

**A REGULAR MEETING  
BERKS-MONTGOMERY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MAY 23, 2022**

A Regular Meeting was held at the Administration Building on May 23, 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	

Mr. Donovan announced that several items were removed from the meeting agenda. An updated agenda was distributed at the meeting.

Upon a motion by Ms. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Biehl and unanimously adopted, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 25, 2022.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**PLANT REPORT:**

Mr. Christy presented the Plant Report.

Mr. Christy reported the PAC trial was completed. We had a lower concentration of aluminum in the effluent; however, PAC dosing had to be increased significantly to meet our phosphorus limit. The testing previously performed by USALCO showed we should have been able to use a lesser amount of PAC vs. Alum. The cost for PAC is double the amount of Alum. Mr. Christy is not recommending switching products at this time and will look for alternatives.

Mr. Christy reported the Vaughan Scumbuster for Digester 1 at Morysville needs to be rebuilt. The cost for a new pump is \$21,944.00 and a rebuild is \$10,216.00 (\$7,716.00 for parts and \$2,500.00 for labor). Mr. Christy requested Board approval for the rebuild. A resolution is required.

**OFFICE REPORT:**

Ms. Leister presented the Office Report. The status of the severely delinquent accounts was reviewed.

**AUTHORITY MANAGER REPORT:**

Mr. Farmer presented the Authority Manager Report.

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. Change from home commercial to residential was completed.

Account Z042 – Frecon Farms, 501 S. Reading Ave., needs 1 EDU. Owner agreed to purchase 1 EDU, requested a payment plan but did not specify term. Waiting to hear back on requested term.

Account Z270 – McDevitt Realty, 429 Hoffmansville Rd., needs 1 EDU. Interim meter read showed significant reduction in water consumption, requested meeting with owner to review.

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 Sewer Service Agreement for Plaza Azteca was executed, awaiting DEP Planning approval.

Mr. Showalter reported SDE reviewed plans for the Neighborhood Hospital and Medical Center project. SDE prepared a Written Certification Form for attachment to the DEP Planning Module Exemption Request. A resolution is required.

Mr. Showalter reported Bond Reduction Request #1 for \$91,045.19 for Oakmill Subdivision was received and reviewed by SDE and he is recommending reduction of the bond. A resolution is required.

Mr. Showalter reported the Solicitor prepared the Sewer Service Agreement for 303 – 335 Gilbertsville Road.

Mr. Showalter reported the check for final payment to Wexcon for the 2021 Sanitary Sewer Replacement Grant project is being held until site restoration re-seeding can be confirmed.

Mr. Showalter reported SDE has prepared Highway Occupancy Permit Plans for submission to PennDOT for the Water Street Sewer Repair/Rehabilitation project. Following discussion, the Board authorized SDE to advertise and request bids upon receiving approval from PennDOT. A resolution is required.

RESOLUTIONS & DISCUSSIONS:

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

RESOLVED: That the Board approves rebuilding the Vaughan Scumbuster for Digester 1 at Morysville at a cost of \$10,216.00.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the Written Certification Form for attachment to the DEP Planning Module Exemption Request for the Neighborhood Hospital and Medical Center project.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board approves Bond Reduction Request #1 for \$91,045.19 for Oakmill Subdivision.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes SDE to advertise and request bids upon securing approval from PennDOT for the Water Street Sewer Repair/Rehabilitation project.

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

RESOLVED: That the Board authorizes the payment of \$133,847.11 for the bills as presented.

The meeting was recessed at 7:38 PM to executive session.

The Board recessed into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter involving the Authority Manager as of 7:38 PM. The persons present in the Executive Session were the Board Members (less Keith Corson who was excused) and the Solicitor.

The Board re-convened in public session at 8:49 PM. Keith Corson was asked to re-join the meeting. By motion made by Dave Biehl and seconded by Mark Toepel, the Board voted 5-0 (Keith Corson abstaining as he did not take part in the Executive Session discussion) to terminate Larry Farmer from his position as Authority Manager effective as of the end of the current pay period, although he will be asked to leave the office when he is given notice of his termination. The Board has agreed to continue Mr. Farmer's health insurance through the end of June 2022. The Board directed the Solicitor and Board Chairman to meet with Mr. Farmer first thing on Tuesday morning, May 24<sup>th</sup> to advise Mr. Farmer of the Board action.

After discussion and upon motion by Mark Toepel, seconded by Allen Stauffer, the Board voted 5-0 (Keith Corson abstaining) to offer the position of Authority Manager to Mr. Corson to begin effective June 27, 2022, at an annual salary of \$100,000.00. Mr. Corson would be offered 15 days of PTO for the balance of 2022 (future PTO would be in accordance with established Board policy with a guaranteed minimum of 15 days of PTO each year) and would receive other benefits in accordance with existing Board policy. He would be a probationary employee through the end of December 2022. Mr. Corson agreed to accept the offer.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine L. Leister