

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 Locust Street
East Berlin, PA 17316

January 6, 2011

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held on January 6, 2011 at 103 Locust Street, East Berlin, PA 17316. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7 PM.

Members Present: Chairman Gerald L. Mummert; Robert Clayton; Charles Krall; John O'Brien; and David Richards.

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

Appointment of Engineer: A motion was made by John O'Brien to appoint Buchart-Horn, Inc. as the engineer; with a second by David Richards. **Motion carried** by unanimous vote.

Appointment of Solicitor: A motion was made by John O'Brien to appoint Matthew Battersby as the solicitor; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried** by unanimous vote.

Appointment of Treasurer: A motion was made by Robert Clayton to appoint Charles Eisenhart as the treasurer; with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried** by unanimous vote.

Appointment of Secretary: A motion was made by Robert Clayton to appoint Hannelore Furst as the secretary; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried** by unanimous vote.

Chairman Mummert introduced John Scrivens to the Board as the circuit rider for the sewer plant.

Chairman Mummert announced that Robert Clayton has been appointed for a five year term as a member of the Board by the East Berlin Borough Council. Mr. Clayton questioned members about the letter the Chairman wrote to Borough Council concerning his attendance of meetings.

Minutes: David Richards requested that the word "should" be inserted in the first sentence of the Treasurer's Report; to read: Charles Eisenhart stated we should adopt the 2011 budget. Charles Krall made the motion to approve the minutes of December 2, 2010 with the correction, with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried** with all voting in favor.

*The minutes of December 13, 2010 Special meeting was tabled with a motion by David Richards and a second by Robert Clayton, concerning whether the Authority voted to transfer the funds or not. The tape of the December 13th meeting will be reviewed before accepting those minutes. **Motion carried.***

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of bills and receipts for December, which totaled \$43,491.33. December's bills were previously approved to pay at Dec. 2nd meeting; so as not to incur any late fees.

Engineer's Report:

Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn, Inc reported on the start up of the new sewer plant. The old pump station will be demolished at the west end of town and the old sewer plant the first week in January. Bruce presented Change Order #4 for Gregory Contractors in the amount of \$19,461.55. Robert Clayton

made the motion to accept change order #4, with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried** with no dissenting votes. Bruce also presented Change Order #5 for Johnston Construction for a credit of \$176.00. Charles Krall made a motion to accept change order #5, with a second by David Richards. **Motion carried** with no dissenting votes.

Bruce reported on the meeting with Sheryl Martin of DEP Water division; she expressed a concern for a backup operator. Bruce provided a proposal for John Troutman of B-H, Inc; as an emergency backup operator as needed at approximately \$120.00 an hour. *With a motion by Robert Clayton and a second by John O'Brien it was decided to use John Troutman of Buchart-Horn as an emergency backup operator as needed.* **Motion carried.**

Bruce updated the Board on the water system goals of the Capital Improvement Plan for the coming year, specifically installing more main line valves to better isolate parts of the water system and provide isolation valves for the fire hydrants and replacing old hydrants. *Robert Clayton made a motion authorizing W. D. Fox Tapping and Welding, Inc. to insert 2 valves at Well #2 for approximately \$6,850.00 each plus excavation costs; with a second by David Richards.* **Motion carried.**

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby requested an Executive Session. **Executive Session:** The Board went into an executive session at 8:00 PM to discuss liability issues that involve the employees of the Authority. The executive session closed at 8:28 PM, and the regular meeting reopened.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart stated the Tolbert issue (Subcontractor of Johnston Construction) with the Pennvest Audit has been closed, and reported with no findings. Mr. Eisenhart reported the annual audit will include the regular audit, Pennvest audit and H2O audit, which will be conducted in April and finished in June for a price of \$12,750.00. *Charles Krall made a motion to accept the proposal of Smith, Elliott, and Kearns for \$12,750.00 for the Authority's audit for 2010; with a second by David Richards.* **Motion carried** with all voting in favor of.

Mr. Eisenhart suggested there should be a rate structure increase, especially for water; and there was a discussion on the various possible rate increases. *Charles Krall made the motion to raise the water fixed rate to \$14; an increase of two dollars and \$6.00 per thousand gallons; an increase of two dollars; starting with the April 2011 billing; with a second by John O'Brien.* There was a discussion on the possibility of multiple EDU accounts. **Motion carried** with all voting in favor.

The Board then discussed raising the sewer rates; it was decided to consider the sewer rates at another meeting, after some analysis has been presented.

New Business:

David Richards would convey to Mr. Schlaline about postponing the meeting of the three organizations concerning the fire hydrants until after the training class. The secretary would notify the borough secretary about the class on hydrants.

John O'Brien and Charles Krall will be interviewing applicants for the part time general laborer position.

Old Business:

There was a discussion on the various accounts, and any shortfalls. The adjustments of the rates will correct the shortfalls.

David Richards distributed the papers from Mr. Schlaline. Mr. Richards made the Authority aware of a commercial property with private hydrants, and possibly should have a policy or agreement with the owner of the private hydrant. Mr. Richards suggested charging a fee for hydrants; similar to what York Water Company does.

Charles Krall commented on PA Rural Water, and he is trying to find five members for a steering committee. If anyone has any suggestion for members they should call Mr. Krall. The next meeting will be January 27, 2011, and they will be discussing well head protection.

Charles Krall reported that Exeter Co. came in and did the remote readings on the pilot program meters.

Chairman Mummert brought up a resident that complained about his water; which he has less water pressure, dirt and stones; that infiltrated from the water leak on Jacobs St, when it was repaired. He deducted the cost of the new fixtures he replaced from his water bill. Solicitor Battersby stated he is to pay his bill as sent.

Correspondence:

- PA Rural Water class for operators workshops
- PA Rural Water class on hydrants

Nathan mentioned that if anyone wanted to go to the hydrant class but couldn't make that date, the instructor would come and do a private class. John Scrivens stated everything is working fine.

Public Comment:

David Woodward asked if the Authority has any use for the property at the west end of town where the pump house was demolished. His interest in it is in case the Borough would put a sign on that property.

He also asked about the reorganization policy of the Authority, and was told it is not necessary according to the law; but it has been done.

Chairman Mummert announced the next scheduled meeting is February 3, 2011, at the Authority building.

Having no further business to discuss; Robert Clayton made the motion to adjourn at 9:29 PM. The motion was second by John O'Brien. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannelore B. Furst, EBAJA Secretary