

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2013**

The East Goshen Township Municipal Authority held their regular public meeting on Monday, December 9, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the East Goshen Township building. Members in attendance were: Vice Chairman Jack Yahraes, Dana Pizarro, Ed McAssey, and Kevin Cummings. Also in attendance were: Rick Smith (Township Manager), Scott Towler (BFES), Mike Ellis (Pennoni), Dan Barbato (Pennoni), and Walter Wujcik, Conservancy Board.

**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>SBR – Sequencing Batch Reactor</i>
<i>I&amp;I – Inflow &amp; Infiltration</i>	<i>SSO – Sanitary System Overflow</i>
<i>LCSTP – Lockwood Chase Sewer Treatment Plant</i>	<i>WAS – Waste Activated Sludge</i>

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Jack 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 and all veterans. Jack asked if anyone would be recording the meeting and there was no response.

**Chairman’s Report/Other Member’s Reports**

Ed reported that he attended the West Goshen meeting. The agreement is close to being approved. The Riverkeepers have approved the agreement. .5 will take 5 years to achieve.

**Approval of Minutes**

Dana moved to accept the minutes of November 11, 2013 as corrected. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Invoices**

1. Kevin moved to approve payment of the following Gawthrop Greenwood invoices:

- a. Gawthrop Greenwood #113959 \$ 500.00
- b. Gawthrop Greenwood #113960 \$ 831.71

Dana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Dana moved to approve payment of the following Pennoni invoices:

- c. Pennoni #569529 \$ 367.50
- d. Pennoni #569530 \$ 401.50
- e. Pennoni #569531 \$ 3,031.25
- f. Pennoni #569532 \$ 4,376.50

Ed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Liaison Reports**

Conservancy Board – Walter reported that, on Saturday, November 16, 2013, they completed the planting on E. Boot Road across from Bellingham. The spraying in the open spaces was done in October. The Board will consider the new sign designed for the east entrance to the Township at Paoli Pike and Line Road. It will have “Welcome to East Goshen Township, Clymer’s Woods Reforestation” on it.

## **Financial Reports**

Jon Altshul’s December 5, 2013 Financial Report for November 2013:

The Municipal Authority recorded \$40,337 in revenues and \$61,114 in expenses in November, a difference of -\$20,778 (rounded). The fund balance is now \$1,635,119.

\$39,686 of the expenses was related to the Reserve Pump Station and an additional \$18,057 were engineering costs associated with the Reservoir Road Pump Station. Most of the revenue came from a \$40,000 transfer from the sewer sinking fund.

Note that the beginning fund balance was revised downwards by \$12 from what was reported to you as the ending fund balance last month. This was due to a \$12 incoming wire fee assessed by Susquehanna Bank on the proceeds of the DelVal note that was not recorded until last month.

## **Goals**

1. Dana will provide an article for the next newsletter, which is due the last week of January.
2. Jack will attend the West Goshen meeting in March.
3. Items to add to the Goals list for 2014:
  1. Obtain Act 537 plans for Reservoir Road
  2. Investigate cost of tank covers for odor maintenance.

## **New Business**

1. Consider Pennoni 2014 Proposal – The proposal for 2014 contained a 3 to 4% increase in some hourly rates. Some rates have not been increased since 2011. Matt is rated as an Engineering Technician II. Alternate routes for the Reservoir Road project were discussed. A written outline will be ready for January. The estimated total fee for annual services is \$35,000. Dana moved to reappoint Pennoni for 2014. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2. Consider Proposed Budget for 2014

Jon Altshul’s Review of 2014 proposed budget:

Revenues: This budget proposes revenues of \$147,471 including \$124,000 from Chester Creek Tapping Fees (Goshen Meadows) and \$21,444 from Ridley Creek Tapping Fees (Colonial La). Because of the projected tapping fees, no transfer from the sewer operating fund is necessary to cover administrative expenses.

Interest income is projected to increase sharply as a result of the proceeds of the 2013 notes that will not be spent until 2015.

Expenses: Auditing expenses in 2014 are expected to increase to \$10,800 to reflect additional work surrounding the sale of the 2013 DelVal notes.

\$35,525 is budgeted for miscellaneous operating engineering services.

\$75,000 is budgeted for engineering for the new Reservoir Road pump station project, which will be paid for from the proceeds of the 2013 bonds.

The projected fund balance at the end of 2014 is expected to be \$1,632,577. The majority of this amount (\$1.525 million) will represent the remaining balance of the proceeds from the 2013 notes, which will be spent on the Reservoir Road pump station construction in 2015.

The \$75,000 for Reservoir Road project costs were discussed. Kevin moved to approve the budget for 2014 as proposed. Ed seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Authorize Chairman to execute Fifth Supplemental Lease - Ed moved to authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign the lease. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jack will sign. In answer to Kevin's question about insurance, Rick commented that the Township's Errors and Omission's insurance covers ABCs members. Kevin would like something in writing.

## **Sewer Reports**

### **1. Mark Miller, Director of Public Works -**

Meters: All meters were read on a daily basis. The portable flow meters are scheduled to be installed next week at their new locations as discussed with Mike Ellis.

Pump Stations: Were visited on a daily basis.

C.C. Collection: We found two significant breaks two weeks ago; one on Baldwin Drive approximately 25 to 30,000 gallons per day. The other was on the Interceptor line 75 to 100,000 gallons per day. I found another one last week which could be another 15 to 20,000 gallons a day.

The break on the Interceptor turned out to be rather challenging. When we excavated the manhole and the line, we found that the manhole had a significant crack that ran  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's of the way around the manhole. We also found that the manhole did not have an anti-floater device and the manhole has actually tilted causing the 8" pipe to break.

Rick and I decided to backfill the manhole and order a new manhole and piping. Prior to backfilling, we installed a sump pump and pipe to begin dewatering around the clock with a 4" diesel powered pump until the new manhole was delivered.

Once the manhole was delivered, we built a dam in the Chester Creek to bypass the stream to alleviate the chance of the stream coming into our hole. While we made the repairs, a 12" pump was utilized from Godwin Pump along with a 6" pump to bypass the Interceptor line. The crew did a good job replacing the manhole and piping which began at 8:00 am Wednesday and finished at 5:30 pm.

Prior to the work taking place, Mike Ellis applied for an emergency repair permit from the DEP who came out to the site to make an inspection. Mike and I met them on site to go over the scope of work. One of the inspectors had a problem with us making a temporary road thru the wetlands. I explained it was necessary to get materials in and that we would restore the property when we were done.

While preparing Grand Oak and Bittersweet Developments for paving, we noticed several holes missing sewer caps. Several needed new piping. We replaced 8 caps.

R.C. Collection: we will begin grouting and raising manholes next week.

R.C. Plant: We had to pull pump #2 on the utility water system. The pump was sent to Deckmans for repairs.

Alarms: we received a total of 28 alarms in November.

PA One Calls: We received 85 PA One Calls for the month of October.

Lateral Repairs: 8 Cap Replacements for the C.C. Collection.

**2. Pennoni** – Mike Ellis gave the following report for November:

RCSTP – Pennoni continues to provide operations assistance as needed. No issues were brought to our attention in October.

Reserve PS Elimination – We are awaiting several contract closeout documents from the contractor before we will recommend final payment including as –built plans, a letter from the geotechnical engineer confirming adequate backfill compaction within the detention basin berm, written notification that they will return in the spring to remove the filter sock along the creek, contractor’s release, statement of surety, and maintenance bond.

Reservoir Road Pump Station Act 537 Plan – We completed the topographic and existing conditions field survey of the proposed pump station parcel and proposed force main route to the tentatively proposed gravity sewer connection in Bow Tree (along Strasburg Rd and N Chester Rd.). We are coordinating with the various utility providers to obtain copies of their utility plans. Once these plans are received, we will finalize the existing conditions plan.

