

Fidelity Bank as of January 10, 2024 = \$4,048.04

Peoples Security Bank Money Market Account as of January 10 ,2024 = \$263,581.41 (Done Quarterly)

Requisitions: #584- \$40,000 to Payroll Account
#585- \$1,000 to Treasurers Account
#586- \$9,620.72 to Teladine

Mr. Pullo made a motion to approve requisition #584- \$40,000 to the Payroll Account, #585 \$1,000 to Treasurer's Account and #586 \$9,620.72 to Teladine, seconded by Ms. Lance, unanimously passed.

Biosolids Committee: No Report

Public Relations Committee: No Report

Personnel Committee: No Report

Litigation Committee: No Report

Finance Committee: No Report

Solicitor's Report: No Report

Board Member Comments:

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

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:09 PM by Mr. Rinaldi seconded by Ms. Lance, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Thorpe, Secretary