

The August 18, 2014 regular monthly meeting of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority was called to order by Chairman Veneroso at 7:30 PM. All in attendance gave a pledge of allegiance. Board Members Eyerly and Milot were absent and all other Board Members were present. Robert Dougherty, P.E. of RJD Engineering, Inc. was also in attendance. Brian Kauffman, P.E. of Gannett Fleming, Inc. and William Schumacher, P.E. were in attendance during the Work Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the Work Session Dee Deakos, a resident of the City of Hazleton, questioned the number of EDUs billed by the Authority annually and stated that she calculates about 26,000 EDUs. She then stated that Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) compared their rates to the surrounding area treatment plants and she asked why the Authority's rates were higher at \$360.00 per year when WVSA is at \$184.00 per year, Lackawanna River Basin is at \$240.00 per year, and Lower Lackawanna is at \$280.00 per year. Gregory Olander, the Operations Manager, responded that in his opinion they used rates that were higher to justify their rate increase. He said there are other treatment plants with rates higher than the Authority's such as Williamsport. He said Williamsport's rates equate to over \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons and the Authority is at \$8.86 per 1,000 gallons. He said it all depends to whom the rates are compared. He also stated that WVSA did not go through an extensive plant upgrade for nutrient reduction as did GHJSA. He said they were able to modify their existing process to meet the nutrient limits. She then asked why the Authority was installing an incinerator when WVSA is getting rid of their incinerator. Brian Kauffman stated that their incinerator was near the end of its useful life so they would need to install a new incinerator or modify the existing incinerator to meet the new air quality regulations. Brian stated that the Authority had already purchased the incinerator at the time the new air quality regulations were released by EPA and although additional air quality equipment is needed; it was still more cost effective to move forward with the incinerator project rather than scrap it and move to some other process. She then asked how much money the incinerator would cost overall. Gregory responded that the initial purchase price of the incinerator was just over \$8.4 million, but the Authority received a grant in the amount of \$7 million toward the purchase. He said it is estimated to cost \$3.8 million to install the incinerator and the additional air quality equipment needed is estimated to cost \$3.65 million. He said since the air quality permit was just released by DEP, the incinerator manufacturer is using the parameters contained in the permit to size the carbon absorption unit needed to meet the new air quality regulations.

During the regular monthly meeting, Gregory Olander responded to Ms. Deakos question regarding the number of EDUs billed by the Authority. He said the billing roster currently contains 16,144 residential EDUs and the equivalent of 2,517 commercial and 2,446 industrial EDUs, which fluctuate based on metered flows. He said the total number of EDUs is currently slightly over 21,100.

Ms. Deakos asked in what direction the Button Buck discharge flows, North or South. Christopher stated that it comes from the Southside and flows North toward Gashouse Pump Station located on Poplar Street. She then stated that years ago, the residents of Jeansville discharged their sewage into that flow and she wants to know if the issue was ever corrected. Robert Dougherty stated that the Jeansville residents are not connected to the Authority's collection system and it was verified when the lines were televised. She then asked where the

flows originated. Christopher stated that they primarily come from the Heights and Terrace sections of Hazleton City.

Gregory then asked the Board to table the July 28, 2014 minutes for clarification of one of the motions.

Director of Operations Report - MONTHLY FLOW REPORT

	<u>July 2014</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		
			<u>Total</u>		<u>Average</u>
Total Flow	<u>228,427,009</u>	Gallons	<u>2,031,159,995</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Total Flow Bypassed	<u>7,849,930</u>	Gallons	<u>85,007,203</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Days Flow Bypassed	<u>7</u>	Days	<u>44</u>	Days	xxxxx
Total Flow Treated	<u>220,577,079</u>	Gallons	<u>1,946,153,792</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Average Minimum	<u>5.0</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>6.8</u> MGD
Average Maximum	<u>15.0</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>14.6</u> MGD
Average Daily Flow	<u>7.1</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>9.2</u> MGD

Christopher Carsia, the Director of Operations, reported on the flow for July 2014. He said the total volume of wastewater diverted from all point sources for the month was estimated to be 103.267 million gallons with approximately 7.85 million gallons of treated outflow diverted at the treatment plant. He said approximately 7.443 million gallons of the total diverted flow was treated outflow from the Autumn & Ridge CSO Separator. He said the flow to the treatment plant was recorded at 228.4 million gallons with 220.5 million gallons treated. He also stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month was 6.8 MGD and the year to date average daily flow decreased to 9.2 MGD. He said although the average daily flow has been decreasing each month, the average through July is still over the Average Annual Design Flow permit limit of 8.9 MGD. He also reported that performance testing was being conducted on the CSO Vortex Separator at the treatment plant. He stated that although the Biological Aerated Filter (BAF) is not fully operational, the total nitrogen discharge was just over 8,000 lbs for July, which indicates that the plant should meet compliance for the water year.

The Director of Operations reported that revenues for July 2014 were \$1,126,535.57 and the bills issued for hauled waste received in July totaled \$153,566.61. He said the collections were greater than 100% for hauled waste this fiscal year on overall hauled waste billing of \$1,750,285.73. He then stated that the total customer revenues for the fiscal year were \$11,502,615.48, which was a 19% increase from the prior fiscal year. He then reported that liquid waste hauler, Liquid Motion, paid \$5,000 today toward their account balance and Gotta Go Septics hired a new controller to manage their finances. He said the new controller is making payments twice a week in an effort to reduce their delinquent account balance.

The Director of Operations then reported that he had discussions with the Executive Director at the Hazleton City Authority concerning acceptance of alum sludge produced at their water treatment plant. He said the Authority could have used the new dump site to decant the sludge to prepare it for landfill disposal, but HCA decided to continue land applying their sludge.

The Director of Operations reported that the sinkhole above the feeder line at the Gashouse Pump Station was determined to be settling underneath an air vent shaft. He said it was not a broken feeder line, which was excavated by the Authority with Brian Kauffman present to document their findings. Brian Kauffman stated that the pipe was not ruptured and the Authority's Field Operations Manager, Andy Nowak, stated that a small camera was inserted into the pipe from the wet well to verify its condition.

The Director of Operations reported that he received a call from Mayor Yannuzzi concerning the proposed development by Environmental Recovery Corporation (ERC) and the remaining sewer connection allocations in the City. He stated that during a conversation with a representative of ERC, he suggested that if they are still interested, they should contact the City officials directly to discuss the details of the project.

Grink & Fay moved to accept the Director of Operations report and to have the written report on diverted flows made a permanent part of the record. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

Engineer's Report – Bill Schumacher reported that the requested maps for West Hazleton are now complete and digitized. He said copies were also given to RJD Engineering. He then stated that in 2009 prior to the treatment plant expansion, two flight lines of aerial photography were taken. He said data collected by RJD Engineering is ready to be input into the ESRI computer software for GIS mapping. He said based on the pipe depths at manholes, flows can be calculated in the collection system using GIS modeling. He said layers of information can be added depending on what is useful to the Authority. He said the next step is to finish collecting data and use it to create a master summary. Bill also reported that the connection and tapping fee study is being completed and the next step is to meet with Greg for a review.

Brian Kauffman reported that the bonds and insurances were received from Port Elevator for the Elevator Modernization Project. He said the Solicitor reviewed and approved the documents so "Notice to Proceed" can be issued to the contractor.

Brian stated that he is continuing evaluations of the screening mechanism for installation at the Gashouse Pump Station. He also stated that DEP continues to delay issuance of NPDES Permits until EPA completes their review.

Brian then reminded the Board that structural repairs in the nitrification/denitrification structures were scheduled for August 18, 2014. He also reported that he is reviewing the Air Quality Permit, which was received for the incinerator. Brian then reported that a change order is needed for the Sludge Cake Pump Installation in the amount of \$2,035.00 to modify the sludge hopper so it fits under a structural beam in the basement of the control building. He said the change order is to notch a two foot section of hopper at the corner and then weld steel plates to close the opening.

Joseph D. Ustynoski, the Authority Solicitor, stated that Grundfos requested a mutual teardown of one of the Gashouse pumps that failed. He said they requested teardown of the #4 pump that is currently in storage at the treatment plant, but their request was denied. He said there is one remaining pump still being stored at Municipal Maintenance in New Jersey that can be evaluated. He said representatives from Gannett Fleming would be present and he suggested Ryan Peterko also be present for the teardown when scheduled. Board Member Eyerly asked if

that pump was repaired. The Operations Manager stated that the pump was one of the three that failed for a second time and were sent to Municipal Maintenance for inspection to determine a cause of failure. He said they tore down the first two pumps and then stopped. Attorney Ustynoski reminded the Board that a written report was never provided to the Authority on their findings during that pump inspection.

