

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

October 3, 2024

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority Board was held October 3, 2024 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, R. Teal, C. Krall, V.C. Weidner via speaker phone

Members Absent: W. Staub

Also Present: Melissa Earp, Nathan Boyer, Treasurer, H. Lau, Solicitor Battersby, Vera Krall

Guests: Jim Hersh, Hersh Enterprises

First Order of Business: C. Krall submitted his resignation effective immediately. A motion was made by R. Teal to accept his resignation with a second by R. Weidner. Motion was carried. A motion was then made by R. Teal to appoint East Berlin borough resident Vera Krall of 119 Water St. to finish out the term of C. Krall. The motion was seconded by R. Weidner. Motion carried.

Agenda: A motion was made by R. Teal to accept the agenda for October 3, 2024 board meeting as amended, with a second by V. Krall. **Motion carried to accept the agenda as amended.**

Minutes: A motion was made by V. Krall to accept the minutes of September 5, 2024 as written, with a second by R. Teal. **Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.**

Payment of Bills: All members received a list of payables for SEPTEMBER 2024, totaling **\$30,445.79** from the Operational funds. A motion was made by R. Teal to pay the September 2024 bills, with a second from V. Krall. Motion carried.

Public / Guest Comment: Jim Hersh, Hersh Enterprises appealed to the board regarding his property located at 312 Harrisburg St., formerly Dr. Zittle's office. After completing zoning processes and obtaining permits with the borough and county, he converted the building from three units to five. Upon completion he was advised that he would need to plumb each apartment separately and purchase two more EDU's to connect to the WWTP. He asked to be exempt to this rule due to the fact that while he was going through the zoning processes and obtaining permits no one advised him that he would need to contact the Authority to purchase two additional EDU's or advised him of the meter rule. Because he lacked this knowledge, he used the existing plumbing to create the two additional units. The building has an addition and had been oddly plumbed to begin with, making it unable to easily make the required accommodations. He also intimated if he had known he would have to purchase two more EDU's he may have altered his plans. After much discussion and debate, a motion was made by R. Teal to allow Hersh Enterprises to forego installing the extra meters due to the unique plumbing, but charge the base capital expense fee for five units, and allow them two years to pay for the two extra EDUs. The motion was seconded by V. Krall. Motion carried.

Engineer's Report: The Engineer submitted the report electronically due to an unexpected absence.

- Met virtually with Adams County grant administrators and learned that the intermediate date of 12/31/2024 has been eliminated. Work on planning and obtaining permits continues.
- Met with PADEP drinking water regulators to determine the next steps in addressing PFAS compliance. Normal compliance time frame is 120 days but DEP acknowledges that the work needed to comply with PFAS regulations cannot be completed in that time frame. If/when the MCL is exceeded there will be a consent order

that establishes a time from for compliance. BH recommends that the Authority pull together water quality analysis for the affected well(s) and develop a pilot test protocol to submit to PADEP for approval.

Solicitor's Report:

Present

Treasurer's Report:

- Open balance: \$260,430.90

Secretary's Report:

- There is a situation at 211 Schoolhouse Lane where someone has been living in an abandoned property for several months. Water was turned on without the Authority's knowledge. The property owner and the tenant each claim the other is at fault. Usage was upwards of 70,000 gallons. Water service was terminated and appeared to remain shut off. Solicitor advised to send the bill to the property owner and file with the District Justice to begin lien proceedings.
- The technician for the office printers advised that one printer is obsolete and the other is on its way out the door, so they will need to be replaced the next time they malfunction as parts are no longer available. Treasurer noted he will add the costs to the budget for 2025.
- Service Line Inventory is finished and will be uploaded the next week. Letters need to be sent to every resident advising them of their service line material.

Unfinished Business:

- Office Space: Chairman Green called the property owner of the H&R Block office space, but received no callback. Other options include a permanent solution by purchasing a 10x40 satellite trailer to be placed near the current borough building or staying on Locust Street until forced to leave.
- Notification System: the board is not uninterested in a notification system, the chairman will try to talk to the county about it again.

New Business:

Operator's Report:

- PFOA results for Well 1 & 2 are out of range. Both wells are located across the creek on the west side of town. We will need a zero at the next testing for Well 1 to be in compliance. Well 2 levels nearly doubled. The sanitarian for the DEP questioned if we were aware of any environmental factors that could have caused the levels to increase so dramatically. The only obvious deviance was that the day the samples were collected, the property owners adjacent to the wells were openly burning, but whether it was organic material or not is unknown. Chairman Green concluded it was something to consider and will ask the engineer to look into whether or not this activity could contaminate the water table.

Correspondence: none

Executive Session: n/a

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by R. Teal and a second by V. Krall. **Motion carried.** Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Green at 7:54 p.m.

The next monthly board meeting is scheduled to be held **November 7, 2024** at 103 Locust Street at 7:00 p.m.