

**EPHRATA BOROUGH AUTHORITY
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

A meeting of the Ephrata Borough Authority was held on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 8:00 AM in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 124 South State Street. In attendance were Chairman Ralph Mowen; Assistant Treasurer Gail Bare; and Member Gregory Zimmerman. Absent were Vice Chairman Gary Snavely and Treasurer Gil Ochs.

Also present were James R. McManus, III, Solicitor; Dan Becker, Becker Engineering; D. Robert Thompson, Secretary; Debra Bartow, Assistant Borough Manager; Jamie Willwerth, Water and Wastewater Manager; and Stephanie Fasnacht, Recorder.

The following visitor was present:

- Scott Crosswell, GHD, Inc.

Call to Order

Chairman Mowen called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, and unanimously approved to adopt the meeting agenda as publicly posted on the Borough's website, the EBA Board's meeting location as well as distributed to meeting attendees (if any).

Approval of Minutes – August 9, 2021 and August 26, 2021

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2021, Meeting and August 26, 2021, Special Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Visitor Comments

There were no visitor comments.

Financial Reports

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Ms. Bare, to approve the financial reports. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Payment of Bills

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to ratify the payment of bills. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Action Items

a. GHD, Inc.: Invoice No. 380-00309 Payment Breakdown

Mr. Thompson provided an overview of the invoice and how the total will be broken into two components: (1) Borough of Akron's Amount Due and (2) the Amount to be Paid via the Regional Capacity – Component Tapping Fee Account.

Invoice No.	380-0000309
Invoice Date:	07/31/2021
Total Due:	\$71,823.20

To Be Paid Via ...	
Akron Borough	ENB Regional Capacity – Component Tapping Fee Account
\$9,450.42	\$62,372.78

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Ms. Bare, to approve the payment breakdown of Invoice No. 380-0000309 as recommended by Staff. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

b. Becker Engineering: Invoice No. 21674

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to approve the payment of \$1,830.00, Becker Engineering Invoice No. 21674, as recommended by Staff. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

c. Sanitary Sewer Capacity Request: Roger Leed, 219 E. Fulton Street, Ephrata

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Ms. Bare, to approve the request of 3 HUV’s advising there is adequate sanitary sewer conveyance and treatment capacity for the property. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Sanitary Sewer Capacity Request: C.B. Burkholder, Inc., 880 N. State Street, Ephrata

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to approve the request of 165 GPD advising there is adequate sanitary sewer conveyance and treatment capacity for the property. Motion passed unanimously.

e. GHD, Inc.: Proposal for Construction Management Services

Mr. Thompson provided an overview of the Task Orders received by GHD, Inc.:

1. Task Order No. 2: Basic Services totaling \$30,000 including:
 - a. Fire Protection Design (\$12,000)
 - b. Preparation of Pre-Procurement Contract Documents (\$18,000)
2. Task Order No. 3: Basic Services totaling \$1,036,000 including:
 - a. General Administration (\$316,800)
 - b. Resident Construction Inspector (\$399,800)
 - c. Resident Project Engineer (\$76,400)
 - d. Startup and Commissioning (\$68,000)
 - e. 1-Year Warranty Inspection (\$15,000)
 - f. PLC and HMI Solids Upgrade Programming (\$72,400)
 - g. Plant-Wide SCADA Upgrade (\$87,600)

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Ms. Bare, to approve Task Order No. 2, costs not to exceed \$30,000, and Task Order No. 3, costs not to exceed \$1,036,000, for the Solids Processing and Handling Upgrades Project. Motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Discussion Items**a. Pennsylvania Water Environment Association (PWEA) 2021 Beneficial Use of Biosolids Award >5.0 MGD Award**

Mr. Willwerth advised that the Authority is a recipient of the 2021 Beneficial Use of Biosolids Award from PWEA. Mr. Willwerth extended his appreciation to Mr. Jay Snyder, Environmental Resource Manager, for his dedication to the environment resulting in EBA receiving this prestigious award.

Miscellaneous Items

- a. Mr. Thompson advised he wished to extend his appreciation to Mr. Becker, Mr. Crosswell and Solicitor McManus for their ongoing support, diligence and hard work in finalizing the pre-procurement documents with Bioforcetech. Mr. Becker advised while "... this has been a process," there will be a huge cost savings to the Authority in the long run.
- b. Ms. Bartow advised she is currently working on the 2022 budget and is in on course to review the information with the Board at their November meeting.

Operations Report

Mr. Willwerth provided the following report:

Plant 1

- Average Flow at Plant 1 for August was 2.16 MGD (Design Flow = 3.8 MGD).
- The Plant recorded 7.65 inches of rain which did not cause any issues to operations.
- Sludge Hauled in August – We had 28 pulls at a cost of \$9,800.00 for Eagle Disposal to transport to the landfill. The estimated cost for LCSWMA is \$20,750.00 for a total sludge disposal cost in August of \$30,550.00 (estimated).
- Process Control – The SVI (Sludge Volume Index) monthly average is 51. August's Ammonia Nitrogen average was 0.41 mg/l. Total Phosphorus average is 0.76 mg/l.
- Both facilities passed annual WETT testing. This is a test that supports aquatic life in the Cocalico Creek from our effluent water discharge at both plants.
- Maintenance personnel working on equipment upgrade projects at Plant 1 and Plant 2. They are budgeted Capital Projects. Process water pump installation (internal plant process water) at Plant 1 and a gear box replacement on oxidation ditch at Plant 2 to a main aeration drive unit.

Plant 2

- Average Flow at Plant 2 for August was 1.182 MGD (Design Flow = 2.3 MGD).
- The Plant recorded 8.5 inches of rain which did not cause any issues.
- Both plants are recovering from Hurricane Ida. We had a high peak flow of 11.3 MGD at Plant 1 on 09/01/2021 with a rainfall of +6.0" of rain. We had some solids loss from the oxidation ditch that deposited in the grass area around the tank confines. Plant 2 had a peak flow of 9.2 MGD with rainfall in excess of also +6.0". No solids loss. Levels in Plant 2 OD were very high which knocked out the main aeration units due to thermal overload alarms. Power was restored when flows lowered throughout the day of 09/02/2021. We were in contact with DEP throughout the rainfall event for both plants. A report was submitted on 09/07/2021 on the overflow event at Plant 1.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date is Monday, October 11, 2021.

Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Chairman Mowen advised the Board will meeting in an Executive Session following this meeting to discuss a Professional Service Agreement for an Executive Director position.

Motion by Ms. Bare, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Robert Thompson
Secretary