

DRAFT COPY

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

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba, Chairman Pro Tem
Edward Crumb
Chris Papastrat (Exited at 6:05PM)
Stephen Andrew
Ron Lake
Bruce King

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Billie J. Goodson, Business Manager
Chuck Shager, JSB Fiscal Officer and Comptroller, City of Binghamton
(Exited at 4.45pm)
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel (Remote)
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer (Exited at 6:20PM)
Larry Travis, BJCWWTP, Electrical Engineer (Exited at 6:20PM)
Charles Giblin, Village of Johnson City Trustee (Exit 6:05)
Victoria Bales, Regional Manager, Veolia (Exited at 4:10PM)
Ron Harding, Ramboll (Exited at 5:15PM)
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Janet Smith, Transcriptionist
Mark Rodriguez, MRV Consulting, LLC (Remote) (Exited at 5:47PM)

Chairman Pro Tem Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:31PM. Sign in sheet was passed. All six (6) Board members were present. Chairman Pro Tem Kolba confirmed all present 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

No one wished to speak.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted April 11, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 6/0

Fiscal Officer's Report

Chuck Shager overviewed the Fiscal Officer's Report, copies of which were distributed in each of the Board folders.

The financials for the year 2022 have now been completed. Copies of the ~~updated audit~~ NYS-mandatory Annual Financial Report Update Document (AUD) have been distributed in the Board folders. Mr. Crumb asked about the \$283,710,640 listed as "Construction Work in Progress" (as of 12/31/2022) on page 3, which appears to be an indication that the Owners have not yet accepted any of the Lead Agency Projects or closed them out, which would be why the Projects have not been turned-over by the Owners to the Board yet. Mr. Shager will look into this and report back to the Board.

Mr. Shager has a meeting scheduled with Chemung Bank to discuss financial products yielding a higher interest rate and what they have to offer to maximize the return on our monies.

Mr. Shager opened the floor to questions and offered that the Board members could contact him if they wished to go over any of the financials.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wagner opened stating that Kruger/Veolia had reached out to him about performing a case study. He then gave the floor to Kruger/Veolia Regional Manager, Victoria Bates, to present this request to the Board and to field any questions. Ms. Bates' presentation spoke about biological treatment needs and offerings for a better future of the plant. A copy of a marketing information document was distributed in each of the Board Folders. Mr. Crumb pointed out that some of the information in the document was not accurate. He also pointed out that approval for this request would have to come from the Owners; that the Board could only make a recommendation. Chris Papastrat suggested that that she makes the necessary revisions/corrections to the marketing information and submit same the Board for a follow-up to this request.

Ms. Bates finished with a general description of the biological process (BIOSTYR DUO), a potential, proprietary ANITA™ Mox Anammox Deammonification Process for ammonia removal from centrate liquid and responded to questions.

Superintendent Wagner then asked Ron Harding of Ramboll to speak about his submitted proposed RFQ/RFP for the Digester Gas Micro Turbine Installation Corrections and TPS

Upgrades. A discussion ensued at the table to include Facility Engineer Howard Reeve. Superintendent Wagner also mentioned that, in their present condition, the TPS gate valves cannot be closed, which is necessary to service the channel grinders. This condition puts employees in great danger when work on the channel grinders is required. With respect to the Micro Turbine project, Mr. Shager recommended that, before voting to proceed with actual project design, the Board should find out what the projected return on the investment, if any, might be based on projected total electricity pricing.

TPS

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratifies and authorizes advertising/distribution of the RFQ/RFP for the technical services for the Terminal Pumping Station (TPS) and mModification of the Terminal Pump Station Modification and Owner-Procured Engineering Report to Include Screenings Improvements in the form presented to us with the 5 clarifications or changes that were discussed earlier in the meeting, which would also require the development of the specimen form agreement for this engagement to go with this agreement solicitation, adding a site visit date and time provided by the Facility Engineer.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Mr. Andrew withdrew his second; Mr. Crumb made an amendment to the above motion on the floor as follows:

... to include that we are going to shoot aim for a May 24, 2023, submission date that we can adjust if necessary ... Bby invitation to Bergmann P.C., GHD, Ramboll, and Savin and Bergman Solko.

Motion as amended seconded by George Kolba.

Motion carried. 6/0

Micro Turbines

Ron Lake made a motion to authorize a consulting engineering contract with Ramboll to go ahead with the Scope of Services for a preliminary engineering report including Conceptual Design and construction cost estimate for the Micro Turbine cooling water optimization and installation correction project &-concept not to exceed \$7,000.00 to be encumbered and paid from budget line ES8130.54410 (Professional Services). Mr. Lake will review the contract.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

In discussion, it was noted that approval of the contract by both Owner Legislative Bodies is required under the IMA before work under the contract can begin.

Motion carried. 6/0

Superintendent Wagner then continued by presenting his report which included graphs, charts, tables and grant information, copies of which were distributed the Board's folders. The Face Page of the report is set forth below.

Superintendent Wagner gave kudos to the Operators in the Operations Dept., the Assistant Superintendent, and the Plant Engineer for their work and for continuing to use their skills and talents and teamwork improving processes and resolving ~~pop-up~~ issues that pop up running plant equipment. He also wanted to mention for the Board's support that a plan for a 6 hour in-house a training session for Operators on NYWEA's Paolymer and Chemical Methods for Phosphorus Training, hence a savings on accommodations and travel for the employees. This training is for certifications/recertifications in their field.

He will be hosting a private tour for the Sierra Club. The presentation made to the club was very successful and informative and piqued interest by the members.

Superintendent Wagner pointed out that he does ~~advise that he~~ rigidly enforces the 'No Photographs for Safety Purposes' rules for any outsiders on plant properties.

April Superintendent Report

5/9/2023

April Q = 16.88 mgd. With Max flow reaching 61.02 mgd.

SS = nearly 100% removal, TSS removal was 97%, 2023 Primary removal rate of 70%.

Textbook TSS removal rate = 40% to 60%

CBOD removal 95%. Primary removal rate of 60%.

Textbook CBOD removal rate = 20% to 50%

Phos. removal was 84%, Ammonia removal was 99%, TN removal -5 data points was 88%.

Operations department continues its stellar operation of the Bio-Styr, Actiflo and Denitrification processes. Oliver, Elman, and Bensley have all passed their NYSDEC Operator 1 tests.

Matco Electric has installed the 3 SCADA PLC cables in the CN gallery.

We continue to see a 280 gallon per week loss of water through the Digester boiler make-up water system. Mechanics and operations are working together to ascertain whether there are other issues with this system.

We received a request from Kruger/Veolia to produce a case study of the performance of Binghamton-Johnson City Sewage Treatment Plant. We have a member of their team here today to explain what a case study is and how it would be used.

We also spoke with their engineering team to discern whether an Anita-Mox process would be beneficial and or a cost-effective method of handling our daily Ammonia spike while dewatering. In your packet you will find the typical monthly sampling results of our Centrate; (Water removed during our centrifuging effort). In our discussion with them they indicated for

this to be a viable solution we would need an Ammonia concentration between 800-1,200 mg/L. As you can see from the chart, we average approximately 1,178 mg/L this year.

The Assistant Superintendent has brought up an alternative method of handling the Centrate utilizing an existing Thickener tank and existing infrastructure. There would need to be modifications to some of the piping and would need to be in conjunction with the Mechanical Thickener project. A cost analysis should be done taking all these projects into consideration, to protect the owner's investment and protect Chesapeake Bay in a sustainable and cost-efficient way.

The Plant Engineer has come up with a solution to remove headhouse pumps. These are quite heavy, and no provision was made to remove them for inspection, maintenance, or repair.

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

Business Manager's Report

Ms. Goodson is requesting Board approval for a budget transfer, the 2022 **Billable Wastewater Flows**, and an extension of **the Weaver Recovery Services contract** (Extension 8) and wanted to bring back to the table the RFP/RFQ for the Property and Equipment Appraisal Service

Budget Modification

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the 2023 budget modification as follows:

**Increase ES8130.54221 Equipment by \$9,000.00.
Decrease ES8130.55000 Contingency by \$9,000.00;**

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

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

2022 Billable Wastewater Flows

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratifies and approves 2022 Billable Wastewater Flows ~~and~~ the aggregate billable total of 3,119,719 cubic foot ~~cubic foot~~ units and that the details be provided to the Fiscal Officer.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Recovery Consulting Services Extension

Edward Crumb makes a motion that the Board approves extension of Weaver Recovery Consulting Services (Extension 8) Agreement through June 30, 2023, at not to exceed amount of \$5,000.00 to be encumbered and paid from ES8130.54410 (Professional Services).

Motion seconded by George Kolba.

Motion carried. 5/1 (RL nay)

Property and Equipment Appraisal

Edward Crumb made a motion to readvertise for a Property and Equipment Appraisal with a proposal submission due date of June 22, 2023, and appraisal report due date of May 31, 2024.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Construction: George Kolba, Steve Andrew, Ron Lake.

Finance: Edward Crumb – The 2022 Billable Flows are finalized, and at the next Regular Meeting he will have the proposed 2024 budget development and review schedule for ratification. Mr. Crumb reported that, during April, no new monies were received from FEMA or NYS-DHSES in relation to the September 2011 flood damage.

Flow Management: Edward Crumb – They will be having a meeting with Town of Binghamton representatives on their proposed housing project. His The committee has been working hard going over rules and regulations for integration and updating.

Personnel: Steve Andrew has a topic of discussion for Executive Session.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – nothing to report

Mr. Lake wanted to insert a Construction Committee topic at this time regarding mechanical thickeners, a mechanical engineering report and grants. A lengthy discussion ensued with a bottom line of obtaining a preliminary mechanical engineering report and support of request application for now-available grants.

Ron Lake made a motion that the Board approves his soliciting proposals for a preliminary Mechanical Engineering Report, for Mechanical Thickener Improvements specifying scope of work, identification of steps to determine locations, costs, and potential preliminary budget on what the Mechanical Engineering Report needs to cover. Send them RFQ/RFP to GHD, Savin, Ramboll, & and the Bergmann firms.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried 5/0/1 (CP)

Board Member Chris Papastrat exited the meeting at 6:05PM (during the above item of business). A quorum of five Board Members remains present.

Correspondence: Michele Cuevas

Ms. Cuevas brought to the Board's attention that many businesses no longer use manual checks and prefer making payments using the **electronic funds transfer (EFT)** Automated Clearing House process or ACH; that there is a need to recognize and expedite ACH processing. Ms. Cuevas suggested that for clarity for the users and ease of posting payments to their account expeditiously by this office, she suggested to modify all future invoices with a detailed instruction statement of requirements for users to make such ACH payments.

Old Business: RFP/RFQ for the Property and Equipment Appraisal Service was previously addressed during the report by the Business Manager.

New Business: Since Board Member Chris Papastrat was absent, Chairman Pro Tem Kolba will hold over the election of officers. Ms. Cuevas will place it earlier on the agenda for the Regular June Meeting.

Edward Crumb mentioned that **coordination with the Owner's** should be **interfaced** regarding the available **to NYS-EFC** grants **for their support for the applications** and to be able to move forward.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorizes the submission of the Requests for Legislation for Professional Consulting Engineering Services Agreement approval by the Owners' Legislative Bodies as to Consulting Engineers under the IMA Section 12d(D)(ix) as to Consulting Engineering Services for preparation of the Preliminary Engineering Reports required for the NYS-EFC grant applications due July 28, 2023. Bruce King seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP Absent)

Executive Session:

Steve Andrew made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Contractual Personnel Matters. Motion seconded by Bruce King. Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP Absent)

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:20PM.

Steve Andrew made a motion to exit Executive Session. Motion seconded by Edward Crumb. Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP Absent)

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:38PM.

Steve Andrew made a motion for a response to the March 30, 2023, CSEA Grievance that we are denying the Grievance and that Al Paniccia draft a letter for Chairman Pro Tem Kolba's signature.

Motion seconded by Edward Crumb.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP Absent)

The next regular Board meeting is June 13, 2023, at 3:30PM.

Adjournment

Steve Andrew made a motion to adjourn.

Motion seconded by Chairman Pro Tem Kolba.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (CP Absent)

Meeting adjourned at 6:40PM.

Janet Smith
Transcriptionist

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 Shager, 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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