Andy Nowak reported that the concrete and paving work were completed at the treatment plant and the Road Crew was part of a comprehensive clean-up effort at the plant. He stated that manhole repairs were performed on Hayes Street to remove square manhole frames and replace them with round frames that were brought to surface grade. He reported that sewer lines were flushed on North Broad Street in the vicinity of Valley High Drive-in in West Hazleton. He said the lines were packed with grit and debris, which caused an odor complaint. He said work is continuing on Dietrich Avenue in Hazleton by raising manholes to grade and line flushing in preparation for dye and smoke testing to locate cross connections and problem areas. He then reported that another sinkhole was repaired on Wyoming and Maple Streets that was caused by defective pipe connections into a manhole. Board Member Cuozzo then asked what other smaller projects can be addressed. Andy stated that location of cross connections in the Button Buck drainage basin can be performed along with monitoring of another potential sink hole on Allen Street in West Hazleton. Christopher Carsia noted that the Authority employees can remove some cross connections in the Button Buck basin. Board Member Cuozzo then asked where the storm water goes in that area. Christopher stated that it flows to the Mill Street Diversion Chamber. Board Member Cuozzo then asked if the Authority ever got a copy of a report from the 1980's outlining work that was done in the Button Buck basin. Andy responded that the report was requested from the City, but it has not been received.

Andy also stated that two connection requests were received for residential dwellings. He said one is a replacement of flow that previously existed at the property and the other is a new connection on East Diamond Avenue between Hayes and Pardee Streets in the City of Hazleton. He stated that he spoke with Scott Novatnak at DEP concerning these connection and he said a request still needs to be submitted to DEP to move forward.

Robert Dougherty reported that lines were televised on Berner and Thirwell Avenues in Hazleton, but there was nothing found that would cause a sinkhole to develop. He then stated that the mystery with the pipe connections and flows in the area of the Heights Terrace Elementary School was solved.

Robert then reported that the survey work was completed at the Norfolk Southern rail yard, but an application must be submitted to Norfolk Southern to schedule a meeting with them concerning right of way and easements. He said there is a \$2,100 fee needed to process the application.

George & Grink moved to accept the Engineer's report.

Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

Solicitor's Report – In addition to what was reported in Executive Session during the Work Session, Attorney Ustynoski stated that he would give his report in Executive Session later in the meeting.

Fay & Boyarski moved to accept the Investment Consultant’s Report as presented.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

BILLS AND CREDITS

Cuzzo & Grink moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions from May 31, 2014 through June 27, 2014, totaling \$15,532.24 as listed in the following table:

<u>Requisition #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	051153.A*6-13	Annual Services Work	\$ 448.50
Operating Fund	051153.B*6-14	Attending Authority Meetings	\$ 426.39
A453	048847.C0*6-12	Incinerator Design	\$ 8,741.00
C149	051153.AG*6-14	Pennvest Financing	\$ 368.75
C150	048847.B*6-11	WWTP Upgrade Construction Phase	\$ 5,547.60
Total			\$ 15,532.24

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

George & Fay moved to approve Requisition #A454 payable to RJD Engineering, Inc., totaling \$9,450.50, for Project #14-103, invoice dated July 31, 2014, for fieldwork and materials associated with the mapping, investigation, and design for the Button Buck CSO Separation Project from July 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

Cuzzo & Grink moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund in the amount of \$1,568,742.15, for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$763,693.93); Construction in Progress (\$9,483.13); Transfers to Other Authority Accounts (\$632,297.00); Pennvest Loan #27769 (\$158,666.52); Pennvest Loan #74119 (\$1,473.64); and Pennvest Loan #58103 (\$3,127.93) from the month of July 2014.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

Fay & Boyarski moved to approve issued credits totaling \$32,231.65 from month of July 2014.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

NEW BUSINESS

Grink & Boyarski moved to approve Requisition #A455, payable to Pioneer Construction Company, Inc., totaling \$42,269.40, for Payment Estimate #1 of the Sludge Cake Pump Installation Contract as recommended by the Engineer. The original contract price was \$185,800.00 and the total of payments made to date including this payment is \$42,269.40, which leaves a balance of \$143,530.60.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

Carsia & Fay moved to approve Change Order #1 of the Sludge Cake Pump Installation Project in the amount of \$2,035.00, to cut and weld the cake hopper to fit below a structural beam in the basement of the Control Building as recommended by the Engineer.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-yes, Cuzzo-yes, Eyerly-absent, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-absent, Veneroso-yes

Fay & Grink moved to enter Executive Session to discuss a legal issue.

Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

After the Board moved out of Executive Session, **Carsia & Fay** moved to accept the Solicitor's report. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

Grink & Carsia moved to adjourn. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

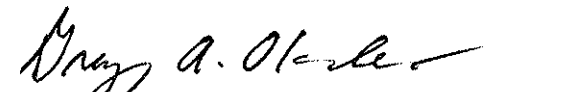
The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Work Session will be Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be Monday, September 22, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority



Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary