

The December 22, 2014 regular monthly meeting of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority was called to order by Vice Chairman George at 7:30 PM. All in attendance gave a pledge of allegiance. Board Members Carsia and Veneroso were absent and all other Board Members were present. Robert Dougherty, P.E. of RJD Engineering, Inc. was also in attendance. Gene Koontz, P.E. and Brian Kauffman, P.E. of Gannett Fleming, Inc. were in attendance during the Work Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Milot & Fay moved to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

Eyerly & Milot moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 Pension Meeting. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

OPENING OF BIDS – WINDOW PANEL REPLACEMENT

BIDDERS NAME	LOCATION	BASE BID AMOUNT
Bognet, Inc.	Hazle Township, PA	\$150,647.00
Mesko Glass	Avoca, PA	\$115,000.00
Spotts Brothers, Inc.	Schuylkill Haven, PA	\$128,800.00
Victor E. Muncy, Inc.	Pottsville, PA	\$120,000.00

Grink & Fay moved to table the bids for the Window Panel Replacement Project for review and recommendation by the Engineer and Solicitor.

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

OPENING OF BIDS – BUTTON BUCK CSO REPLACEMENT PROJECT

BIDDERS NAME LOCATION	EAST SEWER SEPARATION	EAST OVERLAY	WEST SEWER SEPARATION	WEST OVERLAY	STORM INLET SEPARATION
Greenland Construction Clearfield, PA	\$860,000.00	NO BID	\$1,812,000.00	NO BID	NO BID
Hazleton Site Contractors Hazle Township, PA	NO BID	\$126,400.00	NO BID	\$258,000.00	NO BID
Michael F. Ronca, Inc. Bethlehem, PA	\$823,000.00	NO BID	\$1,447,000.00	NO BID	\$327,000.00
Doli Construction Chalfont, PA	\$894,559.00	\$98,759.00	\$1,447,959.00	\$178,959.00	\$173,359

Pact Construction Ringo, NJ	\$730,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$1,460,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$175,000.00
Wexcon, Inc. Mohrsville, PA	\$823,816.00	NO BID	\$1,588,263.00	NO BID	NO BID
Joao & Bradley Construction Bethlehem, PA	\$1,632,000.00 Withdrawn	NO BID	\$820,000.00 Withdrawn	NO BID	NO BID

Fay & Boyarski moved to table the bids for the Button Buck CSO Separation Project for review and recommendation by the Engineer and Solicitor.

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

Punch List Committee Report – In addition to what was reported in Executive Session at the Work Session, the Operations Manager, Gregory Olander, reported that he and Brian Kauffman were present at the treatment plant to video the inspection of a failed Chicago pump motor from the Gashouse Pump Station to see if it exhibited the same damage as the pump taken apart at Municipal Maintenance in New Jersey. He said the Maintenance Department separated the motor cover, but the same type of blown windings was not visible as it was on the other pump. He said there was a large amount of water in the motor housing, which is similar to what was seen in the other pump. He said blown windings are still a possibility in a location inside the motor that is not readily visible. He reported that the motor from the pump taken apart at Municipal Maintenance would be ready for shipping to Grundfos as authorized by the committee.

Gregory then reported that employees of construction contractor, C.O. Falter, were on site to install the custom link seals in the pipe penetrations of Nitrification (Nite) Cell #4 (center) and #5 (center). He said the contractor was onsite for about 6 hours to perform the installation of both seals. He said Nite Cell #4 was placed back in service today and Nite Cell #5 should be returned to service tomorrow. He said an update will be given to Brian Kauffman after about a week and if there are no leaks the other four custom seals will be released into production. He also noted that the quotes received to perform the installation work ranged from \$8,000 to \$46,500.

Eyerly & Boyarski moved to accept the Punch List Committee Report.

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

Director of Operations Report - MONTHLY FLOW REPORT

	<u>November 2014</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		
			<u>Total</u>		<u>Average</u>
Total Flow	<u>193,855,278</u>	Gallons	<u>2,813,547,679</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Total Flow Bypassed	<u>1,124,976</u>	Gallons	<u>103,622,529</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Days Flow Bypassed	<u>2</u>	Days	<u>56</u>	Days	xxxxx
Total Flow Treated	<u>192,730,302</u>	Gallons	<u>2,709,925,150</u>	Gallon	xxxxx
Average Minimum	<u>4.3</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>5.9</u> MGD
Average Maximum	<u>9.7</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>12.9</u> MGD
Average Daily Flow	<u>6.4</u>	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	<u>8.1</u> MGD

Christopher Carsia, the Director of Operations, reported on the flow for November 2014. He said the total volume of wastewater diverted from all point sources for the month was estimated to be 27.686 million gallons with approximately 1.125 million gallons of treated outflow diverted at the treatment plant. He said approximately 2.072 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 193.8 million gallons with 192.7 million gallons treated. He also stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month was 6.4 MGD and the year to date average daily flow decreased to 8.1 MGD, which is below the Authority's permitted capacity of 8.9 MGD. He then reported that the performance of the treatment plant is the best that has been recorded since the plant's inception in 1968.