We met with Rick Smith and Mark Miller to evaluate force main routing alternatives. The preferred approach is a variation of Alternative 2 from our November 8, 2013 alternatives memo. This alternative involves running the force main an additional approximately 3,000 l.f. to tie directly into the Ridley Creek interceptor sewer. An odor control chemical feed system would not be needed under this alternative. A cost-benefit analysis will be performed to evaluate the savings from not having an odor control system over an approximately 20 year timeframe versus the additional construction cost for a 3,000 l.f. longer force main.

A couple variations of the originally proposed force main route between the pump station site and Bow Tree will be evaluated. There are numerous major utility conflicts at the intersection of Strasburg Road and N. Chester Road, so we are evaluating other force main routes to avoid this intersection that will not significantly increase construction cost ( and may actually be less costly) via existing easements and/or rights-of-way. Additionally, we will be contacting the utility companies to determine what the restrictions would be for crossing and/or running parallel to their pipes and conduits.

Chester Creek Interceptor Manhole Replacement – We assisted the Township with scope determination and emergency permitting with PADEP for the replacement of the cracked manhole on the Chester Creek interceptor sewer. Permitting included temporary stream diversion of the East Branch Chester Creek via bypass pumping.

**3. Big Fish Environmental Services** – The following is a summary of Scott’s report for November 2013:

Treatment Process Operation- During October 2013, there were no exceedances of the final effluent discharge limitations for Outfall 001 and Outfall 002.

The monthly average total phosphorus concentration was 0.28 mg/L as compared to the discharge limitation of 0.5 mg/L. During the month, the final effluent total phosphorus concentration discharged ranged from 0.16 mg/L to 0.34 mg/L.

Flow to Applebrook, Outfall 002, continued until mid-October.

In October, Mike Brenner, Water Quality Specialist from PA DEP was on site to conduct a facility inspection. No Violations were observed.

During the month of November 2013, there are no anticipated exceedances of the permitted effluent discharge limitations.

During November, there was no discharge to Applebrook.

The influent wastewater pollutant concentrations and loading entering the wastewater treatment facility remained within the design concentrations and loadings. Composite samples are collected at the influent doghouse manhole and influent wet well. The influent flow meter reading is collected from the influent flow meter located prior to the Screening Building, excluding the internal recycle flows.

SBRs #1, 3 and 4 were in service during the month of November. SBR #2 was periodically placed in service during the week of November 25<sup>th</sup> to assist with managing influent flows when SBR #3 effluent valve actuator was malfunctioning.

Process monitoring of each SBR included ammonia as N, Nitrite as N, Nitrate as N, COD, SSV, MLSS and total phosphorus. Foam concentrations remained around the same concentration as during October. Present surface area coverage during React Phase ranges from approximately 60 to 80%. The foam color remains as light to medium brown in color and averages 2 to 4 inches in depth.

Daily monitoring of the influent and final effluent 24-hour composites samples for total phosphorus is ongoing. Daily analysis of the final effluent flow equalization grab sample is total phosphorus is ongoing. Sample collection and analysis of the influent wastewater collected at the influent pump station wet well is ongoing.

Addition of aluminum sulfate solution to the SBRs to assist with phosphorus removal continued. The volume of aluminum sulfate solution to the SBRs was decreased at during November. The addition of soda ash to the SBRs to assist with maintain desired pH concentrations above 7.0 standard units continued during the month.

SBR #2 remains out of service as a treatment unit.

During the month, the decanter for SBR 3 was observed to have been extended above the water level. The effluent knife valve was routinely closed and the decanter filled with water to assist with lowering the decanter within the water level. The frequency of occurrence ranged from one to several occurrences during the month. If an effluent nozzle is partially or completely opened at all times, the entry of air within the decanter could occur resulting with the decanter extending above the water level. The SBR is planned to be removed from service during mid-December for inspection of the effluent decanter nozzles.

