

FINAL COPY

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

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba
Chris Papastrat
Ron Lake
Bruce King
Stephen Andrew-Remote (Audio/Video) exited 4:30pm

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Ron Warwick, Asst. Superintendent
Billie Goodson, Business Manager exited 4:45pm
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer
Chuck Robinson, JSB Fiscal Officer/City of Binghamton Comptroller exited 4:35pm
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Adam Afify, Head Operator exited 4:50pm
Mary Jacyna, Village of Johnson City Trustee/JSB committee exited 4:35pm
Jason Greene, GHD (Audio/Video entered 4:00pm exited 4:25pm)
Clark Giblin, Village of Johnson City Trustee/JSB committee exited 4:35pm

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Sign in sheet was passed.
Five (5) Board members were present. Chairman 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. The Chairman closed the floor.

Meeting Minutes Approval

**Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves the submitted December 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.
The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)**

Chairman Kolba requested that we go into New Business for JSB elections.

New Business: Joint Sewage Board Elections

**Chris Papastrat nominated George Kolba as Chairman. Steve Andrew seconds the nomination. George Kolba accepts the nomination.
Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)**

**Bruce King nominated Chris Papastrat as Vice-Chairman. Steve Andrew seconds the nomination. Chris Papastrat accepts the nomination.
Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)**

Committee Reassignments

Chairman Kolba stated that Bruce King will be chair the Finance Committee and Chris Papastrat will be co-chair.

Chairman Kolba stated that Ron Lake will be chair for the Flow Management Committee and Steve Andrew will be co-chair.

Fiscal Officer Report

Mr. Robinson presented his report to the board and overviewed the Fiscal Officer's Report, copies of which were distributed in each of the Board folders and then opened the floor for any questions or comments pertaining to the report.

The Net Asset report Mr. Robinson noted that the date will be corrected from 2024 to 2025.

Municipal quarterly billings for the 2nd quarter will be ready on April 1, 2025. The Village of Johnson City 1st quarter credit will be paid by the end of the week.

Mr. Robinson is working with Corp Counsel on the IMA agreement.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wagner overviewed the Superintendent's Report below which included graphs, charts, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders.

February Superintendents Report

March 11, 2025

February numbers were as follows:

Average Flow=16.21 MGD with a sum of 453.83 million gallons.

CBOD = 8mg/L and 95% removal

TSS=3.8 mg/L with 98% removal

Fecals=2 MPN

Precipitation= 3.17 inches

Average Influent temp was 9.9 Deg C, 49.82 Deg F.

NH3=0.40 mg/L for 97% conversion.

Phos=0.15 mg/L for 97% removal with 3 data points to go.

TN is averaging 2.7 mg/L for approximately 88% removal

Volatile Solids Reduction (VSR) for Digester #1 was 63.31%, Digester #2 was 62.62% and Digester #3 was 59.07%, VSR needs to be Greater than 38% and a minimum 15-day Sludge Retention Time (SRT).

It has been 952 days since starting up after the Viewport failure. For Total Nitrogen, we have met the permit 30 of 31 months we have been operational. It took 1 month to re-start the process. Superintendent Wagner stated that this is the longest consecutive time span that the facility has met the NYSDEC permit guidelines. For this to happen Superintendent Wagner congratulated all plant personnel for their dedication in achieving these permits levels after the viewport failure and continued to strive every day.

David Elman just completed Morrisville Basic Operations course.

The TPS project 90% drawings were gone through with EDR last week.

We will be hosting the local Kirkwood DEC team for a plant tour on Monday March 17, 2025.

Account Clerk Rachel has been investigating a more cost-effective disposal solution for our UV lamps. There is a potential for 1000's of dollars' worth of savings due to her research.

Superintendent Wagner stated that in the packet you will see a sheet that shows the removal rates and process type by year starting in 2003 to present. These removal figures are very encouraging statistics, and the board members would like to acknowledge all employees a job well done.

Superintendent's Report-cont.

Registration, Lodging, Advance for 1 Head Operator & 1 Shift Led Operator to Attend NYRWA Technical Training Workshop in Verona NY 3-day workshop May 19-21, 2025.

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approve registration, lodging and advance for 1 Head & 1 Shift Led Operator to attend the NYRWA Technical Training Workshop in Verona NY 3-day workshop May 19-21, 2025, in accordance with the Travel Policy, and to be paid from the Travel and Training budget line (ES8130.54701).

The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)

Registration, Lodging, Advance for 1 Operator to Attend Morrisville Etc. Basic Lab 5-day course May 5-9, 2025.

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approve registration, lodging and advance for 1 Operator to attend the Morrisville Etc. 5-day course Basic Lab course May 5-9, 2025, in accordance with the Travel Policy, and to be paid from the Travel and Training budget line (ES8130.54701).

The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)

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

Business Manager's Report

Business Manager Goodson went over the report.

2025 Surcharge Rates

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves retroactive to January 1, 2025, the Rate Chart as presented in the Board folders including the Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program Surcharges as computed on page 3.

The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)

Business Manager's Report-cont.
EFPR Group-Audit Services

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves the engagement letter from the EFPR Group, CPA dated February 7, 2025, to provide audit and related services to the Board for the year ending December 31, 2026, with the additional single audit services from the letter dated 3/10/25 subject to Co-Counsel Paniccia approval and have the Chairman sign the engagement letter in relation to the underlying Agreement.

**The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion was carried. 5/0/1 (Vacant COB)**

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

New Business-Crumb Recognition of Services to JSB

Chairman Kolba asked the members if they had any ideas of how to recognize Mr. Crumb for his 18 years as a Joint Sewage Board and Fiscal Officer Robinson noted that Mr. Crumb worked on the upgrade project at the facility for 7 years. Please let Michele know of your ideas.

Correspondence
IWPP Report-GHD-Jason Greene

Jason Greene spoke to the February IWPP Report, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folder.

A draft IWPP Permit was submitted for International Paper. Completed the 2024 Solids report along with plant personnel. Still continuing with the 2024 Industrial survey questionnaire.

Permit renewals were issued for City of Binghamton Water Plant, Lourdes/Guthrie Hospital, Greater Binghamton Health Center & Wilson Memorial Hospital.

Elliott Manufacturing will be closing out their IWPP permit because the facility is not producing the categorical substance that puts them on the IWPP permit. The facility is still operating otherwise. 18 permits are issued.

Correspondence

International Paper IWPP Permit-GHD-Jason Greene

Jason Greene spoke to the members about International Paper going on IWPP permit.

Based on the information that was collected it is recommended that the BJCJSB issue an Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit to International Paper for the following reasons:

Consider a Significant Industrial User due to its potential to negatively impact the BJCJSTP and/or the Susquehanna River.

Provide oversight of the wastewater discharge process including wastewater sampling and annual inspections.

Provide awareness and accountability of the part of the Significant Industrial User regarding the local sewer use ordinances and the discharge prohibitions.

The Joint Sewage Board authorizes the issuance of an IWPP Permit to International Paper. Mr. Greene and Superintendent Wagner will forward the draft permit to all parties for review, including Al Paniccia.

Board Committee Reports

Construction: TPS Project is moving along. Asking for mapping amendment.

Finance: Watching for the #'s coming in for the CPI.

Flow Management: Nothing new to report.

Personnel: Nothing new to report.

Future Planning: Nothing new to report. Mr. King stated that the 5-year plan was presented to both mayors and give both mayors a quarterly report to update the process.

Ad Hoc: Nothing new to report.

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

Old Business
W2O bill & Plant Pumps

Facility engineer Mr. Reeve updated the members on the W2O bill and update on plant pumps. There was a problem with a seal on the pump, but Vacri came down immediately and fixed the seal. Discussion on the email that was in response to deducting the water charges the facility incurred from the W2O bill.

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves the W2O bill as presented.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion failed. 3/1/1 (Vacant COB)

The board directed Chairman Kolba to speak with W2O referencing their final bill.

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

The next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 3:30pm.

Adjournment:

Bruce King made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion was carried. 4/0/1 (Vacant COB)

The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

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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