

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

May 5, 2011

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held on May 5, 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 Charles Krall.

**Absent:** David Richards

**Also Present:** Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Deepthi Kayanam of Buchart-Horn; John Scrivens; Nathan Boyer and Luann Battersby.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the minutes of April 7, 2011 as written, with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried.**

**Payment of Bills:** All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for April which totaled \$42,609.61. John O'Brien moved to pay the bills for April; with a second by Robert Clayton. **Motion carried.**

**Engineer's Report:** Deepthi Kayanam of Buchart-Horn reported the Groundwater Rule construction is complete and they have received the operations permit. Buchart-Horn received and reviewed the Application for Payment #1 in the amount of \$146,562.20 to E. K. Services. There was a brief discussion on the remainder of the project; which was the paving. The project total was for \$187,444.00.

Robert Clayton made the motion to pay the bill for E. K. Services in the amount of \$146,562.20; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried.**

Deepthi also reported there will be training on the chlorine analyzers in the next 2 weeks by Hach Co. She also reported we received the Mag meters for Wells 2 and 4 this week, and they will be installed next week. The control panels from Kohl Bros. will be installed in the future.

The treatment plant operators are wrapping things up; Johnston Construction will be doing the 30 day performance test, and Gregory Contractors will be finishing the grading and seeding.

Deepthi explained about a waiver from DEP concerning the dioxins in the water. Charles Krall was concerned this was the same thing that PA Rural Water-**Nate Merkel** was working on and we would not be paying double. After a brief discussion, the consensus was to let Buchart-Horn handle the waiver for an estimated \$3,000.00 fee.

Robert Clayton informed the Board about a resident on Water Street that complained the air quality for a couple of days was obnoxious. John Scrivens explained this will happen every month, because they turn the digester off so the sludge will ferment and thicken and the liquid will evaporate. This is done so the waste that is hauled out is mostly sludge and not liquid.

**Solicitor's Report:** Solicitor Battersby stated he took Bruce Hulshizer and David Richards' comments for the Articles of Agreement between EBAJA and Reading Twp Municipal Authority and composed the final draft, but needs a couple of items of information to finish it. There was discussion on the length of the unpaid balance in Section 3.4; it was decided instead of two (2) years to make it one (1) year. Under Section 7.1: The term of the Agreement shall be no less than 45 years. Then we can add Exhibit A. All industrial information was deleted. Robert Clayton made the motion to send the agreement with corrections and Exhibit A, to RTMA solicitor; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried.**

Solicitor Battersby stated the grant money in Harrisburg is still an open issue.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported there were 97 delinquent accounts for a total of \$29,851.21; and 7 accounts were sent to the District Justice. There was a discussion about recouping the district justice fees, and Solicitor Battersby will check this out.

Mr. Eisenhart read and re-proposed for adoption Resolution 2011-4 Collection of Water Rents, and Resolution 2011-5 Collection of Sewer Rents; *Robert Clayton made the motion to accept Resolution 2011-4 Collection of Water Rents; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.* Charles Krall made the motion to accept Resolution 2011-5 Collection of Wastewater Rents; with a second by Robert Clayton. Motion carried.

Charles Eisenhart suggests amending the water ordinance to add a service agreement to it. The new meters are more accurate than the older meters, and there will be complaints from residents that their meters are not working correctly. It was noted the new meters are certified and calibrated. He suggested the service agreement would include the price to remove the meter, replace it with another meter and the price to test the meter. If, after the meter testing is completed and it is found that there is nothing wrong with the meter; the resident pays for that expense. If the meter is found to be defective the Authority would absorb the expense. The secretary will draft a service agreement.

It was suggested someone should check on the situation at Earl Brown's property. It was brought up to Sheriff the property. Solicitor Battersby suggested waiting until the account is up to at least \$15,000. **No action taken.**

Charles Eisenhart mentioned landlords want to make their bill(s) inactive when tenants move out, we do not make accounts inactive; the landlord is to pay the fixed charge. If we make the account inactive they would have to apply for a new service for \$2,500.00 when they rent the apartment again.

New Business: Chairman Mummert reported on a phone call he received concerning the East Berlin car wash. The owner; Raymond Hoffman would like the Authority to put filters in their water lines. He is having problems with dirt in the lines clogging his jet sprays. The consensus of the boards was they would not be putting any screen filters in the water lines.

Old Business:

Chairman Mummert stated he compared the information of the two sludge hauling companies and at this point we will continue using Kline's Services.

He also commented that Nathan and Ryan will put together a schedule for flushing the hydrants. We will notify the newspaper and also put it on the residents billing.

Correspondence: We received an email from David Richards about his proposed changes to the Reading Twp Municipal Agreement, and another email from him concerning a security issue at the new sewer plant.

Public Comment: None

The regular meeting closed, and the Board went into an **Executive Meeting** for personnel issues at 8:18 PM. **The Executive meeting closed at 8:47 PM, and the regular meeting reopened.**

The Board decided to revise the personnel policy.

*Robert Clayton made the motion to approve and accept the changes to the personnel policy, with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.* Charles Krall made the motion to change Ryan Swope's status from part-time employee to full time employee with a \$1.00 per hour increase to his wages as of May 9, 2011.

There being no further business, *Charles Krall made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Robert Clayton.* Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA