

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH AUTHORITY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Beigle, Halderman, Thal, Clark,

Members Excused: Brown, Badger, Scott

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

Guests: Sara Small, WJAC; Deb & Tim Smith; Dennis McDowell; John Kostas;
Shirley Gryczuk; William Hughes; Tim Miller; Joe Galbraith; Dondi
Smeltzer; Warren Miller, SBWJA; Wade Newman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Halderman made a motion to approve the minutes of August 4, 2015. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

ORAL

- Joe Galbraith, SBWJA Board of Directors, presented a letter to the Authority. They would like to work with the Bellefonte Authority, but they have a lot of questions. In the letter they are requesting the Authority to perform a comprehensive Act 537 plan study on the upcoming plant upgrade.

He requested that the Authority members introduce themselves. Mr. Thal is a Utility Worker for the University Area Joint Authority and has been there for fifteen years. He was born and raised in Bellefonte and lived there all his life.

Frank Halderman, Bellefonte Borough Council President, Authority Vice President, worked in construction 46 years before retiring. He built a lot of waste and water treatment plants during his time with GM McCrossin. He has been on the Authority for five or six years.

Kevin Clark is a Civil and Environmental Engineer. For the past thirty years he has owned his own firm. He has done a lot of consulting work and a lot of projects with Allegheny Sanitary Authority in Pittsburgh and other private work in the area.

Matt Auman, Bellefonte Borough Superintendent of Public Works, takes care of the water and some of the sewer issues in town. He is a certified water plant operator and wastewater.

Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager, filling in for Ralph Stewart who is on vacation. He mentioned that there are three Authority members absent this evening. They are Greg Brown, Dan Badger and Mike Scott.

Lori Walker, Finance Director for Bellefonte Borough.

Mr. Beigle asked for the backgrounds of the SBWJA members. Joe Galbraith worked at Cerro for forty years as a tool & die maker. He was president of the union full-time for twenty years. He also is President of the Board of Directors for Titan Federal Credit Union for over ten years. They have over 75 million dollars out there. He has served on other boards such as the Legion Board. He is a Viet Nam Veteran from Clinton County.

Tim Miller, Chairman of SBWJA. He had thirty-five years of public education in the Bellefonte Area School District. He was a teacher at Benner Elementary and principal of Bellefonte Elementary for 17 years. He finished his thirty-five years at Marion Walker. He started Boy Scout troop 370 in 1978. He started the Recreation Authority in Benner Township and it is still going strong.

Bill Hughes, thirty-one years at Penn State. He is in the construction office. They do all types of underground utilities.

Dondi Smeltzer has been on the board for six years and is the assistant secretary for the Authority. He currently works at Penn State and has been there for twenty-five years. He is a commissioning agent on the heat and vent side. He wants to share things with the Authority and attend the meetings as suggested.

Denny McDowell has had a little over thirty years at ARL in mechanical engineering; 14 years at Piper. He has been on the board for quite some time as the assistant director. He was born and raised in Bellefonte and worked for the sewer and water while going to college.

Joe Beigle worked with the telephone company for thirty one years and six months. He was responsible for the maintenance in four different counties. His last five years with the phone company he went into the telephone side of the business and was in charge of construction for Huntingdon, State College and Lewistown. He has been on Council for 29 years and on the Authority for six years. He has been Chairman of the Authority for the last three years.

Dondi said they received the Borough Authority Planned Improvement Project with the timeline and prices after their last meeting. He had a few questions about it. On page 2, line item 8 it says doors and windows; door upgrades and replacements; with a unit price of \$20,000.00. He highlighted it and wrote "Johnson Control Upgrade". He finds it hard to believe with all the upgrades that were going to be done at the plant with the Johnson Control Upgrade that there are bids for upgrade and replacement of doors for another \$20,000.00 and would like an explanation of what is going on. Johnson Control only did the building envelope improvements of the main control building. Most of the doors are on the auxiliary building, garages, the headworks building, etc.

The next question from Dondi: on the front page under site work he understands that all the RBC's are trashed and need to be removed. In a meeting a few years ago it was explained that there is so much metal involved, they are rusty, the bearings are going out and the shafts.

