

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority
 377 Cedarcrest Drive
 Duncansville, PA 16635

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority, held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ed Silvetti.

In attendance were 4 Authority Members as follows: Edward Silvetti, Ted Ventre, Rodney Patterson, and Jacob Wible. (Robin Cadwallader was absent.)

Also in attendance were Tim M^cGaw, Manager; Katie M^cGaw, Administrative Assistant; Pat Fanelli, Solicitor; and Dave Cunningham, Engineer.

VISITORS: Paul Amigh Susan Krieger Clayton Krieger

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of February 5, 2025. MOTION: Wible SECOND: Patterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

While the Board Members were looking over the Disbursement Report, Katie called their attention to an entry on Page 2 with the memo PEAK FLOW EXCEEDANCE for \$300.00. This is Hollidaysburg's bill for the Period of July 1 – Dec 31. Even though Hurricane Debby brought over 3 inches of rain on 8/9/24, we received a fine for only one Peak Hourly Limit, which was very fortunate. Jacob Wible questioned what type of purchases we make with our MasterCard. Tim stated we primarily use MasterCard for purchases at vendors where we don't have an account. Katie added that some of our subscriptions, like QuickBooks, are charged to our MasterCard. Jacob requested that future MasterCard invoices be provided to the Board. Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for February 2025. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Patterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Dave Cunningham announced that BTWSA received 6 bids for the Stowell Farm Metering Manhole Replacement Project. As Dave opened each bid, he announced the Contractor, Base Bid Amount, and acknowledged there was a Bid Bond enclosed with the bid. After discussion, motion was made to award the Stowell Farm Metering Manhole Replacement Project to the lowest respective bidder, pending engineer review. MOTION: Patterson SECOND: Wible VOTE: 4 Yes.

Pat Fanelli stated that he needs to call an Executive Session at the end of tonight's meeting to discuss a Legal matter and a Personnel matter.

Dave Cunningham reported on the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project. The Act 537 Plan is in its 30-day review period. Dave spoke with Trina Illig who stated that she advertised for an appraiser but received no reply. She plans to re-advertise with more concise verbiage. She needs an appraiser to determine Land Value per square foot in the Project area. Pat Fanelli is doing deed research prior to settlement on the Kern and Robertson/Weber properties.

BTWSA received notification from Todd Banks of Stiffler McGraw that the five-year appraisal of wastewater flows to the Hollidaysburg Wastewater Treatment Plant was

conducted. As a result, the recommended redistribution for Blair Township has been reduced from 8.00% to 7.73%.

Dave stated that Jeff Long has requested a Will Serve letter for Water for the Mattern Woods Graystone Project. Keller Engineers had previously issued a Capacity Letter for Sewer. Mr. Long expects to need around 11,000 gallons per day (gpd) for this development. Our Water Allocation Permit is for 300,000 gpd, and we currently use around 165 gpd. Dave will issue the Will Serve letter.

Dave reported that the Chapter 94 letters have been sent to Hollidaysburg, Duncansville, and Freedom Township.

Dave stated there is a Small Water and Sewer Grant of up to \$500,000 with a 15% match being offered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority. Applications are due by the end of April. BTWSA wants Keller Engineers to apply for this grant for the Sanitary Sewer Line Replacement from the Stowell Flow Meter to upstream of our Office.

Tim McGaw, Manager, reported that he got a second quote for replacing the carpet in the Main Office, Manager's Office, and Conference Room. Last month, he submitted a quote from Blair Mill Outlet for \$10,432.00. Tonight, he submitted a quote from DeGol Carpet for installing the same carpet. Their quote was considerably higher, at \$11,409.00. Motion was made to authorize Tim to have Blair Mill Outlet replace the carpet in the Main Office, Manager's Office, and Conference Room at a cost of \$10,432.00. MOTION: Wible SECOND: Patterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Tim stated that the sanitary sewer backed up into the basement at 648 Orchard Drive on Sunday, 2/16/2025. We found out about it on Sunday evening, but the person who called Tim stated Brandon Simpson (the resident) started having problems on Thursday. Tim and two Maintenance Technicians arrived on scene Sunday around 8 p.m. and worked until midnight. The backup was traced to a root clog downstream of the resident's home. When the customer contacted their Homeowner's insurance carrier, they told him to contact BTWSA's insurance carrier. Mr. Simpson submitted a claim for damages through our EMC coverage. When Tim spoke to the Adjuster, EMC was not sure if they were going to cover the claim because Mr. Simpson's floor drains were hooked into the sanitary sewer illegally. Tim stated that this sewer main is transite pipe that BTWSA may look into replacing in the Spring.

In his monthly update, Tim reported that BTWSA replaced the Forsht Drive Fire Hydrant (that was damaged in a traffic accident on 1/1/2025) yesterday. Once we get a bill from Construction Safety Services for the three flaggers, we will be able to submit all expenses for reimbursement from Erie Insurance. We have been working with FNB on their Merchant Processing Service Fee Program. A new bank account needs to be established before we can move on to the next step. Tim stated that BTWSA recently became aware of a Payment Portal Service, doxo.com, soliciting Authority customer payments. This entity has never been authorized by the Authority to collect payments on its behalf. Tim subsequently met with local news media to clarify that such third-party portals are not official payment portals for the BTWSA. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the best way to inform customers of the official Authority payment portal, when it goes live, will be to include a notation on the monthly bills stating something to the effect of "FNB

portal is now an option for paying this bill, and serves as the only official payment portal of the BTWSA.”

Katie McGaw provided an update on her collection of 90+ Day Delinquent Accounts. Due to the Lien Fee going up from \$80.00 to \$325.00, we have scaled back on placing liens. We currently have 3 accounts with balances that have grown to over \$1000.00. Katie wanted the Board to be updated on these delinquencies and wanted to seek guidance from Pat Fanelli as to his legal opinion about placing a lien against these properties, despite the cost. After discussion, it was decided to place liens against the three properties with balances over \$1000.00.

The meeting was recessed into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss a Legal matter and a Personnel matter.

Ed Silveti reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Motion was made to adopt a Deductible Gap HRA Plan of Medicare Related Insurance Premiums through Preferred Benefits Specialists (PBS), effective 1/1/2025. PBS has a one-time setup fee of \$259.00 with no recurring charges per month or per employee. HRA reimbursements are tax-deductible for the employer and tax-exempt for employees. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Patterson VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 Abstain (Silveti).

Ed announced the next BTWSA Meeting will be held on April 2, 2025, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:47 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Wible SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 4 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,



Robin L. Cadwallader

