

# Weaverland Valley Authority

## Meeting Minutes

March 9, 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 March 9, 2020. Chairman Ken Witmer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Ken Witmer, Harold Kilhefner, Gene Pierce, Scot Ash, and Scott Marburger. Also present were Gary Martin, Becker Engineering; Charles Haley, ELA; Bruce Crabb, Operations Supervisor; and Denise Bensing, Administrator.

**MINUTES:** Gene Pierce recommended an amendment to item #13 in correspondence which should state Frank Mincarelli not William McCarty. A motion was made by Gene Pierce, seconded by Harold Kilhefner, that the minutes of the February 10, 2020 meeting be approved as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. M.J. Reider lab reports (Shady Maple) February – Gary noted there will be no surcharge.
2. Blakinger Thomas – 30-day Intent to Lien notices were sent to four property owners.
3. Independent Contractor Agreement from Mary Coble (QuickBooks Consultant). Gene Pierce made a motion to sign the Independent Contractors Agreement, seconded by Scot Ash. Motion carried unanimously
4. Weaverland Valley Coal – Requested to add a deduct meter for the water that is used to wash the coal that is for delivery. This water does not go into the sewer system but instead soaks back into the ground or evaporates. Gene Pierce made a motion to allow Weaverland Valley Coal to use a deduct meter in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

Denise reminded the board to please return their completed Statement of Financial Interest by the April meeting.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Financial report was read with \$101,041.29 (Sewer \$82,057.79 Water \$18,983.50) in bills for approval.

Water & Sewer Collection Fund	\$22,359.88
Business Checking Water Fund – ENB	\$100,000.00
FDIC Insured Sweep Account – Water	\$810,968.22
Construction Account – ETSA Upgrades	\$984.99
FDIC Insured Sweep Account - Sewer	\$2,425,290.60
Business Checking Sewer Fund - ENB	\$250,000.00
Business Checking – Fulton Bank	\$220.46
FDIC Insured Sweep Account – Fulton	\$1,023,021.54
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 Scott Marburger to approve the financial report and pay the bills, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried unanimously.

## **ENGINEERS' REPORT:**

### **Chuck Haley**

Constructability Review: The plans are almost ready to resubmit to Becker. ELA has been working very closely with Rob Hallman.

Bidding/Construction Schedule: ELA and Becker will continue to work on the construction documents in anticipation of bidding the project in late April. It has not been determined if the USDA engineer will be able to complete their review to meet this date. Chuck noted that USDA has indicated that they will need until August 2020 to finalize everything. Once it is determined when the project will go out to bid, ELA will work with DEP to update the dates for the Consent Order and Agreement.

The bog turtle clearance was received and has been submitted to DEP. Approval of the GP-5 is anticipated. USFWS is requiring the work only be done during specific times of the year so as not to interfere with the bog turtle mating season.

Instrument Filing Notice (INF): Chuck explained that the INF package is required to be completed within 45 days of the approval for the NPDES permit for earth moving and storm water. Now that the property is owned by the Authority this needs to be filed so any future owners know how to maintain the storm water. Gene Pierce made a motion to authorize the board chairman to sign the INF that needs to be filled with the county, seconded by Scott Marburger. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Gary Martin**

Constructability Review: Gary noted that the current schedule projects final completion April 2023.

CA/CM: Becker is seeking authorization to submit the required E-500 to USDA utilizing the latest projected three-year construction schedule. Gene Pierce made a motion to authorize Becker to submit the E-500 to USDA for review, seconded by Scot Ash. Motion carried unanimously.

Chapter 94 to DEP (for TH WWTP): The report is ready to submit to DEP. There were no new problems or significant changes from last year. Gene Pierce made a motion to acknowledge the completion and authorize the chairman to sign the Chapter 94 report for the TH WWTP, seconded by Harold Kilhefner. Motion carried unanimously.

Blue Ball Commons Lots 66 & 67: The Feb. 26, 2020 resubmitted plans are under review by Becker and Bruce and review/approval letter #3 to be issued.

SRBC/DEP Permitting and Compliance Matters: Becker is currently working to complete a major modification to the Public Water Supply permit. A Public Water Supply construction permit must be submitted by the end of March. The application will require a \$1,000 application fee. Harold Kilhefner made a motion to authorize Denise to issue a check in the amount of \$1,000 to the Commonwealth of PA between meetings, seconded by Scot Ash. Motion carried unanimously.

