GREATER POTTSVILLE AREA SEWER AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2026

The Board Meeting of the Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority was held on the Third Floor City Hall, Sewer Authority Conference Room on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PRESENT

Dr. Barry Dewitt	,	Chairman
Brian P. Dries	,	1st Vice Chairman
James T. Muldowney	,	2nd Vice Chairman
Ronald C. Zimmerman	,	Treasurer
Henry J. Minnig	,	Assistant Treasurer
John G. Botto	,	Secretary
Jonathan Morris, P.E.	,	Assistant Secretary
Edward M. Brennan	,	Solicitor
John R. Poff, P.E.	,	SDE Consulting Engineer
William Orlowsky, P.E.	,	Executive Director
Christina M. Q. Herndon	,	Authority Secretary
Lynn Strausser	,	Office Manager

GUESTS

Jean Towle	,	Executive Director of Pottsville Library
Vince Riotto	,	Vice President of Palo Alto Borough
Brenda Schuettler	,	Billing Supervisor
Marty Davis	,	Teamsters
Mike Botto	,	GPASA Plant Operator

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt welcomed Brian P. Dries as a new Board Member representing Palo Alto Borough replacing Charles M. Dries.

Brian P. Dries stated he has been here a couple of years as a guest and looking to move the Authority forward like everyone else around this table.

The minutes of the regular meeting for May 2026 were approved by James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Brian P. Dries.

REQUISITION NO. 717

Payee	-	Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority Mid Penn Bank A/C #56-185-1
Amount	-	$ 344,682.75
Date	-	April 2026

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #717 in the amount of $344,682.75.

REQUISITION NO. 718

Payee	-	Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority Mid Penn Bank A/C #56-185-1
Amount	-	$ 361,447.69
Date	-	May 2026

On motion of Ronald C. Zimmerman, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #718 in the amount of $361,447.69.

Chairman Dr. Barry Dewitt requested the Board move the Executive Session to the end of the Meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director's report for June 2026 presented by William T. Orlowsky, P.E.:

1. Presented for Board's information a N.O.V. (Notice of Violation) was submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection for failure to renew the Air Quality Permit at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. It expired in March 2025. The new permit was issued on April of 2026 and expires in 2031.

Discussion followed.

2. Presented for Board's information on CSO's update all diversion manholes have had their communications and flow meters replaced and are now operational.

Discussion followed.

3. Presented for Board's update of the GIS program. We are 50% done of stormwater inlets, manhole covers are completed by our Street Crew and Emma Clark, GIS Intern.

4. Presented for Board's information on the Division Street Project. The City of Pottsville Street Crew did a wonderful job prepping the site for the soft dig, provided equipment, materials, and a dump site for the excavated materials. The City of Pottsville Street Crew were great to work with.

Discussion followed.

5. Presented for Board's update on the Mahantongo Sewer Rehabilitation Project on June 9th met with the City of Pottsville, Jim Tohill, P.E., Benesch to discuss the Stone Arch running under Centre Street which is coated in gunite and in good shape.

Discussion followed.

6. Presented for Board's approval of the Professional Service Agreement for SDE to complete the Mahantongo Sewer Rehabilitation Project.

Discussion followed.

John R. Poff, P.E., stated this agreement is not completed because the Mahantongo Street replacement of the 18-inch sewer line.

Discussion followed.

7. Presented for Board's update of the Main Plant decking upgrades on the clarifiers.

Discussion followed.

Axiom, a Costar company, gave us a quote last year (2025) for $185,000.00 and at the July 2026 meeting an updated price will be provided.

8. Presented for Board's information the Main Plant Heat Exchanger burner must be replaced or we may need a new Heat Exchanger, which is at least 30 or more years old.

Discussion followed.

The Board requested quotes for a new burner and also a quote for a new Heat Exchanger for the July Meeting.

9. Presented for Board's approval of account # 750318 Glow Massage & Esthetics, LLC, 212 North Centre Street, Pottsville is seeking relief in the amount of $1,720.92 due to a water leak.

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt asked Brenda Schuettler, Billing Supervisor, if their account is up to date and paid in full. Ms. Schuettler replied yes.

On motion of Jonathan Morris, P.E., and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman, the Board unanimously approved the relief in the amount of $1,720.92 due to a water leak at 212 North Centre Street, Pottsville.

Jonathan Morris, P.E., asked regarding the Notice of Violation for the Air Permit Renewal do we have someone tracking our permits to make sure we do not miss thing like that.

Mr. Orlowsky replied ideally it should be myself or at least whoever is working were the permits are and he did not catch it because there was so much going on in the last twelve months and going forward, we will.

Mr. Morris asked the CSO's is there a plan in place and to start tracking those flows or are we aways out from that or did we already start.

Mr. Orlowsky replied we are receiving flow data from the diversion manholes.

Discussion followed.

On motion of Henry J. Minnig and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the Executive Director's Report for June 2026.

<u>SOLICITOR'S REPORT</u>

Solicitor's Report for June 2026 Board Meeting:

1. Solicitor Brennan stated the Agreement and Resolution with the City of Pottsville is complete and the City of Pottsville will accept the Separated Storm line from Division Street to Centre Street.

Discussion followed.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Henry J. Minnig, the Board unanimously approved to authorize the signatures of the Agreement.

2. Solicitor Brennan stated the Authority needs to update the Resolution for the Sewer rates, Brenda Schuettler, Billing Supervisor, and Lynn Strausser, Office Manager, were a big help with this issue and the last time the rates where changed was in 2016 for the Commercial rates only and it was a <u>reduction</u> due to the water rate increase. The last time the residential sewer rates were raised was in 2010.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Brennan suggested the Budget Committee reviews the sewer rates and see what needs to be adjusted and then a Resolution with updated language for a rate increase can be adopted.

Discussion followed.

On motion of Brian P. Dries, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously approved the Solicitor's Report for June 2026.

<u>CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT</u>

Engineer's Report for June 2026 Board Meeting:

1. Mr. John R. Poff, P.E. stated the Engineering Committee met on May 14th and there should be another meeting in July before the July Board meeting.

2. Mr. Poff stated the Street Crew, James Thomas, Supervisor, Jason Calabrese, and Jason Conway and intern Emma Clark are in the field locating assets of the GIS system. They have located 4254 items, manholes, catch basins, valves, cleanouts etc. He is very pleased with the progress they have made in three and a half weeks and are doing a fantastic job and they should be commended for their work.

3. Mr. Poff updated the Board on the Main Treatment Plant starting preliminary design work on the UV Disinfection System.

Discussion followed.

4. Mr. Poff updated the Board on the proposal on furnishing the decking at the Main Treatment Plant. Based on conversations with Mr. Orlowsky, SDE is holding off on this proposal because Axiom will provide the Authority with cost effective solution but if the Authority needs Engineering support SDE will definitely provide the service.

5. Mr. Poff stated the Division Street project, Mr. Aungst is waiting on his pre-cast structures and once the soft dig is complete, the 30" pipe can be removed from the Dicello property and SDE will have an inspector on site during the project.

Discussion followed.

6. Mr. Poff stated the long- term control plan and the Act 537 plan will be complete once the CSO's and flows with provide SDE with data needed to complete the plans.

On motion of Henry J. Minnig, and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman, the Board unanimously approve the Engineers Report for June 2026.

Solicitor Brennan updated the Board on the Pottsville Parking Authority's decision. They will provide 4 (four) parking spaces for Mrs. Bonnie Dicello's downtown business so that gives the green light for the Easement.

Mr. Orlowsky stated Mr. Pat Aungst requested to use the 84 Lumber parking lot as a staging area.

Discussion followed.

<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>

Executive Session began at 5:49 pm and reconvened at 6:35 pm.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

1. Lynn Strausser, Office Manager, stated the she is requesting approval of the decals for the GPASA vehicles. We received two quotes from Reidler Decal and BrainStorm.

Discussion followed.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Brian Dries, the Board unanimously approved Reidler Decal.

Brian P. Dries suggested all GPASA vehicles should have Chevron on the back of each vehicle for safety.

Discussion followed.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Brian P. Dries, the Board unanimously approved Reidler to install Chevron as a safety measure to the back of the 7 (seven) GPASA vehicles as long as the price does not exceed $2000.00.

2. William T. Orlowsky, P.E., Executive Director discussed the lot on Mackenzie Alley owned by G.P.A.S.A.

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated this issued will be tabled until the July Meeting.

3. Mr. Orlowsky discussed the Palo Alto Pump Station next to Miller's Playground.

Discussion followed.

4. Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the residential rate increase will be discussed by the Finance Committee chaired by Ronald C. Zimmerman.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the last rate increase was in 2010. Monthly is $42.50 and we are looking for a $3.00 a month or $9.00 a quarter increase in January of 2027 this is less than a quarter a year since the last increase. The commercial rate increase will be provided once the new Rate Resolution is completed.

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the rates for Tap-In fees to be adjusted.

Lynn Strausser, Office Manager stated the Authority's Tap-In fee currently is $350.00

Discussion followed.

On motion of Brian R. Dries, and seconded by Ronald C. Zimmerman only agreed to adjust the Tap-In Fees.

Discussion followed.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Henry J. Minnig, the Board unanimously approved to table this motion until the July meeting.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the Personnel Committee Chaiman, Henry J. Minnig regarding hiring of the Maintenance Technician Position.

Mr. Minnig stated after interviewing for this position we agreed to hire Ryan G McDonald for the Maintenance Technician Position at the rate of $32.18 an hour.

Discussion followed.

Dr. Barry Dewitt introduced the Teamster representative Marty Davis and the Authority looks forward to working with Mr. Davis all our union members in the upcoming negotiations.

On motion of Brian R. Dries, and seconded by John G. Botto, the Board unanimously approve to hire Ryan G. McDonald as the Maintenance Technician.

Mr. Minnig stated we must advertise for the Plant Manager/Pretreatment Coordinator position.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan stated this Agenda must be amended.

On motion of Brain R. Dries, and seconded by Jonathan Morris, P.E., the Board unanimously approved to table the advertising of the Plant Manager/Pretreatment Coordinator.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the Executive Director, William T. Orlowsky, P.E. will work with the personnel committee with a job description for the Plant Manager/Pretreatment Coordinator.

Brain R. Dries asked the Board if there are job description for all employees and positions.

Discussion followed.

Dr. Barry Dewitt stated for the next meeting please provide information regarding job description.

Ronald C. Zimmerman asked if this is for all positions or just office personnel.

Discussion followed.

Dr. Barry Dewitt stated this will be for all non-union positions.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the Budget for 2026 is completed.

Discussion followed.

Ronald C. Zimmerman, Chairman of the Financial Committee added there are projects next year that will be over Budget.

Discussion followed.

Jonathan Morris, P.E. added we should look ahead for next year with the numbers for the 2027 Budget.

On motion of Ronald C. Zimmerman, and seconded by Jonathan Morris, P.E., the Board unanimously approved the 2026 Budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vince Riotto, retired employee, stated the Heat Exchanger as been at the Main Plant since 1976.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m. on the motion of Henry J. Minnig, seconded by James T. Muldowney.

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JOHN G. BOTTO, SECRETARY