Process Monitoring On-Line Instrumentation: Representatives from the Hach Co. will be on site on December 17, 2013 at 9:00 am to discuss the proposed pilot study of the RTC online analyzer.

Solids Dewatering and Disposal: November 2013

During the month, sludge wasting to the sludge holding tanks and decanting of the sludge holding tanks was ongoing. Process monitoring included pH, total alkalinity and total solids. Sludge holding tank #1 was in service. The level at the beginning of the month was 9.82 feet and the level at the end of the month was 6.73 feet. The initial total solids concentration was 0.92% and ended the month as 0.63% total solids. Zero gallons of supernatant were decanted during the month. A total of 400 pounds of soda ash were added during the month for pH adjustment.

Sludge holding tank #2 was in service. The level at the beginning of the month was 9.28 feet and the level at the end of the month was 10.15 feet. The initial total solids concentration was 0.79% and ended the month as 0.86% total solids. A total of 91,875 gallons of supernatant were decanted during the month. A total of 650 pounds of soda ash were added during the month for pH adjustment.

Significant storm events in November – None

### Minor Repairs and Preventive Maintenance

1. On Nov. 9, 2013, the utility water system was removed to service. We identified no power to control panel. When power was applied, the control panel immediately tripped off. Mark Miller arranged for Lenni Electric to correct the problem.
2. On Nov. 9, 2013, replaced the sensor caps for LDO probes in SDBRs 1, 3, and 4. Calibrated LDO meters.
3. On Nov. 18, 2013, Lenni Electric on site to repair the utility water electric failure. The utility water system was returned to service with on pump online.
4. On Nov. 19, 2013, responded to Siemens panel alarm, checked home computer SBR#3 effluent valve failed to open. We placed SBR 2 on-line during troubleshooting and implementation of corrective actions. Valve returned to intended operational mode.
5. On Nov. 21, 2013, responded to Siemens panel alarm for SBR 3 effluent valve failed to close. Adjusted valve and returned valve appeared to be operational.
6. On Nov. 25, 2013, responded to Siemens panel alarm for SBR 4 maximum decant alarm.
7. On Nov. 27, 2013, responded to Siemens panel alarm for SBR 3 effluent valve failed to open. Valve failed to open or close through manual operation. Adjusted valve and confirmed operation on hand mode. We remained on site to observe valve operate in automatic mode. Valve was observed to be functioning as intended.
8. On Nov. 29, 2013, SBR 3 valve failed to open. SBR 2 placed online. We contacted Tri-State to arrange for a technician to report to the facility to assist with repairing the actuator. Tri-State repaired the valve. During the visit, the motor for SBR 2 effluent actuator was determined to require replacement (SBR 2 actuator was previously the actuator from SBR 3). For 2014, Scott will recommend having a supply of spare parts on hand so down time for repairs will be shorter. He also suggests a pilot study to look at alternative chemicals to reduce costs. Kevin feels the plant should run for at least 1 year using the chemicals that it was designed to use. He would like to get unit operations under control first. The plant is at only 50% of capacity. In April 2013, the Authority members agreed to wait 1 year to see how things go. Kevin would like to wait until April 2014. Everyone agreed.

### Any Other Matter

1. Jack proposed the following slate of officers for consideration for January's meeting:

Chairman – Jack Yahares

Vice Chairman – Kevin Cummings

Secretary – Dana Pizarro

Treasurer – Ed McAssey

Assistant Sec/Treas – Fran Beck

This is based on the normal rotation used in the past.

2. Rick reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the Township's 2014 Budget last Tuesday. There is no tax increase for 2014. The trash collection days will change in January. Letters were sent to the residents.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, Kevin moved to adjourn the meeting. Dana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer  
Recording Secretary