

**A REGULAR MEETING  
BERKS-MONTGOMERY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MARCH 28, 2022**

A Regular Meeting was held at the Administration Building on March 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM EDT with the following members present:

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

Also present:

J. Karver	L. Christy
K. Showalter	C. Leister
L. Farmer	

Upon a motion by Mr. Biehl, seconded by Mr. Stauffer and unanimously adopted, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 28, 2022 with a revision as noted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A representative from All County and Associates was present to review plans for 1013 Reading Avenue, Plaza Azteca, connection. The existing grease trap needs to be reviewed to make sure it meets BMMA's standards. The number of EDUs required was estimated at 23 based on the number of seats and turnover throughout the day. All County feels this number is high and is trying to get water usage from a similar size Plaza Azteca restaurant to more accurately estimate the number of EDUs required. The Board authorized approving the Sewer Service Agreement with the number of EDUs to be determined after water usage of a similar size restaurant can be evaluated. Mr. Showalter reported SDE reviewed the plans and he is recommending Board of Standards approval. A resolution is required.

**PLANT REPORT:**

Mr. Christy presented the Plant Report.

Mr. Christy reported NSI installed the new effluent turbidity meter at Morysville on March 4, 2022.

Mr. Christy reported Holly Gordeuk from USALCO was on site to perform testing with Poly Aluminum Chloride (PAC). Four chemicals were tested, DelPAC 2000 performed the best. Two totes have been ordered for a 30-day trial, tentative start date is April 4, 2022.

Mr. Christy reported Hach would not discount the price for purchasing multiple flow meters. He purchased the two flow meters that were approved at the February meeting. Since then, another meter has failed and the price has increased \$37.08. He requested Board approval to purchase a new flow meter at a cost of \$3,875.33. The Board authorized the purchase of one flow meter now and to replace existing flow meters that fail as needed. A resolution is required.

Mr. Christy presented a graph detailing flows for MH 128 on Mill Street during February 2022. On February 4 there was 1.23 inches of rain and the flow increased 6 times over the average daily flow. BMMA is performing camera work in the area.

**OFFICE REPORT:**

Ms. Leister presented the Office Report. A discussion was held on BMMA's 65 and over group insurance plans for employees and retirees. The Board requested our insurance broker, Frank Giardina, attend a future meeting to discuss the plans and answer questions.

AUTHORITY MANAGER REPORT:

## Alum Bid Opening:

Chemtrade Chemicals US LLC	\$583.00/Dry Ton
George S. Coyne Chemical Co. Inc.	No Bid
Holland Company Inc.	\$633.00/Dry Ton
USALCO	\$483.35/Dry Ton

A resolution awarding USALCO the bid to supply alum during 2022-2023 for the low bid of \$483.35 per dry ton delivered is required.

Mr. Farmer presented the Authority Manager Report.

Mr. Farmer reviewed BMMA's investments with Milestone Financial. All funds are currently invested in Treasury Bonds with declining share prices. The potential for loss exists if bonds are redeemed before maturity. The Board requested detail on the Treasury Bond maturity dates in order to determine next steps.

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

Account BE032 – Larry and Stacey Moser, 173 W. Spring St., needs 1 EDU. No additional contact. The Board authorized billing for 1 EDU, a resolution is required.

Account NH02 – New Hanover Township, Sassamansville Fire Co., needs 1 EDU. Installing a second deduct meter and requested monitoring.

Account Z042 – Frecon Farms, 501 S. Reading Ave., needs 1 EDU. Mr. Farmer is working with the owner to ensure accurate location of meters. The Board authorized billing for 1 EDU, a resolution is required.

Account Z197 – Boyertown Children's Center, 500 Sweinhart Rd., needs 1 EDU. Received payment for 1 EDU.

Account Z270 – McDevitt Realty, 429 Hoffmansville Rd., needs 1 EDU. Will be providing documentation of plumbing leak and requesting monitoring.

Mr. Farmer reported the Industrial User Permit for Waste Management lapsed as of February 28, 2022. They stated they did not receive the renewal notice we mailed in October 2021. They are not discharging into the BMMA system but want to renew the permit. They are working to complete and return the renewal documents as soon as possible. Mr. Farmer is recommending BMMA allow the permit renewal without imposing any penalties. The Board agreed.

Mr. Farmer reviewed annual operating costs at Morysville WWTP. After discussion with the Board and SDE, SDE will propose a cost to evaluate options for upgrading and/or modifying the Morysville WWTP.

Mr. Farmer reported correspondence was received from J.P. Mascaro indicating the potential for a rate increase due to an increase in fuel prices. Our current sludge hauling contract with Mascaro is for a fixed price. A change in the contract price would require a change order.

Mr. Farmer proposed a series of strategic planning sessions with the Board to address challenges facing BMMA such as Morysville WWTP, aging infrastructure, aging workforce, increasing regulations, changing climate and rising costs. Following discussion with the Board, it was decided to hold four one-hour planning sessions (from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM) prior to the Regular Meetings starting with the April meeting. These sessions must be advertised.

Mr. Farmer reported on the network upgrade project. Mr. Farmer is proposing to use in-house labor to complete the installation of the fiber optics. Mr. Karver and Mr. Showalter both recommended plans be developed for the work that needs to be completed. Mr. Farmer reviewed the network upgrade costs that have been expended to date for equipment and materials. It was noted by the Board that these expenses were not authorized/approved by the Board in advance.

Mr. Farmer reported Berks County American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant applications were submitted for both the Water St. and Henry Ave. lining/rehab projects. Announcement of awards is expected in June 2022.

Mr. Farmer reported Mr. Christy was selected to receive PWEA's Ted Moses High Hat Award. The service award is given to members who have distinguished themselves while working to promote the Association and its programs.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEES:

SECRETARY:

Mr. Stauffer reviewed the list of correspondence.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Karver had no report.

TREASURER:

No report.

ENGINEER:

Mr. Showalter presented the Engineers report.

Mr. Showalter reported the grant payment was received for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer Replacement Grant project.

Mr. Showalter reported field survey work for the Henry Ave. lining/rehab project is completed and SDE is preparing temporary construction easement plat.

Mr. Showalter reported SDE is preparing bid documents and specifications for the proposed sewer lining and rehab work for the Water St. project.

Mr. Showalter reported the 2021 Chapter 94 Reports for West Swamp Creek and Morysville were submitted to DEP.

RESOLUTIONS & DISCUSSIONS:

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

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes Board of Standards approval for 1013 Reading Avenue, Plaza Azteca, and approves the Sewer Service Agreement with the number of EDUs to be determined after water usage of a similar size restaurant can be evaluated.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board approves purchasing one flow meter now at a cost of \$3,875.33 and to replace existing flow meters that fail as needed.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board accepts the bid to supply alum during 2022-2023 for the low bid of \$483.35 per dry ton to USALCO.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board approves billing Larry & Stacey Moser, 173 W. Spring St., for one (1) EDU and Frecon Farms, 501 S. Reading Ave., for one (1) EDU for excess usage during 2021.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the payment of \$127,546.66 for the bills as presented. It was noted that expenses for the network upgrade were not authorized/approved by the Board in advance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM to executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine L. Leister