

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 12, 2012**

The East Goshen Township Municipal Authority held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 12, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the East Goshen Township building. Members in attendance were: Chairman Dana Pizarro, Vice Chairman Fran Beck, Jack Yahraes, Kevin Cummings and Joe McCawley. Also in attendance were: Rick Smith (Township Manager), Dan Barbato and Tim Daily (Pennoni), Bob Adams (MA Attorney), Scott Towler (BFES).

**COMMON ACRONYMS:**

<i>BFES – Big Fish Environmental Services</i>	<i>MA- Municipal Authority</i>
<i>BOS – Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System</i>
<i>CB – Conservancy Board</i>	<i>PC – Planning Commission</i>
<i>DEP – Department of Environmental Protection</i>	<i>PR – Park &amp; Recreation Board</i>
<i>EPA – Environmental protection Agency</i>	<i>RCSTP – Ridley Creek Sewer Treatment Plant</i>
<i>HC – Historical Commission</i>	<i>SSO – Sanitary System Overflow</i>
<i>I&amp;I – Inflow &amp; Infiltration</i>	<i>WAS – Waste Activated Sludge</i>
<i>LCSTP – Lochwood Chase Sewer Treatment Plant</i>	

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Dana called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence to remember the troops. Dana asked if anyone would be recording the meeting and there was no response.

**Chairman’s Report**

1. The Authority members reviewed the SBR Operating Procedures revised November 9, 2012 by Big Fish Environmental Services, Inc.
2. The Authority members reviewed the Ridley Creek Sewage Treatment Plant (RCSTP) Operations Review – Interim Report dated November 9, 2012 provided by Dan Barbato and Tim Daily of Pennoni. The following is an Executive Summary:  
The purpose of this report is to provide a discussion of the recent phosphorous and total suspended solids exceedances in the Ridley Creek Sewage Treatment Plant (RCSTP) effluent and how these exceedances will be controlled in the future. The review was completed by the design engineer, Tim Daily P.E., and the plant operator Scott A. Towler, P.E. It involved on-site review of operations at the plant, review of operator reports and data, and meetings with Township staff. A table of exceedances and their likely causes are provided in Section 1.

In an attempt to improve SBR performance, the operator reduced the SBR biomass (aka “mixed liquor”). When the biomass was reduced, enhanced phosphorous (bio-P) removal was greatly reduced. The quantity of alum being fed, at that time, was not sufficient to adequately reduce the remaining phosphorous below the discharge limit. Analytical measurements were not available to identify that the effluent phosphorous concentrations were above the discharge limit. Malfunctions within the alum feed system complicated the issue and led to high effluent suspended solids.

The SBR biomass has since been increased and bio-P removal has returned. Daily effluent phosphorous testing has been initiated. The alum chemical feed system has been repaired and is adjusted to maintain the correct feed dosage. The plant effluent is currently within the discharge permit limits.

Additional work going forward includes the installation of an alum backpressure valve to improve chemical fee pump performance and a field trial of substituting polyaluminum chloride for alum with the goal of reducing overall chemical costs.

Dan – The Municipal Authority members’ comments can be detached from this report so it can be used for a report to the DEP. The influent data has changed but more data has to be collected.

Tim – The basis of the design was 270 parts/million of BOD which is consistent with areas in the age of East Goshen homes, about 25-30 years old.

Kevin did search throughout the country and feels this is the normal.

Dan – They also looked at loading.

Kevin feels it can’t change from 200 to 800 in such a short time.

Tim spoke to others who do have these fluctuations from day to day, but they also have a lot of restaurants.

Scott did testing over 3 days and feels the mass loadings are normal. He feels aeration may help.

Joe asked if a sample can be taken from a manhole that is further away from the plant.

Kevin feels the manhole just before the plant would give a good reading. He wants more data collection before changes are made in the plant.

Dana commented that the plant was meeting permit in May & June, but when sludge processing started is when the numbers changed.

Scott mentioned that in March-April 100 million gallons of sludge were processed.

Dana asked about the rate of decant. Scott reported that #3 SBR accepts wastewater with 5am to 8am, the first sweep of flow. They run extra cycles at off hours to minimize the decant. In the PM, amounts drop off significantly. They can’t go over 70 gallons/minute. He reported that they should receive sampler replacement parts by the end of the week.

Kevin doesn’t want to add another chemical until the phosphorous is figured out. He is in favor of installing automated machines to make the work easier.

Scott commented that DO is monitored 24/7 and backed up every month.

Tim explained some of the positive changes over the past few months. He feels the plant is well run.

Dana’s understanding of the purpose for the interim report is to be able to talk to the DEP. He mentioned some items that he felt needed to be amended.

Scott pointed out that there is a table of individual sampling trends which shows results of significant events, like the 2 major storms on Labor Day and Hurricane Sandy. There was no break through during Sandy.

Joe mentioned the future work on page 11. He would like to see an estimate of future work.

Bob suggested including the data about Sandy in the interim report.

Scott mentioned that sampling should start on Monday Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> when the machinery parts are received and everything is ready.

The report will be updated and sent to the Authority members.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the October 8, 2012 meeting were approved as corrected.

### **Approval of Invoices**

1. Joe moved to approve payment of 5 Pennoni invoices:

#524282	\$10,097.00
#524283	\$ 1,723.75
#524284	\$ 2,229.75
#524285	\$ 3,762.50
#524287	\$ 519.00

Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Kevin moved to approve payment of the 2 William Wood Co. LLC invoices, totaling \$1,500.00. Joe seconded the motion. Rick mentioned these were for easements. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Liaison Reports**

None

### **Financial Reports**

1. Jon Altshul, CFO, provided reports with the following comment: For October expenses were \$14,085.50 and revenues were \$3.33 with a difference of \$14,082.17. The fund balance is now \$37,050.81. Fran mentioned that Lockwood Chase is spelled wrong.

### **Old Business**

None

### **Goals**

Kevin will attend the West Goshen meeting in December.

### **New Business**

1. Proposed Budget for 2013 – Kevin moved to approve the proposed budget for 2013 as presented by Jon Altshul. Fran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Proposal from Maillie, Falconiero & Co LLP for 2012 Audit. Joe moved to approve the proposal dated November 5, 2012. Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Pennoni – Joe made a motion to approve the additional \$5,000 contract supplement to cover anticipated work for the remainder of 2012 as requested by Pennoni Associates. Fran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Gawthrop Greenwood, PC – Kevin made a motion to approve the hourly rate increase to \$200 per hour starting January 2013 as requested by Gawthrop Greenwood. Joe seconded the motion. Bob pointed out that there has been no increase since 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Capacity Requests**

None

## **Sewer Reports**

1. **Mark Miller, Director of Public Works**, provided the following report for October:
  - Meters** - Have been read on a daily basis with no problems to report.
  - CC Collection**: During the height of Hurricane Sandy, the #2 pump went out at the Hershey Mill Pump Station. Crews replaced the pump as soon as we realized the pump could not be put back on line. The wet well was one foot from the top and, if we did not replace the pump, sewage would have overflowed. Lenni Electric sent out an electrician to assist the crew. Once the pump was up and running, it took approximately 3 hours to catch up with the flow. The station that overflowed during the storm was the Ashbridge Pumping Station. DEP was notified of the overflow. Routine maintenance was performed during the month at each station. We received a dozen requests for laterals during the month.
  - RC Collection**: We had no problems to report for the month. The Hunt Country pump station's control center needs to be replaced. In order to reduce costs, we will be taking the controls from the Reserve pump station and install them at the Hunt Country station. We are checking to see if we can use the pumps as well.
  - RC Plant**: The new flow meter has been installed. Lenni has ordered the electrical cutoffs for the wet well. In order to reduce costs, the repair work will be done at night. We also will be installing an 8" spool and valve so bypass pumping can be done in the event of a pump failure. We did experience power outage at the plant which lasted 4 days due to the hurricane.
  - Lockwood Plant**: We are still waiting on PECO to shut down the power.
  - Alarms**: We responded to multiple alarms during the month ranging from generators running to a high level alarm. All alarms were cleared and all stations put back in service.
  - PA One Calls**: We received 112 PA One calls for the month of October.
  - Total rainfall at the plant was 5.97"** during Hurricane Sandy; 24 hour influent flow 10/29-10/30 was 1.113MGD.
  
