

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
September 1, 2011

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held on September 1, 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 7PM.

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

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

Minutes: *A motion was made by John O'Brien to accept the minutes of August 4, 2011, with a second by Robert Clayton.*

Motion carried.

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for August, which totaled \$133,125.46, from the operating funds. *Robert Clayton moved to pay the bills for August; with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried.***

Engineer's Report:

Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn reported on the sidewalk repair situation. The location of the hydrant makes it impossible to put a handicap ramp there; it can be restored with no change. Bruce also checked with other Authorities about the electric choice programs. Bruce mentioned the water system improvement job is wrapping up with EK Services. There was a brief discussion, on the landscaping at Doug Keller's yard and Dale Kennedy's yard. As far as Pennvest, Gregory Contractors final payment request was approved. Charles Eisenhart reported Pennvest withdrew their first payment of \$22,053.57 on the Pennvest loan.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Battersby reported he received the certified mail receipt from Earl Brown, concerning the letter that was sent to him. Matt will file the appropriate paperwork at the courthouse. Matt also reported he has been in contact with DEP regarding Reading Twp., and will continue to contact other DEP personnel. Matt also commented in regards to Mr. Richards email concerning changes in the agreement with Reading Twp. He stated we would wait and see what Reading Twp. has as a counter offers; first. Matt suggested informing the residents of Reading Twp. exactly what was offered to the board of Reading Twp Municipal Authority for connecting to East Berlin Area Joint Authority's system.

Treasurer's Report:

Charles Eisenhart presented the Board with the 2012 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO 01-426-6N) for the East Berlin Area Joint Authority Pension Plan. *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the MMO for 2012 in the amount of \$12,386.00; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried.*** Solicitor Battersby mentioned that there is a chance the Authority may need to add money to that account in the future. Mr. Eisenhart reported there were 89 delinquent accounts for \$33,395.61 as of July 1, 2011; and past due letters were sent out. As reported earlier; Pennvest loan's 1st payment of \$22,053.57 was made by automatic withdrawal.

New Business:

David Richards questioned whether the employees have finished sump pump inspections. He was told they are still working on that; and as the new meters are being installed they are checking on the sump pumps.

It was suggested to check out Constellation Energy and get a quote from them. Chairman Mummert stated he had contacted a firm about speaking with the Board about installation of solar panels at the sewer treatment plant but has not heard anything back yet.

Bruce Hulshizer reported on a program to get nutrient credit for nitrogen and phosphorus. The Authority would need to get certified and register to sell. There was brief discussion on the auction to sell the credits, or selling the credits ourselves.

Nathan and Ryan cleaned up the scrap metal and old water meters around the Authority buildings and recycled; they received \$576.96 for the scrap metal.

Old Business:

Chairman Mummert reported letters were sent to the Schoolhouse Lane residents reminding them of their obligation, all have paid except one.

The secretary is still waiting for more information for setting up a web site.

Mr. Richards' email that was tabled at the last meeting was discussed. Mr. Richards suggested separating personnel cost between the water and sewer accounts. He stated that the bulk of the labor expenses are derived from the water account. Chairman Mummert stated that Mr. Richards' suggestion would be micro managing, and the Authority is not a big business. Charles Eisenhart stated he reviewed Mr. Richards' letter with the auditor; item by item and the auditor stated that 95% of Mr. Richards's recommendations are personal preferences. John O'Brien stated it is time to drop this discussion and stop arguing about it at every meeting. David Richards concurred that was reasonable. The secretary mentioned the Right to Know law states that if the report Mr. Richards asks for is not normally generated then it does not have to be produced. Mr. Richards stated that is corrected, but that is only because the Authority chose not to produce that report; but the report is available in the QuickBooks system.

Correspondence:

- Utility Rate Case Intervention and information from Constellation Energy

Public Comment: None, no public present.

John Scrivens reported Jamie Emig at 201 East King Street hooked the sewer line up without having it inspected. He did not use the right pipes, he needs to have clean outs, and John suggests they do an air test since the piping is covered over. He recommends this instead of digging up the whole yard again. Bruce Hulshizer suggested digging a test pit. It was suggested the Authority notify the Borough when the sewer inspection is done so the Borough can issue a Use and Occupancy permit. John also mentioned that Don Grim had called him and asked for the specifications for the hook ups prior to the work being done, and he was told what was needed to be done and also they would have to call John Scrivens for the inspection and that never happened. John will be in contact with Jamie Emig.

There being no further business, *Robert Clayton made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.* Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannelore B. Furst,
Secretary EBAJA