# THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING July 6, 2020

Pledge of Allegiance.

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by Chairman Reuben at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present at roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben were present. Errickson was absent.

The proper notice was given to all members in accordance with the by-laws.

Chairman Reuben stated that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given in the following manner:

- 1. Posting written notice in the lobby entrance of the Authority.
- 2. Hand delivering notices to the offices of the Daily Journal and The Press.
- 3. Filing written notices in the offices of the Authority and City Clerk.

Also present: Dennis W. Palmer Executive Director

Anthony Tobolski Field Engineer

Stephen D. Barse Solicitor

Carol A. Ricci Executive Assistant

It was moved by Villar and seconded by Barse that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 15, 2020 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Villar and Reuben voted "yes". Merighi abstained.

The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions. There were none.

#### Resolutions:

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Merighi that Resolution No. 2020 - 70 "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Revolving Payroll Account.... \$108,195.23", be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

It was moved by Villar and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 - 71, "Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands

are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Bills.... \$389,664.65", be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2020 – 72, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing correction on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$287,814.98…" be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

Dennis stated that the largest charge-off was the Veterans Home and it will be applied as a credit. We go back two years.

It was moved by Barse and seconded by Villar that Resolution No. 2020 - 73, "A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the Executive Director to award a contract to W.K. Merriman, Inc. for furnishing and delivery of liquid lime slurry or equivalent..." be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

# Reports:

#### **Executive Director**

Dennis Palmer reported that we talked about the charge-off at the Veterans. At the end of August, we will have an issue with the City water readings with the hospital and the cooling towers. We wanted a year's worth of data and this goes back to something we told them 20 years ago. Put meters on your discharge; they didn't and they sent water to the cooling towers and it evaporates. They put up a meter and they wanted a credit for that and we said no because you still send water to us from those towers when they dump or discharge from them. By August it will be the first year of a meter going into the cooling towers and a meter coming out. Then we can talk about a number and it will again be a two year look back.

We have not really heard much from the natural gas project. They are timely on their quarterly payments.

It's been kind of slow. Joe Reuben asked if F & S Produce was on a flow meter and Dennis replied yes. They keep expanding and their numbers go up but they don't need any connection fees because they have huge capacity. We read them every six months. One of their lines came over when they had the fire in Rosenhayn and it is possibly a fruit line. Joe stated he heard they were also doing tomatoes. Dennis stated that we have to check the pH because tomatoes drive it down.

# Field Engineer

Anthony Tobolski reported that B & H Contracting poured the walls just above ground level on the Brewster Road Pump Station project. The remainder of the building will be stick built. This is part of Contract 3A.

Sub-Level Construction installed two suction valves in the dry well last week along with the transducer and bubbler system to control when the pumps start. The By-pass pump is in place and the electricians are setting up the controllers for bypassing the station. They should be gutting the dry well by the end of the week. This work is being completed as part of Contract 3B.

#### Solicitor:

We had a conference call with the attorneys regarding the opioid litigation and they gave us an update. They have to look at a couple more things and they will get back to us next week with a final assessment of the practicality of going forward or not.

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

#### Engineering/Plant:

Dennis stated that the punch list was sent last week and mostly what is left is the computer system, signals and controls. They are coming back to work on the electrical cable at the headworks and we have a blower that is out at the factory that should hopefully be back at the end of this month. Then the plant is pretty much completed. Most of the pieces already went through the one-year warranty. This project has been worked on for quite some time.

We talked before about a consortium of people looking at the DEP rule for PFOS and PFOAS that are in Teflon, rain gear. National Park has their wells contaminated and also Paulsboro where those things are made in that area. Tomorrow I have a conference call with a number of AEA folks that want to have a consortium. The rules came out, they already gave us an amended permit with 60 days to comment on it and I will be sending that in towards the end of the 60 days. Right now, it's just sampling, but if there is ever a treatment required it would be well over \$5M for treatment. The rules, their response and comments were at best disingenuous to people. Some of the science behind the rule is not good. The Federal limit is 75 and the DEP is pushing for two parameters of 13 and 14. There are a of questions from a lot of people. What is the practicality behind it and does the science support the numbers?

**Budget/Finance**: No Report

## **Human Resources:**

One of our employees, Reed Nelson, is retiring at the end of the month. We wish him well and we'll be looking for another person. He is actually on the road crew but we will be looking for someone with operator experience, mechanical experience and different things.

# **Public Relations:**

Dennis stated that we received this magnificent award and I'll pass it around. The award is from the Energy Curtailment Program. If we get called within an hour's notice and we drop energy load, we get paid for taking that load off the grid and run on our backup generators.

Tom Merighi asked who calls and is it the City. Dennis stated it's PJM and they control the power from Chicago to here, down the Delmarva Peninsula through norther Virginia and Pennsylvania. They have the map and as areas start heating up and as the map approaches red, you get a call to drop load to keep the grid from overheating. We paid every quarter for doing this.

# <u>Insurance Committee</u>:

Carol Ricci reported that the commercial liability policies are bound, insurance cards have been given out but we had no luck with the cyber liability policy. We had one claim and no one wants to insure us. Bob went out to five different markets. We're still with AIG, the premium of \$5059 and the \$25,000 deductible. The PLIGA charge is about \$30.35. I thought for sure that Zurich might consider us but they don't want to insure public entities any longer. It's bound and we have not been without insurance. Bob English, our agent, said that he was concerned about what the Look First people said and that is if they tried to get you once, they will more than likely try again.

Dennis stated that we have just upgraded every computer in the facility to Windows 10, a stronger firewall so either hardware or soft ware has been replaced so all of the units have been brought up to a much better standard.

Carol stated that the other premium was \$3300 and now we're at \$5059 plus the PLIGA charge. Dennis stated the big thing is the deductible went from \$5000 to \$25,000.

#### Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that we have developer's asking what's my annual fee, connection fee. Anthony is working on a project now regarding criteria. We had two food processors asking questions.

The plant actually needs food right now and it looks funky. We think that someone dropped a load on us. The bugs under the microscope and the way the tanks are

# Regular Meeting, Page 5

operating, given the environment we're operating in, we suspect someone may have had a big sanitation project and dumped it down the drain because that what it looks like. When you look at the microbes and you have these filaments that stick out and help things settle slowly and give us better clarity, they are all gone. It's usually a toxic shock. If we get too many, we use chlorine to shock them back. We called the hot line and I sent an email to our DEP inspector to say this is what we think happened. We have foam on top of the tanks that we never had before. It's coming back now but its slow. You let the bugs grow and work themselves out of it.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:20 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Villar and seconded by Barse that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Villar and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary