

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

April 7, 2011

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held on April 7, 2011 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:** Chairman Gerald L. Mummert; John O'Brien; Robert Clayton; and David Richards.

**Absent:** Charles Krall

**Also Present:** Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn; John Scrivens; Nathan Boyer; John Schlaline, Charles Philips, and David Woodward.

**Minutes:** *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the minutes of March 3, 2011 as written, with a second by John O'Brien. Motion carried.*

David Richards commented on the email from Constellation New Energy about electricity rates; and suggested contracting with them for 2 or 3 years. No action was taken.

*A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the minutes of the special meeting of March 15, 2011, with a second by John O'Brien. Mr. Richards had an addition and a corrections to the March 15<sup>th</sup> minutes, as follows: In the 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence in the last paragraph on the 1<sup>st</sup> page: Pennvest will be drawing out of the one account monthly; it should read: The Authority will be paying Pennvest out of the one account monthly. The other correction is to add to the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph: He added there was no economical rate setting justification for the \$15 surcharge. **Motion carried with the corrections.***

**Payment of Bills:** All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for March which totaled \$36,192.98. *John O'Brien moved to pay the bills for March; with a second by Robert Clayton. Motion carried.* David Richards inquired about the bills for the replacement of the valves. It was stated, E.K. Services has not submitted any bills yet.

Robert Clayton brought up an anonymous letter he received; he persisted on wanting to discuss it. It was decided not to continue this subject.

**Engineer's Report:** Bruce Hulshizer reported the paving at the sewer treatment plant. The contractors are working through the punch list. The project for Well 2, needed to correct the direction of the piping; so this was approved without a meeting. (The chairman called the Board members for their approval, so the project could continue without interruptions.) Bruce wanted this to be official so he brought this information to the meeting. This is a change order: They added the replacement of the hydrant on W. King Street, deletion of compact fittings, etc., this would encompass one change order; for approximately \$23,200.00, but could be reduced to \$20,800.00. *David Richards made the motion for the Authority to adopt the direction the Board provided earlier this month for the realignment of the piping at Well 2 for the provisional change order of \$23,200; with a second by John O'Brien. Motion carried.*

Bruce also reported Well 2 had some complications on March 31<sup>st</sup>; Bruce called DEP and acquired an extension for the Groundwater Rule until the beginning of May. The contractors are working on Well 4 running the pipe down 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Kohl Bros is working on the flow meters and controls. The Authority could decide to direct Kohl Bros. to do the manual controls for \$3,000 less and eventually later on; could be switched over to an automated control for \$15,000. *John O'Brien made the motion with a second by Robert Clayton to use the simplest approach of manual controls at \$3,000 less. A brief discussion was held about using the manual controls. Motion carried.*

Bruce discussed the wireless controls with the advantages and the estimated cost of \$50,000.00 for the four well houses. There was a brief discussion on possibilities. **No action was taken.**

Bruce presented a proposal for the water main flushing from Dan Standish of Buchart-Horn. The cost of \$3,400.00 is for the flushing plan, manual, performing the manual calculations, sequence of hydrants and map books; which explains the correct procedure for flushing of the fire hydrants. **No action was taken.**

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby referenced the draft copy of Reading Township Articles of Agreement between EBAJA and Reading Twp Municipal Authority everyone received. This covers the Reading Twp Conewago Park area securing EDU's. Solicitor Battersby left the price blank for Exhibit A, which there could be some haggling on this between EBAJA and Reading Twp. The Board was told to read it and make any suggestions for revision before the next meeting. Solicitor Battersby spoke with Attorney Myers and Reading Twp Municipal Authority is not interested in connecting Laughman's Bottom, but they do want to connect Conewago Park. Mr. Richards stated he would not be at next month's meeting but would email Solicitor Battersby with his suggestions.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported there were 60 delinquent accounts for a total of \$7,748.13; and 9 accounts were sent certified letters, and if no action is taken they will be sent to the district justice.

He also reported the office lease was signed for the second year, of the two year lease. The rent was increased from \$500 a month to \$575 a month with would be \$6,900.00 for the year; with an option of a 5% discount if the rent was paid in full for the year. The rent was paid in full in the amount of \$ 6,555.00. It was suggested to sign a lease agreement for a specific rental time to lock in the rent price; with an option to break the lease.

Mr. Eisenhart presented to the Board insurance proposals for excess flood insurance. The new sewer treatment plant is currently insured for \$500,000.00. Bruce stated the new treatment plant was built 4 foot higher than was required per flood maps, based on what was observed from the 1972 and 1976 floods. The two proposals ranged from \$9,000 to \$18,000 per year. Chairman Mummert reminded the Board about the ribbon cutting ceremony next week, and they could inspect the building then to determine if there is a need for more insurance.

**No action was taken.**

Mr. Eisenhart read and proposed for adoption Resolution 2011-4 and Resolution 2011-5; there was some discussion on changes in the wording and it was decided to reword them and present them at next month's meeting.

#### New Business:

John Scrivens presented to the Board information on membership into the PA Water Environment Association for Nathan Boyer and Ryan Swope. He also mentioned an upcoming 2 day class that Nathan and Ryan should attend on June 6 and 7, 2011 to help them get their sewer license. The cost of the class for non members of PWEA is \$400 each, members cost is \$250 each. *Robert Clayton made a motion authorizing the expenditure to join the PWEA and pay for the class for Nathan Boyer and Ryan Swope; with a second by John O'Brien.* There was a brief discussion about paying for a part time employee's class; and it was decided to pay this time with the understanding that a policy should be set up concerning this situation. **Motion carried** on the vote.

#### Old Business:

Chairman Mummert stated he did not have a chance to go over the sludge hauling information, but would bring this up at the next meeting.

We received a copy of a letter from Donna Chronister that she wrote to the Attorney General's Office about how a situation was handled by the Chairman of EBAJA. This was concerning considerable leak at the property she manages on Abbottstown Street; last July. At the time, she was advised to get the leak fixed. She stated she could not find anyone to do the work for approximately 3 or 4 weeks. She was told to either have the water turned off or get it fixed by a certain date or the Authority would have it fixed and charge her. She managed to get someone to fix

the leak; but it cost extra because they fixed it on a weekend. She feels she should be reimbursed for \$1624.00 it cost her.

Correspondence:

Received a letter from Stanley Eyster of 150 Jacobs Street suggesting the due date of utility bills should be on days the office and the banks are open for business.

We received an email from Constellation New Energy about electricity rates.

Also, we received a letter from Ward Shultz concerning his utility bill and shutting off his water, because he is not living in the home, he did not want to pay the capital expense fee. The board's consensus was: the property owner can shut off his water inside his house but is still responsible for the capital expense fees.

We received an email concerning upcoming Webinar: Lessons from the Trench.

Public Comment:

John Schlaline commended the Authority on their plan for the fire hydrants. He questioned what the Authority would receive for \$3,400.00 for the hydrant plan. Chairman Mummert stated this would be a manual of the proper procedures for flushing the mains and hydrants.

Charles Philips inquired if the Chairman on March 22, questioned a fire personnel about filling a tanker for a fire. He stated he talked to the person, but did not tell him he could not use the water. Mr. Philips stated they were establishing a fill site at the dam. It was stated the fire company used about 1800 gallons to fill the tanker. The secretary asked Mr. Philips if there are records of water usage for fires. The Authority has to report estimated water usage to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Mr. Philips stated we should speak with Lee Byers concerning that information. It was stated that if the reporting gets any stricter we would have to put a meter at the fire company and also at the Borough hall for when they fill up for the street sweeping.

There being no further business, *John O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Robert Clayton.* Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Hannelore B. Furst,  
Secretary EBAJA