ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

December 11, 2024

The regular meeting of the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority was called to order by Chairman Monagan and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting took place at the Abington Area Wastewater Treatment Plant on December 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Lauren Elliot	Paul Lockett	Donald Jensen, Esquire
Gloria Lance	Casey Monagan	David Rinaldi, Esquire
Harry Jenkins	Donald Snyder	
Wayne Thorpe		

Absent: John Pullo, Murli Rajan, Michael Bisignani, Engineer
Guest: Robert Knowles-Knowles Insurance

Ms. Lance made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on November 13, 2024, seconded by Mr. Snyder, unanimously passed.

Insurance Renewal

At this time, Bob Knowles from Knowles Insurance Discussed the 2025 Insurance Contract. Mr. Knowles discussed that the rates increased since there was a major claim in 2023 due to the flooding. He presented the current coverage, renewal and an optional quote obtained. The current premium is $53,472, the renewal would be $63,067 and the optional renewal quote was $64,386. He discussed that the renewal with PMA has a flood limit of $5,000,000/$250,000 deductible and the Renewal optional quote has a $2,000,000 limit/$50,000 deductible. He discussed that the authority is near a creek and not a river. It doesn't sit in the 100-year flood plain. Ms. Elliot discussed that there are 3 buildings that would be higher risk. Mr. Knowles discussed that the authority could take the higher deductible and add federal flood insurance on those higher risk buildings. Ms. Elliot discussed that the contents of these buildings have higher cost items. Ms. Elliot discussed that she believes that a $5,000,000 limit would be hard to hit in the event of a flood. The only difference between the old and new policies is the flood coverage. Solicitor Jensen Questioned Mr. Knowles about adding the Federal flood coverage on the 3 buildings. Mr. Knowles discussed that he is getting quotes on the Federal flood coverage. It was discussed that in addition to the cost of the plan there would be an additional cost for the federal flood coverage. The flood coverage would cover the first $250,000 for those 3 buildings. Discussions took place. Chairman Monagan discussed that if they went with the $5,000,000 limit/$250,000 deductible has a lower premium. If the authority chose the larger deductible and there was a large claim, the authority can get a loan for $250,000 and if they went with the smaller limit of $2,000,000 limit/$50,000 deductible they might have to get a much higher loan to pay for damages in excess of $2,000,000.

Mr. Thorpe made a motion to accept the Insurance Renewal Package as presented by Knowles Insurance in the amount of $63,067 with the $5,000,000 flood coverage/$250,000 deductible, seconded by Ms. Lance, unanimously passed.

Executive Session: Litigation and BioSolids Building Discussion

Start: 7:06 PM
End: 7:20 PM

Directors Report:

Ms. Elliot presented her directors report including the Blower Replacement, Insurance Renewal and Special Meeting and Employee Luncheon.

Ms. Elliot discussed she has been working to find the best price on a blower replacement. She has obtained three pricing quotation with all of them coming back over the bidding threshold. She has contacted Kappe Associates who is a costar approved vendor for pricing. The costars price is $40,375.00. If the blower core is inspected and approved for reuse, then the authority will receive a credit of $9,577.70 bringing the total cost down to $30,797.30. Pricing is set to increase in 2025 so it would be best to purchase as soon as possible.

Mr. Thorpe made a motion to purchase a new blower unit from costar approved vendor, Kappe Associates, in the amount of $40,375.00 with the possibility of a refund of $9,577.70 if the core is inspected and approved for reuse, bringing the cost down to $30797.30, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, unanimously passed.

Ms. Elliot advertised for a special meeting and Employee Luncheon on December 13, 2024 at 12:00 PM.

Ms. Elliot presented the Operational Data for November 2024, reporting an average daily influent flow of 2.79 MGD. Average daily effluent flow was 1.75 MGD.

Ms. Elliot presented the rain vs flow chart.

Ms. Elliot presented Anthony Luongo Operations and Maintenance report highlighting staff drained and flushed clarifier 1 and the weirs and effluent trough were cleaned of debris; The bar screens and the grit snail system were drained and cleaned of debris; Staff cleaned clogged impellers on return pumps1 and 3; service was performed on all grounds equipment and fluids were checked, oil changed and air filters replaced; Staff replaced bioreactor blower air filters; Heaters were installed on all enviromix compressed gas cabinets and all heat traces on above ground water lines were turned on and inspected; The chlorine system was cleaned and a new inline micron screen was installed; ARWA experienced a high flow event on 11/27/24 to 11/28/24 with a max influent flow of 12.2 MGD and a rainfall total of 0.93 inches.

Abington Regional Wastewater Authority 12/12/2024 8:50 AM

Register: Fidelity Operating Expenses
From 11/14/2024 through 12/12/2024
Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
11/14/2024			Fidelity Income & Inve...	Funds Transfer		X	74,333.39	464.94
11/30/2024	5426	Admin Partners	Accounts Payable	Annual Admin ...	200.00			264.94
11/30/2024	5427	Amy Waters	Accounts Payable	Recording Secr...	200.00			64.94
11/30/2024	5428	CCI Waste & Recycli...	Accounts Payable	Sludge hauling	1,990.60			-1,925.66
11/30/2024	5429	Chapman Supply Co.	Accounts Payable	Tubing Cutter	35.17			-1,960.83
11/30/2024	5430	Convenient Food Mart	Accounts Payable	Gasoline	96.77			-2,057.60
11/30/2024	5431	Dempsey Uniform	Accounts Payable	Mud Rug Rental	37.81			-2,095.41
11/30/2024	5432	Elan Financial Services	Accounts Payable	Tree, Christma...	472.48			-2,567.89
11/30/2024	5433	Fox Ledge, Inc.	Accounts Payable	Bottled Drinkin...	40.82			-2,608.71
11/30/2024	5434	Grainger	Accounts Payable	810251959	66.66			-2,675.37
11/30/2024	5435	Hawk Mountain Lab...	Accounts Payable	Contract Lab A...	2,624.50			-5,299.87
11/30/2024	5436	Highmark Blue Shield	Accounts Payable	Health Insurance	6,318.26			-11,618.13
11/30/2024	5437	ICON Technologies	Accounts Payable	Phone and Fax	66.19			-11,684.32
11/30/2024	5438	Jeff Jarrow	Accounts Payable	Reimbursement...	90.45			-11,774.77
11/30/2024	5439	Jensen & Jensen	Accounts Payable	Legal Fees	1,037.75			-12,812.52
11/30/2024	5440	JGF Funding	Accounts Payable	Monthly Printe...	80.02			-12,892.54
11/30/2024	5441	Keystone Sanitary La...	Accounts Payable	Sludge Disposal	6,276.59			-19,169.13
11/30/2024	5442	Lackawanna County ...	Accounts Payable	Wireless Intern...	65.00			-19,234.13
11/30/2024	5443	McCrometer Inc	Accounts Payable		4,800.00			-24,034.13
11/30/2024	5444	Melborne Electric	Accounts Payable	HVAC Circuit ...	591.82			-24,625.95
11/30/2024	5445	OnePoint	Accounts Payable	2226	150.52			-24,776.47
11/30/2024	5446	PA American Water ...	Accounts Payable	Domestic Water	362.46			-25,138.93
11/30/2024	5447	Polydyne, Inc.	Accounts Payable	974180	3,927.94			-29,066.87
11/30/2024	5448	PPL	Accounts Payable	Electric	11,604.13			-40,671.00
11/30/2024	5449	Saul Ewing Arnstein ...	Accounts Payable	Special Counsel	4,517.15			-45,188.15
11/30/2024	5450	UGI	Accounts Payable	2379801011-4	511.97			-45,700.12
11/30/2024	5451	Uline	Accounts Payable	Paper Towels	123.54			-45,823.66
11/30/2024	5452	United States Postal ...	Accounts Payable	Annual PO Bo...	170.00			-45,993.66
11/30/2024	5453	USALCO	Accounts Payable	Alum	6,905.08			-52,898.74
11/30/2024	5454	Waste Management I...	Accounts Payable	821-90844	108.14			-53,006.88
11/30/2024	5455	Zen Design Firm	Accounts Payable	Web and Email...	85.00			-53,091.88
12/12/2024			Fidelity Income & Inve...	Funds Transfer			$53,091.88	

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Mr. Snyder made a motion to approve payment of bills for 12/11/24 with the addition of the approval for the Quarterly ACH for the pension to Empower for $5,750 for a total of totaling $59,306.82 seconded by Mr. Thorpe, unanimously passed.

