

**Minutes of the
Regular Board Meeting
(Via Audio Teleconference)
Of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority
Held on May 22, 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 Friday, May 22, 2020, at approximately 10:00 a.m., via audio teleconference.

Chair Leger was the moderator of the meeting reading all Resolutions. Staff were on the teleconference to answer any questions.

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

Participants from PWSA: Robert Weimar, Debby Gibson, Will Pickering, Jennifer Presutti, Edward Barca, and Barry King.

Also present was Solicitor Mark Nowak of Clark Hill.

There were 69 confirmed participants who were on the call, in listening mode.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Executive Session was held prior to the Board Meeting via conference call. This meeting was to discuss legal and personnel matters wherein no votes were taken.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no registered participants for today's meeting, and after invitation by the Chair, there were no speakers.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Leger entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on April 24, 2020. Mr. Turner so moved, and Mr. Domach 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 April 2020 financials. PWSA's water and wastewater collections were up 3.4 percent compared to April of last year. Capital spending was steady for the month of April, but up \$7 million from last year. On the Board report are new financial projections for this month. The Finance Department has revised departmental budgets and conservatively projected revenue and collections for the year. The Finance Department is projecting a deficit for year-end, will continue to monitor collections, consumption and spending levels closely and adjust that projection if necessary.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Barry King, Director of Engineering, explained the details of this report. Since the initial implementation of PWSA's COVID 19 social restrictions and the issuance of the Governor's Order on March 23rd, only 2 essential design projects with field work and 8 essential construction projects continued with State permission. During the shutdown period, approximately 30 other design projects were able to continue with social distancing by staff and consultants. Beginning May 1st, PWSA began staggering the restart of 18 design projects with field work and 20 construction projects upon the successful acceptance and implementation of COVID19 health and safety plans that were submitted by each of our contractors, consultants and vendors. Everyone has been operating successfully under these new procedures with very few issues to date. Finally, regarding State Administrative and Consent Order driven projects, the State has reached out to PWSA effective yesterday to schedule the dates for interviews and inspection of the MFP. This is likely to be scheduled the first week of June. On May 15th, the PADEP approved PWSA's written request for a 90-day extension for specific milestones for projects identified under PWSA's November 2017 COA related to Lead Service Line Replacements and a September 2019 COA for the critical infrastructure upgrades distribution system. This is all due to delays anticipated as a result of the COVID 19 shutdowns.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director, Robert Weimar, explained the details of the Executive Director's Report. He went through the Quarterly announcement of Gold Water Drop Awards. PWSA has a number of staff who have gone well beyond the call of duty during this COVID 19 period, and we would like to recognize these people. Awardees for May include: Matt Galiotto, Warehouse; Devan Walters, Warehouse; Ramika Fields, Customer Service; Kenneth Glover, Customer Service; Shannon Deasy, Dispatch; Melissa Pail, Dispatch; Amber Smith, Dispatch; Deborah Kenney, Dispatch; Kenny Welch, Field Operations; Andy Hildebrand, Field Operations; Brian Randall, Field Operations; Garrett Donnelly, Field Operations; Tahajud Ghafoor, Field Operations; and Teresa Brown, Field Operations. I would also like to thank one of our longstanding employees and recognize him for his 15 years of service. Larry Odille recently passed away. Larry was an unsung hero. He was never one to seek out notice or recognition and in the same token would help anyone who needed it. He was a stalwart in the Engineering Department for 15 years. We have a lot to be thankful for, especially his most recent work in the Strip District putting in new sewers and drainage. We had a meeting this week with the DEP. The purpose of the meeting was to generally review the status of our organization and to thank them for the help they have given us over the past few years. The inspection of the MFP is coming up. This has been three years of non-stop effort to get an agreement and restart that facility.

Will Pickering – PWSA staff continues to work from home and will continue to do so at least until the end of June. Our Customer Service, Engineering, Construction, Finance, HR, Public Affairs, Legal and our Executive level departments really haven't missed a beat since we closed our main office back on March 17th. The Governor's decision to lift the ban on construction on May 1st increased the demand on our field operations staff. Beginning this week, our personnel have returned to full staffing levels. All PWSA employees working in the field and in the Water Treatment Plant are receiving health screening. They are continuing to have a temperature check each day before working. This is in an effort to not only protect them, but also the public with

whom they may come into contact. In addition, now that we have a full complement of operations staff, we are staggering their start times to reduce the number of employees at our yards at a time. We are one week into this staffing level, and I am happy to say that things are going pretty well. We are also in the process of ramping up our own construction projects. Over the past few weeks, we have restarted our Lead Service Line Replacement program, our sidewalk and roadway restoration, and stormwater projects. All PWSA contractors working on our behalf were required to submit safety plans, which included a commitment to maintain social distancing, wear facial coverings, sanitize surfaces and provide a hand-washing station or hand sanitizer for each site. I would encourage anyone listening in that if you see our contractors and it does not look like they are abiding by these requirements, please give us a phone call and we will remedy it as soon as possible. We have started work on the 10th Street sinkhole. The work began this week, and we are removing some of the fill. We will be working with the other utility companies who also have an interest in the project and hope to move toward a completion date in June. This is a 50/50 Cost Share Agreement with the City of Pittsburgh, but it is a PWSA contractor who is performing the work. Overall, the PWSA team has really continued to deliver, and the staff's flexibility and dedication has really been inspirational. I would like to commend Lee Haller, who is a new addition to PWSA's team this year. He has helped to link and coordinate our efforts and to make sure they are strategic and consistent. I would also like to commend Julie Quigley, who converted her whole contact center staff to remote work. We were far ahead of other investor utilities in making that switch. The ability to have that technology in place has allowed us to continue to serve our customers and keep our employees safe as well.

Paul Leger – I would be remiss if I did not point out that this is Bob's last meeting as Executive Director. Bob is going into retirement, which is well deserved. PWSA would not be where it is today without Bob. He has been a guiding light like we have never experienced before in this organization, and I cannot give you profound enough thanks for what you have done.

No. 68 of 2020 Approving the Appointment of William Pickering as the Executive Director of the PWSA Effective June 1, 2020 and Authorizing the Chair to Negotiate the Terms and Conditions of Mr. Pickering's Position

This Resolution is to approve the appointment of William Pickering as the Executive Director of the PWSA effective June 1, 2020 and authorizing the Chair to negotiate the terms and conditions of Mr. Pickering's position. The Chair has advised that the details of the terms and conditions will be put before the Board before any details are finalized with regard to the terms and conditions.

Chair Leger entered to move the motion, and Mr. Domach seconded the motion.

Discussion held with comments from the Board expressing congratulations for Mr. Pickering. Each member also expressed their gratitude to Bob Weimar for his role as Executive Director over the last few years at PWSA.

Mr. Pickering announced that his current role as Deputy Director of PWSA will now be filled by Finance Director Jennifer Presutti.

A roll call vote was held. All Board members unanimously approved, and the Resolution was adopted.

No. 69 of 2020 Authorizing Certain Officers and Officials to Take Action With Respect to the Authority's Outstanding Indebtedness, Including Redeeming a Portion of Its Outstanding Water and Sewer System First Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series C of 2017

Funding: Operating Budget in amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00

The PWSA is requesting approval to redeem an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 of the outstanding 2017C bonds from available Authority funds when the bonds become callable on June 1, 2020. The Finance Department is sensitive to the recent economic challenges that have been caused by COVID-19 and will continue to monitor financial performance to ensure that this optional redemption is appropriate given the circumstances.

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

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

No. 70 of 2020 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for the Design of the Lime Slurry System Improvements, PWSA Project No. 2017-322-101-7, to Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP

Funding: Capital Budget \$359,538.90

The objective of this project is to increase the AWTP's existing liquid lime slurry storage capacity to provide a stored material safety factor of an additional three days of storage at maximum flow to ensure full compliance with PADEP requirements.

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.

No. 71 of 2020 Approving an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for Powdered Activated Carbon System Improvements – General/Mechanical, PWSA Project No. 2017-322-101-2, Task Order URS27-54 to URS/AECOM

Funding: Capital Budget \$140,063.99

PAC is effective for removing organic material and algae from the source water, directly improving taste and odor. Although PWSA does not currently have an issue with meeting the current regulatory limits for the level of disinfection by-products in drinking water, the likelihood of more stringent regulatory limits in the foreseeable future will make the addition of PAC mandatory. An agreement amendment is necessary to continue the required CM/CI services for the ongoing construction.

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.

No. 72 of 2020 Approving an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for Lanpher Reservoir Improvements, PWSA Project No. 2017-323-105-0, Task Order ARC28-13 to Arcadis US, Inc

Funding: Capital Budget \$379,173.00

This scope of work relates to the addition of a necessary sodium hypochlorite building, including related piping, vaults, mechanical, structural, architectural, instrumentation and controls, sitework, roadwork and utilities. This is an owner-directed request that was identified after the approval of the design and construction of the Lanpher Reservoir Cover and Liner Replacement Project.

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. 73 of 2020 Approving a Change Order of a Capital Contract for 2019 Catch Basin and Inlet Replacement, PWSA 2019-424-107-1, to A. Folino and an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for CM/CI to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

Funding: Capital Budget Cumulative \$582,000.00

Functional catch basins/inlets are a necessary and critical component of our stormwater collection system. With recent repeating patterns of excessive rain events throughout the Pittsburgh area, properly located, installed, and maintained catch basins are critical to managing stormwater in the right of way.

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

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

No. 74 of 2020 Approving the Award of an Operating Contract for 2020 Manhole and Point Repair, PWSA Project No. 2020-OPS-103-0, to A. Merante Contracting, Inc., and a Professional Services Agreement for CM/CI Services to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$2,531,739.00

This annual IDIQ contract involves the repair of existing sewers or installation of manholes, catch basins, and inlets in the public sewer system, including storm, sanitary and combined sewer facilities at various locations throughout the City of Pittsburgh.

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

Margaret Lanier noted that PWSA had 19 requests for solicitation, but 13 did not respond. She asked if this is normal for a contract like this. Barry King responded that the number of bids received were in line with what PWSA has received historically. Ms. Turner asked if COVID may be influencing some of that. Mr. King responded that it is potentially why PWSA had a lack of response.

Paul Leger asked how passive was PWSA's posting. Does PWSA just post or is there any way PWSA recruits companies to respond--specifically, minority companies? Mr. King responded that there has been historic outreach to

the development contract community. For this one, PWSA followed the same procedures it normally does for posting. It did not make any necessary modifications based on the COVID status. Mr. Leger stated that, going forward, it is probably a good idea if PWSA examines its outreach processes to make sure it is getting it as far as it can go. Mr. King said he would discuss this directly with Procurement after the meeting. Ms. Turner stated she thought some of that outreach is described in the updated policy done for disadvantaged businesses.

No further discussion held. Five members voted to approve, and one member abstained. Ms. Turner abstained. Resolution was adopted.

No. 75 of 2020 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement (PennVest) for 2020 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement, PWSA Project No. 2019-325-102-0, to Mott MacDonald

Funding: PennVest Funding \$2,089,807.51

This professional services agreement is necessary for the provision of embedded staffing to aid in the management and execution of the Small Diameter Water Main replacement program. These embedded positions are currently staffed by the personnel proposed in the agreement. The current personnel are fully trained and are performing their current duties effectively.

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

Jim Turner requested a description as to how the areas for this project are being chosen. Barry King responded that the areas selected were based on these criteria: age of the lines, condition of the lines, the likelihood and instances for lead service lines to be encountered in these areas, as well as some of the community related aspects. It was a full analysis that went into predicting where these areas would be. Bob Weimar stated that the PUC was very insistent that those lines that are 4 inches and smaller, of which we have pretty significant mileage, needed to be made a top priority. Those were also factored into those decisions.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

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

The next scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Friday, June 26, 2020 at 10 AM.

Jim Turner

James Turner, Secretary