

The regular monthly meeting of the Altoona Water Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, February 16, 2017 in the board room at the Administrative Office. Mr. Schirf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Mr. Schirf, Mr. Ake, Mr. Neugebauer, Mrs. Marcinko & Mr. Strohm 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. AWA Staff representatives attending were, Mark Perry, Mike Sinisi, Gina DeRubeis, Ron Becher and Kathy Gabella

Public Comment:

None

Approval of the Minutes:

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2017 meeting. Mr. Neugebauer seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bellwood Reservoir Presentation– Mr. Glenn gave a presentation of the upgrades for the Bellwood Dam. DEP had requested the Authority make this dam a priority since the spillway is in poor physical condition and is seriously deficient. The proposed improvements include a new multi-stage labyrinth weir spillway, parapet wall on the dam crest, a new intake tower and access bridge, and a new valve house. There will also be removal of one (1) to eight (8) feet of silt over the fifty (50) acres of the reservoir. A meeting is scheduled with the Game Commission to take the silt to a site above Blandburg. The capacity of the reservoir will increase significantly (25 million gallons) by removing the silt. The cost of the project is estimated at \$11,200,000.00 and funding will be proposed through PennVEST. The completion date is expected to be December 2019.
2. Bellwood Water Treatment Plant Design Presentation – Chris Eckenrode of Gwin, Dobson & Foreman, Inc. gave a brief presentation on the design upgrades to the Bellwood Treatment Plant. The design upgrades include upgrading with new membrane filtration technology; replace the ozone gas generation system, a new instrumentation system and general building repairs and system replacements. The pilot study for the membrane filtration will take place from April, May, June, July & part of August; and will be testing four (4) different modules. The estimated cost of the project is \$8,500,000.00 and funding will be submitted to PennVEST. The completion date is expected to be the fall of 2019.

3. Bellwood Water Treatment Plant Design Upgrades Engineering Agreement – it was decided this would be the time to do this work as the plant will be offline for two (2) years due to the dam upgrades.
4. 31st Street Maintenance Storage Yard Building – the specs and the contract documents are complete. The advertisement for the bid will be in the newspaper February 17th. The bid opening will be March 28th which will be after the March board meeting. A resolution will be presented at the March meeting to authorize Mark Perry, General Manager to accept the lowest qualified bidder and to send out a notice to proceed to same.
5. Bellwood Timber Bids – there were three (3) bids received with Walker Lumber Co. Inc having the highest bid of \$37,173.76. This bid was for 105,000 board feet of timber. Walker Lumber needs to be complete with the timbering by April 15, 2017 due to the Indiana bat population in the area.
6. Billing/Customer Service Part Time Billing Supervisor – staff is asking for a one (1) year extension on this position.

Requisition Approval:

Mr. Schirf 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.

Requisitions #61-62 Water Division Construction Fund totaling – \$26,849.18

Requisition #2015-25 Water Division Capital Project Fund totaling - \$43,094.54

Requisition #2016-11 Water Revenue Surplus Fund totaling \$20,993.88

Mr. Neugebauer made a motion to approve the requisitions. Mrs. Marcinko seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

New Business:

1. Penelec needs an easement to put power to a message board for PennDOT out by the West Plant. There is a resolution to grant the easement.
2. Resolution #17-02-844 to approve the Engineering Agreement for the Bellwood Water Treatment Plant design upgrade between Gwin, Dobson & Foreman, Inc. and the Altoona Water Authority and to authorize the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Secretary, Assistant Secretary to execute said agreement

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve resolution #17-02-844. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Resolution #17-02-845 to authorize the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to execute an Easement Agreement between Penelec and the AWA

Mrs. Marcinko made a motion to approve resolution #17-02-845. Mr. Neugebauer seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Resolution #17-02-846 to approve the extension of the Temporary Position of Part Time Assistant to the Billing/Collections Supervisor for one (1) year at the current rate of \$23.00 per hour.

Mr. Strohm made a motion to approve resolution #17-02-846. Mrs. Marcinko seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Other Business:

1. Mrs. Marcinko asked for approval of resolution #17-02-847 to rescind resolution #03-04-242 which created the original job descriptions for the board officers.

Mrs. Marcinko made the motion to approve resolution #17-02-847. Mr. Neugebauer seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Mr. Becher will give an update on the Meter Infrastructure Project at the March board meeting.

Media Questions

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

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

No further business was brought before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:16a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Administrative Office Building located at 900 Chestnut Avenue.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary

/klg