

**A REGULAR MEETING
BERKS-MONTGOMERY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MARCH 22, 2021**

A Regular Meeting was held via a Zoom video conference on March 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM EDT. Notice that the meeting was to be held electronically was advertised in The Mercury on December 24, 2020. The following members were present:

M. Toepel	A. Stauffer
P. Donovan	S. Carpenter
K. Corson	D. Biehl

Also present:	J. Karver	G. Moser
	G. Unger	L. Christy
	K. Showalter	C. Leister

Upon a motion by Ms. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Stauffer and unanimously adopted, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 22, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

PLANT REPORT:

Mr. Christy presented the Plant Report. He reported on several maintenance items.

OFFICE REPORT:

Ms. Leister presented the Office Report.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, procedure changes have been made at the Post Office regarding obtaining signatures for mail sent certified return receipt requested. We cannot confirm the 5 customers with a past due balance over \$1,000 actually received the Intent to File Writ of Scire Facias notice. Mr. Karver is recommending the constable hand deliver the notices so we have proof of receipt. Mr. Karver also recommended that we do not add the constable fee to the customers sewer account since delivery of the notice by the constable is not required. A resolution is required.

AUTHORITY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Moser presented the Authority Manager Report.

Mr. Moser reported Zoom video conference meetings were advertised through March and suggested the Board determine plans for the April meeting, either Zoom or in person. If in person, all attendees would be required to wear a mask and social distance. A resolution is required.

Mr. Moser reported BMMA requested Alum Bids be submitted by 2:00 PM on March 18 with the bid opening scheduled at that time. The bid results were as follows:

Chemtrade Chemicals US LLC	\$483.00/Dry Ton
George S. Coyne Chemical Co., Inc.	No Bid
Holland Company Inc.	\$486.00/Dry Ton
USALCO	\$385.33/Dry Ton

USALCO was the low bidder with a price of \$385.33 which is a 4.7% increase over last year. Mr. Moser is recommending the contract be awarded to USALCO. A resolution is required.

Mr. Moser reported the property owner of 231 Middle Creek Road, Gregory Rapp, is requesting an EDU so he can proceed with a connection when the new service line for 443 Congo Road is approved for flow. A resolution is required.

Mr. Moser reported Douglass Township is planning to pave Bow Lane this summer. As a result, the lines were televised to confirm the condition of the sewer lines. Televising results show very heavy root systems in 5 laterals. Mr. Moser is recommending replacement of the 5 laterals before the paving. Due to the limited amount of time, these repairs are considered emergency repairs. Mr. Moser spoke to local contractors and D. J. Orff indicated he could handle the replacement of all 5 laterals by the middle of June. The estimated cost to replace each lateral would be less than \$10,000. A resolution is required.

Mr. Moser provided an update on responses received to the annual usage review for commercial properties since the last meeting.

Account Z138 – Ricky and Diane Winn, 546 S. Reading Ave., needs 1 EDU. Requested monitoring, a resolution is required.

Account Z019 – Boyertown Family Medicine, 9 Rowell Rd., needs 1 EDU. Requested monitoring, a resolution is required.

Account Z086 – Christel Car Care, 801 Route 100, needs 1 EDU. Paying 2 installments of \$4,250 each.

Account Z042 – Frecon Farms, 501 S. Reading Ave., needs 1 EDU. Board approved 2 year payment plan at February meeting.

Account Z199 – Adam’s Royal Car Wash, 50 Bartman Ave., needs 4 EDU’s. Mr. Heimer originally requested to appear at the March meeting. He subsequently filed multiple Right to Know requests for information. Mr. Moser reviewed the requests with Mr. Karver and they agreed upon the response. Mr. Heimer was not satisfied with the responses provided and filed an appeal with the state Right to Know office. A letter was received from Mr. Heimer’s attorney. After further discussion on the matter with the Board, it was decided that Mr. Karver would send a letter to Mr. Heimer’s attorney with the options the Board is willing to accept in regards to payment of the additional EDU’s required.

Mr. Moser reported during a recent rain event and snow melt the flows at Morysville were high. The I & I crew conducted a storm study of Water Street from Manhole 41A to Manhole 49. This area had been tested and grouted as part of the Corrective Action Plan for Morysville in 2019. The recent study identified 51 leaks, 34 that pressure tested OK but are now leaking and 17 that were pressure tested and grouted but now leaking. SDE discussed several options for repairing the line 1) lining, 2) re-grout (when flows drop) or 3) replace the line. Because this is a state road, replacing the line is a concern. After further discussion with the Board, SDE was directed to obtain a cost for the lining solution to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Mr. Moser reported the Bill of Sale for Zern Phase 1 has been signed and the lines must be dedicated to the BMMA system. A resolution is required.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEES:

SECRETARY:

Mr. Corson reviewed the list of correspondence.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Karver had no report.

TREASURER:

No report.

ENGINEER:

Mr. Showalter presented the Engineers report.

Mr. Showalter reviewed the Pump Station 2 Grinder project bid tabulation. The bid package specified a particular grinder manufactured by Franklin Miller (Taskmaster Model TM14024) or equal. One of the bidders offered a reduction on their bid for the use of an alternate JWC Grinder Equipment which the engineer determined was not comparable. Following discussion by the Board, the decision was made that SDE would rebid the project providing specific grinder requirements and all bids received were rejected. SDE agreed to rebid the project at no cost to BMMA except the cost of advertising. Resolutions are required.

Mr. Showalter reported SDE reviewed the plans for the Gambone/Holly Road project and prepared a draft review letter. This project will require 194 EDU's. A discussion was held regarding using the 100+ unused EDU's owned by Gambone for this project. SDE will revise the review letter to address using the 100+ unused EDU's for this project.

Mr. Showalter reported bog turtle clearance was received for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer Replacement Grant project (Swinehart Road). The project will be advertised upon receipt of approval of the Soil Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Plan.

Mr. Showalter reported 443 Congo Road has been certified for flow. Escrow Release Request #1 for \$22,400.00 was received and reviewed by SDE and he is recommending release of the funds. A resolution is required.

RESOLUTIONS & DISCUSSIONS:

Upon a motion by Mr. Stauffer, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves having the constable hand deliver the Intent to File Writ of Scire Facias notice to the 5 customers with a past due balance over \$1,000 at no cost to the customer.

Upon a motion by Mr. Stauffer, seconded by Mr. Donovan and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves meeting in person at the Administration Building for the April 26 Regular Meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Corson, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board accepts the bid from USALCO to supply alum during 2021-2022 for the low bid of \$385.33 per dry ton delivered.

Upon a motion by Mr. Biehl, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves one (1) EDU for 231 Middle Creek Road.

Upon a motion by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Corson, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the 5 emergency lateral repairs on Bow Lane.

Upon a motion by Mr. Corson, seconded by Mr. Biehl, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves quarterly monitoring for Ricky and Diane Winn, 546 S. Reading Ave.

Upon a motion by Mr. Biehl, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves quarterly monitoring for Boyertown Family Medicine, 9 Rowell Rd.

Upon a motion by Mr. Corson, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the acceptance of the deed of dedication for Zern Phase 1.

Upon a motion by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Biehl, and adopted by a majority vote, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves rebidding the Pump Station #2 grinder pump project.

4 Aye (Biehl, Carpenter, Donovan, Stauffer) 2 Nay (Corson, Toepel)

Upon a motion by Ms. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Donovan, and adopted by a majority vote, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board rejects all Contract A and Contract B bids for the Pump Station #2 grinder pump project received at the bid opening on March 17, 2021.

4 Aye (Biehl, Carpenter, Donovan, Stauffer) 2 Nay (Corson, Toepel)

Upon a motion by Mr. Stauffer, seconded by Ms. Carpenter, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board approves Escrow Release Request #1 for \$22,400.00 for 443 Congo Road.

Upon a motion by Mr. Biehl, seconded by Mr. Stauffer, and unanimously adopted, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the payment of \$84,596.74 for the bills as presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine L. Leister