

**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 October 18, 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, and Matt Gruber. Also, in attendance were Joe Zerbe, Nancy Wesner (PCMA Office), Matthew Crump (ARRO Water Services), Patrick "PJ" O'Boyle (ARRO Water Services), Jamie Lorah (SSM Engineering) and property owners Joe Haggerty and Richard Hardy.

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

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

The Treasurer's report for September 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:

- September 9: 1914 Wynonah Drive-lateral repair inspection and work
- September 15: 291 Sioux Drive PA One Call, 1314 Sioux Drive hydrant repair, 1961 Wynonah Drive PA One Call, Montana Drive PA One Call
- September 21: Meter reading
- September 22: Well 3 chlorine pump problem – well was shut down
- September 23: Meter reading
- September 26: Meter reading
- September 27: Meter reading
- September 28: Meter reading
- Booster Station: Normal operations; nothing to report.

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

- Wastewater Treatment Plant was not in service this month
- There were 71 pumps done (18 Holding Tank Pumps, 53 Septic Pumps) for September 2022.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said we did get two more boxes of water meters (16 total) from LB Water. If LB Water has a shortage of meters and cannot get them due to the supply chain being behind, Matthew asked if the Board had any preference on what meters are used. If we get in a pinch, would he have permission to go through whatever avenue he could to get the meters. The meters would still be compatible with everything you have currently. The Board said yes, whatever Matthew needed to do to get meters in.

Matthew Crump (ARRO) said at 1055 Indian Drive the homeowner had a water leak in his service line and he talked to the homeowner about getting it fixed. Matthew said he told the homeowner, while he was standing there with him, before you cover it up to let him know and he would come out, do the inspection, and then he could cover it up. The homeowner did the repair, covered it up, and then a day later after it has been laid out nice with hay, he left Matthew know it was fixed. Matthew said no inspection was done on the repair, the curb stop is quiet, so he does not have a leak anymore, but he wanted to bring it to the Board's attention. Matthew said he also noticed there was an area in his backyard that was also strawed over near his pool. His water line comes around the back of the house (the homeowner did not know how his water line ran) and Matthew does not know if they trenched it trying to find the leak. The Board said a letter should be sent to both the homeowner and the contractor that the PCMA's Rules and Regulations were violated.

Jerry Weiss said it came to his attention that in the community there is a system being hooked up (camera / radar) and it will be taking pictures of license plates of speeding vehicles. If an ARRO employee is driving PCMA's vehicles, or they are in the community because of PCMA, and would get a fee for speeding, it would be the driver's responsibility to pay the fee. Joe Zerbe said does the Board want something in the contract that if the Authority gets fined because of one of ARRO's drivers that it will be ARRO's responsibility. Joe said he thinks it should be put in the contract. Joe said if that is the only issue the Board has, because ARRO has made all the changes he asked for, he thinks the Board should put the contract up for motion, tonight, to approve it subject to that clause being agreeable to everyone. Then when it is done, the contract can get signed. Joe will contact ARRO tomorrow and get that change done.

Upon motion by Jerry Weiss, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved the ARRO Contract with the indemnification for any moving violation within the lake. The contractor will indemnify the Authority if the contractor drivers violate the lake's speeding regulations.

In legal matters, Joe Zerbe said he worked with ARRO regarding the changes to the contract and reviewed two letters (one to code enforcement officer and one to a homeowner regarding his lid) from Nancy (office). Joe said Nancy contacted him on a bill she received for Michael Sinitsky for medical treatment in 2019. Joe said he wants to look into why we are getting a bill through workers' compensation because that was taken care of – there was a form completed for release. Joe wants to reach out to the attorney that represented the Authority in the workers' compensation case to see why we are getting this bill and if it should be paid. Joe said he discussed with Nancy Carl's unemployment claim.

In engineering matters, Jamie Lorah (SSM) said on the EQ Tank Cleaning Project there is a Change Order # 2, which is in the amount of \$590 for ten days of frac tank rental. Jamie said we also received the final payment application for the EQ Tank Cleaning Project in the amount of \$8,821.58 (that includes the \$590).

