

The April 24, 2023 regular monthly meeting of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority was called to order by Acting Chairman Gallagher at 6:30 PM. All participating in the meeting gave a pledge of allegiance.

April 19, 2023 Work Session Roll Call:

Eyerly – Present	Formica – Present	Gallagher – Present
George – Present ¹	Grink – Present	Pacelli – Present
Sherrock – Present	Sullivan – Present	Zola – Absent

Also in Attendance during Work Session:

Gregory Olander – Director of Administration	Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager
Attorney Joseph D. Ustynoski – Solicitor	Nicolas Sahd – Gannett Fleming, Inc.

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Sherrock – Present	Sullivan – Absent	Zola – Present ¹

Also in Attendance during Regular Meeting:

Gregory Olander – Director of Administration	Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager
Attorney Joseph D. Ustynoski – Solicitor	Robert Dougherty, P.E. – RJD Engineering

¹ via Videoconference

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment received prior to or during the meeting to be presented.

Formica & Sherrock moved to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2023 Regular Monthly Meeting. Passed: Aye-8, Nay-0, Absent-1

Directors’ Report -

MONTHLY FLOW REPORT

	<u>March 2023</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		
			<u>Total</u>	<u>Average</u>	
Total Flow	244,974,997	Gallons	750,030,209	Gallon	xxxxx
Total Flow Bypassed	3,482,313	Gallons	11,462,080	Gallon	xxxxx
Days Flow Bypassed	1	Days	6	Days	xxxxx
Total Flow Treated	241,492,684	Gallons	738,568,129	Gallon	xxxxx
Average Minimum	5.5	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	5.9 MGD
Average Maximum	11.6	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	11.6 MGD
Average Daily Flow	7.8	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	8.3 MGD

During the Work Session, the Director of Administration, Gregory Olander, reviewed the wastewater flows for March 2023 as presented in the monthly flow report. He said the flow to the treatment plant was recorded at approximately 245 million gallons with 241.5 million gallons being treated. He also

stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month was 7.8 MGD, which decreased the year to date average daily flow to 8.3 MGD.

Gregory Olander then reported that the revenues for March 2023 were \$1,027,942.28 and the billing for hauled waste received in March totaled \$195,754.61. He then stated that the overall customer collection rate for the month of March was 100.68% and collections for the fiscal year to date increased slightly to 95.48%. Gregory reported that the first section of delinquent property postings were completed and the second section of delinquent notices will be mailed next week. He reported that Attorney Gartley would be contacting the union Sub-District Director to schedule contract negotiations with the union. Gregory then reported that the Hiring Committee reviewed resumes for the Plant Operator position and has interviews scheduled for next week. He also reported that training has been completed for the newest Plant Operator, who just went into the shift rotation. He said with the new Plant Operator going on shift, Shane Boyer began his new role as Assistant Plant Operations Manager as of April 16, 2023.

Gregory reported that the a new JWC Muffin Monster was installed at the Locust Street Pump Station to replace the failing unit that has been in operation for approximately 5 years. He said there was significant wear on the old unit due to excessive grit coming into the pump station. He also reported that the new Duperon washer/compactor was installed by the Maintenance Department in the Second Screenhouse. He said the unit is now operational replacing the compactor that failed in October 2022. He then reported that Kruger (Veolia) is expected to release a report on the work needed to activate De-Nitrification Cell #5, which will be discussed with the Board before moving forward with a project.

Gregory reported that EPA would be conducting an audit of the Authority's Industrial Pretreatment Program. He said the Authority's Environmental Manager, Laura Motel, was preparing for the audit. He then reported that he would begin work on a report to PADEP finalizing the Autumn & Ridge CSO Separator Project, which is due to PADEP in about 5 months. He said flows from the West Hazleton pre and post flow monitoring is needed from RJD Engineering to compile the report. He then reported that the Chapter 94 report, Annual CSO Report, and Industrial Pretreatment Reports were all submitted to the regulators prior to the March 31, 2023 deadline. He said the Annual Operations Report will be worked on with Nick Sahd of Gannett Fleming to be submitted to the Trustee prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Gregory also reported on the Incinerator Project noting that the Stack Re-test was scheduled for the week of May 15th. He stated that the Relative Accuracy Test Audit (RATA) was scheduled for July 25, 2023. Gregory then stated that the draft Title V Operating Permit received from PADEP on February 8, 2023 was reviewed and comments were provided to PADEP on March 27, 2023. He said the Authority is currently awaiting the final draft Permit for review. He then said there has been no reply from PADEP on the Act 537 Plan of Study that was submitted on February 12, 2023 for their comment or approval. He reported that a meeting was held on April 11th with Authority Staff, Nick Sahd, and a Gannett Fleming flow monitoring expert to discuss next steps to move forward with flow modeling of the system for the Act 537 Plan and Long Term Control Plan (LTCP).

Gregory then reported on several funding applications submitted to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) including the PA H2O Grant in the amount of \$3,900,000 for the Locust Street CSO Separation Project and the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant in the amount of \$400,000. He said the applications are expected to be reviewed by CFA and awarded at either the July or September meetings. He then noted that the Authority is expected to receive \$2,000,000 in Luzerne County ARPA funds due

to a successful grant application to partially fund the Locust Street CSO Separation Project. Gregory also reported that the PENNVEST application was being completed for submission prior to the May 3rd cutoff date. He said the bid opening for the project is scheduled for May 17, 2023.

During the Work Session, Andy Nowak reported on a repair on Green and Wyoming Streets in the City of Hazleton. He said a sinkhole developed, which was attributed to a broken 8-inch lateral coming into an Authority owned 12-inch main line. He said the repair was difficult due to its depth and proximity of a telecommunications duct bank and other utility lines. He said the Road Crew has been trying to fix other broken lines and raising manholes before scheduled City paving projects begin. He said the Road Crew is also dye testing in Area 2B to locate cross connections as part of the Locust Street CSO Separation Project. He then reported that the Stake Body Truck that was on order is expected to arrive in a few weeks. He said the ole Stake Body would be used around the treatment plant, but the old Crew Cab Utility Truck could be gifted to a municipality. He said the City of Hazleton is next to receive a vehicle so he will reach out to see if they have use for the truck.

George & Grink moved to accept the Director of Operation's 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 – During the regular meeting, Gregory Olander referenced a written Engineer's Report that was distributed to the Board. He reviewed a few items that were already mentioned during the Directors' Report.

During the Regular Meeting, Robert Dougherty referenced a written report that was distributed to the Board and noted that the Locust Street CSO Separation and Force Main Replacement Project was put out for bid with a bid opening scheduled for May 17, 2023. He said there are currently seven (7) plan holders and notice has been given that there is a mandatory pre-bid meeting scheduled for May 4, 2023. He then reported that the Water Quality Management Permit (Part II Permit) was received from PADEP for the Project. He said the Norfolk Southern applications to cross the railroad at two locations have been submitted and the initial review comments were received from Norfolk Southern. He said dye testing continues in Area 2 to identify cross connections and roof drain connections. He then reported that Hazleton CAP Area 10 (Phase 2) field work has started and roof drain identification and mapping has been completed. He said the door tag notification for dye testing and roof drain removal is underway with several in field meetings with residents. He said the next step is to begin televising stormwater lines for cross connections and dye testing sanitary lines to verify suspected roof drain connections.

George & Formica moved to accept the Engineer's Report.

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

Solicitor's Report – Attorney Ustynoski stated that in addition to what was reported in executive session during the Work Session, he spoke with the Authority's Bond Counsel, Attorney Jennifer Caron, regarding the upcoming PENNVEST closing and documents that need to be prepared in accordance with the Trust indenture. He requested an engagement letter from Attorney Caron for the Board's consideration. He said it will be presented to the Board as soon as it is received.

Sherrock & Grink moved to accept the Solicitor's Report.

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

BILLS AND CREDITS

Formica & Pacelli moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions from February 25, 2023 through March 31, 2023 totaling \$22,918.43 as listed in the following table:

<u>Requisition#</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	051153.A*21680	Annual Service Work	\$ 2,056.46
Operating Fund	051153.B*21686	Attending Authority Meetings	\$ 694.14
Operating Fund	051153.C*21687	Chapter 94 Report	\$ 4,302.03
Operating Fund	051153.D*21688	Pretreatment Program	\$ 661.85
Operating Fund	051153.E*21689	CSO Work	\$ 2,424.75
Operating Fund	051153.AI*21685	ODMS Program Update	\$ 140.30
Operating Fund	051153.CO*21678	Incinerator Project	\$ 2,403.71
Operating Fund	051153.42*21679	2022-2023 Air Compliance	\$ 3,103.53
Operating Fund	051153.43*21681	Act 537 Plan	\$ 491.05
Operating Fund	051153.44*21682	2022 Locust Street CSO PV	\$ 6,640.61
Total			\$ 22,918.43

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Pacelli-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-yes (Passed 8-0-1)

George & Formica moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$847,939.51); Construction in Progress (\$73,640.41); Debt Service Series 2018 Bond – BB&T (\$18,362.29); Debt Service PENNVEST Loan #27906 (\$11,152.44) from the month of March 2023.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Pacelli-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-yes (Passed 8-0-1)

Sherrock & Grink moved to approve issued credits report totaling \$3,053.05 from the month of March 2023.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Pacelli-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-yes (Passed 8-0-1)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Gallagher raised the question of capacity at the treatment plant in light of the impending industrial and warehousing development activity in the service area, which is expected to cause the need for additional residential development. Gregory Olander responded that PADEP was reluctant to allow the Authority to increase the capacity at the treatment plant back in the late 2000s due to the background flows and poor condition of the municipally owned collection systems. He said instead they tasked the Authority with takeover of the municipal sanitary sewer collection systems to remove background flow from the system in the form of groundwater infiltration. He said the Authority is doing work to free capacity by engaging projects such as the Button Bock CSO Separation Project and the Locust Street CSO Separation Project. He said installing new sanitary sewers and permanently removing stormwater and roof drain flows from the system will free capacity; however, these are projects that take years to complete. Nick Sahd added that the purpose of an Act 537 Plan is to identify the community’s sewer

needs over the next 20-30 years, so with the Act 537 Plan underway, the Authority would be able to identify if there is a clear need for a plant upgrade or collection/conveyance system upgrade based on municipal projections, flow modeling, and mapping. He said there also may be additional capacity available at the current treatment plant by way of a re-rate.

Pacelli & Sherrock moved to adjourn.

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

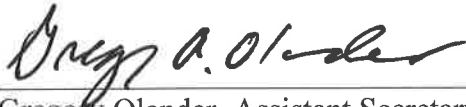
The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM

The next scheduled Work Session will be Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:30 PM

The next scheduled Regular Monthly Meeting will be Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority



Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary