

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF THE
PLUM CREEK MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

A regular meeting of the Board of The Plum Creek Municipal Authority was held on August 16, 2022, 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, and Ryan Achenbach. Also, in attendance were Joe Zerbe, Nancy Wesner (PCMA Office), Matthew Crump (ARRO Water Services), Patrick "PJ" O'Boyle (ARRO Water Services), Dave Bright (SSM Engineering) and property owners Joe Haggerty, Bob Still, Daniel Herner, Mike Flynn, James and Mary Heimbecker.

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

The minutes for the July 2022 meeting, were accepted by motion of Jerry Weiss, seconded by Matt Gruber, carried by all.

The Treasurer's report for July 2022 was reviewed and accepted by motion of Matt Gruber, seconded by Jerry Weiss, carried by all.

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

- Copies of the following information has been submitted by ARRO Water Services 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

In water operations, Matthew Crump (ARRO Water Services) reported that:

- July 13-15: EQ tanks being cleaned out.
- July 20: Met with SSM inspector to inspect the EQ tank integrity. Investigated water leak on Lightfoot Drive and preemptively uncovered water main valve boxes to test their operation for shut down needed to repair.
- July 22: Contacted all necessary parties and schedule for the water main leak repair on July 25th.
- July 25: Attended the water leak repair at 1398 Lightfoot Drive to oversee and shut down pressure. Helped plumber at 1914 Wynonah Drive open curb stop and flush the line under pressure. Checked 51 Papoose Drive curb stop for noise/leak due to sanding water complaint in yard but found no cause.
- July 29: Meter repair at 2605 Crowfoot Drive.
- Two wells (8 & 6) are currently running in June.
- Booster Station: Normal operations; nothing to report.

In sewage operations, Matthew Crump (ARRO Water Services) reported that:

- Continue to waste excess sludge volume.
- Pump trucks were virtually idle due to the plant being shut down; one still out for repair.
- There were 49 pumps done (27 Holding Tank Pumps, 22 Septic Pumps) for July 2022.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said he did receive the pump, which was discussed, and the fittings and one of them was wrong, so that is getting taken care of, and will be sent back to us for the extended frac tank operation.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said they got the hydrant flushing materials and will get PCMA on the schedule.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said the Board received a quote from Axiom to repair the Mack pump truck. Jim Ridderhoff said the quote is for \$9,580. Matt Gruber said he talked to someone regarding the pumps on our trucks and it could cost anywhere from \$25,000 to \$30,000 for a different pump on our truck. But that all depends on what they must do to it to adapt a new one to our trucks. Matt said we want to do some training if we do end up going with another pump or if we fix this. Matt said he feels that we should also get a quote from Pik Rite because they assembled the Mack for us. Matt said he will call Pik Rite and let them know what is going on with the truck and he will also call Axiom.

Joe Zerbe said he did not know if the Board had time to review his memo/comments on the ARRO contract. Joe said there are things in the contract from ARRO that were not in SES's (Select Environmental Services) contract and things in SES's contract that are not in ARRO's contract. There is nothing terrible in either contract but wanted the Board to understand what the differences are. Joe said from the legal standpoint it was the insurance coverage and the limitations and liabilities. There was no limitations and liabilities in SES's contract and there was insurance. Joe said he does not see any insurance and he sees a lot of limitations and liabilities in ARRO's contract. There were promises in SES's contract that they would keep you in compliance with your NPDES permit and keep your drinking water safe and there is nothing to that effect in ARRO's contract. It is not wrong, but you have different promises. PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said he has a meeting tomorrow and he will discuss these items. The PCMA Board will review Joe's memo and ARRO's contract for the next meeting. PJ said he does not know when the contract expired with SES, but when ARRO did the acquisition of SES services, ARRO purchased their client base, employees, assets, vehicles, and their indebtedness.

In legal matters, Joe Zerbe said a bankruptcy proof of claim was filed. The MuniBilling settlement agreement was fully signed, and the Authority got the settlement money. Joe said he got copied on an email from Jamie Lorah (SSM), who was on vacation, and was talking about the frac tank. Jamie had sent an email to the Board talking about potentially trying to get the purchase of the frac tank approved without going to bid. Jamie suggested that you would have to rely on Joe's opinion on whether that could be done. Joe said he printed out a section of the procurement code and it states the head of the purchasing agency may make or authorize others to make an emergency procurement when there exists a threat to public health, welfare, or safety. Joe said he does not think it constitutes an emergency. Dave Bright (SSM) said DEP did not respond to Jamie's email regarding the use of a long term frac tank rental.

In engineering matters, Dave Bright (SSM) said Jamie Lorah (SSM) had gotten quotes, both prevailing wages and non-prevailing wages, from LB Industries, to repair the West EQ tank, including metal patching, painting, and aeration system rehabilitation. The cost was \$48,330 if prevailing wages are not included and over \$70,000 with prevailing wages. Any action on that we are still waiting for a response from DEP. Likewise, on the frac tank to purchase we are waiting on direction from DEP on what is allowed. Jim Ridderhoff said from Jamie's report on the tanks and their estimated repair there was a lot of deterioration with those tanks, serious thinning of the steel, and it would take a lot of dollars to fix them.

