

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 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 12:06 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 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, Kevin Baker, Jeff Morgan, and Amir Famili were present for the duration of the meeting.

Solicitor Michael Gaul of KingSpry was present along with Authority Staff, Liesel Gross, Ed Klein, Chris Moughan, Chuck Volk, Andrew Moore, Phil DePoe, Susan Sampson, Mark Bowen, 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

Liesel Gross announced that there are no changes to the agenda and no Executive Session is planned.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Richard Bohner suggested minor corrections. On a motion by Richard Bohner, seconded by Amir Famili, the Board approved the minutes of the June 27, 2022 Board meeting as corrected (5-0). Norma Cusick abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Water Main Replacement Program Cycle 6

Chuck Volk provided an overview of the project and introduced Jason Peters, project coordinator, to review the details. Mr. Peters explained that the Allentown water and sewer lease agreement, as amended in 2020, requires the Authority to replace a total of four miles of aged spun cast or pit cast water mains by the end of 2024. The Cycle 6 project includes replacement of 1.17 miles this year. Funding for the project will be through the Authority’s Allentown Division and grant funds provided by the City of Allentown through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. JOAO Bradley was the only

bidder on the contract and has successfully performed the work in Cycles 2, 3, and 5 and numerous other projects throughout the Authority. Chuck Volk explained that the lack of bidders may have been due to the aggressive completion schedule and the uncertainty of the availability of the fittings. A cost-sharing agreement with the City is included in the requested authorization and will include pavement milling, overlay, and ADA ramp construction.

There was some discussion about project cost increases from prior years due to economic conditions and fuel prices. Jennifer McKenna, City of Allentown Office of Compliance, commented that the Authority and the City representatives met to discuss the bid prices and mutually agreed to move forward with the project.

On a motion by Norma Cusick, seconded by Richard Bohner, the Board approved the Capital Project Authorization – Construction Phase in the amount of \$3,178,725.00 that includes the Professional Services Authorization – Construction Engineering and Administration Services to Gannett Fleming Inc. in the amount of \$45,220.00 and Construction Inspection Services to Keystone Consulting Engineers in the amount of \$75,000.00, the General Construction Contract to JOAO Bradley Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$2,542,505.00, and the Final Paving Restoration Contract – Cost Sharing Agreement with the City of Allentown in the amount of \$366,000.00 (6-0).

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

Brian Nagle – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Kevin Baker – yes
Jeff Morgan – yes
Amir Famili – yes

Heidelberg Heights Sanitary Sewer Consent Order and Agreement

Chuck Volk provided background regarding the Consent Order and Agreement in place for the Heidelberg Heights sewer system, which requires the Authority to complete various system upgrades aimed at reducing wet-weather flows and treatment plant bypasses during rain events. Although more than 80 percent of the sewer mains and public sewer laterals have now been replaced, the Authority has not seen a proportionate decrease in the wet-weather flow into the plant. This indicates that significant inflow and infiltration is being generated from the private portions of the sewer system. Per the Consent Order and Agreement, the Authority is required to perform private-side sewer inspections to identify any prohibited connections or any broken or deficient private-side sewer laterals. In 2019, Heidelberg Township adopted an updated sewer ordinance authorizing the Authority to conduct the inspections. Jason Peters, project coordinator, described the process that will be used to conduct the inspections, including customer communication, scheduling inspection appointments with homeowners, and smoke testing.

There was some discussion about methods to enforce the requirements for inspections and any corrective actions, including involving the Authority's solicitor if needed. Grant funding through the Community Development Block Grant program will also be sought to support low-income property owners who need to make sewer system repairs to correct deficiencies discovered during the inspections.

On a motion by Norma Cusick, seconded by Richard Bohner, the Board approved the Capital Project Authorization – Planning Phase in the amount of \$73,075.00 which includes the Professional

Services Authorization – Planning Phase Private Side Sewer Inspection Program to Keystone Consulting Engineers in the amount of \$62,575.00 (6-0).

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

Brian Nagle – yes
Richard Bohner – yes
Norma Cusick – yes
Kevin Baker – yes
Jeff Morgan – yes
Amir Famili – yes

MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS

Liesel Gross highlighted the July 2022 items that will be coming up at the next meeting.

STAFF COMMENTS

Liesel Gross commented that the state budget was recently approved. According to the state's announcement of the adoption of the budget, funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will be released to PennVEST this year. The Authority has been watching this closely because the funding will be available for lead service line replacements.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

Solicitor Gaul announced that he will not be at the next Board meeting. His colleague Kent Herman will be present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / OTHER COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Richard Bohner
Secretary