

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY  
103 LOCUST STREET / PO BOX 37  
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316

April 4, 2024

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority Board was held April 4, 2024 at 103 Locust St., East Berlin, PA. The meeting was presided over by Chairman Krall. Chairman Krall opened the meeting at 7pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**Members Present:** Chairman C. Krall, Vice Chairman R. Weidner, G. Green, R. Teal, W. Staub

**Members Absent:**

**Also Present:** Diana Young, Melissa Earp, Treasurer, H. Lau, Nathan Boyer

**Guests:** Rod Walter, Navigate Power

**Agenda:** A motion was made by W. Staub to accept the agenda for April 4, 2024 board meeting as written, with a second by R. Teal. **Motion carried to accept the agenda as written.**

**Minutes:** A motion was made by R. Weidner to accept the minutes of March 7, 2024 as written, with a second by R. Teal. **Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.**

**Payment of Bills:** All members received a list of payables for March 2024, totaling **\$89,702.83** from the Operational funds. A motion was made by G. Green to pay the March 2024 bills, with a second from R. Teal. Motion carried.

**Public / Guest Comment:** Rod Walter with Navigate Power came to present some price lists for the electric rates. Prices are on the rise and the three-year term will end in November 2024. He indicated that the previous contract saved the authority approximately \$21,000.00 over the three years. His personal opinion is that prices will continue to increase and not drop back down. He offered the three best rates he found with a company called ADP: 7.913/12 months, 8.278/24 months, 8.477/36months. R. Weidner motioned to accept the 36 month offer with a second from G. Green. All in favor; motion carried. Chariman Krall signed the contract. R. Walter said he will send a copy to the office via email.

**Engineer's Report:**

- Completed the Annual Water Supply report.
- Chapter 94 report was completed, uploaded, accepted.
- Proposal for expansion plans will be ready at the next meeting.

**Solicitor's Report:**

- Confirmed the 2018 Rte 194 sewer expansion plans belong to Weis and HRG

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Open balance: \$228,656.62
- Two CD's came due, but the trust department has not been able to find CD's that have better interest than the Money Market, so the money will stay in the money market until a better interest rate can be found.
- Indicated it is important to stay on budget for any projects involving the grants because banks will be unlikely to lend money since reserve funds have been used recently. He is considering an increase of capital fees charged for the 2025 budget

### Secretary's Report:

- Forwarded a copy of the executed state grant documents to Alex with GMS Funding Solutions as proof of the matching funds requirement. He stated he will send it to the county.

### Unfinished Business:

- Generator – Nathan, John, and an electrician with WyElectric went to look at the generators at Federal Surplus. The generator could not be tested since it was winterized. It was from 1994. It would require approx. \$15,000 worth of retrofitting. It would need to be monitored since the fuel tank was so small. Because it was portable it would need a place to be stored. Discussion ensued, and it was ultimately decided to go ahead with getting a permanent 80kw Kohler generator for the Branch Circle lift station, as budgeted. A portion of the Covid-19 ARPA H2O PA grant awarded to EBAJA is dedicated to the installation of this generator.
- CivicPlus Notification system – G. Green was to talk to the Borough and other community organizations to see if they would be interested in joining with EBAJA to help defray the cost of the system. No commitment was obtained from any other organization so the discussion was tabled.
- Fire Hydrant replacement on Abbottstown St. – Nathan would like to do a test shut down to see if the water can be turned off to replace the hydrant. He is concerned he will be faced with the same situation with the Beaver St. leak, where the system could not be properly shut down due to nonexistent shut off valves and an aging system. He is afraid if he ran into the same problem, it could cost \$15,000. He will do a test and go from there.
- Received price list, certificate of insurance, and W-9 form from JVI Group, Chairman Krall signed a form agreeing to their prices. Still waiting for price list from H&H Contracting and Gingerich.

### New Business:

- Price for paving Beaver St. – estimate Gingerich \$10,940.00, Parichuk \$9870.00, H&H Excavating \$16,575.00 G. Green made a motion to use Parichuk to patch Beaver St. R. Weidner seconded. Motion carried.
- Chairman Krall suggested the office look into purchasing a new printer that could print larger sized documents or maps. Meanwhile, he indicated it would be in the best interest of EBAJA to set up an account with Schlaline Print Shop for any large printing needs. G. Green motioned to pay up to \$1000.00 on a new printer with a second by R. Teal. Motion Carried.

### Operator's Report:

- Replaced butterfly valve on digester transfer pump line at WWTP
- Planning to start flushing hydrants the week of April 15, 2024.
- Deteriorating sewer lines are contributing to excessive inflow to the WWTP during heavy rains. During the most recent heavy rain, the plant saw an increase in flow from 100,000 gallons (usual daily flow) to 1,109,000 gallons. This increase directly affects operation costs.

Correspondence: none

Executive Session: n/a

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by G. Green and a second by R. Teal. **Motion carried.** Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Krall at 8:11 p.m.

The next monthly board meeting is scheduled to be held **May 2, 2024** at 103 Locust Street at 7:00 p.m.