

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

June 5, 2025

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority Board was held June 5, 2025 at 103 Locust St., East Berlin, PA. The meeting was presided over by Chairman Green. Chairman Green opened the meeting at 7pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**Members Present:** Chairman G. Green, V.C. Weidner, R. Teal, V. Krall,

**Members Absent** W. Staub

**Also Present:** Solicitor Battersby, Engineer D. Young, Treasurer H. Lau, Secretary M. Earp,

**Guests:** JT Hand and Matt Scarpato of York Water

**Agenda:** A motion was made by R. Weidner to accept the agenda for June 5, 2025 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 May 1, 2025 as written, with a second by V. Krall. Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.

**Payment of Bills:** All members received a list of payables for May 2025, totaling \$68,568.57 from the Operational funds. These bills include \$8,500.00 for the annual audit, \$16,000 to the appraisal company, and \$25,908 to Buchart Horn for on-going projects. A motion was made by V. Krall to pay the May 2025 bills, with a second from R. Weidner. Motion carried.

**Public / Guest Comment:** Mr. Hand of York Water relayed that they have successfully procured all the necessary permits from PENNDot to extend water pipe down Rte 194 to the borough. The application/review process with the Public Utilities Commission will take about four months before York Water could actually provide service. York Water Company is currently waiting for the EBAJA board to come to a decision on the direction they will be taking before beginning construction.

**Engineer's Report:**

- Comments were received from the Borough Engineers and the County related to the ACT 537 Special Study. They are currently working to update cost estimates and address any concerns.

Comments from the Borough Engineer include:

- No reference was made to the already proposed and submitted plan related to the development of the commercial / industrial property for Pennwood Products / Appalachian Realty (west side of rte 194).
- The Authority should seek confirmation from the PA DEP that treatment tank sizes will not need to be increased in size for the proposed expansion from 0.243 to 0.500 MGD.
- The Special Study should include 2024 wastewater flows.
- The Authority may want to consider a different *rate district* to ensure the existing customers within the Borough are not impacted by any future costs to serve growth areas outside the Borough.

Comments from the County include:

- Recommends the proposed service area to include the west side of Rte 194 because there is already proposed land development (by Pennwood/Appalachian Realty) on the west side of Rte 194, and that area has been designated as a primary growth area in the Eastern Adams County Joint Comprehensive Plan.

- Would like to see the plan include potential sewer hook-up to Pine Run Mobile Home Park, in case they need to connect in the future.
- Acknowledges that public money has been awarded for this project. If the service area is extended to include the west side of Rte 194, the County feels the developer of the proposed development should provide funds for their fair share of the cost since they are ultimately going to benefit from the line.
- Engineer does not see a reason to include the west side of Rte 194, so they will move forward with what they have and leave that for a future date. Solicitor interjected that the comments are just advice.
- Submitted Highway Occupancy Permit for the extension; received one minor comment which they are in the process of addressing, so that permit should be issued soon.
- Water Quality Management Part II Permit application for construction of Sewer Extension needs to be signed and notarized by the chairman.
- Participated in a meeting with PADEP related to PFOS/PFOA compliance schedule. PADEP requested a letter outlining efforts and planned actions. A draft was submitted that outlined three alternative solutions and a timeline: treatment, bulk water purchase, or sale of the water system to an investor owned utility and subsequent collapse of the Authority. Solicitor interjected that PADEP is not going to hold them to a timeline. Engineer noted that the federal compliance date has been extended to 2031. **R. Teal** made a motion to send the letter as written to Sue Woerner of the PADEP with a second by **V. Krall**. Motion Carried.
- Addressed a letter from the engineering firm Johnston and Associates, Inc. regarding the property at 320 West King St. which is being converted into four apartments. The owner was advised by mail that they are required to pay connection fees to the water and sewer service for the three additional apartments. The letter asserts they will only need three EDU (equivalent dwelling unit) for the property due to sewage flows. The Authority engineer disagreed as there is no calculation involved when it is a residential property. Each residence is considered a dwelling unit. The solicitor will respond to the letter informing them they will need four EDU's for that property.

#### **Solicitor's Report:**

- Asked for an Executive Session to discuss the possibility of joining a nationwide class action lawsuit related to PFOA/PFOS contamination.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

- **Open Balance: \$36,607.16**

#### **Secretary's Report:**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- PFOS/PFOA
  - Chairman Green sent a letter to Nancy Bull, the district manager for the local congressman related to the Change/No Change in the federal guidelines (date of compliance extended, but levels of contamination have remained the same) asking for money to address the problem. Has not heard back yet. One of the Authority members felt Ms. Bull has already retired.
- Raftelis Appraisal Group would like to know what direction the Authority is planning to go as that will affect the value of the system. Chairman Green asked board members for their thoughts on the future of the Authority. Members answered as follows:
  - V. Krall: would like to try to hold on to it for as long as possible and try to remediate the affected wells. Her experience has proven that the citizenry tends to prefer a personal experience over big corporate business. She acknowledges that prices will increase and the process will not be easy, but is willing to fight for it. Also stated she is willing to compromise and will accept whatever the board chooses.
  - R. Teal would like to hook in with York Water and rely on purchasing bulk water until the wells can be remediated.
  - R. Weidner says his concern are future regulations and standards. He understands/appreciates the idea of keeping it local, but feels they are beating a dead horse. He is partial to York Water but is concerned

about N. Boyer's job. JT Hand of York Water assured the board that as long as N. Boyer came with recommendations from the board and performed his job duties at the York Water Company standards, that his position would not be eliminated. Mr. Hand assured the board N. Boyer would be fairly compensated with competitive salary, benefits package, company vehicle, and opportunities for advancement. With that assurance, R. Weidner stated he would like to sell the system.

- Chairman Green would like to sell the system. He stated that there are too many problems that will arise in the future, such as the eventuality of the sewer plant also needing to be filtered as the regulations increase. He also noted that as the restrictions get tighter, the other wells will also need treatment. He advised the board that the aging infrastructure is also a concern not to be ignored.
- W. Staub was absent.
- Treasurer H. Lau indicated he can see both sides of the coin. Is inclined toward the idea of buying bulk water from York Water Co., but also feels they will eventually need to sell the system.

**V. Krall** made a motion to ask Raftelis to provide a valuation for each of the three scenarios (hybrid system wherein bulk water is purchased from York Water Co, the affected well(s) are remediated, or the system is sold completely) with a second from **R. Teal**. Motion Carried.

**New Business:** n/a

**Operator's Report:**

- All the hydrants have been flushed
- Quarterly samples are scheduled to be taken on June 23
- Quote from Co-Stars Vendor 537430 regarding the Branch Circle generator of \$64,000.00. **Chairman Green** asked for additional quotes from other Co-Stars vendors. (Co-Stars is the Commonwealth's cooperative purchasing program designed to alleviate the time and costs associated with a formal bid-package). The Solicitor advised the Authority they can use Co-Stars in regards to the state grant that included the generator as part of the award.

**Correspondence:** n/a

**Executive Session:** Board members moved into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m.

**Motion to adjourn** the meeting was made by \_\_\_\_\_ with a second by \_\_\_\_\_.

Meeting was adjourned by **Chairman Green** at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

The next monthly board meeting is scheduled to be held **July 3, 2025** at 103 Locust Street at 7:00 p.m.