

**Minutes of the  
Regular Board Meeting  
(Via Audio Teleconference)  
Of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
Held on April 24, 2020**

This Regular Board Meeting of The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, having been duly advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Act, was called to order on April 24, 2020, at approximately 10:00 a.m., via audio teleconference.

Chair Leger thanked the workforce for their excellent participation and rallying around this crisis.

Roll Call was held for the Regular Board Meeting. All members were present.

Participants from PWSA: Robert Weimar, Debby Gibson, Will Pickering, Debbie Lestitian, Jennifer Presutti, Edward Barca, Barry King, Rachel Romano, Rick Obermeier, Julie Ascioffa.

Also present was Solicitor Mark Nowak of Clark Hill.

There were 49 confirmed public participants who were on the call, in listening mode and 20 Board and Staff Members on the call as participants.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

No Executive Session was held prior to this meeting.

**Public Comment** -None registered for this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the Annual Board Meeting held on March 27, 2020. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Jennifer Presutti, Budget Director of the Finance Department, presented the report on the March Financials. Collections were up 7.3% compared to last year. PWSA has held a consistent level of spending compared to last year. As of the end of March, PWSA had a revenue surplus for the year and continues to monitor collections, consumption, and spending levels closely. Capital spending was steady for the month while we continued to complete essential projects. PWSA continues to track any expenditures with regard to COVID-19 to ensure that we have everything documented in case federal or state monies become available.

Michael Domach inquired about the consumption of water and related projection for cash flow. Jennifer Presutti responded that consumption was down over this time last year. PWSA expects to

see a drop in our commercial class, but an increase in the residential class. PWSA will have a better sense of the trend between the classes after April.

**ENGINEERING REPORT**

Barry King, Director of Engineering, presented the details for this report. He expressed his appreciation that all of the staff were continuing to complete all of the critical projects out in the field. The membrane filtration plant has continued to progress toward the completion of that project. PWSA has training set up for next week.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Will Pickering, Deputy Executive Director, explained updates from PWSA as it refers to COVID-19. PWSA's essential workforce has really stepped up. PWSA is screening all of our employees who are working in the field at the start of each shift. We are doing temperature checks and having them respond to screening questions before they interact with their co-workers or the public. We have our eye toward the Governor's guidance that was released today about a return for our construction projects. We have Safety Plans in place and are continuing to develop them. We are doing everything to make sure that the public and our employees are safe. We will continue to keep the Board and our customers informed.

Jim Turner asked whether PWSA had all of the necessary protective gear for its staff. Will Pickering responded in the affirmative. PWSA has mandated facial coverings consistent with the state guidance for any staff entering our buildings, but especially those out in the field. We have an adequate supply of facial coverings in addition to other personal protective equipment that is required for folks handling our wastewater or that are more sensitive than operating in the public. We have identified an additional supply. We anticipate these requirements to be in place for some time.

**No. 55 of 2020      Accepting the 2019 Report of the Auditor Maher Duessel Certified Public Accountants**

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Maher Duessel has completed the 2019 financial audit of the PWSA. The 2019 financial statements and accompanying documents are being presented to the PWSA Board for acceptance.

Chair Leger entered a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Lanier seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

**No. 56 of 2020      Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Insurance Brokerage Services to First National Insurance Agency, LLC.**

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**Funding: Operating Budget (amount not to exceed) \$335,400.00**

This professional services agreement is for a term of three (3) years, with an optional two (2) year extension. First National will act as the insurance broker of record for the PWSA with respect to the PWSA's insurance coverage and certain related matters.

Chair Leger entered a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Lanier so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. The Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 57 of 2020      Approving the 2020 Developer's Manual Updates**

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The Developer's Manual is a guide to obtain water and sewer service for all property owners with existing or planned developments in the City of Pittsburgh and Millvale (water system only).

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Lanier seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 58 of 2020      Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Document Management System Solutions/Services to eFacility, LLC.**

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**Funding: Operating Budget \$801,395.00**

Vendor will scan and index approximately 130,000 documents in the Authority's possession, converting them for access within the document management system. This project will fulfill various regulatory obligations to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Pennsylvania General Assembly, National Association of Regulated Utility Commissioners, and other regulatory bodies.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Turner seconded the motion.

Jim Turner noted that the award was coming in several hundred thousand dollars above our budget. He asked if there was anything PWSA should be

concerned about here. Deb Lestitian responded that she did not believe so. The project scope was increased as we discovered additional requirements related to litigation.

No further discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

**No. 59 of 2020      Approving Entering Into an Agreement With CSX Transportation, Inc. for the 2018 Sewers Under Structures Project, PWSA Project No. 2017-424-110-0**

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**Funding: Capital \$10,300.00**

This agreement will allow PWSA to install a new 24-inch ductile iron sewer main in a 36-inch casing pipe, under the existing CSX railroad tracks at S. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, located in the 17<sup>th</sup> Ward. The current main which carries flow from the South Side Neighborhood to the M-13 ALCOSAN diversion structure is deformed and in danger of collapse.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Lanier so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

**No. 60 of 2020      Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for the Bates Street Waterline Relay, PWSA Project No. 2019-325-111-0, to Independent Enterprises, Inc., and a Professional Services Agreement for CM/CI Services to H.R. Gray**

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**Funding: Capital Budget Cumulative \$1,072,030.00**

This contract involves the relay of 1,500 LF of 12" water main, including valves, service lines and adjacent catch basins as required.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Strassburger so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

**No. 61 of 2020      Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement (Capital) for the 2020 Large Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation Project, PWSA Project No. 2020-424-101-0 to GPD Group**

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**Funding: Capital Budget (Not to exceed) \$285,107.03**

The scope of work includes rehabilitating approximately 1,500 feet of large diameter sewers. The segments requested are for Heth's Run and the East Busway.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Turner seconded the motion.