2. **Dan Barbato, Pennoni**, provided the engineer's report:
  - Invoices**: Invoices with summaries are provided under separate cover.
  - Ridley Creek Sewage Treatment Plant (RCSTP)** – Pennoni is working closely with the Plant Operator to prepare a report on issues with phosphorous in the RCSTP plant effluent. The report is provided under separate cover. Pennoni assisted with the RCSTP open house and attended the event.
  - MS4 Submission** – DEP requested accurate mapping showing streams and outfalls. We obtained GIS map layers from Chester County and created a new working map showing roads, streams and parcels. We will respond to DEP comments by the end of November.
  - Hershey's Mill PS Diversion & Reserve PD Elimination** – We finalized and submitted the Hershey's Mill PS Water Quality Management Permit Amendment application to DEP on October 23, 2012.
  - We finalized and submitted the Reserve PS Closure Plan to DEP on October 17, 2012. We met with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) at the Reserve PS Elimination site on October 18, 2012 for a bog turtle habitat screening. ACOE determined the site is not considered a bog turtle habitat, and they issued a clearance letter. DEP subsequently issued the GP-5 "Utility Line Stream Crossing" permit for the project: however, the

permit does not allow any construction between March 1 and June 15 because the Ridley Creek tributary is a protected water use for trout stocking. Since we are planning for construction to fall within this timeframe, we will coordinate with PA Fish and Boat Commission to obtain a waiver from this requirement.

We performed a field stake-out of the proposed Reserve PS sewer alignment for the adjacent homeowner to visualize the sewer locations on his property. Due to concerns from the homeowner, we revised the plans to re-align a portion of the gravity sewer. We also observed exploratory excavations by the Public Works Dept. around the existing pump station building to identify the exact location of the existing force main and its impact on our revised sewer alignment.

Marydell PS Elimination –

DEP approved the Pump Station Closure Plan on October 2, 2012.

Once the easement from the shopping center is obtained, all third party approvals and permits will be in place and the project can be put out to bid.

Hershey's Mill Muffin Monster

We received shop drawings from the Muffin Monster supplier, which we are currently reviewing.

3. **Big Fish Environmental Services, Inc.**, Scott Towler presented a written report. The following is a summary:

Treatment Process Operation

During September, there was one exceedance of the final effluent discharge limitations for outfalls 001 and 002. The total phosphorus concentration for both outfalls 001 and 002 was reported as 1.81 mg/L as compared to the discharge limitation of 0.5 mg/L. SBRs 1, 3 and 4 were in service during September. SBR#2 remains out of service.

During the first week of September there was considerable rainfall that resulted in an increase in the influent hydraulic loadings rates.

Daily monitoring of the influent, post equalization and final effluent grab samples of pH, alkalinity and total phosphorus is ongoing.

During October, the Neptune diaphragm pump used to add aluminum sulfate to the floc tank mixer was rebuilt, tested and determined to be oversized for the current final effluent flow rates.

The Township Staff installed the influent flow meter upstream of the screening building. This low data can be used for the PA DEP Chapter 94 reporting as well as measuring and trending the volume of internal recycle wastewater.

On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy arrived in the area. Approximately 5.97 inches of rainfall was measured at the facility during a 24-hour period. Excessive volumes of water were measured at the influent wastewater SBR meter. The 24-hour volumes from 10/18 to 10/31 were:

Oct. 28, 2012	298,464 gallons
Oct. 29, 2012	1,423,760 gallons
Oct. 30, 2012	497,408 gallons
Oct. 31, 2012	376,932 gallons

24 hour compliance samples were collected on 10/31 and 11/1.

SBR 2 was removed from service early 11/2.

During October, the centrifuge dewatering system was placed in service.

During the month sludge wasting and decanting of the sludge holding tanks was ongoing. No supernatant was decanted from the sludge holding tanks. pH and alkalinity were monitored 5 times per week and total solids once per week. Sludge holding tank #1 was off line and empty during the month. Sludge holding tank #2 began the month as 1.04% total solids and ended the month at .94% total solids. Tank level at the beginning of the month was 12.07 ft. and at the end of the month was 15.08 ft.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Joe moved to adjourn the meeting. Fran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer  
Recording Secretary