Upon motion by Jim Ridderhoff, seconded by Ryan Achenbach, and carried by all, the Board approved the payment of \$74,084.22 for JG Environmental for the EQ tank cleaning.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said Well# 2 is disconnected and capped. There is no electric running anywhere, there is no heater, valves are shut, and you are okay to terminate the meter there. Jim said Nancy (office) should call PPL Electrics and have it disconnected.

Jim Ridderhoff said the estimate, of \$4,900, to repair the motorized gate and fence by the office/ plant was received from Long Run Fence & Railing Co. Nancy said the fence is leaning and the gate was not closing. Jim said his only comment was that they are recommending resetting the fence five feet west of existing fence but that would cut down on the driveway – he would recommend three feet. Matthew Crump (ARRO) said you can see the one-footer is washed out and completely exposed and he is wondering if you would take the footer and pole away if that would help with taking the weight off the fence. PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said if something is not done for the erosion control that three feet, depending on storms, will dwindle down to the same situation in a few years. Jim said to get it fixed but recommend three feet instead of five feet.

Upon motion by Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved the fence replacement by Long Run Fence for the total of \$4,900 for eighty feet as proposed in the quote.

PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said he wanted to address to the Board on the oil spill at the plant. There was some confusion part way through with your DEP representative on behalf of the wastewater system. He had generated an inspection report for the oil spill at the plant that stated that five hundred gallons of heating oil escaped the tanks to the ground. PJ said that was absolutely the furthest thing from the truth. PJ said he was here on site within an hour or so of finding out about the spill. Matthew Crump (ARRO) and PJ worked together to get the environmental company out and to take care of the spill. The heating oil supplier came out to evacuate the oil that was still in your two heating oil tanks. When those tanks fell you have a containment unit all around your fine screen (4x3x3) and most of the oil went into the fine screen, which has a tank at the bottom of it, to drain into that containment when you are doing maintenance, and a lot of the oil went into the containment. PJ said from his estimation 25-30 gallons landed on the floor. The benefit was that all that area had carpet remnants. They were laid out all over the place and they acted as a natural absorbent to the oil. The only place PJ seen oil escape was coming out the double door sections, on each corner, and if affected 14 to 16 square inches at each corner. That was it that came outside and everything else was handled with the absorbent pads and with the oil dry cat litter. PJ said there was not five hundred gallons and as soon as he seen the report, he did a rebuttal to it. In the email that came back PJ was informed that they cannot edit, change, or modify, their report but they would keep the email on file. DEP sent a gentleman out and he was in the stream and there was nothing in the stream. PJ said in the cleanup process the wet well area that would go out to the stream, there is an 8–10-inch pipe that is surface level, we back drew that pipe, nothing left here, and we pulled stream water back through to back flush the pipe, so it is clean.

PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said he met with Liberty Environmental, Jamie Lorah (SSM) suggested having them come up, and they were talking about drilling twelve holes throughout the floor to see if oil penetrated any cracks in the floor to get down under the ground. PJ took the gentleman around the building (he wanted to do a lot of excavations around the foundation) and showed him how the structure blocks have delaminated, their crumbling and falling apart at the corner. PJ said when he left, they were talking about doing two to four cores. PJ said they were going to do two hand digs, one in each corner where there was oil, outside of the building, and do a core on the inside corner on the wall next to office and on the inside corner right by the door.

PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) met with the insurance adjuster and showed him everything. Nancy (Office) said the insurance company is not sure if the wear and tear of the oil tanks will be covered. Everything was emailed everything (letters, pictures, etc.) to the insurance adjuster to review. You have 30 days from the receipt of DEP's violation letter to submit a plan and schedule.

Upon motion by Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved the remediation steps from Liberty Environmental with SSM's proposal of total estimated cost of \$17,500.

PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said we are two months away from frigid weather and at next month's meeting the Board should make a motion to purchase oil tanks and get them filled. PJ said he had a discussion with H.B. Steele, and they said they will not put the tanks inside because of the corrosive nature of the moist environment with the chlorine. The plan of action is to put a concrete pad outside to set the tanks on and that cannot be acted upon yet because we do not know the area of excavation they are going to do.

Ryan Achenbach said last month we went through the fee changes to the sewer, and we had talked to Jamie Lorah (SSM) about tempting to get a water study started. Our hope was we need to analyze what our current water revenues are and we need to have something in place regarding what we should be putting into reserves to start doing phase replacement of the infrastructure throughout Lake Wynonah. Ryan said the sewer side has been subsidized for a long time with water rates. We started separating our accounting again which shows the sewer expenditures so when we established what the sewer loss was, we adjusted our fees. Ryan said what we are looking to do is find out the replacement costs for the infrastructure, how much we can contribute towards that now, how much we should be contributing to it, and a phase protocol as to how we might accomplish it. Dave Bright (SSM) said he will talk to Jamie (SSM) about the study.

Mary Heimbecker asked with the increased sewage costs if there is any program for people with hardships. PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said if there are people with children, they can go to the county welfare office and the caseworkers can go through and look at their specific financial situation.

There being no further business, Matt Gruber motioned for adjournment, Jerry Weiss seconded the motion, carried by all. Jim Ridderhoff adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken, prepared, and submitted by Nancy Wesner.