The Director of Operations reported that revenues for November 2014 were \$861,669.06, which is an increase of 0.7% from the prior year. He said the bills issued for hauled waste received in November totaled \$100,219.02, which is a decrease of 13% from the prior year. He said Koch's Turkey Farm is usually discharging by this time of year; however, with the lack of snow, they are still able to land apply their wastewater. He also stated that Cargill Meats changed their discharge location to Lehigh Valley, which is also negatively affecting hauled waste revenues. He then reported that liquid waste hauler, Liquid Motion has paid \$5,000 toward the balance due and they owe approximately \$12,000 at this time. He said another waste hauler, Gotta Go Septics, made a payment of \$8,000 last week and another larger payment is expected in the next two weeks.

The Director of Operations then reported that he and Mr. Olander spoke with Senator Yudichak's Aid, Richard Fox, concerning support of the two LSA Grant Applications that will be submitted before the end of the year. He said support letters were received from the Senator for both the Button Buck CSO Project and the Incinerator Installation Project. Gregory reported that he has been working with Rachel Govelovich at Gannett Fleming to compile the information and plan needed for the grant applications. He said the municipalities were contacted for letters supporting the projects. He said Representative Toohil's office was also contacted for their support and he expects to receive letters from the Representative in the near future. He then stated that the LSA Grant Applications would continue to be worked on over the next weeks so they can be submitted prior to the December 31, 2014 deadline.

The Director of Operations reported that a meeting was held on December 3, 2014 at the treatment plant with several representatives from DEP's Wilkes-Barre Regional Office. He said the meeting began with an extensive plant tour for nearly the first two hours. He stated that the meeting seemed to revolve around the upcoming release of the Authority's NPDES Permit including new regulations that may be included in the permit and the Authority's ability to maintain compliance with its new permit. He said the DEP representatives noted that due to the increased biological activity in the Black Creek, which is the receiving stream for the plant's discharge, it is no longer considered an Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) impaired stream. He said discharge limits are expected to become more stringent along with the additional limits for copper and ammonia. He said an ammonia limit of 1.85 mg/L is being considered during the summer months and the DEP representatives were informed that the Authority's BAF system can treat ammonia levels to well below the proposed limit. He said the expected limit for copper would be more difficult to remove if it is lower than the background copper levels contained in drinking water coming into the system. He then stated that the Authority's Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) was discussed along with consolidation of the Corrective Action Plans (CAP) into one plan controlled by the Authority. He said the representatives asked for several items, which

will aid in development of the Authority's next permit. He said the items and schedules need to be completed for submission by March 31, 2015. Board Member Eyerly asked what is contained in the LTCP. Christopher responded that the LTCP is a comprehensive plan to address Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) and maximize flows to the treatment plant during wet weather events. He said there have been no changes to the plan since it was compiled in 2001, but work has been done in the system to minimize overflows. He said the 6th & Ridge CSO Separator was mentioned during the meeting because some work needs to be done in the form of a study to reduce the storm sewer flows into that treatment system. He said the plan for reducing flows to the CSO treatment unit will also need to be submitted to DEP. Christopher also noted that gaining additional connection allocations for the service area through removal of inflow and infiltration was also discussed. He said Scott Novatnak of DEP spoke about the need for Act 537 Planning at the municipal level if the treatment plant exceeds its permitted annual average flow limit of 8.9 million gallons per day (MGD). He said DEP also requested meetings with each member municipality to discuss the Act 537 requirements since sewage facilities planning under the Act is the responsibility of each municipality. He also noted that the DEP representatives were very complimentary of the treatment plant and Authority staff for the progress that has been made over the past decade.

The Director of Operations then reported that he spoke with Randy Cahalan of the Hazleton City Authority concerning the vast amounts of water the Authority has been using at the treatment plant over the past few months. He said the Authority staff performed a cursory investigation for evidence of a water leak, but there were no indications of a leak discovered. He said since the Authority has been such a large volume user, Mr. Cahalan offered to have a company verify the calibration of the new water meters. Board Member Grink asked how much money was being spent with the increased consumption. Gregory Olander responded that the bills were about \$2,000 to \$2,500 per month before the upgrade and since the upgrade the usage increased to about \$5,000 per month partially due to the use of potable water to flush the main sewage pump seals. He said since the summer 2014, the bills have increased to over \$7,000 per month, with the last bill being over \$8,600. He said over the past two months the Authority staff began taking steps to reduce consumption by using plant water, but installation of additional equipment is necessary. He said continued improvements are scheduled to reduce the potable water consumption going forward.

The Director of Operations then asked the Board to call a Special Meeting in January for Assistant Chief Operator, Gene Zynel, to present the Board with his finding on operation and maintenance of the incinerator. **Vice Chairman George** called a Special Meeting on January 8, 2015 for a presentation and discussion of incinerator operations.

The Operations Manager reported that the malfunctioning Human Machine Interface (HMI) on the #1 Raptor was replaced with a new Allen Bradley HMI. He said the quote received from Lakeside to perform the work was just under \$15,000 and a timeframe of 4-6 weeks was given in the quote. He said Black Birch Engineering, a local programmer that the Authority staff uses on occasion, was able to complete the conversion in about one week. He said the programming allows haulers to discharge, but the information transfer to the billing computer still needs to be completed. He said it is not expected to cost as much as the quote from Lakeside and when the other HMI needs to be replaced, the majority of programming work will have already been complete.

The Field Operations Manager, Andy Nowak, reported on Road Crew activity over the past month. He said the last few weeks were spent in West Hazleton locating and raising manholes and flushing lines in preparation for televising. He said location of manholes and their repair also continue in the Heights section of Hazleton City.

The Environmental Manager, Laura Motel, reported on work that has been performed over the past month. She stated that permitting activities are ongoing for three Industrial Users (IU) and permit renewals for 2015 are being issued to all existing IUs. She said a few new hauled waste accounts have been set up. She said the chemicals in the Authority's Laboratory were characterized and a lab pack to remove expired chemicals was contracted with an outside company for proper disposal. She stated that quarterly sampling of domestic points, plant influent, plant effluent, and sludge has been conducted for the fourth quarter of 2015 along with the annual Form 43 analysis needed to dispose of sludge in landfill. She also reported that a Pretreatment Program Compliance Audit was performed on November 5, 2014 by EPA Contractor, Tetra-Tech. She said a response is expected in early 2015. She then reported that the EPA office in Washington, DC issued a verbal response that the Authority is properly permitting hauled waste accounts whose discharge is considered significant. Board Member Eyerly asked what constitutes the reason for permitting a hauled waste customer. Laura responded that the Authority has two haulers that discharge a high enough volume to be permitted and the discharge from one hauler falls under Federal Categorical Pretreatment Standards. Board Member Cuozzo asked if the permits were issued annually. Laura responded that the permits have been issued annually in the past, but the Authority is moving to a three year permit at the suggestion of EPA's contractor conducting the audit.

Boyarski & Milot 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 – Brian Kauffman reported that the Elevator Modernization contractor still expects parts to arrive by the end of the year and they will schedule a crew to begin work in mid-January. He said Duperon Corporation is still reviewing two options have been provided by his firm for installation of a screening mechanism at Gashouse Pump Station. He said the SCADA Request for Proposal (RFP) has been reviewed by the Authority staff and changes are being made to the proposal, which is expected to be issued to qualified contractors in early January. He said the Control Building Window Replacement bids received will be reviewed. He also noted that the caulking and plaster was tested for asbestos and found to be below threshold limits for hazardous waste disposal. He then reported that two LSA grant applications were being processed by his office for the Button Buck CSO Separation Project and the Incinerator Installation/Air Emissions Equipment. He also reported on the meeting held with DEP representatives. He said Michael Brunamonti, the Environmental Program Director, stated that the Authority limits for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus will remain unchanged from the previous permit at 8.0 mg/L and 1.0 mg/L respectively. He then reported that the first shop drawings were received from IDI for the incinerator air emissions equipment. He said that for the Sludge Cake Pump Installation, only startup and installation of the transfer conveyor remain; however, the pump cannot be started until the SCADA programming is completed. Gene Koontz then stated that that he spoke with Dan Falter concerning the remaining work needed for the Nitrification/Denitrification structural repairs. He said Mr. Falter agreed to set up scaffolding in the pipe galleries to allow their sub-contractor to return and complete the grout injection. He said a few areas on the exterior of the structure need to have a second application of grout in the spring.