When he thinks of that he thinks of recycling. Line item: disposal for RBC's - \$25,000.00. Normally when there is a recycling product you get credited for it rather than charged for it. The majority of components of the RBC is fiberglass and plastic. It costs money to have them removed and disposed. The demo is \$30,000.00 so the estimate to rip them down and get rid of them is \$55,000.00.

Dondi stated they still have questions about whether the BIOMAG is the direction they want to go. They know BIOMAG works. They went to an illustration that shows how it works. They basically asked if there may be another direction. He feels with the \$6 million price tag if you just take the BIOMAG purchases it is almost \$2.5 million of the project. He thinks it seems to be a high price tag for a process that they really aren't comfortable with yet. They don't think enough research has been put into whether that is the right direction for the board.

Mr. Halderman stated they made a trip to Eastern Pennsylvania to look at the operation on a bigger scale and they all felt it was the best process to use right now to upgrade the plant to where it should be. They know the RBC's are shot. The Authority feels this is the process that is going to be used. The process won't be changed. That is what the Authority picked and they are going to stick with it. He reminded them that the Authority owns the plant and the SBWJA is a customer. They are just trying to keep the customer informed about what they want to do and what they feel is the best thing to do. The Authority wants to move forward and every time they turn around they get another letter. He doesn't understand. He has been on Council thirty-six years and they have tried to bend over backwards to listen to the problems and differences. It never seems to get better. There was a meeting a few years ago and everyone got up and walked away thinking it was good but then Warren hands another letter at the end of the meeting that was completely opposite of everything that was talked about at the meeting. Mr. Halderman is frustrated. He said the Board has made the decision that this is what they are going to do. It is the decision of the Authority to go with the BIOMAG and not another process.

Mr. (?) stated they have concern for the people paying the bill. That will be a terrific increase. Bellefonte has a lot of people that don't make a lot of money. SBWJA has a lot of people that don't have a lot of money. The rates at SBWJA are lower than Bellefonte Borough rates. SBWJA is just asking for them to look at another system so the cost doesn't increase drastically. SBWJA is trying to get along with the Authority. Even though SBWJA is a customer according to the agreement they have some things to say about it. Mr. Beigle stated with engineers you get different opinions. He stated the Authority spent a lot of time reviewing the process. Penn State was also involved in the BIOMAG process. The Authority stated they are constantly looking at ways to save money for the people. They don't have the growth that SBWJA has. The Authority does the best for the citizens in town. The objection is not to raise rates. The objective is to meet and comply with DEP's regulations, which is what is done at the plant. The Authority made the decision and they are going to go with the BIOMAG.

Mr. Beigle thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

- Wayne Newman, Parkview Heights, regarding the fluoride. Mr. Beigle stated there is a letter from DEP. The Power Point will be shown at the end but there will not be a decision made until a review is returned from DEP. The Authority has received both favorable and unfavorable letters regarding the fluoride. The comments received from people out of the area don't mean anything to Mr. Beigle. Mr. Halderman reported the Power Point is an information one about the Big Spring building and what it would have to be done if they would choose to continue to use fluoride in the system.

- Tim Smith, Spring Township, Brockerhoff Heights came regarding the fluoride issue. His background is in Science Education. He now works at the University Park airport and has been in the area for eight years. From a personal issue he grew up in a town that refused to put fluoride in the water and he has cavities, crowns, and implants. He would not like to see other kids go through what he has gone through.

- Deb Smith, Brockerhoff Heights, is also in Science Education. She believes the science is pretty solid in terms of what fluoride does in regards to cavities. The arguments are about the economy but she feels it is worth the money to put the fluoride in in a safe and effective way. The kids should not grow up without fluoride in the water. It is like going back to the 50's. She is appealing the Authority to reconsider the proposal to take the fluoride out. She believes fluoride prevents cavities.

WRITTEN

- Various letters and emails were received from the public regarding fluoridation. Some were for it and some were against it.

