

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY  
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37  
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316  
February 4, 2016

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held February 4, 2016 at 103 Locust Street, East Berlin, PA 17316, and was conducted by Chairman Gerald L. Mummert. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7 PM.

**Members Present:** Gerald L. Mummert; Charles Krall; Harold Lau; Ron Weidner; and Rick Saxon.

**Also Present:** Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn; David Richards; Ken Young; John Scrivens and Nathan Boyer.

**Minutes:** *A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the minutes of January 7, 2016 as written; with a second by Harold Lau. Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.*

**Payment of Bills:** All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for January 2016 the bills totaled \$35,366.42 from the operational funds. *A motion was made by Ron Weidner to approve the paying of the bills for January with a second by Rick Saxon. Motion carried.*

**Public/Guest Comment:**

Ken Young, 203 Beaver Street, his concern is about project #10 (Well #5) with the Susquehanna River basin Commission (SRBC). He states there has been considerable damage done to his pond as a result of the aquifer testing, required by SRBC. He has been in contact with Jason Ohler, the lawyer for the SRBC, Mr. Ohler has his email and pictures of the damage to the pond. He states the project manager would be contacting Mr. Young after their March meeting. Mr. Young stated that someone has to be responsible for the damage that was done to his pond. Deepthi stated the equipment was left in because they were not sure if SRBC would be requiring any additional testing. Later in the meeting, it was mentioned they would be at Mr. Young's tomorrow to remove the weir, with his permission; which he gave.

David Richards distributed a handout of his review of the minutes of May 2015 to December 2015 and his projection of the effect of the announced water rate increase. The water rate increase changes the rate structure that was in effect a number of years. He complained this was not done at an open meeting. He was told the rate analysis was done at a committee meeting, and voted on at a public meeting. He questioned if the rates are additive or fixed rates, he stated neither was designated in the establishment of the rates. Mr. Lau stated they were, and they are fixed. Mr. Richards cited the paper he got, and it didn't state that. Mr. Richards received a copy of the rate increases (same one the Board members received) the next day after January's meeting; which was proposed at that meeting. Solicitor Battersby stated the rates are set at a public meeting, and that is all the Board is obligated to do. This is a public meeting and Mr. Richards is giving his comments.

**Engineer's Report:** Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn stated she received the Draft NPDES Permit from DEP; which the office also received a copy. Buchart-Horn reviewed, compared and noted there is now an annual fee of \$500.00; and the total phosphorus limit is now 4.1 lbs/day average monthly, the existing was 2.5 lbs/day average monthly.

Deepthi also reviewed the Control System 21 quotes from the last meeting. The \$17,427.05, which would tie into the SCADA system at the plant and record the information. Deepthi reviewed the communication device information and stated that is a reasonable price. If you only need the text message notification then the 4,224.33 plus a \$120.00 for a 1 year of text messaging is reasonable. Charles Krall questioned the \$17,427.05; which he thought was high, compared to all the equipment that was installed before. The equipment before was covered thru Pennvest, and last year all that was added was the software and programming, that is why it was cheaper last year.

*A motion was made by Rick Saxon to purchase the Control Systems 21 high level float cellular monitoring system for the two sites; Branch Circle and Park Street lift stations; for \$4,224.33 and the \$120.00 yearly messaging service, per site (2); with a second by Ron Weidner. A roll call vote was taken: CKrall-No; RSaxon-Yes; HLau-Yes; RWeidner-Yes; GLMummert-Yes. Motion carried with four Yes' and one No.*

Deepthi also reported Teresa Blauch reviewed the email sent from SRBC, and Teresa did not have any comments. Deepthi questioned whether the Board had decided on the 20 year Capital Improvement Plan. Chairman Mummert stated they have not decided yet.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Harold Lau reported there are 75 delinquent accounts for a total of \$34,987.81. Mr. Lau read the water rate increase Resolution #2016-1, which will become effective with the April billing. The rate increase was voted on at the January meeting. *A motion was made by Harold Lau to enact and adopt Resolution # 2016-1; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.* (Resolution 2016-1 is made a part hereof.) Mr. Lau also reported the Authority received the engagement letter from the auditors, Smith, Elliott, & Kerns for the 2015 audit.

Secretary's Report: Hanna Furst reported we just ended the quarter for billing and will be start the reminder letters for the delinquent accounts.

New Business: A resident asked if he could purchase the old decommissioned fire hydrant. It was stated a previous hydrant was sold for \$80; the Board's consensus is to sell this one for \$80.

Brent Bauman of Susquehanna River Basin Commission sent a email updating the Board regarding the Commission's review of the groundwater withdrawal applications for Well 1,2,4 & 5. The applications are scheduled for action on March 10, 2016 to approve the testing results for the wells.

It was brought to the Boards attention that the Fletcher farm is being preserved and protected by the Adams County Farmland Preservation Program. There was some discussion on how this would affect our wells located near/on his property. The late Harry Fletcher signed an informal agreement stating he would not be farming or fertilizing within 100 feet of Well #1; the Board is concerned the agreement may not be honored since his passing. Solicitor Battersby suggested getting an agreement with the heirs and having it notarized and recorded at the courthouse.

Old Business: Rick Saxon questioned the insurance information for the budget. Harold Lau stated the insurance is paid in three installments, and the way it showed on the budget was because of payment timing. It was suggested getting quotes for the flood insurance; and to check if the Authority really needs flood insurance for the wastewater treatment plant. Charles Krall mentioned the wastewater treatment plant may not be in the flood plain, and may not need to be insured. He stated he would check this out. Bucharth-Horn has FEMA maps to check this also. Harold Lau stated he will be checking with Pennvest if it is a requirement for the Pennvest Loan.

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer –Nathan reported Russell Bolden of 215 Kuhn Drive, was working on his water line without notifying the Authority; and he broke a part of the yoke going to the water meter; he had a leak. East Berlin Excavating, John Scrivens, Nathan Boyer and JT Garrett work approximately 4 hours to repair; the Board's consensus is Mr. Bolden is responsible for the repair bill.

John Scrivens –Has not spoke with Jamie Emig yet, concerning the plywood over the storm drain on Route 234 in front of his house. He thinks they should wait for warmer weather to work on the water line and fix the problem.

Correspondence: Draft letter from PA DEP concerning NPDES Sewage Permit-Deepthi was copied and B-H is reviewing; Letter from Adams County Agricultural Land Preservation Board concerning an easement sale of Fletcher Farm Ltd Partnership; and PA Rural Water is seeking an applicant on their Board of Directors.

Mr. Young expressed his concerns over the industrial waste with high nitrate content being transported in from Maryland and distributed on the Spahr Farms and its proximity to the Authority's wells.

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Rick Saxon. Motion carried.* Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM. Next meeting will be held March 3, 2016 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted  
Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA