

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 27, 2011**

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The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority was called to order at 12:19 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2011, Chairman Asa Hughes presiding. Other Members present at the commencement of the meeting were: Richard Bohner, Brian Nagle, and Norma Cusick. Authority Staff present were: Aurel Arndt, Bradford Landon, Pat Mandes, Frank Leist, Douglas Young, Joseph McMahan, and Cristin Keppel.

Craig Murray from Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. (MPI) was in attendance. Gerald Fry and Bruce Gordon from Johnson, Mirmiran, & Thompson and Gary Birks from Senator Pat Browne's office were also in attendance. Jeanine Bauer, member of the public from Jordan Road, North Whitehall Township, was also present.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Mr. Arndt stated there were no additional items following the scheduled agenda.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Arndt stated there would be no executive sessions.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**May 9, 2011 Workshop Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Bohner, seconded by Ms. Cusick, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 9, 2011 Workshop Meeting (4-0).

**May 23, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Bohner, seconded by Ms. Cusick, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 23, 2011 Regular Meeting (4-0).

**June 13, 2011 Workshop Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Bohner, seconded by Ms. Cusick, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 13, 2011 Workshop Meeting (4-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Bauer stated that she is a resident of North Whitehall Township, specifically residing on Jordan Road, and she was present to represent all residents of Jordan Road and the surrounding area around the proposed wastewater treatment plant on the KidsPeace property. She stated that all residents on Jordan Road are opposed to the proposed sewage plant. She added that it was her recommendation that the Board move the regional wastewater treatment plant to a different location along the Coplay Creek that had been discussed in previous reports.

Scott Bieber entered the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Lehigh Valley South Special Water System Capital Recovery Fees – Resolution 6-2011-3**  
*(Approval)*

Mr. Young explained that figures for Lehigh Valley South needed updating because the lots of that property were recently sold and rates have never been updated.

Mr. Hughes asked for an explanation regarding the accrued interest charge included in the fees.

Mr. Young explained the original agreement for the property was structured to include the accrued interest because the structure was built by the Authority using bond funds.

On a motion by Ms. Cusick, seconded by Mr. Nagle, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 6-2011-3, adopting new Capital Recovery Fees for Lehigh Valley South (5-0).

#### **Wastewater Capital Recovery Fees – Resolution 6-2011-4 (Approval)**

Mr. Young explained these fees are updated annually and noted that those fees highlighted on the attachment are the updated charges.

Mr. Bohner asked if the disputed City of Allentown billings were included in the fee schedule.

Mr. Young noted that there has not been any movement regarding the dispute at this time, but because the billings relate to operating expenses, they do not relate to capital recovery fees. After some brief discussion, Mr. Young noted that all charges stem from calculations based on growth and financial costs and projections.

On a motion from Mr. Bohner, seconded by Ms. Cusick, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 6-2011-4, adopting 2011 Wastewater Capital Recovery Fees (5-0).

#### **Long-term Wastewater Capacity – Options Analysis (Presentation)**

Ms. Mandes distributed a copy of the detailed spreadsheet included in the presentation comparing the four options being considered.. She and Craig Murray reviewed the attached presentation that included updated cost estimates for each option, social impacts, and environmental concerns. The presentation also provided details regarding how the need for 4 mgd (million gallons per day) of wastewater capacity was determined, the historical trend for the sale of allocation, current status of available Authority allocation, and how the wastewater capacity options compare. Ms. Mandes reviewed the Study Findings and Projects Recommendations comparison which analyzes each option for various financial, social, and environmental criteria reflecting a triple bottom line analysis. She explained that the spreadsheet is a living document and will be revised as new or updated information becomes available.

Mr. Murray stated that actual operations and maintenance costs are unknown until final numbers are provided by the City of Allentown regarding Kline's Island. Extensive discussion followed.

Mr. Nagle asked Mr. Murray and Ms. Mandes to clarify some points on the spreadsheet. Discussion followed.

After some further discussion, Ms. Mandes recommended that Option 3, which calls for upgrading the Authority WTP for direct discharge to the Lehigh River, should be eliminated as an option since it is substantially more costly than any of the other options to continue with Act 537 Planning processes.

There was no objection from Board members to eliminate Option 3.

#### **SYSTEM OPERATIONS OVERVIEW**

Mr. McMahon noted that water usage for June has been around 8 mgd.

Ms. Mandes stated that we received a fine from DEP for an incomplete storm water form at the WTP. OMI has paid the fine; the work had actually been performed, but the required form was not completed.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Landon asked the Board to adopt Resolution 6-2011-5 authorizing the Authority to accept a PennVEST loan for the Water Meter Replacement Project, Year 2. This is primarily the same as Resolution No. 6-2011-1, which the Board had passed at its June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, but when the final figures were developed the amount of the loan was slightly higher than the amount the Board had previously authorized, thus the need for a revised resolution. He noted that a form must also be signed by the Officers.

On a motion from Ms. Cusick, seconded by Mr. Bieber, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 6-2011-5 (5-0).

**OTHER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hughes asked guests of the meeting to introduce themselves. Messrs. Fry and Golden stated they were from Johnson, Mirmiran, and Thompson. The engineering firm has opened a field office in Allentown and they attended the meeting to gather information on current Authority projects.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There were no executive sessions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

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Richard H. Bohner  
Secretary