

FINAL COPY

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba
Chris Papastrat
Ron Lake
Bruce King
John Paddock
Stephen Andrew

Also Present: Ronald Warwick Jr., Asst. Superintendent
Billie Goodson, Business Manager
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer
Chuck Robinson, JSB Fiscal Officer/City of Binghamton Comptroller (entered 3:50pm)
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Mary Jacyna, Village of Johnson City Trustee/JSB committee
Adam Afify, Lead Operator
Deron Biechele, Shift Lead Operator
Bryan Witbeck, CSEA president, CMMS clerk

Guest: Elliott Wagner, Invited Guest
Edward Crumb, Invited Guest

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM. Sign in sheet was passed.

Six (6) Board members were present. Chairman confirmed all signed in, identified fire exits and requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Kolba invited Mr. Wagner & Mr. Crumb to come forward for their presentation of award plaques from the Joint Sewage Board.

Board member King presented the plaque to Mr. Crumb and noted that over the past 18 years I dare say all of us have learned a lot from Mr. Crumb. His passion to protect the environment and integrity of the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant has been outstanding.

The plaque reads as follows: This Exemplary Service Award is presented to Edward Crumb on 03/01/2025. This award is for over 18 years of dedicated service to the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant, your service to the owners and the users has always been in the best interest of our environment.

Board member King presented the plaque to Mr. Wagner and noted that 30 years ago, Elliott took a gamble by stepping away from private industry and taking a job at a governmental run facility. I suspect his love of the environment helped push him towards that decision. There's no doubt that his passion for the environment and doing things right have benefited our plant beyond what we could calculate. We all know what the last 14 years have been like here, but only Elliott and his staff knew what needed to be done to get us where we are today. There's no better example of that than in the last few years when Elliott has been at the helm running and guiding his staff through turbulent times.

The plaque reads as follows: This Exemplary Service Award is presented to Elliott Wagner on 05/30/2025. This award is for your love for the environment, and you have managed this facility so that it coexists with wildlife and their habitat. Thank you for your 30 years of service at the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant.

Everyone wished Mr. Crumb & Mr. Wagner the very best.
The Chairman closed the floor.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves the submitted April 08, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion was carried. 6/0/0

Assistant Superintendent/Interim Superintendent Report

Mr. Warwick addressed the floor by saying first and foremost, he would like to express his deepest gratitude to Elliott Wagner for his mentorship throughout his career and for placing his trust in being his assistant over the past five years.

Secondly, he would like to sincerely thank the Joint Sewage Board for the opportunity to serve as Interim Superintendent, and for the appointments of Mr. Adam Afify as Interim Assistant Superintendent and Deron Biechele as Interim Senior Operator. I'm both honored and humbled by your confidence in our team's ability to lead the plant and maintain the high standards expected in this position.

Interim Superintendent Warwick overviewed the report below which included graphs, charts, and copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders.

May Interim Superintendent Report 06/10/2025

May numbers: May was an extremely wet month with 11 days of high flows and 5.83 inches of rain.

Average Flow=24.03 MGD

CBOD=9 mg/L and 95% removal

TSS=8.6 mg/L with 94% removal

Fecals=14 MPN

Average Influent temp was 14.2 Deg C./57.56 Deg F.

40 Trucks to landfill for a total of 692.32 tons

Solar production was 1801 KWH.

Micro-turbine production was 122,256 KWH

We are currently meeting all the requirements of our SPDES (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit.

Budgeting planning is underway, and we are in the early stages of developing next year's financial plan.

Operationally, we have successfully rebuilt three (3) actuators for the CN air valves and prepared a fully rebuilt spare for future use. These are modulating valves, and the O-rings are subject to wear due to continuous movement, making proactive maintenance essential.

Additionally, we're pleased to report that Operator Trainee Mr. Johnson has passed his Grade 1 Operators Exam. Congratulations to Mr. Johnson on his accomplishment.

*****end of report*****

Fiscal Officer Report

Confidential Secretary Cuevas noted that Mr. Robinson was not in attendance at this time and the Fiscal Officer's Report, copies of which were distributed in each of the Board folders. If anyone has any questions, you could e-mail Mr. Robinson. Note: Mr. Robinson arrived at the meeting at 3:50pm. Meeting continued to the Business Manager Report.

Business Manager's Report

Business Manager Goodson went over the report.

Award of Extension Contract-Microbac Laboratories, Inc.- Professional Analytical (Laboratory) Services

Steve Andrew made a motion that the Board approves the Extension of Contract to Microbac Laboratories, Inc. for Professional Analytical (Laboratory) Services via the letter dated June 02, 2025, for an additional twelve (12) month service cycle period beginning July 31, 2025, through July 31, 2026. All terms and conditions of the earlier agreement are incorporated into this agreement, except for the effective dates and direct the Chairman to sign contract agreement.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion carried. 6/0

2025 Budget Modifications

Bruce King made a motion that the Board approves the 2025 budget modification as follows:

Increase ES8130.54450 Vehicle Repair by \$10,000.00

Increase ES8130.54520 Equipment Lease/Rental by \$8,000.00

Decrease ES8130.55000 Contingency by \$18,000.00

and that corresponding requests for legislation be submitted to the Owners' legislative bodies.

