

GREATER POTTSVILLE AREA SEWER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2024

The regular meeting of the Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority was held on the Third Floor City Hall on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dr. Barry S. DeWitt, II with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

PRESENT

Dr. Barry S. Dewitt, II	,	Chairman
Charles M. Dries	,	1 st Vice Chairman
James T. Muldowney	,	2 nd Vice Chairman
Ronald C. Zimmerman	,	Treasurer
Henry J. Minnig	,	Assistant Treasurer
John G. Botto	,	Secretary
Ellen M. Micka	,	Assistant Secretary
Thomas W. Schreffler, P.E.	,	Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc.
John R. Poff, P.E.	,	Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc.
Edward M. Brennan, Esquire	,	Solicitor
Christina M. Q. Herndon	,	Authority Secretary
Timothy R. Yingling	,	Executive Director

GUESTS

Brian Dries	,	President - Borough of Palo Alto
Vince Riotto	,	Vice President - Borough of Palo Alto
Jean Towle	,	Executive Director of Pottsville Library
Jeff Dunkel	,	Customer

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Dries, President of the Borough of Palo Alto questioned the Board why so many people are leaving the toxic work environment of the Authority office, and what the Board is going to do about this issue. He also stated the Board's Personnel Committee should be investigating this issue.

Mr. Dries also asked the Board why Joe Spotts has been telling everyone he will be hired as the Project Manager and starting on May 1st even before the Project Manager Position was advertised.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 28, 2024, were presented for approval.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by John Botto, the Board unanimously approval the February, 2024 meeting minutes.

The Statement of Disbursements and Outstanding Bills due the month of March 2024 were presented and distributed for approval.

On motion of Ronald C. Zimmerman, and seconded by Charles M. Dries, the Board unanimously approved the Statement of Disbursements and Outstanding Bills for March 2024.

Dr. Barry Dewitt, Chairman presented Requisition No. 692 for expenses incurred the month of December, 2023 from the REVENUE FUND at MID PENN BANK, Trustee, as authorized under Section 6.02 of the Trust Indenture.

REQUISITION NO. 692

Payee	-	Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority Mid Penn Bank A/C #56-185-1
Amount	-	\$ 593,522.10
Dated	-	March 28, 2024

On motion of Ellen Mika, and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman, the Board unanimously approved Requisition No. 692 for March 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Authority went into executive session to discuss personnel issues at 5:04 pm and reconvened at 5:35 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - PERSONNEL

1. Hiring of clerical position.

Charles M. Dries recommended Lynn Strausser for the clerical position.

Henry J. Minnig recommended hiring Christiana Lauderman for the clerical position.

On motion of Ellen M. Micka, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the hiring of Christiana Lauderman for the clerical position with the starting salary of \$32,627.47.

2. Hiring of Project Manager.

On motion of John Botto, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the hiring of Joseph F. Spotts, III for Project Manager with the starting

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan, stated Mr. Spotts will receive medical coverage as of the first day of hiring, and the Authority will amend the insurance coverage from 60 days after hiring to the day of hire.

3. On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Ellen M. Micka, the Board approved to advertise the position of Executive Director and Pretreatment Program Coordinator.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director's report for March 27, 2024:

1. Presented for the Board's information that effective July 5, 2024 he will be retiring.
2. Presented for the Board's information that the Pretreatment Program is mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and currently is not being administered. Requested a proposal from Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. to administer the Pretreatment Program in the interim until a Pretreatment Program Coordinator is hired.

On motion of Ellen M. Micka, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the Executive Director's Report for March, 2024.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Edward M. Brennan, Solicitor's Report for the March 2024:

1. Presented to the Board's information he met with City of Pottsville Engineer, Mike Hummel to discuss the Act 527 plan.
2. Presented to the Board's information regarding the amending the contact persons for The Benecon Group Insurance to Authority Solicitor, Board Personnel members and the Executive Director.

On Motion of Ellen M. Micka, and seconded by Henry J. Minnig the Board unanimously approved to add contacts for The Benecon Group Insurance.

On motion of Charles M. Dries, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the Solicitor's Report for March 2024.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Thomas W. Schreffler, P. E. presented his report in written form. Refer to the attached report from Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. for March 2024.

1. Mr. Thomas W. Schreffler, P.E. presented for the Board's information an update on the Corrective Action Plan/ Act 537 Plan.

2. Mr. Thomas W. Schreffler, P. E. presented for the Board's information an update on the Market Street Sewer Separation Project status.

3. Mr. Thomas W. Schreffler, P.E. presented for the Board's information an update on the Digester Rehabilitation Project status.

4. Mr. John R. Poff, P. E. presented for the Board's approval a proposal to perform interim duties of the Pretreatment Program Coordinator on a time and material basis at a \$145.00 per hour rate.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Ellen M. Micka, the Board unanimously approved to hire Light-Heigel & Associates at a rate of \$145.00 per hour to administer the Pretreatment Program until a Pretreatment Program Coordinator is hired.

5. Mr. John R. Poff, P.E. presented for the Board's approval a proposal to perform inspection services (Phase I) of the manholes located in Mill Creek and the Schuylkill River in Port Carbon for a Not-to Exceed amount of \$42,000.00.

On motion of Charles M. Dries, and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman, the Board unanimously approved to hire Light-Heigel & Associates to perform manhole inspection services in Port Carbon (Phase I) for a Not-to-Exceed amount of \$42,000.00.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Henry J. Minnig, the Board unanimously approved the Engineer's Report for March 2024.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m. on motion of Ellen M. Micka, and seconded by James T. Muldowney.



JOHN G. BOTTO, SECRETARY