

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2022

Notice of Preparation of Authority Meeting Minutes: Authority staff who are in attendance at each Authority Board meeting prepare a draft of the Minutes, which are subsequently distributed to all Board members for review. Board members may offer corrections prior to a vote of the full Board of Directors to approve the Minutes.

The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 12:01 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2022. Chairman Brian Nagle presiding. The meeting was hybrid via in-person and video and audio advanced communication technology (“ACT”), using the Zoom internet application, including telephone option. Each Board member and other attendees of the meeting were able to hear each other attendee and be heard by each other attendee. The public could also participate in the meeting in-person or via ACT, using the Zoom internet application, including telephone option. A Roll Call of Board members present was taken. Brian Nagle, Richard Bohner, Norma Cusick, Jeff Morgan, and Amir Famili were present for the duration of the meeting. Ted Lyons and Scott Bieber arrived after the Roll Call, as noted below.

Solicitor Michael Gaul of KingSpry was present along with Authority Staff, Ed Klein, Chuck Volk, Phil DePoe, Andrew Moore, Chris Moughan, and Lisa Miller.

Chairman Nagle announced that the Board received their electronic and hard copies of the Board packet in advance and asked if anyone did not receive their copy of the packet. A copy of the packet is also available online.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Ed Klein announced that there are no changes or additions to the agenda and no Executive Session planned.

Ted Lyons arrived at the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Norma Cusick, seconded by Jeff Morgan, the Board approved the minutes of the May 23, 2022 Board meeting as presented (5-0). Richard Bohner abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

SmartBall Inspection – 30” and 36” Transmission Main – East Side

Chris Moughan presented an overview of the project. An acoustic leak detection survey will be performed to identify and locate leaks along the steel water main starting at the Water Filtration Plant and ending at the East Side Reservoir. Numerous catch basins have been installed so that the SmartBall can be captured, and the data downloaded. The data will be used to help prioritize the Authority’s ongoing water main replacements.

Scott Bieber arrived at the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

There was some discussion about the accuracy of the SmartBall leak detection system under different operating conditions. Jennifer McKenna, City of Allentown Compliance Office, commented that the City used Pure Technologies to conduct leak detection on the Schantz Spring transmission line in 2009, and the City was satisfied with the work.

On a motion by Amir Famili, seconded by Ted Lyons, the Board approved the Professional Services Authorization to Pure Technologies, a Xylem Brand, in the amount of \$70,500.00 (7-0).

A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast:

Brian Nagle – yes
Scott Bieber – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Ted Lyons – yes
Jeff Morgan – yes
Amir Famili – yes

KISS System Modeling – Capacity Problem Definition

Phil DePoe presented an overview of the Kline's Island Sewer System (KISS) Capacity Problem Definition project, which will define the scope of system challenges to be addressed as part of the regional Act 537 Plan, currently under development. The work includes using the KISS system hydraulic model to identify where existing overflows are occurring during rain events and predict the extent of future overflows that may occur during the Act 537 planning period through the year 2050. During this phase of the project, specific rain events will be selected to be used as the basis of future alternatives analyses. Arcadis, who has been completing the KISS system modeling work, will use these selected rain events to document current and future flow conditions, including identifying the trunklines and interceptors subject to surcharges during dry weather conditions, and modeling the impact of various approaches to reducing or eliminating inflow and infiltration into the system. These steps need to be completed to fully define the scope of the current and future system problems, prior to modeling the alternatives for facility upgrades to address the problems.

There was some discussion about the scope of work, and whether this phase of the project will be used to identify the facility options for the Act 537 Plan. Mr. DePoe explained the scope of work and reviewed the five tasks included in the Arcadis proposal.

Board members asked about the method of selecting storm events to be used for the alternatives analysis. Mr. DePoe explained the process to be used and the involvement of the KISS municipalities in this project. As part of this phase of work, the goal is to select historical rain events that will represent a 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, and 20-year storm recurrence interval.

Some additional Board discussion followed.

On a motion by Jeff Morgan, seconded by Ted Lyons, the Board approved the Capital Project Authorization for the Kline's Island Sewer System Capacity Problem Definition, Planning Phase, in the amount of \$236,000.00, which includes the Professional Services Authorization to Arcadis in the amount of \$196,000.00 (7-0).

A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast:

Brian Nagle – yes
Scott Bieber – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Ted Lyons – yes
Jeff Morgan – yes
Amir Famili – yes

Resolution 6-2022-1: Trexlertown Act 537 Special Study

Phil DePoe described the short-term solution to address an existing bottleneck in the Western Lehigh Interceptor in the Trexlertown area, known as the “Trexlertown Bottleneck.” A long-term solution will be developed as part of the future regional Act 537 Plan. The interim solution to the Trexlertown Bottleneck is to install a pump station near the Authority’s Pretreatment Plant in Fogelsville on the effluent side and pump approximately 2.5 million gallons per day into the Upper Macungie Trunk Line. This trunk line has adequate capacity to transport this additional flow and connects with the Western Lehigh Interceptor downstream of the bottleneck area.

Mr. DePoe explained that the Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires an Act 537 Special Study to be completed and submitted for DEP approval prior to completing the facility design. The Act 537 Special Study was presented to the Upper Macungie Planning Commission, Lower Macungie Planning Commission, and Lehigh Valley Planning Commission for review and comment. No comments were received. The Act 537 Special Study also required municipal approval by Resolution as part of the submission to DEP. He noted that the Authority is not required to take official action because the Resolutions must come from Upper Macungie and Lower Macungie Townships. However, due to the leadership role of the Authority, the Act 537 Special Study was posted to the Authority’s website for review and comment, and Mr. DePoe recommends the Board approve Resolution 6-2022-1 to indicate its support for the Study and project approach.

Solicitor Mike Gaul reviewed Resolution No. 6-2022-1. There was some Board discussion about other municipal agreements that will be required for this project to move forward, and the status of design work that is currently under way. Scott Bieber asked about the current status of sewer overflows in the Trexlertown area. Mr. DePoe explained that overflows have occurred in this area during wet-weather events, and the Western Lehigh Interceptor is surcharged in this area more often when the groundwater table is high.

On a motion by Scott Bieber, seconded by Amir Famili, the Board adopted Resolution No. 6-2022-1 approving adoption of the Trexlertown Act 537 Special Study (7-0).

A roll call vote was taken with the following votes cast:

Brian Nagle – yes
Scott Bieber – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Ted Lyons – yes
Jeff Morgan – yes
Amir Famili – yes

MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS

Ed Klein highlighted the items shown in the report that will be on the agenda for the June 27th Board meeting.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / OTHER COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Richard Bohner
Secretary