

The March 27, 2024 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.

March 25, 2024 Work Session Roll Call:

Eyerly – Present	Formica – Present	Gallagher – Present
George – Present	Grink – Present	Sharkey – Present
Sherrock – Present	Sullivan – Present	Zola – Present

Also in Attendance during Work Session:

Gregory Olander – Director of Administration	Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager
Attorney Joseph D. Ustynoski – Solicitor	Attorney Scott Gartley – Labor Law
†Rachel Govelovich, P.E. – Gannett Fleming	

March 27, 2024 Regular Meeting Roll Call:

Eyerly – Present	Formica – Present	Gallagher – Present
George – Present [†]	Grink – Present	Sharkey – Present
Sherrock – Present	Sullivan – Absent	Zola – Absent

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

[†] via phone or 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 February 26, 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting.

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

Pension Committee Report –

During the Work Session, Board Member Grink reported on behalf of the Pension Committee.

Grink & Sharkey moved to approve the Pension Committee Report as presented during the Work Session.

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

Directors’ Report -

MONTHLY FLOW REPORT

	<u>February 2024</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		
			<u>Total</u>		<u>Average</u>
Total Flow	250,996,150	Gallons	678,393,594	Gallon	xxxxx
Total Flow Bypassed	3,530,246	Gallons	70,087,074	Gallon	xxxxx
Days Flow Bypassed	2	Days	13	Days	xxxxx
Total Flow Treated	247,465,904	Gallons	608,306,250	Gallon	xxxxx

Average Minimum	6.6 MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	8.1 MGD
Average Maximum	11.3 MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	15.4 MGD
Average Daily Flow	8.5 MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	10.1 MGD

During the Work Session, the Director of Administration, Gregory Olander, reviewed the wastewater flows for February 2024 as presented in the monthly flow report. He said the flow to the treatment plant was recorded at approximately 251 million gallons with 247.5 million gallons being treated. He also stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month declined from the high flows experienced in January to a more normal 8.5 MGD. He noted that the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) were submitted to PADEP for January with no effluent violations recorded.

Gregory Olander then reported that the revenues for February 2024 were \$1,034,940.58 and the billing for hauled waste received in February totaled \$199,734.16. He then stated that the overall customer collection rate for the month of February was 96.52% and the overall customer collections for the fiscal year are 94.47%. He then reported that annual delinquent shutoff procedures will begin in April and continue through July, which should result in an increased fiscal year collection rate. He then reported that the Chief Operator presented an alternative shift structure for Plant Operators to include 12-hour shifts and stand-by operators. He said it will be reviewed for feasibility of effectively filling vacant shifts and additional cost to the Authority.

Gregory reported that the maintenance department is recommending a spare pump be purchased for the Cranberry Pump Station. He said a quote was received for a replacement pump in the amount of \$88,235.50, which is on the agenda for the Board’s consideration. He also stated that the maintenance and operations reviewed the revised submittals for the second HPU for the sludge cake pump. He said a second response was sent to the equipment manufacturer for clarification and/or revision.

Gregory then reported that the Stack Retest was completed on March 6th due to the exceedance for Hydrogen Chloride during the December 2023 Stack Test. He said we are currently awaiting results from the testing company. He then reported that Gannett Fleming and Authority staff completed the Solid Waste Management Permit Renewal Application for the Incinerator, and the packet was submitted to PADEP on March 20, 2024. He said the Radiation Protection Action Plan and the Preparedness, Prevention, and Contingency (PPC) Plan were both updated and submitted as part of this 10-year permit renewal. He then reported that a pre-design document for the Valmont TCE site was received from EPA on March 7, 2024. He said it is being reviewed by staff and Gannett Fleming and Laura Motel and Nick Sahd will be at the April meeting to update the Board on the EPA’s planned site remediation.

During the Work Session, Andy Nowak informed the Board that the new Locust Street Force Main passed pressure testing and was placed in service on February 29, 2024. He said the entire force main from the Locust Street pump station to the valve chamber where it meets the Gashouse Force Main is all new. Andy reported that the PMAA Annual Region 2&3 Dinner is being held on May 16th for any Board Members interested in attending. He then reported that the Bobcat Loader being used at the treatment plant is in need of replacement. He said there is 6,000 hours on the machine and it has been used extensively since it was purchased in 2011. He said that he would get a quote for the trade in value so the Board can make a decision on how to move forward with replacement. Andy then reported that he was contacted concerning a potential development on David Avenue, a paper street in the City of Hazleton. He said there are plans being circulated for bidding to asphalt pave the street without the

utilities installing lines for service. He reported that he gave the engineer locations of the nearest existing sewer lines. He also reported that there has been no response from Allen Ridge Associates, LLC since they were provided the Extension Agreement to install new sewer lines for their development. He stated that the Gannett Fleming has been provided information to purchase the equipment needed to move forward with the GIS Mapping Project.

During the regular meeting, Gregory Olander reported that a meeting was scheduled with a developer, the Authority, and PADEP staff from several divisions to discuss the possibility of reusing the GHJSA effluent for cooling water in their process. He then reported that a quote was received from Green Mountain Excavating in the amount of \$11,000 to perform rigging to remove rotary press #1 from the dewatering department and replace it with rotary press #3, which is currently in the office at the rear of the building. He said to remove the presses, the installer of the windows and translucent panels on the front of the Control Building will need to remove and reinstall the panels prior to and following the equipment change. He said the original window installer provided a quote of \$7,400 to perform the work. He also noted that any parts on Rotary Press #1 that may be used as spares will be kept, but the remainder of the press will be discarded. With approval of this report, the Board authorized the work to be completed as presented so Rotary Press #3 replaces Rotary Press #1 as backup to the centrifuge. Andy Nowak also reported that after review of the quotes for purchase and installation of a split AC and heating unit in the Board Room, the quote from Creative Comfort in the amount of \$5,870.00 including electrical work is recommended. The Board instructed Andy to move forward with the installation through Creative Comfort.

Sherrock & Formica moved to accept the Directors' 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 – During the Work Session, Rachel Govelovich referenced a written Engineer's Report that was distributed to the Board. She stated that in addition to the air quality items reported under the Directors' Report, the CEMS quarterly EDR report will be due on April 30, 2024.

Rachel then reported that the third public notice for the Solid Waste Management Permit renewal application was advertised and delivery receipts from certified mail notices to the municipalities and properties adjacent to the treatment plant continue to be received. She said the application was submitted to PADEP on March 20, 2024 and a letter of administrative completeness was received from the PADEP on March 25, 2024. She said the application will now proceed to technical review.

She then reported on PENNVEST funding for the Locust Street Project noting that since the closing has not taken place yet, any change orders approved before that time will need to be reported to PENNVEST and the corresponding changes will need to be made to update the closing documents. She said the Authority is still awaiting receipt of a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) so closing may be scheduled.

Rachel then reported on the Act 537 and LTCP activities. She said meters that have been deployed continue to capture flows at the CSO discharge points so the required flow study can be completed before the February 28, 2025 deadline. She also reported that a kickoff meeting was held between Authority staff and Gannett Fleming for the GIS system mapping project. She said procurement of hardware, software, and licensing is being coordinated. She then reported that language as interpreted from the

December 14, 2023 meeting with PADEP was incorporated into the Chapter 94 Report to lift the Correction Action Plans (CAPs) on the Hazle Township and Sugarloaf Township sewer systems. Rachel also reported that a draft scope and proposal for the activation of Denitrification Cell #5, addition of a third hauled waste dump site, and upgrade of the section of ductile iron pipe traversing the Black Creek coming into the WWTP was prepared and distributed for review and comment. She said the proposal will be finalized once the draft is reviewed and considered by the Board and management.

Rachel also reported that the annual Chapter 94 Report, Industrial Pretreatment Report, and CSO Report are all nearly completed. She said they will be submitted to the respective regulators before the March 31, 2024 deadline.

During the regular meeting, Robert Dougherty referenced a written report that was distributed to the Board. He said that the new 12-inch force main from the Locust Street Pump Station to the Maple Street valve chamber is now in service. He then reported that the contractor for the Locust Street CSO Separation Project is continuing work on installation of new sanitary gravity lines with two crews currently working. He said next week they will be doing trench restoration and asphalt paving work on Vine Street. He said the replacement of a section of the 24-inch stone arch on Vine Street is now complete and backfilled. He stated that after the asphalt restoration work, the contractor will begin connecting laterals on the side streets. He said the 4th pay request has been received and reviewed and it is recommended for approval. He then noted that field inspection, dye testing, and tagging properties for roof drain removal is ongoing in Areas 2 & 3 with 137 properties inspected, 60 properties tagged for removal, and 14 illegal connections corrected to date. Robert also reported on the Area 10 (Phase2) Separation Project, which has a small area on Church Street that still needs to be inspected. He said the GPS fieldwork and base mapping is ongoing.

Formica & Sharkey 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 had nothing additional to report.

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

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

BILLS AND CREDITS

Formica & Sherrock moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions from January 27, 2024 through February 23, 2024, totaling \$22,696.31 as listed in the following table:

<u>Requisition#</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	051153.A*33490	Annual Service Work	\$ 1,514.02
Operating Fund	051153.B*33491	Attending Authority Meetings	\$ 317.69
Operating Fund	051153.C*33492	Chapter 94 Report	\$ 2,372.90
Operating Fund	051153.D*33493	Pretreatment Program	\$ 442.25
Operating Fund	051153.E*33514	CSO Work	\$ 619.15
Operating Fund	048847.CO*33481	Incinerator (Air Permit)	\$ 614.88
Operating Fund	051153.42*33487	2023-2024 Air Compliance	\$ 3,507.51
Operating Fund	051153.45*33517	Solid Waste Mgmt Permit Renewal	\$ 12,832.11
Operating Fund	051153.46*33488	GIS Mapping Project	\$ 475.80
Total			\$ 22,696.31

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Formica & Grink moved to approve payment of RJD Engineering, Inc. invoices from February 2024 totaling \$28,589.00 as listed in the following table:

	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	2/29/2024	Area 2/3 - Locust St CSO	\$ 27,346.00
Operating Fund	2/29/2024	Area 10 (Phase 2)	\$ 858.00
Operating Fund	2/29/2024	Collection System Engineering	\$ 385.00
Total			\$ 28,589.00

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Formica & Sharkey moved to approve Requisition No. C259, payable to Michael F. Ronca & Sons, Inc., totaling \$309,726.00, for Payment Estimate #4 of the Locust St CSO Separation & Force Main Replacement Project as recommended by the engineer. The original contract price was \$5,271,000.00. Add for Change Order #1 (\$118,506.57) for a total contract price of \$5,389,506.57. The total of payments made to date including this payment is \$1,277,168.40, which leaves a balance of \$4,112,338.17.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Formica & Grink moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$791,760.38); Construction in Progress (\$19,327.79); Transfers for Contractor Payments (\$704,453.40); Debt Service Series 2020 Bond (\$336,000.00); Debt Service Series 2021 Bond (\$502,500.00); Debt Service Series 2018 Bond – BB&T (\$18,362.29); Debt Service PENNVEST Loan #27906 (\$11,152.44) from the month of February 2024.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Sherrock & Formica moved to approve issued credits report totaling \$582.58 from the month of February 2024.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Sharkey & Grink moved to accept the recommendation of the Authority’s Pension Actuary and adopt Scenario 1 of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority Actuarial Cost Study as of January 1, 2023, dated March 21, 2024, and attachments thereto, and to authorize the Director of Operations, Director of Administration, and/or the Solicitor to take all action necessary to implement Scenario 1.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Formica & Grink moved to approve the purchase of one (1) Flygt Model NT-3301.095 6-inch volute submersible pump and 105 HP motor including ancillary equipment, shipping, and startup as per Quote #2024-MAL-0106 alt. 1, ver. 2 for the purchase price of \$88,235.50 under COSTARS Contract #016-E23-311, for installation at the Cranberry Pump Station.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Sullivan-absent, Zola-absent (Passed 7-0-2)

Formica & Sherrock moved to adjourn.

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

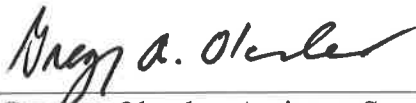
The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM

The next scheduled Work Session will be Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:30 PM

The next scheduled Regular Monthly Meeting will be Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority



Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary