

**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 April 16, 2024, at the Plum Creek Municipal Authority Business Office Building, South Manheim Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

Board members present at the meeting were Jim Ridderhoff, Ryan Achenbach, and Mike Flynn Jr. Also, in attendance were Nancy Wesner (PCMA Office), Joe Zerbe, Jamie Lorah (SSM Engineering), Andy Marcano (ARRO), Kevin Dunn (ARRO), Cynthia Shea, and property owners Joe Haggerty and Maria Dorval.

Jim Ridderhoff called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

The minutes for the March 2024 meeting were accepted by motion of Mike Flynn, seconded by Ryan Achenbach, carried by all.

The Treasurer's report for March 2024 was reviewed and accepted by motion of Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Mike Flynn, carried by all.

Jim Ridderhoff welcomed the visitors to the meeting. Joe Zerbe said this is Ms. Dorval. Joe said the Board had authorized him to file a summons to give Ms. Dorval notice that a lawsuit is pending against her. Joe filed that and sent Ms. Dorval a copy with a request that she consent to have Gary Ryan from WJP do a survey of her property. Joe said he believes she got the letter last weekend, but he hasn't heard back from Ms. Dorval, and he doesn't know if Ms. Dorval is willing to accept service of the Praecipe. Joe said he asked Ms. Dorval to do that as opposed to sending the Sheriff out to serve it and if Ms. Dorval would agree without us having to file a motion with the court to have a survey done of your property.

Ms. Dorval said she responded and sent that back and as far as a survey that is fine. Ms. Dorval said it is going to be a waste of time, because there is no encroachment, there is no such thing, you can build on the utility easement within 15 feet of the road. At the end of November an insert was sent out and it says the Authority will not repair or replace landscaping, fencing, mulch, etc. as these improvements by property owners into the right of way for the Authority are done so at their own risk/repair. Mike Flynn it is at your risk because it is not legal for you to do it. Ms. Dorval said it is Pennsylvania law that you can. Ms. Dorval said the easement is for ingress and egress, it is not to dictate what you put on your property. Joe Zerbe said they cannot get access to the curb stops. Ms. Dorval said yes, they can, they just have to open the gate. Ms. Dorval said there are so many homes in here that have fences and other structures within 15 feet of the roadway then you have to tell everybody they have to rip their stuff down. Ryan Achenbach said as that insert is written is that everybody is free to do so at their own risk until we are aware that it exists. Ms. Dorval said that is not what it says. Ms. Dorval said if you look at the reference paragraph 7 that Mr. Zerbe sent me you can see the verbiage it does not include anything like that. Ryan said we are not going to have an operator open and go into the fence where there could be dogs or anything else. The operators are not required to open the gate and go in a fence to reach our property. Joe said he has asked Ms. Dorval for alternatives and has given Ms. Dorval alternatives so we can try and resolve this matter. Joe said it is a utility easement. Joe said his suggestion is to get the survey done to determine where the fence is exactly, determine where the curb stops are exactly, and determine where the bush is that is over the curb stop. Ms. Dorval said if you are going to rip my fence down proactively then you are going to have to rip down everybody's fence proactively and you will find out because I will give you a list.

Ryan Achenbach said the simplest thing to do would be to amend the split rail fence to allow the curb stops to be outside of the fence and this is what we asked for in the very beginning. Jim Ridderhoff said we asked if we could have a survey done to get an actual as to where your fence is, where the curb stops are, where the easement is, and we have your permission to proceed with that survey – Ms. Dorval said sure. Joe said he will let Gary Ryan with WJP know that you gave your approval, and you will be contacted by someone from WJP Engineers in Pottsville and they will come down and do the survey. It might take a day or two.

David Kline (ARRO Water Services) submitted a written manager's report to the Board prior to the meeting: There are no water or sewer system violations for the month of March 2024. Copies of the following information have been submitted by ARRO Water Services to PA DEP on the authority's behalf – DWELR Report, Discharge Monitoring Report and Supplemental Reports.