The SRBC aquifer withdrawal permit for Well 6 has expired. SRBC has agreed to assist the Authority in moving the waiver application forward via the Commission's Public Water Supply Assistance Program (PWSAP). The PWSAP should be a considerable cost savings to the Authority.

Becker has received an approved aquifer test plan for the Clyde Martin well and also received the Aquifer Geologic Report from Spotts Stevens and McCoy. Application will be made to SRBC for the withdrawal from this well.

322 Properties (formerly Pyle Tract): Different options were discussed for this property to connect to the public water supply. The most direct option would be to use an already existing Authority easement. The developer's consultant is reviewing the options.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Frank Mincarelli (via email)

WWTP Project: Frank reviewed the Act 537 Plan for DEP –imposed deadlines in the construction schedule per an inquiry from the consulting engineer and reviewed the design engineer's bid specifications and the comments thereto.

Main Extensions: The final land development plan for Blue Ball Commons Lot #63 was reviewed as well as the dedication documents for the water and sewer facilities. A developer's agreement for Blue Ball Commons Lots 66 & 67 was prepared and provided to the developer, client and engineer.

Accounts Receivable: Frank corresponded with the solicitor for the Sheriff's Office seeking waiver of the legal fees charged by him on the Crosson execution sale when the property was pulled from the sale list prior to sale. Four 30-day Notices of Intent to Lien were issued via certified mail. Eleven praecipes were prepared and filed for the eleven liens filed against the Innes property and served Notice of Lien Satisfaction on Innes via first class mail.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT:**

Bruce distributed a quote for a 2020 Ford F250. Bruce explained that he discussed used vehicle options with the dealer but with the \$11,000 savings through Costars it makes for sense to purchase new. The vehicle is available now unless it was

sold because they can't hold the vehicle. Gene Pierce made a motion to authorize the purchase of the truck quoted with choice of plow, seconded by Scott Marburger. Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that there were multiple calls for high influent flow which lead to the question if the new plant is just putting a bandage on the I & I issues. Bruce explained that the capital budget has funds set aside to purchase camera equipment to assist with finding the leaks. Bruce also explained that there are cleanouts and traps in poor location which are contributing to the I & I issue.

Bruce reported that there was a water main break on Earland Dr. The leak appears to have started around 2:15 a.m. and was leaking at a rate of 80,000 gpd. The cause of the leak was the water main being installed on rock.

**DAY-TO-DAY COMMITTEE:**

The committee did not meet since the last Authority meeting.

Harold had a question about an unimproved property in the Borough that was recently sold. The new owner intends to grow vegetables and would like to put in an irrigation well. The Borough directed the owner to the Authority. There are water and sewer easements on the property which the owner would need to avoid. After some discussion, it was determined that a private well being placed in a public water service area would typically be a Borough issue. The Authority has no enforcement power over these issues.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Conestoga Creek Rd.: Scott did more research regarding the widening and final finishing of Conestoga Creek Rd. Scott explained that his intentions from the beginning were to do the work in house to save money by not having to pay prevailing wages and obtain Costars pricing. The Township would be able to widen the road for approximately \$10,000-\$15,000 but they don't have equipment to do the actual paving. Scott also explained that the widening of the road is only necessary because there will be additional traffic to and from the plant.

Chuck explained that the contractor would be required to repair the road back to the current condition (16 feet wide and 6 layers of tar and chip). If it is included in the bid package, Chuck would expect the contractor to include \$85,000 for repairing the road back to like condition. This could be included in the package as a fee in lieu of and the money could be contributed toward the overlay of the road. The \$85,000 would not cover paving the road 20 ft. wide. The estimated cost to get the road to where it should be is \$150,000-\$160,000. The Township would be willing to contribute time and materials to widen the road which has an estimated cost of approximately \$10,000-\$15,000.

Harold noted that there is no question that the road needs to be widened. The question is how to pay for it. Harold asked if the Township would be willing to contribute anything to the road improvements. The board asked Scott to reach out to the board of supervisors to find out what they would be willing to contribute.

Having no further business, Harold Kilhefner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Scot Ash. The next meeting will be held on April 13, 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