

FINAL COPY

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

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba
Edward Crumb
Chris Papastrat
Ron Lake
Bruce King

Member Absent: Stephen Andrew

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Billie J. Goodson, Business Manager
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Ron Warwick, Asst. Superintendent
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer
Adam Afify, Head Operator
Chuck Robinson, COB Comptroller
Jason Greene, GHD (video: arrived 3:45pm; exited 4:20pm)

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM. Sign in sheet was passed. Five (5) Board members were present. Board member Andrew was absent. Confidential Secretary Cuevas read aloud roll call. Chairman Kolba confirmed all signed in, identified fire exits and requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Kolba asked if anyone would like the privilege of the Floor. No one wished to speak. The Chairman closed the floor.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted May 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

Fiscal Officer Report

Mr. Charles Robinson has been appointed to the position of Comptroller for the City of Binghamton and Fiscal Officer to the Joint Sewage Board. Everyone congratulated Mr. Robinson on his new appointment. In a few weeks Mr. Robinson would like a tour of the facility; he will coordinate with superintendent Wagner very soon. Mr. Robinson also reported that the City's new Assistant Comptroller is expected to start in July. Mr. Robinson noted that the budget year-to-date is tracking "normal".

Ending balance as of May 31st is \$12,581,556.38. (It was noted that the advances to the Municipal Users on the 2023 Final Billing approved by the Board April 9, 2024, have not yet been disbursed).

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wagner overviewed his Superintendent's Report below which included graphs, charts, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders. The first page of the report is set forth below.

May Superintendents Report 06/11/24

May received 3.67 inches of precipitation.

Total average flow was 16.12 mgd with the sum being 499.85 million gallons.

CBOD=7mg/L, TSS=4mg/L, NH3=0.151 mg/L, Phos=0.421 mg/L. All permit limits were made.

Micro-Turbines production was 84,258 kwh. Solar produced 8,169 kwh.

In May, Mechanics removed #4 Main pump from service for a complete rebuild. This pump has been in service since approximately 2007.

Superintendent's Report-cont.

The South grit channel was taken down for inspection, the Helical skimmers are having their wipers either flipped over or replaced as necessary; replaced hoses in the Methanol pumps, worked with Evans Mechanical to repair the North elevating grit conveyor.

The Electrical department completed two different switching scenarios in support of NYSE&G's maintenance on the Harper Sub-Station. They also Locked out-tagged out and removed the wiring from #4 main pump in support of the Mechanics.

Operations personnel have completed the spring cleaning of the effluent weirs, they were doggedly troubleshooting and making process changes to the Actiflo System, and the DN cells methanol feed system and chemical feed systems. Two operators attended SUNY Morrisville and our own Senior Operator Mr. Afify finished 1st in the class.

We continue making progress on the 5-year plan and have started the 2025 Budget process. The Business Manager and Account Clerk have been tracking our budget expenditures daily and provide weekly reports to our department heads.

The Industrial Hygienist has been scheduling safety training and supporting work efforts throughout the plant. All ladders have been re-inspected and certified for the year. The chemical bulk storage permit has been updated.

We have been working with the Board, City and Village on selecting an Engineer for the TPS project.

The EPA's IWPP Audit will take place in July. Superintendent Wagner, Assistant Superintendent Warwick, Secretary Cuevas and Mr. Jason Greene from GHD will be coordinating this audit. Superintendent Wagner reported that the audit will cover the 2021-2023 Pretreatment Years as well as 2024 year-to-date.

Superintendent Wagner noted that NYSDEC is not proposing any changes to the limits for the seven parameters included in the Summary Report chart on page 8 of the Superintendent's Report when the Permit is renewed as of April 2025.

Superintendent Wagner further reviewed his charts and graphs and answered questions relating to them.

Superintendent's Report-cont.

The facility received a Safe Workplace Award from our Workers Compensation carrier (Wright Risk Management) in the amount of \$7,431.00 for our performance during the policy year 2022-23.

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves a budget modification to increase our estimated revenue by \$7,431.00 for the Comp Alliance Safe Workplace Award into our Miscellaneous Revenue line ES.42770, increase expenditures to the Travel & Training line ES8130.54701 by \$7,431.00 and that the corresponding requests for legislation be submitted to the Owners' legislative bodies.
Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)**

*****end of report*****

IWPP Report-GHD Jason Greene

Mr. Greene overviewed the submitted IWPP Report for May 2024, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folder.

He also mentioned that the first half-year IWPP PCR reports are being collected and compliance/noncompliance letters will be issued as appropriate. Industrial users Bates Troy and Binghamton Water Filtration Plant are in the process of renewing their permits.

In reference to the EPA's IWPP Audit, Mr. Greene and GHD staff will work with plant staff and will be available throughout the audit. Mr. Greene and GHD staff are very familiar with the mechanics of this type of audit. A brief discussion was held about the compliance status on the monthly report for each user under the IWPP program. It was decided to condense the notes to list just 5 years of data going forward.

Business Manager's Report

Ms. Goodson reviewed her Business Manager's Report.

2025 Budget

Ms. Goodson reported that meetings will start next week with all department heads at the facility to start the 2025 budget preparation process.

Business Manager's Report-cont.
Need Board Approval 2024 Budget & Position Modification

Business Manager Goodson requested the following budget amendment:
To amend the 2024 Budget position count by increasing the Operator I/Operator Trainee position by one person. The amount will be offset by holding one open Shift Lead Operator position from being filled for 8 pay periods. There will be no change to funding in the 2024 Budget.

1. Increase ES8130. 51000.JS2HR Personal Services Hourly) Operator I/Operator Trainee) by \$21,225.60
2. Decrease ES8130. 51000.JS2HR Personal Services Hourly (Shift Lead Operator) by \$21,225.60

Ronald Lake made a motion that the Board approves a 2024 budget modification and position modification to increase budget line ES8130. 51000.JS2HR Personal Services Hourly) Operator I/Operator Trainee) by \$21,225.60, decrease ES8130. 51000.JS2HR Personal Services Hourly (Shift Lead Operator) by \$21,225.60, and that the corresponding requests for legislation be submitted to the Owners' legislative bodies.

Motion seconded by Edward Crumb.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

2024 Lab Service Extension

Ronald Lake made a motion that the Board approves the Microbac bid pricing extension proposal for Lab services for 2024-2025 and that the Chairman sign the extension agreement.

Motion seconded by Edward Crumb.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

Workers Compensation-NYS Municipal Workers' Compensation Alliance Contract

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the 2-year contract renewal in the amount of \$77,549.00 per year (locked-in premium amount) with New York State Municipal Workers Compensation Alliance for Workers Compensation coverage at the facility and direct the Chairman to sign contract agreement for a 2-year duration: 07/01/2024-06/30/2026.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

*****end of report*****

Committee Reports

Construction: Mr. Lake reported regarding the City's TPS project that a meeting will take place soon to interview candidate firms.

Finance: Mr. Crumb mentioned that the electricity billing shows that we have moved into the second year of the 3-year tariff beginning in May of this year. There is about an 18% increase in delivery charges, which includes the demand charge. The April 19th to May 20th bill overall cost for the JSTP account was 8.5 cents per KWH (this is a variable rate), and it is 2.24 % less than the February billing, but ranges 9.63% - 12.44% more than the billings for the other months so far this year.

Sent out the proposed budget 2025 preparation schedule for coordination and review.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratifies the proposed 2025 budget preparation schedule as submitted.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

Flow Management: No new business.

Personnel: Superintendent Wagener congratulated Mr. Adam Afify Head Operator for passing the 2-week course at Morrisville with the highest grade.

Future Planning: Mr. King stated that a mission statement has been written. The 5-year plan development is in progress and will consider the next step with Asset Management with CMMS input. Mr. Wagner has already started the asset management plan. So, we have a good start to move ahead with the future planning of the facility.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – Mr. King stated that a copy of potential changes to the By-Laws has been forwarded to everyone. Suggested Amendments to Sections 1, 23(G), 27(A), and 27(F) of the Owners' IMA were overviewed. The Joint Sewage Board would like both Owner municipality Mayors to review and comment on these changes as soon as possible. Mr. Robinson will assist with the coordination with the City, and Chairman Kolba will assist with coordination with the Village.

Old Business:

NYSDEC Billings for Restoration/Rehabilitation and Flood Wall Construction Project Permits

Superintendent Wagner noted that the City of Binghamton and the facility received past due notices from the NYSDEC permit issuance office for the Restoration and Rehabilitation and the Floodwall construction projects. Per board member Lake and Superintendent Wagner these projects are closed and a NOTICE OF TERMINATION of PERMIT should have been filed with the NYSDEC prior to March 2024 for both projects.

Old Business-cont.

NYSDEC Billings for Restoration/Rehabilitation and Flood Wall Construction Project Permits-cont.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that the City of Binghamton and the facility will pay for their invoice and send the payments along with copies of the Notices of Termination that were completed on March 12, 2024. The NYSDEC office stated that the Notices of Termination were not on file for either permit.

New Business:
Videoconferencing

Board member Crumb discussed the upcoming Expiration of temporary Section 103-A of the NY Public Officers Law July 1st which allows a New York public body such as ours to use videoconferencing. The suggestion would be to update the Board's By-Laws revert to the pre-video conferencing wording regarding meetings, a copy of which was included in the Board folders.

The next regular Board meeting is July 9, 2024, at 3:30PM.

Adjournment:

Ronald Lake made a motion to adjourn at 5:20pm.
Motion seconded by Edward Crumb.
Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)

Michele Cuevas
Confidential Secretary

cc: Board Members
Mayor Kraham, City of Binghamton
Mayor Meaney, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Robinson, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor, Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, Village of Johnson City Director of Public Services
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Engineer
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