

WESTERN WESTMORELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – June 18, 2009

The Board of Directors of the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority held a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Authority conference room, duly advertised, as required, and with the following persons in attendance:

1. Roll Call:

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Stan Caroline	Mr. Larry Chrzan	Mr. Anthony Marks
Mr. John Nabuda	Mr. Robert Pioth	Mr. Leonard Santimyer
Mr. Jared Squires	Mr. Tim Watson	

Absent:

Mr. Charles Konkus	Mr. Sam Testa
--------------------	---------------

Others in Attendance:

Mr. John Campfield, Solicitor
Mr. Mark Poole, Consulting Engineer
Mr. Kevin Fisher, General Manager
Mrs. Johanna Wtorkowski, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer/Recording Secretary

2. Mr. Pioth led the Pledge of Allegiance, and moment of silence for troops.

3. Public Comments: None

4. Communications:

A. Mr. Pioth referred to the CHAR Report for June, which was distributed this evening.

Mr. Poole made reference to three items on the CHAR Report:

1. Recently-Introduced HB 1563 – Amends the Municipality Authorities Act by prohibiting a connection, tapping or similar fee to be charged to a property owner until the property has been physically connected to the sanitary sewer system and the connection is operational.
2. Part of a package of three bills (proposed by Rep. J. White) – Requiring an authority to offer property owners a payment plan at a fixed interest rate, under the jurisdiction of the Public Utility Commission.
3. The PaDEP published a *Permitting Strategy for High Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) Wastewater Discharges*, which addresses Marcellus Shale gas well development and operation.

Mr. Campfield referred to items of the CHAR Report:

1. Red Flag Rules – Mr. Campfield noted that the deadline has been extended to August 1, 2009. Mr. Campfield recommended that the Board be prepared to approve a Resolution adopting a Red Flag policy at the July 16, 2009 regular meeting.
2. Mr. Campfield referred to two recent bills that have been introduced in the State Senate and House of Representatives, regarding the regulation of waters, which would authorize the creation of new types of authorities that could regulate and impose charges for storm water.

B. Mr. Fisher made two announcements regarding the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA)

1. The PMAA 67th Annual Conference and Trade Show will be held in Hershey, PA, from September 12, 2009 through September 16, 2009. Mr. Fisher asked that anyone who is interested in attending the conference notify him as soon as possible.
2. Mr. Fisher suggested that the Board nominate Mr. Robert Zentner for the PMAA Sahli Service Award, which is available to Board Members, Managers, Secretaries, and Treasurers who have completed twenty (20) years of service for one or more municipal authorities, who have not previously received a Sahli Service Award, and are officials or employees in good standing with PMAA. A motion was made by Mr. Chrzan, and

seconded by Mr. Squires, to nominate Mr. Robert Zentner for the PMAA Sahli Service Award, in recognition of twenty-five (25) years of service to the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority. Mr. Zentner's term ended on December 31, 2008, when he was replaced by Mr. Santimyer. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Secretary's Report – Mr. Marks –

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Marks, to approve, as presented, the minutes of the May 21, 2009 Regular Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded Mr. Mark's report.

6. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Watson –

- A. A motion to approve for payment Revenue Fund Requisition No. 103, in the amount of \$108,492.63 was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Caroline. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded Mr. Watson's report.

7. General Manager's Report – Kevin Fisher – Mr. Fisher added the following to the written report that was previously distributed.

- A. Mr. Fisher reported that the Authority received the Environmental assessment report for the plant facilities from KTA-Tator. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Poole are currently reviewing the report. The cost of the assessment was \$5,396.81, which was nearly \$3,800.00 less than the amount of \$9,188.00 that was approved by the Board at the February 19, 2009 Board Meeting. KTA-Tator was able to complete the work in one ten-hour day, rather than two days.
- B. Mr. Fisher reported that he is soliciting proposals for a power monitoring and harmonic study. Mr. Fisher has received several quotes, and is waiting for a second quote from Sargent Electric for the complete power monitoring and harmonic study. Clayton Engineering has submitted a quote of \$8,889.00 for both studies. Mr. Fisher is trying to obtain a quote from Siemens. Mr. Fisher explained that the plant's incoming power is wired with a three-wire delta, without a neutral wire. This sets up harmonics within the plant. Current regulations require a four-wire power feed. The harmonic study will assess how the wiring affects the equipment at the plant. Mr. Fisher stated that the Authority is considering switching the power supply from a wire-delta to a wye.
- C. Mr. Fisher obtained one price quote from Clayton Engineering for a transient voltage surge suppression system for the main power, between the transformer and the main switch gear. Sargent Electric will be coming to the plant tomorrow with their price quote and equipment list. The Authority does not currently have any type of surge suppression.
- D. Mr. Fisher has requested from three vendors price quotes for a replacement air conditioner unit for the control building. Quotes were submitted by Elk Air Conditioning (\$6,100.00) and Hollowood Heating (\$5,995.00). The third vendor, Level Green Plumbing and Heating, did not respond to Mr. Fisher's request.
- E. Mr. Fisher received two price quotes for a split-air conditioning unit for the grit building. The Authority had budgeted \$6,000.00 for this unit. Elk Air Conditioning submitted a quote of \$3,400.00, and Hollowood Heating submitted a quote of \$3,325.00. Mr. Caroline stated that Elk Air Conditioning installed a system in the Penn Township Municipal Building, and they recently bid on a system for the municipal garage. Mr. Caroline stated that the Penn Township Commissioners were very happy with their work. A motion was made by Mr. Nabuda, and seconded by Mr. Marks, to purchase a split-type air conditioning unit for the grit building from Elk Air Conditioning, in the amount of \$3,400.00. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Fisher was instructed to obtain a third quote for the air conditioning unit for the control building.

At this time, three visitors joined the meeting: Vince Salvadore, Terry Hill, and Julee Lindberg, all of North Irwin.

- F. Mr. Fisher reported that last night, the plant received between 3.25" and 4.00" of rain in a very short time-period. At one 15-minute interval, the Authority received .70" of rain, .50" in another 15-minutes time-period, and .60" in a third 15-minute interval. The plant experienced significant by-pass of

approximately one million gallons. The plant is currently processing about 14.5-15 million gallons of flow. Mr. Fisher reported that the plant experienced some flooding in the back of the plant, in the lower field; the digester building had about six inches of water, with no damage; the equipment garage had about six to eight inches of water. The second shift employees worked until 5:00 A.M., this morning, moving equipment away from the flooded areas, and cleaning the digester building and equipment garage.

Mr. Santimyer asked if this was the first time the Authority was required to by-pass flow. Mr. Fisher stated that it was not, and he explained that the Authority must by-pass whenever an excessive amount of storm water enters the system.

Mr. Santimyer, speaking on behalf of the three visitors from North Irwin, stated that North Irwin seems to be the closest municipality in relation to WWMA's interceptor line that experienced back-ups. He stated that North Irwin would be the logical area to experience a back-up. Mr. Santimyer asked if a check valve would prevent flooding.

Mr. Pioth explained that sanitary water does not increase because of rain outside. He stated that infiltration and inflow (I&I) is causing the increased flow.

Mr. Fisher explained that Irwin Borough and Manor Borough have combined sewer systems. These systems have a regulator station. Once the flow reaches a certain level, WWMA, under its NPDES Permit, which is issued by the PaDEP, allows WWMA to by-pass excessive flow during periods of high water volume. The regulator allows a small amount of their flow to enter WWMA's interceptor. The purpose of the regulator station is to prevent high amounts of storm water from entering WWMA's system.

Mr. Fisher explained how manhole lids pop off of the manhole during periods of high flows through the systems, resulting in a natural release of excess water from the interceptor. He explained that the system is adequately designed for the amount of sewage flow for the service area, and that the excess flow is caused by I&I.

Mr. Santimyer stated that North Irwin has completed smoke and dye testing in the area, and stated that the results indicate a small percentage of homes with problems. He stated that those home owners were notified of their problems, and have made corrections to their lines.

Mr. Fisher explained that small holes in sewer lines can contribute an extremely high volume of infiltration to the sewer line.

Mr. Caroline explained the limitations of smoke and dye testing, and stated that a more effective test would be to take pictures of the lines with a video camera. Mr. Caroline explained how backflow prevention valves caused increased flooding in homes at Harrison Park, which is located in Penn Township. The flooding resulted when the backflow prevention valves prevented water from moving through the pipe, while terracotta lines under the homes allowed water to enter the homes. The water could not escape from the homes, due to the closed backflow prevention valves. Mr. Caroline suggested budgeting money each year for manpans, which are inserts that are installed under the manhole lids and prevent water from entering the sewer system through the manhole lids. Mr. Fisher explained that backflow prevention valves must be maintained regularly in order for them to work properly.

Mr. Santimyer asked if WWMA's system is large enough to handle all of the customers. Mr. Fisher explained that, if the municipalities do not address their I&I issues, the system cannot handle the flow, and may need to consider the installation of a retention tank to accept high volumes of storm water. However, if the member municipalities address their I&I issues, a retention tank would not be necessary.

The discussion continued, with explanations about how storm water enters the sewer system, and the Authority's recent plant improvements that increased wet weather flow capabilities at the plant.

Mr. Caroline stated that 60% of infiltration comes to the system through private lateral lines. Mr. Caroline offered to perform a video camera inspection, in order to show North Irwin Borough the benefits of a camera inspection.

Mr. Squires explained that North Huntingdon Township requires video testing of private lateral lines whenever a property is sold, or when a home owner refinances a home mortgage.

Mr. Salvadore thanked the Board and Mr. Fisher for explaining the system in such detail. He stated that he was not here to complain, but simply wanted to gain an understanding of how the system works. Ms. Lindberg thanked the Board.

This concluded Mr. Fisher's General Manager's report. The complete report is attached to these minutes.

8. Consulting Engineer – Mark Poole, Wade Trim, Inc.:

Mr. Poole reviewed the written report dated June 18, 2009, which was distributed on June 12, 2009.

A. Solids Processing Project:

1. Mr. Poole reported that the Authority is well into the preliminary design phase of the project. A Design Progress Meeting was held with the design team and WWMA on May 27, 2009. Design progress was also reviewed with the Legal and Engineering Services Committee at its meeting on June 3, 2009. The fourth Design Progress Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, at 9:00 A.M..
2. Andritz, Inc. will be on-site next week, to conduct a centrifuge dewatering demonstration from Monday afternoon through Wednesday. He invited all Board Members to view the demonstration. Mr. Fisher offered evening demonstrations to accommodate the schedules of Board Members.

B. Wet Weather Issues:

1. Mr. Poole reported that the Authority has received nothing from the regulatory agencies regarding the Long-Term Control Plan, and the NPDES Permit renewal will not be issued until the PaDEP approves the Long-Term Control Plan. Approval of the plan was to have been given by the end of May 2009. Mr. Poole spoke with Don Leone of PaDEP on Tuesday, June 16, 2009. Mr. Leone stated that a stress test will not be required. Mr. Poole stated that Mr. Leone will check with Paul Eisworth about the approval of the Long-Term Control Plan.
2. There was a Turtle Creek Basin Planning meeting on June 2, 2009, at the North Versailles municipal building. There will be an Elected Officials/Board Members meeting on Monday, June 29, 2009, at 7:00 P.M., at Turtle Creek.

C: Penn Township Extended Service Area:

1. Mr. Poole reported that Wade Trim has prepared the quarterly tap fee calculations for the Penn Township extended service area, and has provided the information to Mrs. Wtorkowski.

This concluded Mr. Poole's Engineer's report. The complete report is attached to these minutes.

9. Solicitor's Report – John Campfield –

- A. Mr. Campfield reported that the Westmoreland Electric claim has been settled of record, certified, and the certificate has been forwarded to the Authority office. The Authority is getting closer to completing the Wm. T. Spaeder contract.

This concluded Mr. Campfield's report.

10. Reports of Committees:

A. Grounds and Maintenance Committee – Mr. Santimyer –

Mr. Santimyer reported that Mr. Fisher conducted a tour of the plant facilities, and he stated that he was quite impressed with everything. Mr. Santimyer asked about the status of the lights. Mr. Fisher stated that the outside lighting installations have been put on hold, and work on the ceiling of the exterior entrance lobby will begin next week.

- B. Personnel Committee – Mr. Nabuda deferred to Mr. Chrzan, who reported the status of two employees who are on short-term disability leaves.

- C. Finance and Budget Committee –
 - 1. Mr. Chrzan reported that the Authority received \$13,255.68 in interest in May, for a year-to-date total of \$89,487.51. Interest rates on CDs are very low at this time.
- D. Insurance Committee – Jared Squires – Mr. Squires stated that the Authority may be bidding out for liability insurance proposals. Mr. Fisher stated that an appraisal would be required of the plant facilities once the Sludge Processing and Plant Upgrade Project work is completed.
- E. Sludge Committee – Stan Caroline – There was nothing to add to the written report that was previously submitted.
- F. Legal and Engineering Services Committee – Due to Mr. Testa’s absence, there was no report.

11. Change Orders and Pay Estimates – None

12. Requisitions:

Mr. Pioth presented the following requisitions with the motions to approve as follows:

- A. Capital Improvement Fund Requisition No. 82 in the amount of \$34,200.00. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Watson. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. 2005 Construction Fund Requisition No. 2005-50 in the amount of \$52,700.76. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Nabuda. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Board Member Comments –

- A. Mr. Chrzan reported that invitations to the July 11, 2009 open house were mailed this week. Mr. Chrzan stated that the invitation was extended to our member municipalities, former WWMA Board Members, and a local Boy Scout Troop. Mr. Chrzan asked those in attendance to notify Mrs. Wtorkowski if they plan to attend the open house.

14. A motion was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Marks, to enter into an executive session to discuss matters of current or potential litigation with North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority and Trafford Borough and personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously. The time was 8:27 P.M.

A motion to return to the regular order of business was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Nabuda. The motion carried unanimously. The time was 9:17 PM.

A motion was made by Mr. Marks, and seconded by Mr. Chrzan, to authorize Mr. Campfield to send a letter to William McCabe, addressing the issues that are to be discussed and resolved, with an additional reference to the ALCOSAN Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously.

15. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Chrzan, and seconded by Mr. Caroline. The motion carried unanimously. The time was 9:20 P.M.

Anthony Marks
Secretary