Jim Turner stated that after reading this resolution, it states that the line is as much as 75 feet below the surface. He asked if PWSA is accessing this from the top or in some other manner. Barry King responded that PWSA will be entering the lines to do the repair, and it will not be an excavation per se.

No further discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 62 of 2020      Approving the Award of Operating Contracts for the 2020 Urgent Water Repair Contract, PWSA Project No. 2020-OPS-106-0, to A. Folino Construction and Independent Enterprises, Inc. and a Professional Services Agreement for CM/CI Services to Hatch Associates Consultants**

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**Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$2,734,970.55**

This IDIQ contract involves the urgent repair or rehabilitation of the public water system, including water mains, valves, service connections, hydrants, and related appurtenances as required.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Turner seconded the motion.

Jim Turner asked Jennifer Presutti to comment about the total spending out of this contract, as well as the urgent sewer repair contract. Jennifer responded that Engineering came to the Board in January to increase funding for the 2019/2020 Urgent Contracts, which consumes all of 2020's urgent water and sewer budgets. We will be meeting with Engineering to determine how to reallocate funds within their departmental budget. We did double the budgets in 2020 for the urgent contracts. We are also tracking the spending from the 2019/2020 contracts, and any savings that we may have will be applied to this new one. Chaton Turner noted that they have an intent to satisfy the MBE/WBE requirement and looks forward to actually seeing them deliver on the MBE/WBE requirement.

No further discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 63 of 2020**      **Approving the Award of Multiple Operating Contracts for the 2020 Urgent Sewer Repair Contract, PWSA Project No. 2020-OPS-105-0, to A. Folino Construction and PWSA Project No. 2020-OPS-105-1 to Independent Enterprises, Inc. and a Professional Services Agreement for CM/CI Services to Hatch Associates Consultants.**

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**Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$4,394,922.19**

This annual IDIQ contract involves the urgent repair or rehabilitation of the public sewer system including storm, sewer, and combined sewer facilities at various locations throughout the City of Pittsburgh.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Turner so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 64 of 2020**      **Approving the Extension of the Current Electricity Supply Contracts (Operating) With Direct Energy Business and Hudson Energy Services for Up to 12-Month Period**

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**Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$4,620,000.00**

This contract extension will allow appropriate time to finalize the new longer-term contracts. The suppliers have agreed to extend the existing contracts under the commodity rates at the time of executing the extension.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Lanier so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 65 of 2020**      **Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement (Capital) for 2020 Large Diameter Main Replacement Program (Four Mile Run Water Main Relocation), PWSA Project No. 2020-424-103-0, to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT)**

**Funding – Capital Budget \$448,500.00**

The scope of work for this water main improvement project includes field investigations, desktop analysis, preliminary design, final design, permitting, bid phase services and engineering services during construction.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Strassburger so moved, and Ms. Lanier seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 66 of 2020      Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for Option Year 1 of the 2020 Sewer Reconstruction Contract, PWSA Project No. 2020-424-102-0, to Independent Enterprises, Inc.**

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**Funding – Capital Budget \$1,102,951.80**

This IDIQ contract includes the reconstruction of the public sewer system including storm, sanitary, and combined sewer facilities.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Strassburger seconded the motion.

No discussion held. Board unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

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**No. 67 of 2020      Extending the Moratorium on Water Service Terminations and Other Assistance Program Enhancements in Response to COVID-19**

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PWSA recognizes the reality that the health and financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will extend beyond May 31, which is when the existing moratorium is scheduled to expire. This Resolution will extend the moratorium on water shut offs until July 1, 2020 and will apply to all customers regardless of income. In addition, approval is requested to waive the requirement for customers currently enrolled in the monthly Bill Discount Program to re-certify their income every 12 months. We will revisit this program at the next Board meeting to see if further changes are necessary.

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Lanier so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

Mike Domach asked how many customers the moratorium affected. Will Pickering responded that had PWSA not previously extended the moratorium, there would have been a little over 200 accounts that would

have potentially been eligible for shut off. Margaret Lanier thanked the Authority for the work that they are doing with this. I think it is very important that we are taking the lead in extending this moratorium and waiving the requirements for the customers.

Chaton Turner agreed. Given what is happening in the communities and the financial hardships that people are experiencing are largely outside of their control, she thought it was the right thing to do.

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

Chair Leger entertained a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Mr. Turner so moved, and Ms. Lanier seconded the motion.

The next scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Friday, May 22, 2020 at 10 AM.

*Jim Turner*

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James Turner, Secretary