Upon motion by Jerry Weiss, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved the Change Order #2 for \$590 and to pay JG Environmental the final payment of \$8,821.58 for the EQ Tank Cleaning Project.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said regarding the heating oil spill - Liberty Environmental did, this past month, a review of the Plum Creek channel and there was no evidence of heating oil released to the stream. Oil was observed in the soil on the external side of the building to a depth of about three feet below the surface immediately outside the wastewater treatment plant. They will be putting that into their report. None of the oil was detected above non-residential concentrations in the soils or ground, inside or outside, of the building.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said they did take a couple of groundwater samples and two of them had benzene above non-residential groundwater grab sample level concentrations. Jamie said it is an indication that there is somewhat of a problem in terms of the heating oil getting to the groundwater right outside of the building. They will be putting that information into their report to DEP. The indoor air samples results detected compounds below any unacceptable risks. They will be putting all that into their report in the next two weeks. Jamie said they will review the report and then send it over to the Board to review and approve before sending it to DEP. Jim Ridderhoff said to send the report and then it can be approved at next months meeting.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said they will be recommending a limited soil evacuation right outside of the building and a collection of the post evacuation soil samples to document any results of the excavation. Also, a limited groundwater investigation to determine if groundwater is of immediate concern. They said that will be in their report, however, they said that DEP may not require you to do anything further with the groundwater. They are going to be recommending that you have some monitoring wells put in outside of the building, but then based on the results of that, hopefully that requirement can be removed. They said that Plum Creek Municipal Authority will need to decide if they wish to pursue obtaining liability relief under Act 2 for remediation of heating oil, soil, and groundwater. Act 2 is a voluntary program and currently the only reporting obligation that DEP includes is communication of the investigation findings and results of the impending remediation.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said on September 23rd, Jim Ridderhoff, Jerry Weiss, and I, and members of South Manheim and Wayne Townships, as well as the Property Owners' Association (POA), attended a meeting at the DEP offices in Wilkes-Barre. We discussed the Act 537 Planning as well as some concerns DEP has about the planning area and lack thereof of some of the planning aspects in terms of sewage planning that would have occurred back in the sixties and early seventies. DEP would like to have a follow-up meeting on October 21st at 1:30 p.m. at the DEP offices. In that meeting, we will be reviewing the checklist for the Act 537 Plan and what DEP would require in the event that the Act 537 Plan is redone which was the intention. The Act 537 Plan would be rewritten for both South Manheim and Wayne Townships, collectively, as one plan submission, and just for the Plum Creek area not for other areas of the townships.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said in the meeting DEP did make the statement that the EQ tanks cannot remain the way they are right now (valved off and not in operation). One needs rehabilitation and the other one needs to be taken offline. DEP did say that basically it is an emergency to do the work associated with repairing the one EQ tank. Jamie said we did get a cost from LB Industries to do that work. This would be for the coating of the exterior of the tank, it would be mobilization on site, demolition of the existing aeration piping within the existing EQ tank, blasting the existing exposed steel of the tank to strip the steel coating to expose bare steel for welding the new steel to, and then LB Industries will install new structural steel around any of the breaches in the steel tank walls. They will be doing closure plates for the piping to the east EQ tank. The west EQ tank we are recommending doing the repair to. They would weld a piece of steel over the opening where the flows come into the east tank and go out of the east tank. Their base bid was \$53,280 and if you want them to have a one-year maintenance bond, you can add that on for \$1,864.80, and that would be the project that SSM would recommend to the Authority.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said they did write an operations report to DEP, which was issued following the meeting, as they requested, stating that the EQ tank would be back online by January. Jerry Weiss asked if there is a backup plan in case something happens with the EQ tank while doing the repair. Jamie said we would have to go to DEP at that point. Jim Ridderhoff said when they go to repair

this tank, they are going to be doing welding patching and if they come to an area that is extremely weak, they would make a stronger patch – Jamie said correct.

Joe Zerbe asked Jamie Lorah (SSM) if she got anything in writing from DEP stating that it is an emergency. Jamie said they did not get anything in writing from Scott Novatnak (DEP). Jamie said DEP said they are not operating the plant right now the way that it is supposed to be operated according to the permit and fines could start to happen.

Upon motion by Jim Ridderhoff, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved the proposal for the EQ Tank Repair, from LB Industries, for \$55,144.80.

Jim Ridderhoff said the treatment plant, the actual structure of it is poor right now, and it is enclosing the area with a lot of condensation and moisture which is causing problems with the electrical system. Each person who has looked at it has recommended the electrical panel should be enclosed. Jim asked PJ (ARRO) if he could give the Board ideas on how to repair that. PJ said you could move everything into the office area and run sealed conduits out through the plant, but it would be expensive.

Nancy (office) said she received two proposals for the heating at the sewage treatment plant. One was from Admore Comfort and the other one was from Yost Mechanical. Nancy said Miller Mechanical was going to send a proposal, but he was having trouble with his email, and it was not received before the meeting. Matthew Crump (ARRO) said he talked to the guy at Admore Comfort, and he had two to three oil tanks, that he was looking to get rid of, and he would give it to us for free apart from the labor and installation. The tanks are used but in very good condition. Matthew said everyone he talked to about the mini splits and the heat pump they all said with the heat pump in cold temperatures you need something to supplement it. The big issue that drove the price up was getting units that would heat inside the treatment plant portion. Matthew said he did look into the units we have in the plant, they are rusted out, but the units do work, and they run off the oil hot water heat. Jerry Weiss said we can probably go with the oil and the furnace we have and disregard the heat pump and keep using the air conditioner in the window. PJ O'Boyle (ARRO) said you got thirty plus years out of those tanks, and he would put them back inside the plant. Jamie Lorah (SSM) said we told Liberty Environmental and DEP that the oil tanks were going to be put outside. Jamie said you could put some sort of containment around them.

Upon motion by Jim Ridderhoff, seconded by Matt Gruber, and carried by all, the Board approved, subject to the outcome of the DEP meeting on Friday, to go with the oil tanks to repair where the oil tanks failed. The repair will be done by Admore Comfort.

There being no further business, Jerry Weiss motioned for adjournment, Matt Gruber seconded the motion, carried by all. Jim Ridderhoff adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

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