

# Weaverland Valley Authority

## Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2020

The Board of the Weaverland Valley Authority (“Authority”) met at the East Earl Township building 4610 Division Hwy, East Earl, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on January 13, 2020. Chairman Ken Witmer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Ken Witmer, Harold Kilhefner, Jason Firestine, Gene Pierce, Tom McDermott, Scot Ash, Scott Marburger and Randy Miller. Also present were Gary Martin, Becker Engineering; Charles Haley, ELA; Grant Hummer, ELA; and Denise Bensing, Administrator.

Reorganization for the year of 2020 for the Authority was as follows with Denise Bensing serving as temporary chairman. Gene Pierce made a motion to nominate the same officers in 2020 as 2019, seconded by Randy Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

Gene Pierce made a motion to keep the same appointments (professional services) in 2020 as in 2019 except for the Organizational Solicitor, seconded by Jason Firestine. Motion carried unanimously. It was decided that an Organizational Solicitor will not be appointed because there is no longer a need.

Ken Witmer then presided over the meeting:

**MINUTES:** A motion was made by Harold Kilhefner, seconded by Gene Pierce, that the minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. M.J. Reider lab reports (Shady Maple) December – Gary noted there will be no surcharge.
2. M.J. Reider lab reports – Nitrate results for Terre Hill and Twin Springs.
3. L.A.B.S. – December coliform and chlorine results for Terre Hill, Blue Ball, and Twin Springs. All results were normal.
4. L.A.B.S. – Alkalinity results for Terre Hill.
5. M.J. Reider - Lab reports for reed beds in preparation for disposal.
6. W. G. Malden – Shady Maple quarterly meter calibration.
7. Blakinger Thomas – Notification of sheriff sale for Chadni LLC. Denise reported that a check was received on Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> and as soon as it is verified that it has cleared, the liens will be satisfied.
8. East Earl Township – Scott Marburger has been reappointed to the Authority for another 5-year term which will expire Dec. 31, 2024.
9. PA DEP – the Terre Hill lead and copper feasibility study is acceptable and has been approved.
10. Becker Engineering – 322 Properties Sewage Planning Module.
11. Hershey Engineering – 322 Properties capacity request. They are proposing 2,600 GPD for a light industrial park. Gary noted that they are proposing one property/one connection for 13 buildings instead of separate customers. It was also noted that they already have sewer capacity for a house on the property and an adjoining property. It is unclear what is planned for these dwellings. They are planning on connecting to public water at Toddy Dr. Denise also pointed out that the current Rules and Regulations require at least one EDU per business. Scott also reported that Toddy Dr. is scheduled to be overlaid in 2020. Gene Pierce made a motion to grant the request for capacity for 2,600 GPD according to the Rules and Regulations, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried unanimously.
12. David Miller Associates – A request for water capacity for the Tower Rd. area. Gary explained that most of the properties are already connected to water. It is unclear what the intentions are for some of the properties. Gene Pierce made a motion to table a decision until the request is clarified, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

Denise reported that the auto gun for the meter reading equipment wouldn't turn on when it was time to read the meters. Ellie was able to read the meters by keying in the readings. Denise was informed by L/B Water that the current equipment won't be supported after mid-2020. Denise was provided quotes from L/B Water for repairing, replacing, and upgrading. At a minimum, it will cost \$495.00 to repair and the highest upgrade would be \$10,475.00. Jason reached out to a supplier he knows for a quote but didn't receive the information before the meeting. It was decided to table a decision until the February meeting.

Denise also informed the board that she is scanning all the invoices that were paid with the 2016 Fulton loan so they can be sent to USDA for approval.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Financial report was read with \$261,818.30 (Sewer \$209,545.92 Water \$52,272.38) in bills for approval.

Water & Sewer Collection Fund	\$1,000.00
Business Checking Water Fund – ENB	\$100,000.00
FDIC Insured Sweep Account – Water	\$750,517.06
Construction Account – ETSA Upgrades	\$984.99
FDIC Insured Sweep Account - Sewer	\$2,410,334.75
Business Checking Sewer Fund - ENB	\$250,000.00
Business Checking – Fulton Bank	\$224.46
FDIC Insured Sweep Account – Fulton	\$1,020,138.88
Joint WWTP Business Checking – Fulton Bank	\$2,500.00
Joint WWTP Business Checking – Ephrata National Bank	\$2,500.00
Fulton Bank Loan Balance	\$987,910.00

A motion was made by Gene Pierce to approve the financial report and pay the bills, seconded by Jason Firestine. Motion carried unanimously.

**ENGINEERS' REPORT:**

**Gary Martin**

Blue Ball Commons Lots 66 & 67: A review letter was issued in December asking for clarification on the depth of the fill over the water line. No additional information has been received yet.

Edge Metalworks: The water line bacteriological testing has been completed and all were accepted and approved.

Transfer of Terre Hill WWTP NPDES Permit to WVA: The additional sampling that was requested has been completed. It is now in the hands of DEP.

SRBC/DEP: A minor modification to the PWS permit has been submitted for TH Well #3 in order to replace the failing well pump and modification to the well head. We are waiting on DEP approval of the permit. The lead/copper feasibility study that was submitted to DEP has been approved. The plan has provisions for pH adjustments should the addition of the descaling chemical not meet the required lead and copper reduction. If the addition of the descaling agent meets the lead and copper reduction requirements, the long-term capital improvements and operations and maintenance costs of not adjusting the pH will be considerable. The SRBC aquifer withdrawal permit for TH Well 6 has expired. After a conference call with SRBC, they have agreed to prepare a suggested Operational Maintenance Plan for Well 6. WVA and Becker with then gather and interpret the data and proceed to a Waiver Request instead of a full scale and expensive Aquifer Test.

**Chuck Haley**

Constructability Review: The plans and specs were posted on the ELA FTP site today. The plans are not 100% complete. There are still two small items that need to be completed. The plans will be provided to USDA by the end of the week.

Regional WWTP: ELA has not received any results regarding the water quality testing at the CWS well. It was noted that the well was tested and Bruce was waiting on the results. ELA met with Scott and Justin today to discuss Conestoga Creek Rd. Some construction cost numbers were provided relative to improvements to Conestoga Creek Rd. Feedback from East Earl Township is necessary for the plans and specifications. ELA is working to achieve a bid date of April 2020 but the plan review from USDA could hold things up. The GP-5 was submitted but notice was received that it was incomplete due to bog turtle clearance from the National Fish and Wildlife Service. ELA will continue to follow up regarding this approval. All HOP's are now approved.

USDA Funding: ELA's E-500 Owner-Engineer Agreement for services up to bid was approved by USDA. Gene Pierce made a motion to execute the E-500 as approved by USDA, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried unanimously.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Frank Mincarelli (via email)

WWTP Project: A resolution was prepared that will rescind the condemnation resolution adopted earlier before reaching an agreement with the Zimmermans on the price of the easement. Once the agreement is signed and recorded, the board can adopt the resolution, thereby terminating the condemnation action. A legal description and plot plan for the easement area was received and will be attached to the agreement and forwarded to the Zimmermans for signature. Frank will let them know that they should deliver the signed and notarized agreement to Denise at which time they will receive compensation for the easement in the amount of \$2,785. Once Denise has received it, she can forward it to Frank for recording.

Clifford Nolt Grinder Pump Easement: An Affidavit of Value for Transfer Taxes was prepared and the easement agreement was recorded with the Recorder of Deeds Office, citing the exemption from transfer taxes for conveyances to public bodies providing a service.

Earl Twp. Sewer Authority: An agreement has been reached on a final figure for WVA's share of the capital costs for the shared improvements.

Accounts Receivable: Payment in full was received from Innes and Chadni, Inc. Both accounts had several liens filed against them and were facing foreclosure actions. The Authority has lien foreclosure action pending on the Crosson property and steps have been taken to obtain a sheriff sale date in March. The sheriff has not yet advertised the sale and has not yet expended much of the advanced money for costs. The mortgage company has also initiated mortgage foreclosure proceedings and has obtained a sale date in May. Instead of incurring more costs, the Authority could put the action on hold and wait until the property is sold at sheriff's sale in May. Gene Pierce made a motion to defer the sale in March and wait for the mortgage company's sheriff's sale in May, seconded by Scott Marburger. Motion carried unanimously.

**OPERATIONS REPORT:**

Bruce was not present so his report was read in his absence. There were eight service call outs and no compliance issues for the WWTP. There were three call outs to the pump stations. The alum line was freezing on a daily basis. The alum chemical feed was moved inside the plant to be injected in the RAS line and it seems to be working well.

There were zero call outs to the well houses. The Conestoga Wood well was tested for E. Coli and Total Coliform and both contaminants were present in the samples. A pipe broke at the Twin Spring well house and a boil water advisory was issued. The pipe exploded at 6:00 a.m. on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. Fire Line assisted with pumping out roughly 12,000 gallons from the basement of the well house. The system was back to supplying water with no fire suppression at 10:30 a.m. Both 100 hp motors were sent out to be baked and a few minor repairs and the pumps, piping, motors and a pressure tank were all replaced or put back in service. Gary explained they are exploring other piping options because this is the second time something of this nature has happened at this well house.

Bruce also received a quote for a truck with a crane. This equipment was budgeted to be purchased this year at a cost of \$90,300. The quote Bruce received was \$82,709. Gene Pierce made a motion to authorize Bruce to purchase the truck, seconded by Jason Firestine. Motion carried unanimously.

Having no further business, Harold Kilhefner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m., seconded by Jason Firestine. The next meeting will be held on February 10, 2020 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise A. Bensing

- Cc: Scot Ash
- Harold Kilhefner
- Scott Marburger
- Randy Miller
- L. Eugene Pierce
- Kenneth Witmer
- Jason Firestine
- Thomas McDermott
- East Earl Township
- Terre Hill Borough
- Robert Rissler
- Charles Haley, ELA
- Gary Martin, Becker Engineering
- Frank Mincarelli, Blakinger Thomas