- A letter from Theodora L. Kreitz, CPESC, CFM, Land Development Division, Keller Engineers requesting capacity assurance for the ALSM New Cottages at the Oaks at Pleasant Gap. The engineer would like written documentation that Bellefonte Authority's treatment facility has adequate capacity to receive and treat the additional sanitary sewage flow from this proposed project.

- A letter from Chad J. Miller, P.E., Environmental Engineer Manager, Safe Drinking Water Program, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regarding the permit application they received on fluoridation. They accepted the application and it is now going through for the technical review. Mr. Halderman noted there were over twenty letters asking to keep the fluoride and two asking for it to be taken out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Ms. Walker provided the Finance Reports beginning with the Water Fund. The numbers are as of August 28, 2015. The cash balance for the checking account is \$270,819.47; the Reliance Account, which is restricted for the Corning Pump House upgrade has \$349,541.75. The Water Meter Loan balance is \$56,384.67; the Corning Pump House upgrade loan is \$342,988.45.

The Sewer Fund balances as of August 28, 2015 are: Checking Account - \$405,273.43; The Bond Redemption Account, which is restricted for upgrades is \$245,333.30; the Money Market Fund has \$1,408,721.56. The Reliance Loan balance is \$696,338.12; the Plant Upgrade loan is \$3,724,012.11.

Mr. Halderman made a motion to approve the Finance reports. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Water Report - by Eric Lundy

Corning Pump House - Pump Upgrades - The Borough has received a signed copy of the contract agreement with Strouse Electric, Inc. NEA has started to receive and approve equipment submittals from Strouse Electric. NEA plans to conduct a pre-construction meeting in the near future and issue notice to proceed for a potential start in September 2015.

NEA is reviewing connection types with Cleveland Brothers related to a 500 KW generator. NEA visited the Cleveland Brothers facility to review a 500 KW generator on 8/13/15. NEA has raised several questions to the Borough regarding the feasibility of obtaining a rental generator. Cleveland Brothers indicated that a generator of this size could not be reserved specifically for any one client and may take up to 48 hours to deliver to the property. NEA has asked the Borough to review the need for temporary power to determine if the costs associated with the transfer switch (\$21,000.00) are justified. The Borough currently uses approximately 400,000 gallons of water per day and has 2,000,000 gallons of storage or 5 days of water supply when full. Once a decision has been made NEA needs to update the Building permit submission for final approval.

NEA continues to push for West Penn Power to complete their design effort and installation of the 480V power supply.

Bellefonte has issued a Purchase Order for the proposed pump motors for the Corning Pump House on 8/18/15. NEA is coordinating the final PO with V-Systems and the delivery date for the pump motors.

The electrical engineer, Dan Mattern, will be completing a pump/vfd optimization study to determine if there is an operation point on the new pumps that would result in the most efficient use of the pump from a power consumption standpoint. Mr. Mattern is awaiting the Borough's electrical usage and pricing summary to begin this work.

Eric would like to have a meeting with Ralph. Matt would like to attend the meeting also. It is very important to figure out what to do.

Big Spring Cover Replacement - A cover supplier/installer was contacted to set up a site meeting to review the cover options available. The meeting will be coordinated with Don since Ralph is out of the office.

Corning Pump House - Chlorine Backflow - Jason Little issued a general design schematic, cost estimate, and valve submittal information regarding the proposed valve option to resolve the chlorine issue on 7/31/15.

Fluoride Removal - The Permit Application to remove the addition of fluoride from the water system has been submitted to DEP on August 20, 2015. A copy of the permit application was sent to Ralph.

Waterline Extensions - Eric provided information to Matt regarding waterline extensions. Some have been on the book for years. Eric and Matt will develop a plan on what needs to happen going forward on those as far as accepting the extension.

Mammoth Restoration & Development Plan & Water Service in Commerce Park - is beginning again.

Matt Auman -

8/3/15 - 8/6/15 - Replaced water main on Ridge Street with 2" plastic.
8/7/15 - Replaced check valve on pump #1 at the Reservoir
8/10-8/11/15 - Finished tying in the new water main on Pike & Ridge (charged line)
8/12/15 - Water sample passed at Pike & Ridge
8/13/15 - Tied in 4 laterals on new 2" main on Pike Alley
8/14/15 - Tied in 2 laterals on Pike alley and into the old 1" main.
8/16/15 - 2" water main break on S. Monroe St. (clamp main and replace lateral)
8/17/15 - Replaced 2" water main across Allegheny Street on Pike Alley in coordination with Allegheny Contracting during a gas line replacement.
8/18/15 - Repaired 2" main leak on S. Monroe St.
8/19-8/20/15 - Replaced 130' of 2" main on Pike Alley in coordination with Allegheny Contracting during a gas line replacement. (N. Spring St. to Locust)
8/21/15 - Finished tying in laterals on Ridge Street to new 2" main
8/24/15 - Repair 2" main on S. Monroe St.
8/25/15 - Install 4" fire line tap for Logan Fire Co.
8/26/15 - Replaced lateral at 405 S. Monroe St.
8/31/15 - Started the 6" fire line, 2" domestic, 6" sewer tap for the Temple Court Project

Sewer Report - by Bob Decker

Phosphorous Treatment - BBA authority approved the purchase and installation of the HACH system. NEA has helped coordinate new alum dosing pumps that will be used as part of the phosphorous treatment.

Facility Upgrade Response - NEA attended the SBWJA on August 10th with additional support from EVOQUA. The meeting appeared to be effective at clarifying some misinformation that has been previously addressed.

Details need to be worked out with Norwest Bank wants from SBWJA on the capital project payments and request letter stating their position on paying their share as progress payments and they do not intend to enter into debt service with BBA. Also, Northwest apparently wants some proof of SBWJA financials.

WWTP Upgrade Project -

15-073A (Preliminary Design) NEA has begun the Preliminary Design process on the WWTP upgrade. They have met with BBA staff to finalize and update the project scope.

In addition, NEA/BBA met with EVOQUA (BIOMAG system) to finalize the preliminary design concept for the proposed process, and provide a summary of these findings. NEA also provided direction on the process testing required to process modeling of the new treatment system.

BBA has completed the process wastewater testing and the results will be available later this week for distribution to EVOQUA.

Below is a schedule of the project that has been updated with:
Prelim. Bench Testing/Settling Test - July and August 2015
Preliminary/Permit Phase - July 2015 through December 2015
Final Design Phase - October 2015 through January 2016
Bidding Phase - February 2016 through May 2016
Construction Phase - June 2016 through May 2017
15-073F (Settling Test/Bench Scale Evaluation)

Settling Test

NEA has provided direction on the Settling Test layout for the BioMag process and its application for the BBA treatment facility.

The settling test will be completed in the coming weeks.

NEA will coordinate with SBWJA for an opportunity to see the test.

Bench Scale Test and Solids Flux Testing

EVOQUA has completed its bench scale evaluation and provided a brief report.

EVOQUA was on site August 10th - 12th to complete additional Solids Flux testing (settling) and the report will be available within the next few weeks.

(Tape turned here)

Power Dips

West Penn Power has ongoing issues with power dips. NEA will be looking into options of adding single phase protection since there is very sensitive equipment.

Mr. Holderman reported West Penn sent a letter to Council a few months ago saying they had this issue around the Borough and they were sending letters to customers. They were going to cut trees to help reduce the number of dips in the power.

Bob Cook -

The bulk water sales for August was 216,200 gallons.

8/5/15 - (?) provided demonstrations on the solids and flux testing with the BIOMAG project. There were four representatives from SBWJA that attended.

8/10/15 - Contractor started setting trusses on the roof of the red brick building. The project was placed on hold due to code requirements. There weren't enough trusses on the roof per the structural engineer. It is scheduled to resume on September 8th.

8/19/15 - Notice was received from the Wastewater Treatment Plant lab tech that he would be retiring and his last day of work would be September 3, 2015.

The Maintenance Department applied approximately 368 tons of biosolids during July and August.

Mr. Beigle recommended a letter be sent to the Lab Tech thanking him for his work.

OLD BUSINESS

- PowerPoint on Fluoride Room - Mr. Holderman presented the PowerPoint. The entrance to the Fluoride and Chlorine Injection room at the Big Spring Pump House was shown. The step is approximately 10.5" high. The doorway is 33" wide. The room is approximately 10' x 15'. Both chlorine and fluoride are injected into the water system inside this room.

The room was used years ago as a holding cell for the police department. The bars are still on the window to the left of the louvers in the picture.

As soon as you walk into the room, the chlorine tanks are positioned in place with a railing, brackets and chains, as required.

There is 33" of room between the doorway/wall and the railing.

The reason the railing is so close to the door is that the chlorine tanks set on a scale. The railing wraps around three sides of the scale.

The fluoride is injected inside the cabinet.

All connections to the fluoride are done manually. The lines are bled each time a barrel is switched out. There is a lip on the cabinet that requires the 150 lbs. barrel to be lifted in place.

Barrels are kept on hand. Eight to ten barrels are used per month. There should be a containment basin for all fluoride kept on hand. In addition, there must be a shower in the room for emergency purposes in case acid is spilled on the skin or in the eyes.

The corner across from the fluoride was shown. The pump is used to circulate water for the chlorine injection. There is a hot water radiator in that area as well.

Adjacent to the fluoride is a storage area for chlorine cylinders. They must have the brackets and chains for safety.

There are options to go bigger with fluoride containers as far as doing bulk, but to do that the building would need to be expanded somewhere. The building is in the HARB district. The chlorine gas tanks are changed out approximately every ten days at the Big Spring. The acid has etched the glass and it takes the chrome off a wrench in approximately a month. There is a person that goes in the room every day. Safety is the main concern regarding this room.

Mr. Halderman is in favor of fluoride in the water. He understands Matt's concerns and feel they need to be addressed somehow so the Borough can continue to use fluoride. He doesn't feel the cost should affect the decision. He feels the Authority should forget the project at Penn Eagle, lick their wounds and put the money into the fluoride. He feels it is good for the kids.

Mr. Thal had a question about a stat provided in the minutes regarding how many water systems in Pennsylvania use water systems. DEP provided that stat, which is 112 water systems out of 2,064 water systems use fluoride.

Mr. Beigle stated there is information that warns you against fluoride. This country is going toward organic. People want everything without pesticides and chemicals.

Mr. Thal stated the majority of people he talked to are in favor of keeping the fluoride in the water, but he has heard from residents that they don't want anything else added to the water. There is too much added and they don't want any more chemicals added.

- Mrs. Smith stated the reason people want organic farming without pesticides is because the science shows the pesticides affect people. In this case it shows the fluoride helps people and their teeth. Mr. Beigle stated he read an article that said fluoride affects the thyroid and also it accumulates in the brain of young children and has affects on them.

- (?) asked how to access the order from DEP mandating the Authority to do the Capital Improvement at the WWTP. If it is not done the permit will be violated because of failing equipment. The Authority is required to maintain the plant as part of the permit. The Authority is doing everything possible to do it as economically as possible.

A 537 Study was not done.

NEW BUSINESS

- An article was provided to Authority Members titled *Variable Frequency Drives*.

- Ms. Walker reported it is budget season. She needs to get wish lists by the end of next week. She would like the Authority to think about the Penn Eagle pump station and what is being done up there; the Big Spring cover; payment is still being paid for the interceptor to be backwashed; the Corning water tank; water line upgrades. On the sewer side what is going on with the Johnson Controls project; smoke testing needs to be discussed; some of the I&I issues need to be discussed. The Authority doesn't qualify for grants because the rates aren't high enough. The sewer rates are considered too low. The generator needs to be discussed.

The Water Meter loan will be paid off in January or February 2016. Maintenance of the meters will need to be discussed.

The ten hydrants will still be included in the budget. The Authority members would like to know how many hydrants still need to be replaced. It will be in the budget until all the hydrants are replaced.

The work at Penn Eagle is done. The permitting part is not complete. If Mr. Clark receives the permit number he will check into it.

Mr. Stewart had received prices on refurbishing the tanks and Mr. Halderman would like them updated.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Halderman made a motion to adjourn the September 4, 2015 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Authority at 7:20 p.m. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.