Robert Dougherty reported that he has been concentrating on the Button Buck CSO Separation Project plans and specifications and several Request for Information (RFI) responses. He said the bids are lumped closely together and look good in his opinion. He stated that televising was also performed in West Hazleton to prepare for a sewer study in that area. He said the bids will be reviewed in greater detail and the unit prices will be looked at to determine low bidder. Board Member Eyerly asked what information was used to formulate their bid. Robert responded that bidder picked up a set of plans that was prepared by televising, smoke testing, dye testing, and field locating other utilities within the scope of the project area. Board Member Eyerly then asked if the bids came in the range he was expecting. Robert responded that the bids came in lower than expected and he tried to build safeguards into the specifications to protect the Authority by limiting the amount of extras that would be allowed as change orders. Board Member Eyerly then asked if it was best to award the contract to one company to perform all the work. Robert stated that the specifications were developed to allow awarding any part of the project to the lowest bidder. He said they were bid as unrelated projects that can be awarded separately. He said the work on the East side can begin without Norfolk Southern approvals, but the West side needs their approvals prior to beginning the work. He said the Authority already installed the stub needed to cross Broad Street before the PennDOT Corridor project was completed. Board Member Eyerly then asked who inspects the work of the contractor(s). Robert stated that he would like to have his firm do the inspection work because he is most familiar with the project specifications and they performed all the investigative work needed to develop the plans. He said that he would present the Board with a proposal for inspection services. Robert then informed the Board that Norfolk Southern requested the Authority provide any existing easements they have on the railroad property. He said there were questions on the distance of two borings needed to cross under the existing railroad tracks.

Boyarski & Fay 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 at the Work Session, Attorney Ustynoski stated all attorneys except one have accepted the January mediation date for the School District litigation.

Boyarski & Milot moved to accept the Solicitor's report. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

Christopher Carsia reported that Wilson Yale and Christopher Yale of Morgan Stanley recommended moving \$350,000 from the money market to Certificates of Deposits in the following increments, terms, and interest rates: \$100,000 in a 4 year term at 2.0%; \$100,000 in a 3 year term at 1.5%; \$100,000 in a 2 year term at 1.05%; and \$50,000 in a 6 month term at 0.5%.

Grink & Fay moved to accept the Investment Consultant's Report as presented.

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

BILLS AND CREDITS

Eyerly & Grink moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions from September 20, 2014 through October 31, 2014, totaling \$31,254.88 as listed in the following table:

<u>Requisition #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	051153.A*6	Annual Services Work	\$ 3,214.25
Operating Fund	051153.B*7	Attending Authority Meetings	\$ 1,262.76
Operating Fund	051153.01*5	Scada Update	\$ 6,979.63
A466	048847.C0*4	Incinerator Design	\$ 11,370.53
C154	048847.B*3	WWTP Upgrade Construction Phase	\$ 8,427.71
Total			\$ 31,254.88

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

Cuozzo & Grink moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund in the amount of \$1,091,428.41, for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$580,792.47); Construction in Progress (\$8,088.22); Transfers to Other Authority Accounts (\$1,355.57); Debt Service Series 2012-A Bond (\$165,375.00); Debt Service Series 2012-B Bond (\$172,250.00); Pennvest Loan #27769 (\$158,666.52); Pennvest Loan #74119 (\$1,473.64); and Pennvest Loan #58103 (\$3,426.99) from the month of November 2014.

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

Fay & Boyarski moved to approve issued credits totaling \$1,192.57 from month of November 2014.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Milot & Grink moved to hire temporary clerical personnel for the business office through a staffing agency on an as needed basis not to exceed 720 hours in a calendar year in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement for Clerical Employees.

Roll Call: Boyarski-yes, Carsia-absent, Cuozzo-no, Eyerly-yes, Fay-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Milot-yes, Veneroso-absent

Milot & Cuozzo moved to adjourn. Passed: Aye-7, Nay-0, Absent-2

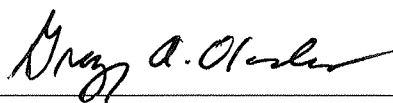
The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Work Session will be Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be Monday, January 26, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority



 Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary