

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
February 5, 2015

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held February 5, 2015 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: Gerald L. Mummert; Ronald Weidner; Rick Saxon; Robert Clayton and Charles Krall

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

Minutes: *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the minutes of January 8, 2015; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.*

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for January 2015, the bills totaled \$43,168.99 from the operational funds. *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to pay the bills for January 2015 with a second by Ron Weidner. Motion carried.*

Public Comment: None

Engineer's Report: Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn reported the aquifer testing finished on January 9, 2015 and Teresa Blauch is finalizing the Susquehanna River Basin (SRBC) report. Deepthi will be working on the annual Chapter 94 report that is due March 31, 2015. The secretary mentioned that Ken Young has been into the office requesting a copy of the aquifer testing report.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported on the meeting that Ron Weidner, Charles Krall, and he attended on January 23, 2015 with Senator Alloway to express the Authority's frustrations with SRBC. Senator Alloway will be coordinating a meeting with SRBC and other municipalities concerning the outrageous fees and requirements. Also, Solicitor Battersby checked on the property at 530 South Avenue which is owned by Stacey Smith; the Authority had a judgment against her for past due water and sewer bill; she is currently incarcerated for the next three years. The district justice dismissed the case without prejudice. The solicitor suggested putting a lien on the property. The consensus of the board was for the solicitor to proceed with putting a lien on the property.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported at the end of this collection period there were 95 delinquent accounts for the a total of \$33,283.50. The first delinquent letter will be going out tomorrow, and they will have 5 days to respond or pay. Solicitor Battersby mentioned that according to David Richards; the Authority is not communicating with the Borough; as the Borough is a co-guarantee. The East Berlin Borough and Hamilton Township receives an annual copy of the Authorities audit report which must be filed by June 30 with the state.

Secretary's Report: Hanna Furst reported she will going to Germany on vacation April 28, 2015 thru May 16, 2015 returning to work on May 18, 2015. She referred a person to Charles Krall, Personnel Chairman; for the temporary relief position. The consensus for the part time temporary fill in position did not need to be advertised. There was a brief discussion on the compensation for this position. *A motion was made by Charles Krall to retain Debbie Shearer on a part time temporary position for \$10 an hour; while Hanna is on vacation; with a second by Robert Clayton. Motion carried.*

New Business: Charles Krall mentioned he went to a training session at the Community Center given by David Richards. He mentioned the session was on how East Berlin Authority's water and sewer rates compared to Washington Borough Sanitary Commission rates. The information presented was mainly about the EDU's and he mentioned the low rate users are subsidizing the high rate users. Charles Krall mentioned the Water Rate Analysis report dated May 13, 2013

that was compiled by Bill Kramer of the PA Rural Water Association on the Authority's rates; which concurs with the Authority, to maintain the flat rate structure. Ron Weidner gave examples of sewer usage of residents and businesses in Hamilton Township and the difference of actual reading and estimates; he mentioned an EDU is 6000 gallons in Hamilton Township (Cross Keys area) plus the metering. Solicitor Battersby stated there is a big difference in Washington Borough Sanitary Commission area's rates which have federal government buildings technology buildings and office buildings, that will pay whatever rate without blinking an eye; as compared to the small town of East Berlin.

Old Business: There was discussion on advertising the sale of the sludge truck and the amount to ask for it. It was suggested advertising in the Merchandiser.

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer – They fixed the curb stop at Zwingli's Church.

John Scrivens – Nothing.

Correspondence: None

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Robert Clayton.* Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM. Next meeting will be held March 5, 2015 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Gerald L. Mummert, Chairman

ATTEST:

Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA