

The regular monthly meeting of the Altoona Water Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, September 19, 2019 in the Board room at the Administrative Office. Chairman Neugebauer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Mr. Neugebauer, Mr. Ake, Mr. Strohm, Mr. Gehret and Mrs. Kooman were present, constituting a quorum in accordance with AWA Bylaws. All AWA Board of Directors meetings are conducted in accordance with the PA Sunshine Laws. Also in attendance were Consulting Engineer, Mark Glenn, Solicitor, David Consiglio, AWA Staff, Mark Perry, Mike Sinisi, Gina DeRubeis, Todd Musser and Kathy Gabella.

Guests: Mark Geis

Public Comment:

None

Approval of the Minutes:

Mrs. Kooman moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2019 meeting. Mr. Gehret seconded the motion. Mr. Neugebauer called the question. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business:

1. CSO Long Term Control Plan Update for NPDES Part I Permit – the sewer system within the core of the city is a combined sewer system. It takes dry weather sanitary flow and wet weather storm flow. While this was common practice when the system was constructed, it has since become an ongoing problem. DEP had the Authority address the problem in the 1980's which is when the CSO's (Combined Sewer Overflow) were built.

In the mid 1990's EPA prepared a nationwide policy for combined sewer overflows. Every five years during the NPDES cycle for permitting the discharge from the plants, the Authority is required to prepare a long term control plan update. The last revision was submitted in 2016 and was not approved by DEP. There has since been an emphasis put on the bacteriological contamination from CSO's into the receiving streams. The discharge permit the Authority is operating under for the past six (6) years has not been renewed. DEP has quite a workload to get the permits approved. They still want some definition of what the Authority is planning for the bacteriological issue.

The Authority is proposing a long term monitoring plan. This will involve more testing and sampling of the overflows and downstream sampling in the receiving streams. This will

continue for five (5) years in order to demonstrate to DEP that what the Authority is doing is sufficient or if there needs to be more work completed. The long term control update will be resubmitted to DEP to provide for the additional sampling and testing protocols. Upon approval the Authority should receive discharge permits for both the Easterly and Westerly Wastewater Treatment Plants.

2. Guaranteed Energy Savings Project Update – the second workshop meeting was held September 17. ESG is working on site layout plans to ensure what is proposed will fit at the Westerly facility. It is hopeful that by the October meeting the layout and technologies for the dryer (paddle dryer or belt dryer) will be selected. By the end of the year the project should be almost at permit grade. An application should be ready to submit to PennVEST by spring. Construction should begin around August of 2020.
3. Sanitary Sewer Rehab Lining Project –Contract 196 for the spray-on-lining; the contractor has removed several hundred ton of debris from the intersection of Broad Avenue and Union Avenue to Broad Avenue and 22nd Street. It is hopeful the lining part of the project will start this week.

Contract 197 is the cured-in-place lining and the contractor has completed the Westerly Outfall brick oval from the Logan Valley Mall parking lot to Kentucky Avenue. Approximately 32% of the cured-in-place lining is complete.

The Authority had a meeting with Norfolk Southern Flagging and Inspection personnel. The Authority will have to notify Norfolk Southern two weeks prior to any work. Norfolk Southern will determine when the work will be done due to track loadings.

4. River Road/Wopsononock Projects – the Wopsononock Avenue project was completed September 9th.

The River Road project began on September 9th. Of the fourteen-hundred feet (1,400') that needed to be constructed, there is approximately four hundred feet (400') completed.

5. Spencer Creek at Colonial Drive Stream Embankment Deterioration – Michelle Ivory from Senator Judy Ward's office researched for money to help with this project. The Blair County Conservation District committed \$12,400.00. This is the amount the Authority was seeking for reimbursement of material costs. The wall is being installed at the present time.

PennDOT has committed to the opposite side of the stream. This would include tree removal and widening the stream. The Authorities portion of the project should be complete in approximately a month.

6. Project Update/Engineering Agreement Amendments for Bellwood Water Treatment Plant/Bellwood Dam – both are amendments for additional engineering work that was not included in the original agreement.

Requisition Approval:

Mr. Neugebauer asked Mrs. DeRubeis for the Financial Report and the Requisitions/Authorizations. Mrs. DeRubeis gave her report and then asked for approval of the following requisitions.

Requisition #20 Water Project Construction Fund totaling - \$89,489.42

Requisitions #16-18 Sewer Division Construction Fund totaling – \$638,595.81

Mr. Strohm moved to approve the requisitions. Mr. Ake seconded. Mr. Neugebauer called the question. Motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Mrs. DeRubeis added the packets included information on the MMO for this year. The Municipal Minimum Obligation for the pension is \$571,734.00 and it is not expected to change much.

Mrs. DeRubeis mentioned that after next month's board meeting she and Mark Perry would like to start meeting with individual or two (2) board members at time to discuss the budget for 2020.

New Business:

1. Plane Nine Water Treatment Plant Roof – Last year the roof was replaced at the Tipton Water Treatment Plant. This year the roof at Plane Nine needed replaced. The cost of the roof replacement came in approximately \$36,000.00 under budget.
2. Michel's Pipeline Water Silt Removal –The Authority has been accepting the Mariner East II Pipeline water for a couple of years. This is water that is leftover from boring under a river or Lake Raystown, etc. These companies are struggling with the disposal of this muddy water. The Authority stores this water in holding tanks and then treats it. This leaves mud for the Authority to manage. A track hoe will have to be rented to be used for the removal of the mud from the tank. It is expected to cost approximately \$25,000.00 to remove the mud. By bringing in the silt water the Authority has realized approximately \$400,000.00 in revenue. This expense was not included in the budget; therefore the Westerly Wastewater Treatment Facility plant maintenance budget will show as being over budget. This will be an in-house project.

Resolutions/Motions/Bid Awards

1. Resolution #19-09-915 to authorize the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to execute the Engineering Agreement Amendment for the Bellwood Water Treatment Plant Upgrades.
2. Resolution #19-09-916 to authorize the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to execute the Engineering Agreement Amendment for the Modifications to Bellwood Dam

Mr. Ake moved to approve Resolutions 19-09-915 & 19-09-916. Mrs. Kooman seconded the motion.

Mr. Neugebauer called the question. Motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Other Business:

Mr. Neugebauer mentioned he received a phone call from a customer thanking him for a phone call from the Billing Department concerning excessive usage. The customer had let a hose run all night and was very thankful it was caught.

Due to the new system in place the Authority can now identify excessive usage within a forty-eight hour period. In the past it would have taken an entire billing cycle of approximately forty-five days.

Media Questions

The board and staff addressed questions from Bill Kibler of the Altoona Mirror.

Executive Session:

An Executive Session was called at 9:50 for legal issues.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Administrative Office Building located at 900 Chestnut Avenue.

Date of Approval: October 24, 2019



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

/klg