In water operations, David Kline (ARRO Water Services) reported that:

- 3/15/24: Service call for 1569 Stag Drive – leak was found.
- Booster Station: Normal operations; nothing to report.

In sewage operations, David Kline (ARRO Water Services) reported that:

- There were 33 pumps done (16 HT and 17 Septic) for the month of March 2024.
- There was 1 tank test done for the month of March 2024.

Andy Marcano (ARRO) said operations have been pretty standard. We ended up not using Well 6 because he was not aware that the cleaning had gotten rescheduled for May and since then he has restarted Well 6. There are currently three Wells running and Well 1 has been off all month. Kevin Dunn (ARRO) said the second quarter of PFAS testing was done at all Wells but not Well 1 because we did not know they were coming to do it and we have to run it for a day or so for them to do the test. Jamie Lorah (SSM) said the EPA would like the states to comply with their (EPA) regulations – four parts or less per trillion of PFAS and four parts or less per trillion of PFOS. Jamie said you have in your Wells less than four according to the first quarter of monitoring. Jamie said you are in the detection range, and you still need to go through the whole four quarterly tests. At the end of those four quarterly tests, you can then potentially reduce the amount of monitoring at that point depending on how many detections you have.

In legal matters, Joe Zerbe said there is an Amendment to make to the By-Laws for the PENNVEST loan. Joe said the Board needs to make a motion to amend Article II, Section 2, of the By-Laws to allow for one or more Co-Chairman who would have the same rights as the Chairman under the original paragraph to the By-Laws. Also, adopt a Resolution confirming all of the positions of the Board members.

Upon motion by Mike Flynn, seconded by Ryan Achenbach, and carried by all, the Board adopted the Amendment to the By-Laws, Article II, Section 2. The Chairman shall have the general supervision of the business and affairs of the Authority, subject to the control of the Board. The Chairman shall preside at each meeting of the Board. The Board of Directors may appoint one or more Co-Chairman all of which shall have the same powers in the preceding sentences of this paragraph and may act jointly with the other Co-Chairman or separately in their own right.

Upon motion by Mike Flynn, seconded by Ryan Achenbach, and carried by all, the Board adopted a Resolution confirming all the positions of the Board members. All the Board members are Co-Chairman, Jerry Weiss is Secretary, Ryan Achenbach is Assistant Secretary, and Jim Ridderhoff is Treasurer.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) submitted a written monthly engineer's report to the Board prior to the meeting.

UPDATE: Proposals were previously obtained from Subsurface Technologies for Aqua Freed Process for Well No. 6 in the amount of \$43,545, and this work was awarded. This treatment work will likely occur in May, depending upon the permit issuance. In February, the Authority voted to replace this pump with a larger pump on a VFD. Last month, the Authority decided to forego the VFD at this time and voted to install the 20 HP pump. The purchase and installation of the pump was awarded to Subsurface Technologies in the amount of \$11,755. The well is currently rated for 100 GPM per the DRBC Docket. The Public Water Supply Permit Application for this pump replacement is being finalized and will be submitted to the PADEP within the next week or so, after which the pump can be ordered and installed.

UPDATE: The Authority also requested pricing for low- and high-level alarms at the storage tanks, control wiring, and an auto dialer for the booster station. A quote is being obtained from Kohl Bros. for the installation of these controls. Unfortunately, they have not yet had time to visit the site but will do so in coming weeks.

