

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
PLUM CREEK MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
September 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of The Plum Creek Municipal Authority was held on September 21, 2021, at the Plum Creek Municipal Authority Business Office Building, South Manheim Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

Board members present at the meeting were Jim Ridderhoff, Jerry Weiss, Matt Gruber, Corby Lewis, and Ryan Achenbach. Also, in attendance were Joe Zerbe, Nancy Wesner (PCMA Office), Mike Kreiser (SES – Select Environmental Solutions), Matthew Crump (SES), and property owner Michael Flynn Jr.

Jim Ridderhoff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The minutes for the July 2021 meeting were accepted by motion of Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Jerry Weiss, carried by all. The documentation that there was no meeting in August 2021 due to a lack of a quorum was accepted by motion of Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Jerry Weiss, carried by all.

The Treasurer's report for July 2021 and August 2021 were reviewed and accepted by motion of Jerry Weiss, seconded by Matt Gruber, carried by all.

Matthew Crump (SES), submitted a written manager's report to the Board prior to the meeting:

- Copies of the following information has been submitted by SES to PA DEP on the authority's behalf and are viewable via PA DEP website via the eDMR.
 - Discharge monitoring report and Discharge monitoring report supplemental report
- Western Star is going into Axiom to fix the PTO (pump). It will not engage. In water operations, Matthew Crump (SES) reported that:
 - Leaks that were identified by Bonkovich and a few extras that popped up have been repaired (7 total). Another leak was found this month and it was on the customer's side, and they are part-time residents, so the curb stop is shut off.
- More new chemical pumps were ordered to install at each well.

- Three wells (8, 3 & 1) are currently running in September.
- 91,000 gallons is in parenthesis because according to our well summary that would be the result but that is due to timing over the weekend. The flows were recorded shortly before midnight and then shortly after midnight for ops done over the weekend. The usage beside it is closer to what is normally reviewed.
- Booster Station: All pumps operational and rotating on monthly basis.

In sewage operations, Matthew Crump (SES) reported that:

- Normal operations continue and plant ran well for August 2021.
- Approximately 27 septic pumps are in the backlog.

Matt Gruber asked Matthew Crump (SES) if the guys are checking the oil in the pump trucks all the time. Matt said we just did a pump on the Mack truck. Matt said he is wondering if the maintenance is being kept up on the trucks. It is an expensive repair. Mike Kreiser (SES) said that is something the Board might want to touch base on with their employees. Mike said they do not have any part of the septic trucks. They are on the operations of the water and sewer plant at this point in time with the new contract. Mike said they are more than happy to help the Board out with whatever is needed.

Matthew Crump (SES) said they will be doing hydrant flushing (on the entire system) starting on September 27, 2021, to October 8, 2021. Nancy (PCMA Office) said a notice was put in the newspaper and an alert will also be sent out to the residents. Mike Kreiser (SES) said his operations manager will be coming and assisting Matthew.

Mike Kreiser (SES) said both him and Matthew (SES) have been filling in full-time, for quite a while, and he has finally started to get resumes. Mike said he thinks he has a potential certified water/wastewater operator who wants a manager type role. He is going to be doing a ride along with Matthew soon.

In engineering matters, Jamie Lorah (SSM), who did not attend, but touched base with Jim Ridderhoff, before the meeting. Jamie had nothing new to report.

In legal matters, Joe Zerbe said he addressed routine matters such as filing and satisfying liens. Also, a notice was sent into the Tax Claim Bureau for the properties, in Lake Wynonah, that are going to tax sale on September 27, 2021.

A pit meter at a property is stuck. Joe Clemas (PCMA) said this is an older pit meter. The current pits have a spring like set up where the meter can be pulled up

and replaced and this one does not. The new meters we have now will not fit. Mike Kreiser (SES) asked if the meter can be rebuilt. Mike said get him the information and they will get a picture, send it to Exeter Supply or L/B Water, and one of them can rebuild the meter or have a replacement for that meter. Mike said where Plum Creek replaces most of the meters (PCMA has plastic meters), most municipalities (like Bernville who has brass meters) his operator will clean the meters and screens and then reinstalls the meter. Matt Gruber asked what happens if we pull the meter out of there. Mike said they would put a copper stub in there while the meter is being rebuilt.

The homeowner at 845 Wynonah Drive sent pictures regarding the repairs that were done to his driveway on 11/03/20 & 11/04/20 following PCMA leak repairs to an underground main at the end of his driveway. Corby Lewis said as far as color that is going to be what it is, but he does not know how far it sunk down. Corby asked if we have any black top companies coming in to fix any repairs from water leaks. Matthew Crump (SES) said all the repairs have been finished. Corby and Ryan Achenbach will stop by the property and look at it. The Board tabled the matter till the next meeting.

Jen (PCMA) found a website developer to take over PCMA's website. The company is from Pottsville, and he will do PCMA's website and maintenance. Nancy said he will have a link so the office can put up alerts (leak repairs, etc.) and that will not have to go through him. Nancy said he will also do on-site computer maintenance which is not included in his proposal. Corby Lewis said their secretary just did something similar and he believes her prices were a whole lot better, but their website does not have the same content. Ryan Achenbach said there is a web designer in the lake, and he will reach out to him. The Board tabled the matter till the next meeting.

Michael Flynn said he had some questions. He said we had multiple boil water advisories and he wanted to know what those were related to. Matthew Crump (SES) said water leak repairs. We had the water leaks that Bonkovich identified using listening equipment. They had to shut off water mains and that causes a loss of positive pressure which requires a boil water advisory. Matthew said more leaks popped up, they were addressed, and an updated advisory was sent out.

Michael Flynn said he is a resident of Lake Wynonah and an engineer and would like to offer his help to develop a Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement Plan (LTIIP). Which is a five-year plan for main replacement and getting the system back healthy. He is saying five years, but it would not be done in five years, it would be a forty-to-fifty-year goal, because you could not afford to do it all in five

years. The idea is to develop a realistic plan that would make it potentially palpable to keep the water system instead of selling it off to a for-profit company or sell it to Schuylkill County Municipal Authority (SCMA). Corby Lewis said Schuylkill Municipal Authority is cheaper. Michael said you would not have to commit to adopting a plan before it is developed but he would like to present it to the PCMA Board, in about two months, for the Board to review and consider. Michael said he would need information - the budget for the last three years, needs a map of the current system, and what would be critical is maintenance records as far back as you have them. Part of a LTIP is a good prioritization of areas and he would need to analyze the maintenance records. Michael said he does not know if we have them going back fifty years but if you do that would be helpful. Corby asked what kind of costs are involved. Michael said he would be doing it for free - volunteer work.

Mike Kreiser said he thought most of the problems were where a person's line is connected to the main. Matthew Crump (SES) said it does seem like more than main breaks and issues (which we have had) but in his experience, and his time at PCMA, it has been 20,000 gals here, 30,000 gals there, on service lines not actual mains.

Jim Ridderhoff said the question is are we willing to let Michael Flynn have access to our records for him to provide what he would like to do for us. Corby Lewis said he might have to fill out a Right-to-Know form. Nancy (PCMA Office) said when mortgage companies call and say they want a copy of well permits we do not give them out because of security. Nancy asked what about giving out a map of the whole water system to the public. Michael said he can see that argument and it is a valid point. Michael asked is there a way to give him a map that cuts out the critical infrastructure and just shows where the mains are. Mike Kreiser (SES) said we would not have that specialized map and right now we are just getting maps from Jamie Lorah (SSM) but that would show the valves, the water tank, well houses, and all that stuff. Michael said the other option would be if you could segment your system and mark repairs/dates that have been done and that would help him prioritize areas. Michael said if not – he could give a vague plan – you have this many miles of mains, and the plan is to replace this amount per year at this cost, and this is how much you would have to raise your rates to match that need. Matthew Crump (SES) said there might be one binder at the plant that has a log with leak repairs, but he would have to look. Michael said he will send an email to the PCMA Office asking for the data and take as long as you need to look through it. This is not a decision that needs to be made right away.

Joe Zerbe said he thinks the Board should think about it and then look at what exactly Michael Flynn is asking for, what he needs, and what type of information is sensitive. Ryan Achenbach said Michael should put in his request and the Board will review it. Corby Lewis thanked Michael for his offer.

Ryan Achenbach said about five or six residents have bought up about the hydrant flushing. Ryan said if we can do that process and then make a return and see who is still having issues. Jim Ridderhoff said to Mike Kreiser (SES) you mentioned when you flush the hydrant the manganese rushes in and gets caught up in the meter screen. Mike said it is in chunks in your system. So, once you start flushing you are moving the stuff through. The office provided a good explanation, from Mike Stewart, about shutting off different valves to force the manganese in the system out through the hydrants.

There being no further business, Matt Gruber motioned for adjournment, Corby Lewis seconded the motion, carried by all. Jim Ridderhoff adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Upon motion by Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Jerry Weiss, and carried by all, the Board reopened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. to discuss staff concerns.

At 7:01 p.m. the Board suspended the regular meeting and convened in Executive Session to discuss an employee matter. At 8:00 p.m. the Board reconvened in regular session. The Board discussed employment requirements that will take effect in the immediate future.