

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 24, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 12:10 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023, 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, Amir Famili, Ted Lyons, Linda Rosenfeld, Norma Cusick, Kevin Baker, Jeff Morgan, and Sean Ziller were present for Roll Call, and remained for the duration of the meeting.

Solicitor Michael Gaul of KingSpry was present along with Authority Staff, Liesel Gross, Ed Klein, Andrew Moore, Chris Moughan, Phil DePoe, Chuck Volk, Susan Sampson, Albert Capuzzi, 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 or additions to the agenda; however, an Executive Session is planned for after the regular meeting to discuss legal matters with the Solicitor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Linda Rosenfeld, seconded Norma Cusick, the Board approved the minutes of the April 10, 2023, Board meeting as written (8-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Resolution No. 4-2023-1: Destruction of Authority Documents

Liesel Gross explained that the Resolution is an annual process whereby the Authority Board must formally approve the disposition of certain records in accordance with the Pennsylvania Municipal Records Act. There was brief Board discussion. Ted Lyons recommended keeping insurance records forever.

On a motion by Linda Rosenfeld, seconded by Amir Famili, the Board approved Resolution No. 4-2023-1 (8-0).

KISS System Modeling – Final Alternatives Analysis

Phil DePoe gave a presentation and overview of the Final Alternatives Analysis (FAA) phase of the regional Act 537 Plan development project for the Kline’s Island Sewer System (KISS). In this phase of work, Arcadis will evaluate a final group of potential solutions to address the dry-weather and wet-weather sewage flows in the system through the year 2035 and 2050. During a future meeting, the Board will discuss the decision criteria to be used to select the final alternative that will be included in

the Act 537 Plan submission to the Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). There was some Board discussion regarding the program objectives.

Mr. DePoe explained that in the FAA phase of work, Arcadis will determine the size, extent, and cost of the infrastructure improvements, and will use rainfall data from Hurricane Ida in 2021 to model results. The FAA work will also incorporate expected results from the municipalities' planned projects to eliminate inflow and infiltration (I&I), as well as recognize future flows generated by new connections to the system. The FAA work is a refinement of work completed in the prior phase, the Preliminary Screening of Alternatives (PSOA), in which 19 alternatives were already evaluated and narrowed down. Mr. DePoe provided a summary of the PSOA work, which identified key projects that must be included in the final solution: wet-weather capacity projects at the Kline's Island Wastewater Treatment Plant; conveyance enhancements to address the bottlenecks within the Little Lehigh Interceptor; conveyance enhancements to address the Western Lehigh Interceptor; and the KISS municipalities' I&I source reduction projects. The FAA will further refine these project concepts and is expected to be completed by late October 2023. More Board discussion followed regarding the projects to be analyzed in this phase and the municipalities' I&I source reduction efforts. There was additional discussion regarding the Authority's role in approving the final Act 537 Plan, and Liesel Gross explained that while the Board will be asked to approve the plan, DEP requirement is focused on each municipality's approval of the plan.

Mr. DePoe reviewed the next steps in the process and explained that an additional funding authorization for the program manager, AECOM, will be requested in May.

On a motion by Jeff Morgan, seconded by Amir Famili, the Board approved the Capital Plan Authorization for the FAA in the amount of \$258,000.00 which includes the Professional Services Authorization to Arcadis in the amount of \$208,000.00 (8-0).

Kline's Island WWTP: Primary Digester No. 2 Cleaning and Rehabilitation Project

Chuck Volk explained the project for mechanical upgrades of Primary Digester No. 2 that consists of rehabilitation of the gas mixing system compressor and line replacements along with new electrical control panels and related electrical components. This mechanical work is typically required to be completed every 10 years due to the corrosive environment inside the digesters, and the work is being completed while the digester is offline for cleaning. Zimmerman Environmental submitted the lowest bid for the general contract for the Project. Zimmerman Environmental has completed several Authority wastewater projects and is recommended for the award of the general contract. Diefenderfer Electrical Contractors submitted the lowest bid for the electrical contract for the Project. Diefenderfer has also completed prior Authority projects satisfactorily, and is recommended for the award of the electrical contract.

On a motion by Ted Lyons, seconded by Amir Famili, the Board approved the Capital Project Authorization for the Construction Phase in the amount of \$248,650.00 which includes the General Contract award to Zimmerman Environmental in the amount of \$131,500.00, the Electrical Contract award to Diefenderfer Electrical Contractors in the amount of \$64,950.00, and the Professional Services Authorization to GHD, Inc. in the amount of \$27,500.00 (8-0).

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

Ed Klein gave a presentation and review of the March 2023 financial statements highlighting the variances between actual expenses and budgeted or forecasted expenses. Mr. Klein reported that financial results for March are positive.

MONTHLY SYSTEM OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

Andrew Moore reviewed the March 2023 Operations report and noted that water production is consistent for this time of the year although precipitation for the year has been low compared to previous years. He reported on a bypass that occurred at the Heidelberg Heights Wastewater Treatment Plant following a rain event of 1.62 inches. Chris Moughan reported on the water main replacement work being completed by Authority staff on Gordon Street in Allentown. Mr. Moore highlighted that, in March, the EPA proposed new drinking water standards for six PFAS compounds, and the Authority is reviewing the proposed regulation to determine impacts.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / OTHER COMMENTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Nagle announced an Executive Session would be held following the close of the meeting to discuss legal matters with the Solicitor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Linda A. Rosenfeld
Secretary