UPDATE: Two (2) quotes were received from Cleveland Brothers for generators, including: (1) a permanent generator in the amount of \$48,500 for the Booster Station, and (2) a portable generator in the amount of \$58,536 that can be used at any of the Well sites. Pricing for both options includes freight and delivery costs. A second quote is being requested from GenServe as well (pending). Note: this does not include the installation of the transfer switches at each of the Well sites.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said she did receive quotes from GenServe for a 30kW permanent generator for the Booster Station in the amount of \$34,507.00. If you wanted to upgrade that to the 60kW generator it would be an additional \$7,341.00. The total would be \$41,848.00 for a 60kW generator that would be able to power all four pumps in the event their ever needed, power everything at the Booster Station, and that also includes the transfer switch, but they do not do the installation. This is equipment delivered and start-up. Jamie said she did receive another quote from GenServe for portable generators in the amount of \$58,536. They are sized at 50kW and that will allow you to use a portable generator at any of your pump stations. They also supplied four manual transfer switches for the generator. The cost for that includes the generator, four cables, and four transfer switches for each Well, (not the installation) is \$84,791.00. The generator would be trailer mounted.

RECAP: Effluent Filter Backwash Pump – A proposal was previously obtained from Slaymaker in the amount of \$11,347.91 for replacement of the effluent filter backwash pump to include a new flooded suction pump. The purchase of this pump was authorized, and Slaymaker is currently awaiting payment for the pump.

Jamie Lorah (SSM) said the effluent filter backwash pump is in. Jamie will call Slaymaker to have the pump delivered but the Board would like to defer installation until the building is made safe.

Act 537 Planning

RECAP: the Alternatives Analysis was awarded to Barry Isett. A kick-off meeting was held this past month to review the information needs, the history of the project, etc. This work is expected to begin soon.

UPDATE: Sewer Needs Door-to-Door Survey: this work was awarded to AM Septic, and a meeting was held with Allen Madeira to review the plan. A notice was prepared to homeowners that this

inspection work is to be conducted, and the survey was recently issued to begin this program. This work began in March.

PENNVEST Funding Application

UPDATE: Updated pricing from Kohl Bros. was received to include prevailing wages, and the Resolution to Apply and Letter of Responsibility was completed and signed by the Board. The PENNVEST Application was finalized and submitted to the agency, after holding several discussions and meetings with PENNVEST's financial consultant to confirm the financial sections of the Application. The first settlement meeting was held on March 18th, during which the Settlement Checklist requirements were reviewed. SSM continues to work with the Authority to upload required documents and information to the checklist by the April 11th deadline. A second settlement meeting is scheduled for April 16th, and the final settlement date is scheduled for May 2nd.

The Board reviewed the email that was received from Andy Aungst regarding replacing a service line with plastic pipe and then installing an insulated meter pit. The Board cannot allow exceptions to the type K copper regulations, but the use of plastic-coated type K copper was approved at last month's Board meeting. Jamie Lorah (SSM) said another thing they could do is weave the type K copper through conduit PVC piping to protect it. Nancy (office) will send a letter.

The Board reviewed the revised proposal from Knight Security for the camera's at the Wells and Booster Station in the amount of \$25,388.32 with a monthly fee of \$1,030.00. This matter was tabled.

Upon motion by Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Mike Flynn, and carried by all, the Board approved the proposal from Seltzer Insurance for the Cyber Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,565.00.

Nancy (office) said when the F250 pickup truck was inspected at Moyer's they called and said they wanted to give us a heads up that the frame and chassis is very rusty and may not pass the safety inspection next year. Andy Marcano (ARRO) said you need a truck that you can fit all the tools into it (7-foot curb key, etc.). The Board will look into this.

Upon motion by Ryan Achenbach, seconded by Mike Flynn, and carried by all, the Board suspended the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m. and convened in Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.

Upon motion by Mike Flynn, seconded by Ryan Achenbach, and carried by all, the Board reconvened at 7:56 p.m. in regular session. The Board terminated employment of the meter reader for cause. The Board approved an increase of \$3.00 in the starting pay rate for the Municipal Worker job.

There being no further business, Mike Flynn motioned for adjournment, Ryan Achenbach seconded the motion, carried by all. Jim Ridderhoff adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

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