

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH AUTHORITY MEETING**  
**July 6, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Authority was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Authority Vice-Chair Frank Halderman in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Badger, Beigle, Brown, Thal, Walker

Members Excused: Halderman, Clark

Staff Present: Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager  
Eric Lundy, Nittany Engineering  
Bob Decker, Nittany Engineering  
Bob Cook, WWTP  
Matt Auman, Public Works

Guests: Shirley Gayczuk, R. Swancer, and John Kostas

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2016. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ORAL**

- Mr. Kostas mentioned at the last meeting Mr. Decker discussed working up an estimate and he asked if an actual estimate was worked up or something on paper that he could get a copy of. Mr. Stewart said it is a draft copy at this point in time that will be discussed later in the meeting.

**WRITTEN**

- A note in regard to the Dental Health Task Force. The background to it is an organization called Centre Volunteers In Medicine has a branch that does dental health type work in Centre County. As the Authority started to look at creating their own task force late in the game they learned about this other task force already in existence. The Authority had already

contacted a facilitator and got pricing and recently they received information from the other task force. They are interested in seeing how they could coordinate efforts. They talked with Gay Dunne, Council President, and one suggestion is to bring Bellefonte's committee together and see what direction they want to go. Mr. Stewart feels it would be a good idea to bring Bellefonte's task force together and determine what direction they want to go.

- In new business items documents were received from the attorneys that are handling the loan approval that goes through DCED. Under new business there is a new resolution regarding extending the life of the Authority. At the Council meeting the Borough Council approved a similar resolution and the Authority needs to do the same. There will be a couple documents that the secretary needs to sign relating that the Borough Council adopted that resolution and the Authority did the same and it verifies who the members of the Authority are.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance Committee –**

- There was no report.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

#### **Water Report - by Eric Lundy**

##### **Corning Pump House - Pump Upgrades**

Pump #1 has not been working as far as starting up automatically. Sometimes it does and sometimes it doesn't. V-Systems was called in. There have been issues since it got up and running. They came back May 23<sup>rd</sup> and didn't resolve the issue. They came back last Wednesday and replaced the gasket that Matt suggested because he didn't know what else it could be. They got the material from Allis Chalmers to put the gasket material on. Obviously they had success because ever since it has been on its own.

Eric asked if it was at a comfort level that this pump was going to run good. Matt feels it will. He contacted Strouse Electric yesterday and talked to Scottie a little more in depth this morning. They are going to try to put it back on the schedule, but it will probably take two or three weeks. He will check vacations and provide a better date tomorrow. Matt will let Eric know as soon as he hears something and vice versa.

##### **Big Spring Cover Replacement**

Eric received the agreements and reviewed them. Everything is in place. They recommend that the Authority approve signing the contract agreement with MD&R Piping Contractors.

Mr. Thal made a motion to approve signing the contract agreement with MD&R Piping. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. They have thirty days to do the work but there will be an issue with the material lead time. It will take eight weeks. It will get signed tonight and given to them and they will be asked for a submittal. The submittal will be turned around in a day and it can be ordered by Friday. Eric will be in touch with the supplier.

Part of the contract is for the fountain. They will need to verify measurements.

## Matt Auman

June 1<sup>st</sup> – met with L/B Water and the supplier for the fire hydrants. They had a recall on some faulty brass for the hydrant nozzles. Most of the month they were out looking for possible suspected bad nozzles. They found at least thirty so far. They send all the brass and tools to replace it and they will reimburse for the time.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> – took a trip to the State Auction to look for a dump truck for the Water Department. They were successful in winning the bid on it.

June 7<sup>th</sup> – took apart the fire hydrant at Lambert Hall that was leaking and ended up replacing it. It was cheaper to put a new hydrant in than to rebuild that one.

June 14<sup>th</sup> – worked on the raceway at the Gamble Mill getting it ready and cleaned up for the fence.

June 15<sup>th</sup> – replaced a sump pump at the Corning Pump House that failed.

June 15<sup>th</sup> – picked up the dump truck at the auction.

June 16<sup>th</sup> – four guys went to hydrant and valve training in Williamsport through Exeter Supply.

June 20<sup>th</sup> – the chlorine valve was replaced at the Corning Pump House and failed again.

June 20<sup>th</sup> – a water lateral was replaced on Howard Street to the First National Bank as part of the storm drain project.

Mr. Beigle said they did a nice job.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – finished cleaning up of the raceway.

