

# FINAL COPY

## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Plant Administration Building

- Members Present: George Kolba, Jr., Chairman *Pro Tem*  
Edward Crumb  
Stephen Andrew VIA SKYPE  
Ray Standish (exited at 5:06 PM)  
Ronald Davis
- Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Acting Superintendent  
Ronald Warwick, Acting Assistant Superintendent  
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary  
Charles Pearsall, Business Manager (exited at 5:06) PM)  
Howard Reeve, Facilities Engineer (arrived at 4:18 PM)  
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Counsel  
Chuck Shager, Comptroller (exited at 5:45 PM)  
Janet Smith, Transcriptionist
- Guests: Ron Lake, P.E., City Project Manager (exited at 4:20 PM)  
Jason Greene, P.E., GHD (arrived at 3:50PM, exited at 5:15 PM)  
Clark Giblin, Johnson City Village Trustee  
Teresa Arrington, Binghamton Assistant Comptroller (exited at 5:45 PM)

George Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM. Five (5) Board Members were present. It is noted that the Board is still without a third representative from the City of Binghamton. Attendance sheet was passed for signatures. Fire exits were identified.

Chuck Shager presented the Fiscal Officer's Report:

1/1/19	<u>Beg. Balance</u>		
	Checking	\$1,426,925.29	
	Savings	<u>\$5,012,005.39</u>	
	Total		\$6,438,930.68
12/31/19	YTD Cash Receipts	11,568,757.40	
12/31/19	YTD Disbursements	11,654,729.15	
			6,352,958.93
	Checking	\$1,324,932.37	
	Money Market	<u>\$5,028,026.56</u>	
	Total		\$6,352,958.93
			<b>(Total as of 12/31/19)</b>

Mr. Shager reported that all monies owed for 2019 by the Municipal Users have been collected and the First Quarter Estimated Bills have been mailed out. Revenue accounts are fairly close; IWPP is substantially down about 70%. George Kolba questioned the equipment line amount and after discussion it was resolved.

Edward Crumb presented the Lead Agency Capital Project Charts Report (see Board Folder for hard copy) and explained how to review the Chart Report, the color-coding system and the scaling of the graphs in the Graph Report. Mr. Crumb also presented the quarterly report on Grant Funding. When taking awarded/obligated Grants into account, the present net contracted cost of the Lead Agency's Capital Projects (since July 2011) is \$197.5 million.

Mr. Shager stated he is requesting the Board allocate monies from the 2019 unused personnel budget lines toward two capital improvements. He, Jacobs, GHD, and Ron Lake, P.E. have discussed the problems regarding stones and grit in the fine screen equipment as well as a financially feasible way to remedy this issue, while reducing potential delay claims from the Owners' Contractors. Ron Lake explained to the Board that it is cost effective to purchase equipment for upgrades to repair currently-owned equipment.

Stone catching and much stronger buckets are needed. (Ron Lake supported that statement, and he spoke about the need due to grit and stones causing damage because the buckets are not strong enough). Mr. Lake is also requesting funding for a rock catcher and a new compactor. They will also rebuild old compactor. Mr. Lake stated that \$185,000.00 is needed to address these issues.

The six (6) oldest settling tanks have deteriorating concrete, but under the City's contract scope the contractor was only required to coat them, not repair and patch. The City is asking the Board to undertake inspecting the tanks and repairing them one at a time separate from the Lead Agency's capital project. It is estimated that each tank will cost approximately \$10,000.00 to address. There was discussion on the cost and cost distribution for the issue. It was determined that two separate **RL's** are needed. Mr. Shager wanted to set up new line items for these monies.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb for Board approval to transfer \$185,000.00 from 2019 budget line J8130.51000 (Personal Services) to J9950.59000 (Transfer to Capital) and then to flow through JH8130 (Joint Sewage Capital Fund) to a line designated by the Fiscal Officer for Grit Removal Bucket and Apparatus, with corresponding Requests for Legislation to be submitted to the Owners' Legislative Bodies.**

**Stephen Andrew seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**Motion made by Edward Crumb for Board approval to transfer \$120,000.00 from 2019 budget line J8130.51000 (Personal Services) to J9950.59000 (Transfer to Capital) and then to flow through JH8130 (Joint Sewage Capital Fund) to a line designated ~~line~~ by the Fiscal Officer for six (6) primary settling tanks for Remedial Concrete Work and Coating, with corresponding Requests for Legislation to be submitted to the Owners' Legislative Bodies.**

**Stephen Andrew seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**TOTAL \$305,000.00**

Jason Greene, P.E. and spoke on GHD's monthly IWPP Report. Five permit renewals are up and coming (Frito Lay, Binghamton University, Buckeye Terminals, All Spec Finishing, and Elliott Manufacturing). Edward Crumb stated that the Frito Lay Permit is going to be extended for one (1) year; that there needs to be a special committee meeting on past Stack Allowances for applicable industries.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb for a 12 month extension to the existing Frito-Lay, Inc. discharge Agreement on the same terms and conditions for the period 12/31/2019 - 12/31/2020.**

**George Kolba seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

Michele Cuevas spoke about the status of past meeting minutes; that she just received the past six (6) months of minutes from former Transcriptionist Laura Lee Perkins, who is not able to continue. George Kolba felt that the backlog could be finalized via a stipend. Michele is trying her best to get them done but it is difficult to find the extra time given her regular duties. Edward Crumb discussed the importance to get the minutes transcribed for auditing purposes.

The backlog will be a work in progress and further discussion. The January 10, 2020 introductory/proposal letter from Janet Smith was presented. Edward Crumb then made a motion to appoint Janet Smith as the Joint Sewage Board's new Transcriptionist.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb for the Board to accept the proposal of Janet Smith and to enter into an agreement for minutes preparation and transcription services at \$25.00 per hour effective January 14, 2020 to be paid from Budget Line J8130.54410 (Professional Services).  
George Kolba seconded the motion  
Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

Charles Pearsall presented the Business Manager's Report noting DEC fines and penalties and continuing with discussion on the Board's Water Quality Improvement Project. There are no overages at this point. WQIP construction is on schedule and the islands construction has been completed. Extension for both grants is approved for 9/30/2020 completion.

Mr. Pearsall then presented his requests for motions. Edward Crumb made a motion regarding procuring methanol.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb to authorize the Business Manager or his designee to solicit and advertise for the supply of methanol for a supply period beginning March 6, 2020 using the previously-used solicitation specifications.  
George Kolba seconded the motion  
Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**Motion made by George Kolba, Jr. to authorize the Business Manager or his designee to extend the existing Agreement for the supply of Sodium Hypochlorite 15% Solution for an additional 18-month supply period beginning March 1, 2020 at the \$0.79 per gallon delivered bid price upon the same terms and conditions as have been in effect.  
Edward Crumb seconded the motion  
Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**Motion made by Edward Crumb to authorize the Business Manager or his designee to extend the existing Agreement for the supply of Sodium Thiosulfate 30% Solution for an additional 18-month supply period beginning March 1, 2020 at the \$1.85 per gallon delivered bid price upon the same terms and conditions as have been in effect.  
Ronald Davis seconded the motion  
Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**Motion made by Ronald Davis to authorize the Business Manager or his designee to solicit and advertise for the supply of Ferric Chloride 38% Solution using the previously-used solicitation specifications.**

**Edward Crumb seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

**Motion made by George Kolba, Jr. to authorize the Business Manager or his designee to solicit and advertise for the supply of Phosphoric Acid 75% Solution using the solicitation specifications provided to Board Members.**

**Edward Crumb seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 5/0/1 (vacant)**

Ray Standish exited the meeting. A quorum of four Board Members remains.

Mr. Pearsall discussed buying chemicals in volume for financial savings. Mr. Kolba, Jr. questioned safe storage and Mr. Pearsall advised that there are tanks available onsite for safe storage. He also discussed the piggyback agreement off an Onondaga County Bid for Polymers.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb to approve piggybacking off Onondaga County Contract Bid 0010165 in accordance with the letter dated 12/23/19 from Boyd Stanley, VP of supplier SNF Polydyne describing the contract terms.**

**George seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 4/0/1/1 (vacant)**

## Superintendent's Report

Elliott Wagner presented the Superintendent's report.

### Violations and Significant Issues:

Fines: \$5000/month CBOD and/or TSS, \$5000/month for Phase 1 C/N Cells 1-8, and \$5000 for Phase 2 C/N Cells 9-14.

### Compliance:

<b>Date: December 2019 Average Flow 20.75 MGD</b>	<b>Influent</b>	<b>Effluent</b>	<b>Average % Removal</b>	<b>Effluent Limit</b>	
<b>CBOD mg/l</b>	154 mg/l	17mg/l 3015lbs/day	89%                      last month 96%	Monitor until Jan 1, 2018 then 18mg/l 5,254lbs/day. \$5K Fine	
<b>Suspended Solids mg/l</b>	143mg/l	7mg/l 1299lbs/day	95% Last Month 98%	Monitor until Jan 1, 2018 then 20mg/l 5,828lbs/day. \$5K Fine	
Other: Settleable Solids Max ml/l	11.8ml/l	0.1ml/l	99%	Monitor	
Total Nitrogen mg/l	Nov 2019 24.9mg/l	Nov. 2019 13.6mg/l	45%	Monitor	
Chlorine mg/l	NA	0.09 Max.	NA	0.09Max.	
Avg. Temperature	12.2	13.9			
<b>Solids Removed</b>		<b>Sep 2019</b>	<b>Oct 2019</b>	<b>Nov 2019</b>	<b>DEC 2019</b>
<b>Digested</b>		350.63	573.37	558.06	505.89
<b>Lime Stabilized</b>		7.27	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		357.90	573.37	558.06	505.89
<b>Grit</b>		0	31.24		19.92
<b>Screenings</b>		0	8.6		
<b>Grease</b>		0	0		

## Construction Topics

- Expansion Joint at the intersecting joint between C/N cell 1-8 and 9-14 influent/effluent channels will need repair.
- Centrifuges are being used 1 available.
- Methanol Trouble alarms continue.
- Plate was removed end of November.
- Increased max influent to 60 MGD.

## Other Issues:

- Biosytr Start Up: Biosytr continues to run 1-8 C/N cells and 1-4 DN cells in Automatic including backwashes.
- September 9, 2019 sending total flow to PST # 7-10, C/N cells 1-8 and UV disinfection.
- Actiflo – Actiflo continues to operate hit and miss, sending sludge to thickener #2
- Phone lines for methanol fire alarm installed and terminated and monitoring company set, Continue receiving Trouble alarms.
- UV continues to operate, transmittance is good at approx. 66NTU, Wedecco has completed its 30 day test, we await results
- We await a fix on the cooling water system for the Micro-turbines. Our digester # 3 continues to run well with a volatile reduction avg over the 3 months of 57.25%
- We have again met our permit for CBOD5 and TSS.
- We have interviewed 2 candidates for Operator trainee.
- We have interviewed 1 candidate for Lab tech with about 4 more applicants to go.
- Operators continue performing process testing for the BioStyr

Superintendent Wagner feels the number one concern is meeting our permit. Regardless of what has to happen to meet the obligation, it is something that needs attention. He is on track with this issue and will continue. Kruger is good at responding and Mr. Wagner feels it is crucial to work with them. Mr. Wagner states that the numbers look good; DO (Dissolved Oxygen) is five (5) times the level of what's in the river. Nitrogen levels are good. He spoke about the importance of the Actiflo system. He is monitoring all that is needed. The two (2) Operator Trainees will be taking the civil service exam making sure they meet the criteria. Mr. Wagner felt it is important to acknowledge the Operators. They run the process tests and are sending the data consistently all day, every day for accurate accounting of the numbers and reports. Mr. Wagner is pleased with this which in turn creates great morale for the operators.

(It is noted that at 5:42pm the connection on the iPad SKYPE with Steve Andrew failed, and the meeting proceeded via speaker phone.)

Steve Andrew spoke on Personnel and the Union contract. The contract is signed for a one (1) year extension. Steve Andrew reminds the Board that we need a negotiator for Union discussions by the end of the year. He also stated that a decision will be made for a Lab Tech by next Friday and mentioned that the revised Lab Director job description was passed out. Edward Crumb discussed the requirements for this position were edited on the job description to remove the Safety Director duties. The board is interested to do whatever is required to find a provisional appointment.

**Motion made by Edward Crumb to strike out the red cross-out language and insert the green language and submit to the Binghamton Civil Service Commission for approval of the revisions.**

**Ron Davis seconded the motion**

**Motion carried 4/0/1/1**

### **Committee Reports**

Construction - George Kollba spoke on the Safety Manager position. He is awaiting responses from people he contacted on programs. He feels in-house programs are best. We need a 'safety person', so a position will be needed.

Finance - Edward Crumb presented the Finance Committee Report and noted that the 2019 budget year's books will be closing for run-out claims at the end of February, so any remaining claims against the 2019 Budget should be through the Board Listing process by Friday, February 21, 2020 so that payments can be processed and issued by February 28th.

Flow Management – a discussion was held regarding the DEC's public comment period for the updated SPDES Permit. While the DEC satisfactorily addressed the comments submitted via the Board's November 27, 2019 letter, the wording of Footnote 7 is still a concern because, taken literally, testing for chlorine residual at the Outfall would be required even if the only use of chlorine is for odor control in the air scrubbers, which renders the chlorine inert. Superintendent Wagner noted that the wording of Footnote 7 would require testing for chlorine residual at the Outfall seven days per week, twice on each shift, together with associated recordkeeping and reporting. It was approved that a comment letter be submitted to DEC regarding this issue, copying the same to Senator Akshar, Assemblywoman Lupardo, and Assemblyman Crouch.

Ad Hoc – Ron Davis. Nothing to report.

Correspondence – As noted on the Agenda.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Motion made by Steve Andrew to go into Executive Session.

George Kolba seconded the motion

Motion Failed 3/1/1/1 (vacant)

Motion made by Edward Crumb to amend motion to direct counsel to respond to the union's letter regarding a personnel action previously taken.

No second.

Motion Failed

Motion made by George Kolba to adjourn.  
Steve Andrew seconded the motion  
Motion carried 4/0/1/1 (vacant)

Meeting adjourned at 6:25PM

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Smith  
Transcriptionist

cc: Board Members  
Mayor Rich David, City of Binghamton  
Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City  
City Clerk, City of Binghamton  
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City  
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.  
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer  
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent  
Brown & Brown Empire State  
Haylor Freyer & Coon  
Robert Bennett, P.E., Village of Johnson City, Engineer  
Ray Standish, P.E., City of Binghamton, City Engineer  
File