Review of Operating Budget and Administration Budget.

Statement of balances

Engineers Report

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that GHD is continuing coordination with Hudak, ARWA and JHA working through schedules and lead times with the contractor. Given the color matched clock is not available until late November all work is going to be delayed until early spring 2025. Hudak has submitted 25 submittals and 10 RFI's for roofing and masonry products. GHD is actively working through each item in a timely manner. GHD is prepared to provide any necessary oversite/coordination as requested by ARWA. Extension was signed.

Mr. Bisignani's report discussed that ARWA was awarded a $500,000 grant from the small projects' H2O ARPA funds. GHD has prepared a proposal for Engineering Design Services or the new UV system and presented. GHD assisted ARWA with the final proposal and prepurchase of the Trojan UV system. A PO has been issued for the system and a detailed submittal has been received. Review of the submittal was conducted on site by GHD Structural, Electrical, I & C and Process Teams. A submittal review was provided back to Kappe Associates/Trojan on 12/6/2024. We expect a response from Kappe addressing the comments prior to the holiday at which time manufacturing of the equipment shall commence.

GHD has provided all necessary documentation to close a legacy stormwater management permit that is associated with the stormwater pond and the 2010 plant upgrade project. It was discovered that "stock" maintenance language will be required to be recorded against the property deed and paperwork filed with DEP. The article has been provided to Ms. Elliot and Solicitor Jensen for review. If approved by the board GHD can assist with recording the instrument against the property's deed as required to close out the permit.

GHD was requested to provide a "ball park" estimate for completing the analysis of historically collected system flow data. The scope of the work for that review could include the following and would consist of approximately $45-$60k in effort. GHD would be glad to provide an example report of this analysis should it be requested.

Mr. Bisignani presented the board with the 2025 Proposal for retained consulting engineering services for review and consideration. Rates and fees have been increased by 4% in an attempt to keep up with inflation, cost of living and employee wages. The cost is $12,370 billed quarterly.

Mr. Bisignani presented the annual report.

The Treasurer's Report:

Fidelity Bank as of December 11, 2024 = $4,573.57

Peoples Security Bank Money Market Account as of December 11, 2024 = $94,391.68 (Done Quarterly)

Requisitions: #631- $35,000 to Payroll Account
#632- $1,000 to Treasurers Account

Mr. Lockett made a motion to approve requisitions #631- $35,000 to the Payroll Account, #632- $1,000 to Treasurer's Account, seconded by Mr. Thorpe, unanimously passed.

Biosolids Committee: No Report

Public Relations Committee: No Report

Personnel Committee: (Ms. Lance, Mr. Thorpe and Mr. Lockett)

Ms. Lance presented the Health Insurance coverage for 2025. She discussed that the recommendation was to stay with the existing plan. The plan will increase from $6,291.70 to $9,842.76. The vision and dental didn't change.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to accept the recommendation by the personal committee to continue with the existing plan (Health, Dental and Vision) in the amount of $9,842.76, seconded by Mr. Thorpe.

Mr. Thorpe presented the recommendation for the annual raises/bonus.

Mr. Thorpe made a motion to approve the Personnel Committees recommendations for the 2025 Raises and Net Bonus's as presented in the addendum, seconded by Mr. Lockett, unanimously passed.

Litigation Committee: No Report

Finance Committee: No Report

Solicitor's Report: No Report

Reorganization Committee: (Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Thorpe, Ms. Lance)

Mr. Rinaldi asked that anyone interested in being in a position, reach out to the Reorganization Committee. Mr. Snyder stated that the president/chairman should appoint a reorganization committee. At this time Chairman Monagan appointed Wayne Thorpe to the Reorganization committee for the 2025 reorganization.

Board Member Comments:

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

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:55 PM by Ms. Lockett, seconded by Ms. Lance, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gloria Lance, Secretary