The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.
Motion carried. 6/0

*****end of report*****

Board Committee Reports

Construction

Board member Lake stated that 100% drawings for the TPS project should be completed very soon.

Finance

Board member King noted the insurance certificates, and this project is still ongoing. Also, noted that the finance committee will have 2026 budget meetings and a tentative schedule is posted.

Personnel

Mr. Andrew would like to reserve an Executive session to discuss personnel items.

Ad Hoc

No new business to report

Flow Management

No new business to report

Future Planning

No new business to report

Fiscal Officer Report

Mr. Robinson presented his report to the board and overviewed the Fiscal Officer's Report, copies of which were distributed in each of the Board folders and then opened the floor for any questions or comments pertaining to the report.

Mr. Robinson stated that the City of Binghamton would be installing a new phone system within 4 to 6 weeks, and his number will be changed. When the phone system is completed MR. Robinson will give us an updated list of phone numbers.

Mr. Robinson also noted that he will be on vacation all next week. He is also noted that the Corporation Counsel from both municipalities are having discussion.

Mr. Robinson has put together an excel spreadsheet of all the duties that are provided to the Joint Sewage Board with a cost associated with each of these duties. Duties included but not limited to 1099 processing of Joint Sewage Board members, store records software, flow reporting etc. The proposal that Mr. Robinson submitted was \$60,000/year, which could be split up in 6 months with payments of \$30,000 each. After a brief discussion it was asked by the board that Mr. Robinson e-mail the proposal over to them for review. Mr. Robinson is to email the quote which outlines the charges to the Business Manager, and she will distribute to the board.

*****end of report*****

Correspondence

IWPP Report-GHD

Confidential Secretary Cuevas overviewed the IWPP Report submitted for May 2025, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folder. The Confidential Secretary mentioned that notices were sent out to the industrial users for the IWPP stating of change of the IWPP Manager from Wagner to Warwick.

IWPP Permit Renewals were given to: City of Binghamton Water Filtration Plant, Lourdes/Geisinger Hospital, Norfolk Southern Rail, Greater Binghamton Health Center, Wilson Memorial Hospital & SUNY Broome.

GHD working on the IWPP permit for International Paper. It should be completed in July.

2024 EPA Audit still waiting on follow up questions from the EPA.

If anyone has any questions, you can e-mail Mr. Jason Greene.

*****end of report*****

Old Business: Vestal Water Bill

Board member King and Business Manager Goodson are still investigating the issues with the billing and will report back to the board. A few ideas were discussed about using reverse osmoses at the facility and possible use of effluent water to run process equipment. Interim Superintendent Warwick noted that this type of water to use in the polymer area is not recommended.

*****end of report*****

New Business:

Nothing to report

Executive Session: Personnel Matters

Stephen Andrew made a motion to enter the Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 4:12pm

**The motion was seconded by John Paddock.
Motion carried. 6/0**

Exit Executive Session:

Bruce King made a motion to exit Executive Session.

**The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.
Motion carried. 6/0**

The Board exited the Executive Session at 4:45pm.

**Salaried-Management Personnel Titles & Pay Rates- Effective June 7, 2025, for
Acting Superintendent, Acting Assistant Superintendent & Senior Operator**

Stephen Andrew made a motion to approve title changes and salary increases for salaried-management personnel as follows:

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
Acting Superintendent (Warwick)	\$ 103,000.00
Acting Assistant Superintendent (Afify)	\$ 92,000.00
Senior Operator (Biechele)	\$ 79,116.00

within the budgetary limits established under the 2025 Joint Sewage Board Budget adopted by the Owners' Legislative Bodies at their September 9, 2024, Joint Budget Meeting, in the following annual amounts for 2025, effective with 2025 Pay Period #12 which begins Saturday, June 7, 2025.

The motion was seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0

2nd. Executive Session: Litigations Matters

Stephen Andrew made a motion to enter the Executive Session to discuss litigation matter at 4:52pm

The motion was seconded by John Paddock.
Motion carried. 6/0

2nd. Exit Executive Session:

Bruce King made a motion to exit Executive Session.

The motion was seconded by Steve Andrew.
Motion carried. 6/0

No action taken

The next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at 3:30pm.

Adjournment:

Steve Andrew made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion carried. 6/0

The meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.

Michele Cuevas
Confidential Secretary

cc: Board Members
Mayor Kraham, City of Binghamton
Mayor Meaney, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Robinson, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor, Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, Village of Johnson City Director of Public Services
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Engineer
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