June 24<sup>th</sup> – the contactor on the chlorine circulator pump at the Big Spring had a failure. The electrician was out so they had to get Strouse Electric to come in and help the guys.

June 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> – Martz Technologies was there working at the Big Spring and the Corning Pump House. They did a list of things that needed addressed.

June 28<sup>th</sup> – a water tap was done at 541 East Linn Street for a new water service.

June 29<sup>th</sup> – V-Systems came in and replaced the pump gasket at the Corning Pump House.

They got a Sterling Single Axle dump truck. The other one was a 1990 and wouldn't pass inspection.

## Sewer Report - by Bob Decker

### Sludge (Volute) Press Replacement

The installation for this press was bid out and two bids were received. One was from Greenland Construction at \$82,288.00 and one from McCrossin at \$114,900.00. The bids were reviewed and it is recommended that it be awarded to Greenland Construction for \$82,288.00.

Mr. Badger made a motion to award the bid to Greenland Construction in the amount of \$82,288.00. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### Major Upgrade Project - WWTP RBC Replacement

Bellefonte Borough has adopted the plan by resolution.

Spring Township passed a resolution last night at their meeting.

The schedule is to submit to the DEP after the resolutions can be added to the report. BBA/NEA has set up a review meeting with DEP on July 7<sup>th</sup> to provide an overview of the

study. They have addressed every comment that came in and Eric feels they will be in good shape. It's a matter of how long it takes DEP to turn it back to them approved.

#### AECOM – Study Review

NEA has coordinated with a specialized consultant in wastewater process with AECOM to review the Special Study under item 15-0010. AECOM has completed their report of the process options in the Special Study report. AECOM's report concurs with the selected process option of BioMAG by EVOQUA to replace the RBC's and improve operations with the Activated Sludge process.

AECOM has also been contracted to provide additional Wastewater Characterization, Model Calibration and Simulation work as detailed in the initial Study/Process review and evaluation. This work is being completed to finalize control and set points for the new process to maximize the process performance.

#### Major Upgrade Project – User Rate Analysis for Finance Coordination

NEA has reviewed the Self Liquidating Debt Report and is responsible for the consulting engineering documents (Consulting Engineers Certificate and Report of Consulting Engineer). NEA also provided the final Estimated Project Costs and the Revenue/Expense Exhibits based on previously provided documents at the last monthly Authority meeting.

The Self Liquidating Debt Report was based on the most recent Northwest Savings loan proposal that has three commitment letters for the three bonds required to finance the project based on the SBWJA agreement and refinancing of the Fulton loan. The loan letters are:

Series A Bond is \$3,828,000.00 (BBA Portion)

Series C Bond is \$2,772,000 (SBWJA Portion)

Series B Bond is \$1,300,000 (Fulton Refinanced).

They worked with Yens Damgaard and his other attorney Ben. Things are all set from this end and it sounds like things will fall in place.

#### Capital Cost Comparison

BBA has been very frugal with capital cost upgrades over the last two major upgrades, one which required meeting new Nutrient removal regulations and the current project, which replaces worn out equipment and provides additional treatment.

The total combined cost for both of these projects was approximately \$16M or \$2.0 M/yr. When compared to other regional facilities, upgrade cost for BBA is the lowest per MGD of all facilities. (A spreadsheet was provided to review.)

#### Biosolids Options

No matter how you dice and slice it the land application of Biosolids is by far the least costly alternative and has beneficial reuse. The next cost effective alternative without any beneficial reuse is land filling. Land filling would cost approximately \$1.00 a month twelve months a year per user because there will be hauling and tipping fee costs. The other option going to a Class A has a lot of beneficial reuse like UAJ, they sell it at a reasonable price and customers get a little bit of the compost free. There are energy costs but there is also a big capital cost. It's a nice product to make but it's so expensive that they don't recommend it unless money falls out of the sky somewhere. Staying with land application is the most financial lowest cost option. Land filling would have a rate increase and the Class A is a very expensive

alternative. With Class A there are other issues. You have to have a market for it. You can land apply Class A but you go to a greater expense to do that.

Renee Swancer asked if they looked at an option for folks that have their septic sludge hauled in from their homes, a fee that would be charged for those people that are still utilizing plants where they would pay \$25 or \$50 to have dumping. As an option you could charge a surcharge. Benner Township has all theirs pumped every so many years. The homeowner pays the hauler to take it to the plant but there would be a surcharge that would go into having it hauled someplace else like to a landfill. The homeowner would then pay an additional fee that would be collected by the Borough for doing that to make it fair to everybody. If the Authority goes to land filling then the rates for hauling in septic should be looked at as well. She feels it is just the cost of doing service.

This draft report is available for release.

Mr. Stewart said with the AECOM study there are additional costs for the modeling characterization. He thinks the Authority should approve that for the record. Bob said it was \$25,000.00 and the purpose of it is further validation of the input and output of the model. Bob feels it will go a long way versus just having Nittany Engineering standing there saying it is the right thing to do. The modeling will help with the start up and operation parameters as well.

Mr. Thal made a motion to approve the \$25,000.00. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Tomorrow Bob Decker, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Beigle, Mr. Cook and Chuck will be meeting with DEP.

#### Bob Cook -

Bulk water sales for June were 643,000 gallons.

June 9<sup>th</sup> the maintenance staff replaced the motor on an exhaust fan in the EQ Digester Blower Room.

June 13<sup>th</sup> the WWTP experienced nine power failures within seven days. They are currently working with West Penn/First Energy to determine the cause.

June 14<sup>th</sup> an exhaust fan in the AS Blower room failed.

June 15<sup>th</sup> Mr. Stewart and Bob met with supervisors from Walker Township for the BioMag project.

June 21<sup>st</sup> two operators were in attendance at the PRWA Training held at Toftrees.

June 30<sup>th</sup> the new volute press and equipment were delivered, unloaded and secured inside the control building. They also received two bids for the volute press.

The Personnel Committee met and conducted the interviews of the candidates to fill the operator's position. The new operator is certified through DEP. He has passed the activated sludge and collection systems classes and will begin work on July 18<sup>th</sup>. His name is Alec Coble. He is from the Clearfield Area and plans to relocate.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Walker made a motion to approve Resolution #070616-01 regarding 2016 Guaranteed Sewer Revenue Bonds. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. Mr. Stewart explained what

has transpired is they have been in discussions with the bank, the Attorneys that are used to go through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) approvals and in the process they decided to break the borrowing into three segments. A short-term segment to cover SBWJA's portion of the project. The long-term loan for the Authority's portion of the project and then after looking at the existing debt for the sewer plant decided it was advantageous to refinance that. Council did approve the guarantee agreement and the Authority needs to do their side of things. The Series A Bond is \$3,828,000.00 (BBA Portion); Series C Bond is \$2,772,000 (SBWJA Portion); and Series B Bond is \$1,300,000 (Fulton Refinanced). Mr. Stewart said another advantage to this is because of the permitting time and design time; the Borough asked for three years of interest only and was able to get that. This is a 20-year loan. A voice vote was unanimous.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Mr. Brown made a motion to approve Resolution #070616-02 that extends the life of this Authority to 2066. Mr. Badger seconded the motion. There is only an option for a fifty-year extension. The Attorney said the current expiration of the Authority was 2037 and the loans went out to 2039. Council approved a resolution at their meeting extending the Authority to 2066.

Mr. Stewart said there are two other documents that do not need any action but the secretary will need to sign it. Another document identifies the Authority members and titles.

- The 2015 Annual Water Quality Report is in the packet for review. It is on the Borough website. It used to be required to be mailed out but now it is posted on the website.

- Bob Port wanted to discuss water service to Autumn Ridge. He has a development across from Sunrise Terrace. The water lines in Sunrise Terrace are so small that there are water pressure problems. Secondly, there is the end of the line and it has water pressure problems also. When they laid out their development they felt they would get water service from Bellefonte and if they didn't they still needed high ground for their water tank. He is prepared to deed the Authority a site in exchange for a water tank. The water line ends approximately 500' from where the water tank will be. They are interested in a 6" line so they can fill the water tank at night. The benefit to the Authority is he gives them a water tank, get rid of the water problem, and get 182 new water customers. He feels it is a good deal for Bellefonte to sell him water and get 182 new customers. He is in Spring Township and they have approved his development. They are installing 182 ¼ acre lots. Mr. Stewart asked who would extend the water line in his proposal. He is hoping the Authority will build the tank and extend the waterline from where it ends to the tank, which is approximately 500'. He is proposing sharing the cost of the water line but would like the Authority to build the tank. He may be willing to give a donation toward the tank. He will need to provide fire flow since he is in Spring Township. Eric feels they would need a 300,000 gallon tank. Bob suggested there are neighbors nearby that would possibly be interested in hooking on since they have a well. The Authority will take this in to consideration.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn the July 6, 2016 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Authority at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Badger seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Following adjournment the meeting went into Executive Session.