

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
August 6, 2015

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held August 6, 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; Charles Krall; Rick Saxon; and Ron Weidner

Absent: John Scrivens and Nathan Boyer

Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn; Representative Will Tallman; and Robbie Teal

Minutes: *A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the minutes of July 2 , 2015; with a second by Rick Saxon.*

Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for July 2015, the bills totaled \$28,737.69 from the operational funds. *A motion was made by Ron Weidner to pay the bills for July 2015 with a second by Charles Krall.*

Motion carried.

Public/Guest Comment: Representative Will Tallman asked if Miller Chemical Company contacted the Authority; and was told they had. Miller Chemical Co is looking for a cheaper way to dispose of their waste from the fire. The engineer will report on this. Representative Tallman mentioned Pennsylvania is becoming an infamous state; the Attorney General was indicted, the state budget has not been passed, and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) has been defunded. Representative Dan Moul wrote a letter recommending the Appropriations Committee to defund the SRBC over seven hundred thousand dollars. On June 30 they voted on the budget (House Bill #1192) and SRBC was cut \$100,000.00. Fifteen members of the South Central Caucus met with SRBC to discuss the mistreatment of East Berlin, Shrewsbury and other municipalities. Representative Tallman questioned whether SRBC has had any contact with the Authority in the last two weeks, which they have not. The Aquifer testing was sent to SRBC in April (2015) the only response we have from them is they received the report. Representative Will Tallman anticipated SRBC would be contacting the Authority. Representative Tallman will check on other legislative areas about SRBC. It was stated that SRBC did request the Authority to do additional testing, contrary to what Mr. Tallman was told. Charles Krall ask Representative Tallman about Reading Township progress on their sewer expansion. There was a brief discussion about the properties along the creek and why DEP has not forced Reading Twp to connect to our sewer system.

Engineer's Report: Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn stated the Pennvest Water Loan account is closed and there will not be anymore fund withdrawals. Deepthi also reported she checked the data the Miller Chemical Company sent and our sewer facility is not designed to handle high nitrates and phosphorus in the water from Miller Chemical Co. It was also mentioned that the company where our sludge goes may reject this and then the Authority would have to pay someone to dispose of the water.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported Chairman Gerald Mummert, Charles Krall and himself met with Jim Dougherty of McNees, Wallace and Nurick, LLC on July 24, 2015 to explore valuation and monetization of the Authority's assets. Solicitor Battersby mentioned suggested McNees, Wallace and Nurick, LLC. could find out what the Authority's system is worth for \$3,500.00. Chairman Mummert handed out a packet of information that Jim Dougherty gave him at the meeting. This is just to get the value of our systems, just fact finding. The members scanned thru the information and had a brief discussion. Ron Weidner mention that Hamilton Township is in negotiation with New Oxford Municipal Authority (NOMA) right now. *On a motion by Charles Krall to let McNees, Wallace and Nurick, LLC. to get an appraisal value of our water and sewer system; not to exceed \$3,500.00; with a second by Ron Weidner. **Motion carried.*** Solicitor Battersby will contact Mr. Dougherty.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported the Authority just finished another billing cycle and as of this date there are 86 delinquent accounts for \$32,865.68. Two (2) accounts were sent registered letters for shutting off their water. No one had any questions concerning the 2014 audit. Mr. Eisenhart also reported the Water debt is \$1,413,124.00, and the Sewer debt is \$4,076,000. The water loan currently is \$7,033.90 per month and this will increase to \$7,281.27 per month on May 1, 2020, until 6/1/2035. The sewer loan currently is \$21,930.03 per month and this will increase on September 1, 2016 to \$22,949.93 per month until 8/1/2031.

Secretary's Report: Hanna Furst reported she talked to Rod Walters of Navigate Power and everything is as he proposed, and Joe Mazer of Liberty Power never provided any info as requested by Rick Saxon. Randy Inskip owner of 207 Kuhn Drive (vacant lot-2010 demolished building) inquired about water/sewer hookup fees. There was a brief discussion on this subject. Hanna informed the Board that she would like to send a letter to the East Berlin Borough Council requesting being notified when a building permit is acquired for a new home, office, or an apartment so we are aware of the need for water and sewer connections and pool permits, so if there is excessive usage the guys wouldn't have to go and investigate; this would save some time. The Board approved this request. The Eric Ryan Corporation would like to evaluate our telecommunications/utility bills to see if there are any fees that we should not be charged. The consensus of the Board was to not do this.

New Business:

We had 5 applicants for the vacant Board position: Harold Lau, Gregory Green, Rick Brady, Michael Thoman and Robbie Teal. The Board suggested the Chairman speak with Mr. Lau, and find out why he is interested in being on the Authority Board. The consensus of the Board was to accept Chairman Mummert's judgments. There was a brief discussion that Robbie Teal is a member of the Borough Council and because the By-laws now state only one Borough Council member on the Board and we already have a member of the Borough Council on the Authority Board, she would not be eligible.

Concerning Miller Chemical Co. everyone received the email and the Board members are going to use the engineer's judgment and recommendation to not accept the disposal remnants of Miller Chemical Co.; Deepthi cited an example of their Nitrogen Ammonia is at 94,000 and we currently treat 40 mg/l, so this way too high for our treatment plant.

Old Business: None

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer –Absent-Secretary reported they were exercising the valves, and will be doing some road patching and cement work around town.

John Scrivens –Absent

Chairman Mummert mention there will be a tour of the sewer/water system next month, September 3 at 6 PM, prior to the meeting at 7 PM. Everyone is to meet at the sewer plant.

Correspondence:

- Email from Jonathon Leiman of Envirocorp. concerning water disposal for Miller Chemical from their fire.
- Email from Eric Ryan Corporation concerning energy efficiency-utility & telecommunications auditing & consulting services

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Rick Saxon.*
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM. Next meeting will be held September 3, 2015 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA

