

The September 21, 2015 regular monthly meeting of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority was called to order by Chairman George at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call:

|                    |                 |                    |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Boyarski – Present | Carsia – Absent | Cuozzo – Present   |
| Eyerly – Present   | Fay – Present   | George – Present   |
| Grink – Present    | Milot - Present | Sherrock – Present |

Also in Attendance:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Christopher Carsia – Director of Operations | Gregory Olander – Operations Manager          |
| Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager       | *Brian Kauffman, P.E. – Gannett Fleming, Inc. |
| *Robert Dougherty, P.E. – RJD Engineering   |   |

\*In attendance during the Work Session

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**Eyerly & Boyarski** moved to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting. Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

**Milot & Grink** moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2015 Pension Meeting. Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

**Director of Operations Report - MONTHLY FLOW REPORT**

|                     | <u>August 2015</u> |         | <u>Year to Date</u>  |        |                 |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|
|                     |                    |         | <u>Total</u>         |        | <u>Average</u>  |
| Total Flow          | <u>187,711,168</u> | Gallons | <u>1,980,820,417</u> | Gallon | xxxxx           |
| Total Flow Bypassed | <u>2,682,320</u>   | Gallons | <u>37,176,147</u>    | Gallon | xxxxx           |
| Days Flow Bypassed  | <u>3</u>           | Days    | <u>31</u>            | Days   | xxxxx           |
| Total Flow Treated  | <u>185,028,848</u> | Gallons | <u>1,943,634,270</u> | Gallon | xxxxx           |
| Average Minimum     | <u>3.8</u>         | MGD     | xxxxx                | xxxxx  | <u>5.9</u> MGD  |
| Average Maximum     | <u>10.0</u>        | MGD     | xxxxx                | xxxxx  | <u>12.5</u> MGD |
| Average Daily Flow  | <u>6.1</u>         | MGD     | xxxxx                | xxxxx  | <u>8.0</u> MGD  |

Christopher Carsia reported on the flow for August 2015. He said the total volume of wastewater diverted from all point sources for the month was estimated to be 33.809 million gallons with approximately 2.682 million gallons of treated outflow diverted at the treatment plant. He said approximately 2.428 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 187.7 million gallons with 185 million gallons treated. He also stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month decreased to 6.1 MGD and the average daily flow for the year subsequently decreased to 8.0 MGD. Board Member Eyerly asked if the average plant flow would be that low if the groundwater was removed from the system. Christopher responded that the flows would be in that range if all inflow and infiltration (I & I) were to be removed within the collection system. He then reported that modifications were made to the Autumn and Ridge CSO Separator to remove the temporary bypass line. He said performance sampling is needed; however, there has not been enough rainfall recently to complete the required testing. He said DEP

must perform a final inspection of the system before Pennvest can release the final holdback money of approximately \$14,000.

The Director of Operations reported that revenues for August 2015 were \$885,990.14, which was an increase of 6.4% from the prior year. He said the bills issued for hauled waste received in August totaled \$137,700.06, which is a decrease of 1.7% from the prior year.

The Director of Operations reported that a meeting was held with Brian Kauffman concerning the recent incineration operations networking event attended by the Authority's Chief Operator, Gene Zynel. He said there was also representation from management and the maintenance department to discuss key issues identified during start-up and operation of IDI incinerators at other treatment plants. He said notes were taken on items for Brain to incorporate into the installation bid specifications. He said Gene also noted that many other treatment plants were accepting dewatered sludge from other smaller plants to incinerate. He said the solid waste permit currently prohibits the Authority from taking outside sludge for incineration; however, once operational, the Authority can apply for a permit modification to accept outside sludge.

The Director of Operations then reported that he spoke with Tom Keiper, the Executive Director of the Mountaintop Sewer Authority, concerning collection of monies during Sheriff Sales. He said Tom was informed that the Sheriff's office was still collecting money for the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) during a sale. Gregory Olander stated that a few years ago, he was informed that the Sheriff's Department would no longer collect monies owed to municipalities and authorities during their property sales. He said if they are still collecting for WVSA, they should be collecting for all other municipal entities in the County. He said that he would be willing to attend a cooperative meeting with the Sheriff's Department and local authorities to discuss reinstating the collection of money during Sheriff Sales.

The Director of Operations then reported that there were numerous odor complaints reported via social media and telephone on the evening of Friday, September 11, 2015. He said a call was made to DEP to inform their representative that the treatment plant may have taken a slug load, which may have caused the malodors. He said that evening, the plant operators noted that there was an excessive amount of grease in the plant, which had a foul odor. He said after speaking with the lab technician the following day he noted a high TSS of 250-300 mg/L on that day, which is well above the normal TSS loading of 125 mg/L. He said another cause for the malodors could have been due to the extended period of low flows in which solids remain in the collection system and begin to become septic. He said the rain just before the odors were noticed may have pushed a high concentration of septic waste into the treatment plant.

Andy Nowak reported that the Road Crew completed an 8-inch main line installation on 8<sup>th</sup> & Laurel Streets in the City. He said the asphalt paving work still needed to be performed, but the residents in the area thanked the Authority for installing a new sewer main. He said the old line was a 4-inch pipe, which was frequently blocking with rag material and debris. He then reported on a repair at 22<sup>nd</sup> & Harvey Streets in the Borough. He said the Borough provided the corrugated pipe and the Authority provided equipment to make the repair near the Authority's diversion chamber. He said the Road Crew also raised manholes on Green Street between Boundary and 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the Borough prior to asphalt paving of the street. Andy also reported that the crew has been removing grit from the CSO Separator at the treatment plant for the past few days. He said there was an excessive amount of grit buildup in the treatment system and it will be a few more

days before the job is complete. He said the drain line and concrete pad for the grease digester system are also being worked on by the Road Crew. He said the Road Crew would also be investigating a sinkhole on South Church Street (Route 309) and raising manholes on Pardee Street prior to asphalt paving. Board Member Sherrock noted that he has seen Storm Sewer Inlets (SSI) filled to the top, some with small trees growing out of the grate. He asked who was responsible for cleaning these SSIs. Andy responded that cleaning of the Storm Sewers is the responsibility of the City and Borough; however, the Authority staff has cleaned a few blocked inlets that were near their work site when making repairs. He then reported that he went to the DEP Northeast Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre with Attorney Sharkey for a file review regarding planning modules for the two defunct projects in West Hazleton. He said Attorney Sharkey has the files and will provide copies to the Authority.

Gregory Olander commented on Resolution 004 of 2015, which is an amended rate resolution establishing surcharge rates for commercial, industrial, or institutional customers discharging high strength waste for treatment. He said the surcharge would be applied for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Nitrogen (TN), and Total Phosphorus (TP) and the surcharge rate(s) are contained in the most recent "High Strength Wastewater Surcharge Study". He said the rate(s) are an average of the the prior 3-years of data and they may change each time the study is updated. He said the current rates are \$0.26/lb of BOD, \$0.31/lb of TSS, \$2.08/lb of TN, and \$1.20/lb of TP based on the study.

Gregory informed the Board that the financial audit for Fiscal Year Ended July 31, 2015 began on September 14, 2015. He said the auditors may be ready for a presentation at the October meeting.

Gregory then reported on two other agenda items relative to equipment needed for the grease digester system. He said a grinder or chopper is needed at the discharge location to ensure no large objects enter the mixing tank. He said the Vogelsang RotaCut RCX58 was specified to prevent items from entering the tank and damaging the mixing and/or dosing pumps. He said the cost is \$44,684.00 through the PA State COSTARS Program. He then reported on the cost of a fiberglass shelter to house all the grease digester equipment. He said a shelter is necessary so the pipework does not freeze during the colder months of operation. He said the cost of a 12'x12'x8' shelter is \$27,732.00 through the COSTARS Program.

The Director of Operations informed the Board that a representative of Talen Energy (formerly PPL Energy Plus) contacted the Authority concerning attractive electricity rates for calendar year 2018. He said the rate is \$0.0581/kWh plus GRT, which is lower than the Authority's fixed rate for 2016 and 2017. He recommended the Board approve the rate, which would yield additional savings of approximately \$11,000 per year from the 2016-2017 contract rates assuming the current usage.

The Director of Operations then informed the Board of the passing of retiree John P. Kringe. He said Mr. Kringe had retired back in the late 1980's as an Operator of the Sewage Sludge Incinerator. Christopher told the Board that he had the privilege of working with John in that department for a few years before he retired.

**Sherrock & Boyarski** 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-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

**Engineer's Report** – Brian Kauffman reported that the treatment plant SCADA Update is nearly completed. He said there were some additional items discussed at the job conference to install additional cameras at the treatment plant and build and integrate a control panel for the new plant water pumping system. He reported that the transfer conveyor was installed by Pioneer Construction and was successfully started. He said the contractor for the Control Building Window Replacement Project can proceed with their work now that the Cake Pump Installation Project has been completed. Brian then reported there still has been no contact from DEP regarding the Authority's new NPDES Permit. He said Nitrification Cell No.6 has been placed back in service by Authority personnel and the cell appears to be functioning well. He said C.O. Falter scheduled to have their subcontractor onsite to perform repairs to the BAF structure concrete beginning September 28, 2015, which will also include injection of cracks in the pipe gallery ceilings. He then stated that in addition to his continued review of the incinerator shop drawings from IDI, he met with the Authority staff to discuss recommended changes Gene Zynel noted while attending the annual Incinerator Networking Event. He said the changes would be included in the bid specifications.

Robert Dougherty reported that PACT Construction began the East Separation Project and was able to install approximately 500 feet of pipe and 4 manholes on Mill Street between Cranberry and Juniper Streets. He said they hit a water line that was not marked in the field. Board Member Eyerly asked who would be responsible for this repair. Robert stated that it has yet to be discussed with the contractor and water authority. He then reported that Michael F. Ronca & Sons, Inc. (Ronca) had materials delivered near the work site for the West Separation Project with an anticipated start date in late September.

**Grink & Milot** moved to accept the Engineer's report.

Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

**Solicitor's Report** – In addition to what was reported in Executive Session at the Work Session, Attorney Ustynoski requested the Board move to Executive Session to discuss a legal issue.

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

After the Board moved out of Executive Session, **Grink & Fay** moved to accept the Solicitor's report. Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

**Sherrock & Grink** 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, Sherrock-yes

#### **BILLS AND CREDITS**

**Eyerly & Cuzzo** moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions from June 27, 2015 through July 24, 2015, totaling \$10,647.93 as listed in the following table:

| <u>Requisition #</u> | <u>Invoice #</u> | <u>Description</u>              | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Operating Fund       | 051153.A*2514    | Annual Service Work             | \$ 3,145.10   |
| Operating Fund       | 051153.B*2516    | Attending Authority Meetings    | \$ 646.86     |
| Operating Fund       | 051153.AG*2515   | Financing & Grants              | \$ 629.50     |
| Operating Fund       | 051153.01*2513   | SCADA Update                    | \$ 3,211.66   |
| Operating Fund       | 048847.B*2511    | WWTP Upgrade Construction Phase | \$ 973.75     |
| A479                 | 048847.CO*2512   | Incinerator Design              | \$ 2,041.06   |
| Total                |                  |                                 | \$ 10,647.93  |

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

**Cuozzo & Fay** moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund in the amount of \$1,979,096.41 for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$714,018.86); Construction in Progress (\$38,139.40); Transfers to Other Authority Accounts (\$725,496.00); Debt Service Series 2012-A Bond (\$164,250.00); Debt Service Series 2012-B Bond (\$173,625.00); Pennvest Loan #27769 (\$158,666.52); Pennvest Loan #74119 (\$1,473.64); and Pennvest Loan #58103 (\$3,426.99) from the month of August 2015.

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

**Boyarski & Eyerly** moved to approve issued credits totaling \$4,373.66 from month of August 2015.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Fay & Cuozzo** moved to adopt Resolution 004 of 2015, an amended rate resolution, which establishes special user surcharge rates, fees, and charges for discharge of high strength waste by commercial, industrial, or institutional customers. The high strength wastewater surcharge shall be calculated using the 3-year average per pound removal cost as contained in the most current "High Strength Surcharge Study" for the following parameters: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Nitrogen (TN), and Total Phosphorus (TP).

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

**Boyarski & Fay** moved to purchase one (1) Vogelsang RotaCut RCX-58 inline grinder from Envirep, Inc., as specified in Quotation #77880 through the PA State COSTARS Program for the purchase price of \$44,684.00, which also includes a control panel, freight, and one day startup. The RotaCut RCX-58 is a component of the new Fats, Oils, & Grease (FOG) digester system at the treatment plant.

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

**Cuozzo & Milot** moved to purchase one (1) 12'x12'x8' fiberglass shelter from Shelter Works, as specified in Quotation #Q7368 through the PA State COSTARS Program for the purchase price of \$27,732.00 including delivery. The fiberglass shelter will be used to house the Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG) receiving station at the treatment plant.

On the Question: Board Member Cuzzo asked what other costs would be associated with the grease digester system installation. Gregory Olander responded that there will be additional costs for pouring a concrete pad, running electrical conduit and wiring, and other materials such as a heater, lights, controls, pipe and fittings.

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

**Sherrock & Milot** moved to authorize Authority Management to enter into a contract with Talen Energy (formerly PPL Energy Plus), for the supply of electricity at a fixed price of 5.810 cents/kWh + GRT for the Authority's eleven accounts for calendar year 2018. The Authority is currently under contract with Talen Energy, which expires on December 31, 2017. The motion is conditioned upon review and approval of the contract by the Solicitor. The Authority's contracted fixed rate price for calendar years 2016 and 2017 is 5.978 cents/kWh + GRT.

On the Question: Board Member Sherrock asked about the GRT added to the base rate. Christopher Carsia responded that the GRT is the Gross Receipts Tax, which is added to any base rate electricity price.

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

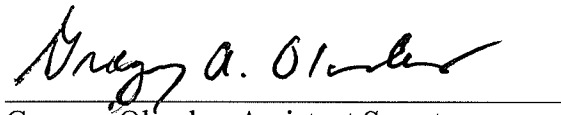
**Milot & Sherrock** moved to adjourn. Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Work Session will be Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM.  
The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be Monday, October 26, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority**



Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary