

The May 19, 2025 regular monthly meeting of the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority was called to order by Chairman Sullivan at 6:30 PM. All participating in the meeting gave a pledge of allegiance.

May 14, 2025 Work Session Roll Call:

Eyerly – Present	Formica – Present	Gallagher – Present
George – Present ¹	Grink – Present	Sharkey – Absent
Sherrock – Present	Sullivan – Present	Stefanovich – Present

Also in Attendance during Work Session:

Gregory Olander – Director of Administration	Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager
Attorney Joseph D. Ustynoski – Solicitor	¹ Christopher Carsia – Director of Operations
¹ Rachel Govelovich, P.E. – GFT Infrastructure, Inc.	

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Also in Attendance during Regular Meeting:

Gregory Olander – Director of Administration	Andy Nowak – Field Operations Manager
Attorney Joseph D. Ustynoski – Solicitor	¹ Christopher Carsia – Director of Operations
Robert Dougherty, P.E. – RJD Engineering, Inc.	
¹ via phone or Videoconference	

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Gallagher & Formica moved to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2025 Special Meeting.

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

Gallagher & Formica moved to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting.

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

Pension Committee Report -

Board Member Grink reported on behalf of the Pension Committee. He said the investments are holding steady and many of the investment managers are slightly outperforming their indexes. He said the rate of return for the calendar year through April 30th is 2.68%. He said the investment advisor did not recommend any changes at this time.

Gallagher & Formica moved to approve the Pension Committee Report.

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

Directors' Report -

MONTHLY FLOW REPORT

	<u>April 2025</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>		
			<u>Total</u>		<u>Average</u>
Total Flow	222,866,724	Gallons	887,359,354	Gallon	xxxxx
Total Flow Bypassed	1,425,755	Gallons	13,190,054	Gallon	xxxxx
Days Flow Bypassed	3	Days	9	Days	xxxxx

Total Flow Treated	221,440,969	Gallons	874,169,300	Gallon	xxxxx	
Average Minimum	5.3	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	5.2	MGD
Average Maximum	11.3	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	10.4	MGD
Average Daily Flow	7.4	MGD	xxxxx	xxxxx	7.3	MGD

During the Work Session, the Director of Administration, Gregory Olander, reviewed the wastewater flows for April 2025 as presented in the monthly flow report. He said the flow to the treatment plant was recorded at approximately 222.8 million gallons with 221.4 million gallons being treated. He also stated that the average daily flow to the treatment plant for the month was 7.4 MGD, which did not change the year-to-date average daily flow of 7.3 MGD. He then noted that the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) were submitted to PADEP for April with no violations reported.

Gregory Olander then reported that the revenues for April 2025 were \$1,368,218.89 and the billing for hauled waste received in April totaled \$214,117.61. He stated that the customer collection rate for the month of April was 107.57%, which adjusted the fiscal year to date collection rate to 96.75%. He said delinquent collections will continue through July so the normal uptick in customer payments is expected to be received before the end of the fiscal year. He stated that the chemical bid specifications for the 2025-2026 fiscal year were advertised in the newspaper on May 10th with a bid opening at the June 16th Work Session. He then reported that the Authority passed the annual Whole Effluent Toxicity Test (WETT) again this year with 100% accuracy using undiluted treatment plant effluent. He said the report was submitted to PADEP on May 14th via the public upload site. He also reported that the programming of a new data collection and reporting program to replace the older treatment plant ODMS Program continues to progress well with regular meetings being held with Operations staff and GFT representatives. He said once complete, the two systems will operate side by side for a period of time to make sure the new program is functioning properly. Gregory then reported that a meeting has been scheduled to review the draft cybersecurity assessment report. He said following the review, the report will be distributed to the Board for a discussion of findings and recommendations.

Gregory then reported that a letter was received from a supplier for the upcoming delivery of a pump for the Gashouse Pump Station. He said the supplier noted that they would be adding a 6% Tariff Fee to invoices going forward on all pumps and accessories. Gregory noted that more of these letters are being received including in the chemical supply sector. He said if the trend continues it will impact the budget going forward.

He said the Maintenance Department received quotes for new Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) that will need to be retrofitted into the existing Locust Street and Gashouse pump stations electrical cabinets. He said the existing drives are aging and it is recommended to install the new unit as a precaution, so a spare VFD is available at each station. He then reported that the maintenance staff is preparing for remote pump station flow meter installations at the Stacie Manor and Diamond Avenue pump stations. Gregory said the new control cabinets for the UV Disinfection System are being built and installation will be scheduled as soon as all components are received. He also noted that delivery of the second HPU for the sludge cake pump is expected in July 2025 for installation by the maintenance department with some outside assistance to install hydraulic lines.

Gregory also reported on the incinerator air quality items noting that the Stack Re-Test for HCl was conducted on April 1st and unfortunately the results were another failed test for HCl. He noted that another retest has been scheduled for June 2, 2025, however, a NOV is expected for the failed re-test. He said additional changes were made to increase water flow to the tray cooler to capture more HCl in

the flue gas. He then reported that the final inspection by PADEP to close-out the PENNVEST funding for the Incinerator Installation Project was completed and would be reported under the Engineer's Report.

Gregory then reported that Nick Sahd and Laura Motel are working on a response to PADEP regarding the Preliminary Effluent Limits (PEL) the Authority would receive during the next NPDES Permit renewal due to the most recent Black Creek stream assessment and sample results submitted to PADEP by the Authority over the past few years. He said due to the ultra-low limits for two (2) parameters that cannot even be measured at the laboratory, they would be contacting PADEP for options moving forward. He said additional sampling at lower detection limits may be required to have parameters either removed or limits increased before the next permit renewal in less than two (2) years. He then stated that the draft version of the MOU with a developer requesting the Authority's effluent for re-use as non-contact cooling water will be discussed in executive session under the Solicitor's Report. He said design of a pump station to transfer the reclaim water to the facility is ongoing with regularly scheduled bi-weekly engineering and operations meetings.

During the Work Session, Andy Nowak reported that there is a Reservation of Capacity Agreement on the agenda for Board consideration. He said the ROCA is for NorthPoint Building #2 on Rt 424 and is for twelve (12) EDUs. He said the agreement is contingent on a main line transfer of ownership from Hazleton City Authority to the GHJSA for the sewer line where the connection is to be made by the developer. Andy then reported that there has been no further contact from the developers for Allen Ridge, but the trees have been cleared from the land to be developed. He then noted that the Authority is still waiting for a signed sewer line extension agreement to be returned from the Allen Ridge developer. Andy reported that the Diesel Fuel Bid for fiscal year 2025-2026 will be advertised in the newspaper on May 15th with a bid opening on June 16, 2025. Andy also reported that the Road Crew has been working on emergency repairs in the collection system and will be opening buried manholes to gather information needed for RJD Engineering to complete the design of the Area 10 (Phase 2) Project. He said they will then be shifting to the 96-inch pipe installation on the HASD property.

George & 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-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

Engineer's Report – During the Work Session, Rachel Govelovich referred to a written Engineer's Report that was distributed to the Board. Rachel reported on air quality issues and reviewed the Stack Testing for HCl. She said there is another test scheduled for June 2, 2025 and notification was sent to PADEP by the testing company. She then reviewed the list of upcoming reports and the due dates for the incinerator's air quality and solid waste management permits.

Rachel then reported that the Incinerator Installation Project inspection. She said PADEP was onsite April 28th for a full file review and walkthrough inspection to close out the project so the final payment reimbursement may be submitted to PENNVEST. She said a meeting has been scheduled with PENNVEST to review associated costs for the project to maximize the funding received. She informed the Board that there has been a significant amount of unanticipated additional work on the Title V Operating Permit, multiple stack re-tests, NOV responses and other correspondence this fiscal year, which has caused more time to be spent for air quality compliance than originally budgeted. She said the higher costs for air quality compliance will be discussed with Mr. Olander for developing future budgets.

She then reported on the PENNVEST funding for the Locust Street CSO Separation Project. She said in order to continue submitting payment requests to PENNVEST, the unapproved change orders are being removed from the contractor pay estimates so the Authority may continue to receive reimbursements. She said GFT will be submitting the next construction payment request to PENNVEST. She said PADEP is requiring the change orders to have more detailed information and RJD Engineering is tasked with revising the change orders as required by PADEP.

Rachel then reported on the Act 537 and Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) activities. She reported on the LTCP items noting that during initial review of the Flow Study by staff it was noted that the flows being recorded through some of the meters at the CSO locations were overreporting flow amounts. She said some of the flow meters were recalibrated by technicians; however, additional calibration is necessary and is scheduled for May 21st so a more accurate representation of flows may be presented to PADEP. She then reported that GIS mapping continues. She said ArcGIS online service was renewed until March 2026 and the annual Keynet RTK GNSS subscription set to expire June 2025 was also renewed for another year.

Rachel then reported that as part of the Act 537 Plan, GFT has made contact with all municipalities or municipal engineers to explain the information required to complete the Act 537 Plan. She said GFT hired a new manager who will be the point person to keep the Act 537 Plan moving forward. She said GFT is continuing communication with the municipalities and will set up meetings for a more detailed discussion, if requested.

Rachel reported that her firm continues to provide support for the NorthPoint Data Center development attending bi-weekly meetings for engineering and design discussions for the reclaimed water pump station. She said the effluent flow data that was requested is being retrieved from the servers and will be provided in the next day or two. She said initial building layout and basis of design for the pumps are also being discussed with the NorthPoint design engineer.

Rachel also reported that programming work continues on the upgrade to the ODMS system that captures the laboratory and operational data to generate reports for submission to PADEP. She said the system is nearing completion and there are discussions regarding transfer of historical data from the old system for future use. Rachel then stated that the annual operating report for the Solid Waste Management Permit is due on June 30, 2025 along with other required information. She said the report will be worked on for submission to PADEP prior to the deadline.

During the regular meeting, Robert Dougherty referenced a written report that was distributed to the Board. He reported on the Locust Street CSO Separation Project and noted that the pipework is nearing completion with one block of sewer main and lateral connections on Pine Street remaining along with removal of two interconnections for Wendy's and the laundromat. He said all pipe work will be completed in the next few weeks and paving of Area 2 should be completed by the end of July 2025. He said the third tagging for roof drain removals in Areas 2 and 3 have been completed and the final letter will be sent to all property owners who have yet to disconnect noting that the Authority may perform the work and bill the property owner. He then recommended the Board approve change orders 58 through 61 totaling \$37,286.52 as presented. He then reported that the Amcor subdivision work has been completed, and the documents have been submitted to West Hazleton Planning for approval at a meeting scheduled for May 27, 2025. He also reported that design work continues for the Area 10 (Phase 2) Separation Project with plan views and profiles completed. He said the GHJSA Road Crew has been collecting the remaining GIS data needed to complete the plans with 10 of 16 remaining manholes

located and opened to gather pipe invert information. Robert said the plans are about 80% complete and may be ready for bid in late June. He said the project is expected to take about three (3) months to complete construction.

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

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

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.

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

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

BILLS AND CREDITS

George & Formica moved to approve payment of Gannett Fleming, Inc. invoices and requisitions through April 25, 2025, totaling \$32,434.36 as listed in the following table:

<u>Requisition#</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	051153.A*51204	Annual Service Work	\$ 4,243.32
Operating Fund	051153.B*51208	Attending Authority Meetings	\$ 213.50
Operating Fund	051153.C*51211	Chapter 94 Report	\$ 981.81
Operating Fund	051153.D*51212	Pretreatment Program	\$ 1,400.00
Operating Fund	051153.E*51209	CSO Flow Model & LTCP Studies	\$ 925.21
Operating Fund	051153.42*51202	2024-2025 Air Compliance	\$ 14,149.51
Operating Fund	051153.47*51205	Locust St CSO (PENNVEST)	\$ 171.56
Operating Fund	051153.49*51203	Development - NorthPoint	\$ 4,739.58
Operating Fund	051153.50*51206	ODMS/PMBS Upgrade	\$ 5,609.87
Total			\$ 32,434.36

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

George & Formica moved to approve payment of RJD Engineering, Inc. invoices from April 2025 totaling \$18,374.50 as listed in the following table:

	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operating Fund	4/30/2025	Area 2/3 - Locust St CSO	\$ 14,938.50
Operating Fund	4/30/2025	Area 10 (Phase 2) Separation	\$ 2,447.50
Operating Fund	4/30/2025	Collection System Engineering	\$ 988.50
Total			\$ 18,374.50

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

Stefanovich & Formica moved to approve Change Orders #58 to #61 totaling a net addition to the Locust Street CSO Separation & Force Main Replacement Project contract with Michael F. Ronca & Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$37,286.52, as presented and recommended by the engineer and listed in the table below:

LOCUST STREET CSO SEPARATION FORCE MAIN
PROJECT
CHANGE ORDER 58 to 61 SUMMARY

CHANGE ORDER	AMOUNT
58	\$8,354.08
59	\$10,997.31
60	\$14,504.82
61	\$3,430.31
NET CONTRACT CHANGE	\$37,286.52

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

George & Formica moved to authorize payment from the Operating Fund for Operating and Administrative Expenses (\$850,423.85); Construction in Progress (\$549,633.71); Equipment (\$65,561.50); Debt Service Series 2018 Bond – BB&T (\$18,362.29); Debt Service PENNVEST Loan #27906 (\$11,152.44); Debt Service PENNVEST Loan #71468 (\$1,762.75); Debt Service PENNVEST Loan #77114 (\$377.12) from the month of April 2025.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

Stefanovich & Gallagher moved to approve issued credits report totaling \$3,972.05 from the month of April 2025.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Formica & Grink moved to approve a Reservation of Sewage Capacity of twelve (12) EDUs, at 230 gallons per EDU, to NorthPoint Development, LLC, for property located at State Route 424 in the City of Hazleton, for the reservation of capacity fee of \$11,145.60 for a three-year period, as detailed in the executed Reservation of Capacity Application and Agreement (ROCA) documents. The Reservation of Capacity Fee shall be held in escrow until all or a portion is either refunded to the developer or transferred to the Authority's Operating Accounts as specified in the ROCA.

Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

Formica & George moved to approve the modernization and retrofit of one (1) 150 HP Variable Frequency Drive (Model #ATV930C13N4C) at the Locust Street Pump Station including ancillary equipment and services as listed in Quotation SR-3780886, from Square D by Schneider Electric, at a cost of \$29,976.21. The purchase order will be placed through the local distributor, All Phase Electric. Roll Call: Eyerly-yes, Formica-yes, Gallagher-yes, George-yes, Grink-yes, Sharkey-yes, Sherrock-yes, Stefanovich-yes, Sullivan-yes (Passed 9-0-0)

Gallagher & Grink moved to adjourn.

Passed: Aye-9, Nay-0, Absent-0

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM

The next scheduled Work Session will be Monday, June 16, 2025 at 6:30 PM

The next scheduled Regular Monthly Meeting will be Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gregory A. Olander", written over a horizontal line.

Gregory Olander, Assistant Secretary