

**Minutes of the
Regular Board Meeting
(Via Audio Teleconference)
Of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority
Held on May 28, 2021**

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 28, 2021, at approximately 10:00 a.m., via audio teleconference.

ROLL CALL – 8 Members of the Board were present. Ms. BJ Leber was absent.

Participants from PWSA: Will Pickering, Debby Gibson, Raquel Ludinich, Barry King, Edward Barca, John Potanko, Rick Obermeier, Logan Carmichael, Rachel Romano, BJ McFaddin

Also present was Solicitor Mark Nowak of Clark Hill.

There was a total of 70 participants on the call.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Darlene Batko of Greenfield and Ms. Harriet Stein of Greenfield spoke about noise issues with the Squirrel Hill Tank Water Tower. Ms. Ziggy Edwards and Ms. Barb Warwick of The Run requested the removal of the Mon Oakland Connector Project from the Four Mile Run Stormwater Improvement Project. Mr. James Cole of Hazelwood spoke about equipment damage at the Burgwin Field Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Executive Session was held prior to the Board Meeting, wherein legal and personnel matters were discussed. No votes were taken.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on April 23, 2021. Mr. Turner so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

No discussion held. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ed Barca, Director of Finance, presented the details of this report.

The year-to-date receipts are up 2.7% or approximately \$2.0 million. This is the first time in 2021 that year-to-date receipts have surpassed the amount collected at this same point in the prior year. This is a result of the continued economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the rate increase that went into effect earlier this year. In addition, our capital expenses have remained steady, and our cash balance is higher compared to this point last year.

The PWSA also kicked off the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan budgeting process in May. A Board Education session will be held prior to the September Board meeting in order to obtain feedback from the Board on the Capital Improvement Plan.

Mr. Domach – I can understand why water collections are down, but at the same time why are wastewater collections up?

Mr. Barca – I think it is just the result of that segment of the City that is sewer only and possibly back billings.

Mr. Turner – I typically ask you monthly about the difference in ALCOSAN collections versus spending. I noted on your projection report that we are expecting revenues to slightly exceed the expenditures. Can you address what PWSA plans to do with ALCOSAN on collections.

Mr. Barca – We are going to explore what areas in our Customer Service that we can improve for collections to help make up for some of that lost revenue. We are also going to have a broader conversation with ALCOSAN to make sure both parties are receiving fair services.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Barry King, Director of Engineering, presented the details of this report.

With respect to our Water Main and Lead Service Line Replacements, as of Friday, May 14th, PWSA has replaced approximately 73,000 LF, or nearly 14 miles of water main under the ongoing Small Diameter Water Main Replacement Program, addressing replacing Lead Service Line Replacements concurrently. We have replaced a total of 2,460 public-side lead service lines and 1,868 private-side lead service lines.

Progress continues to be made on the PWSA Water Reliability Plan Projects, including:

- Designs continue to progress on the Aspinwall and Bruecken Pump Station Improvement Projects, and the Aspinwall WTP Clearwell Bypass Project, with the 60% design submittals due on June 30th.
- Design efforts also continue on schedule for the following:
 - Rising Main No. 4 Rehabilitation and Replacement Project - The Public Water Supply Construction Permit Application is on track to be submitted June 1st
 - Highland Reservoir Pump Station Project and Highland Reservoir Pump Station Suction and Rising Mains Project - Staff completed the pre-application meeting with the PADEP on May 19th for the Public Water Supply Construction Permit Application, which is on track to be submitted by the end of June
 - Aspinwall Pump Station to Lanpher Reservoir Redundant Rising Main Project - Work continues on the 90% Design Submittal due in August 2021
- For the Rising Main 3 Rehabilitation and Replacement Project, also known as the 2019 Large Diameter Water Main Improvements Project, proposals for the Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services are due 2:00 PM, June 1, and proposals for the Construction are due 2:00 PM, Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

We will be requesting the Board's approval today to award the Highland No. 2 Reservoir Improvements Construction Contract. And finally, with regard to PWSA's other capital and operating construction projects, and in addition to the proposals due for Rising Main 3, Invitations for Bids and Requests for Proposal are currently open and on the street for the following:

- General, Electrical, HVAC and Plumbing Contracts for the construction of the Herron Hill Reservoir Improvements: Sodium Hypochlorite Building Project, with proposals due June 10, 2021,
- Proposals for CMCI Services on the 2019 Large Diameter Water Main Improvements for Rising Main 3 are due June 1, 2021,
- Proposals for the Construction of the 2019 Large Diameter Water Main Improvements for Rising Mains 3 are due June 15, 2021, at 2:00 PM,
- 2020 Small Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation - Contract No. 2 due June 15, 2021,
- 2021 Small Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation - Contract No. 3 due June 16, 2021,
- 2021 Small Diameter Water Replacement-Second Avenue and Tecumseh Street due June 17, 2021, and
- 2018 Sewers Under Structures Contract, also due June 17, 2021, at 2:00 PM

Mr. Turner – As you know, last year we did not do the testing for those homes that still have a lead service line, and we were not required to. Are we planning to do testing this year to monitor our continued readings below the 15 parts per billion threshold?

Mr. King – Yes.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Will Pickering, Chief Executive Officer, explained the details of this report. This month I would like to call your attention to our metering program. We replaced 720 small meters last month. That means from May 2018 to present we have replaced over 20,000 small meters. We have committed to replacing 50,000 to the PA PUC. Some of the meter replacement work was curtailed last year due to COVID-19 for the safety of our customers and staff. We are back into full swing. At the end of April, our actual percentage of meter reading was the highest that it has been since we started recording the stat at 97.1%. We are very close to our goal of 98%.

The metering program has the benefit of viewing the service line for lead. This provides us an updated and verified record of the material type. So, if we see lead, we flag that, it goes up on our map, and we notify the customer. That line location is then slotted for future replacement. With that, I'm going to recognize three of our colleagues here at PWSA for the Pgh2o Excellence Awards. Michele Schanbacher, who is our Senior Payroll Administrator; Sharon Gottschalk, who is a Senior Collections Manager in our Customer Service Department; and John Potanko, who is our Program Manager of Capital Projects.

Mr. Turner – With regard to our metering program, is there a way we can let customers know that our employees have been vaccinated to encourage more installations?

Mr. Pickering – I will have to reach out to our HR professionals about that. We currently have a screening process and questionnaire that we utilize, and we assure them that our folks will be continuing to wear PPE even though some of that guidance has shifted.

Chair Sciulli introduced and provided a brief background for the newest members of the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors. Peg McCormick Barron and Mark Anthony Thomas.

RESOLUTIONS

No. 52 of 2021 Approving a 3-Year Renewal of a Professional Services Agreement for a Program Management Information System (PMIS) to e-Builder, Inc.

Funding: Operating Budget \$785,149.97

This software program allows its PWSA Project Managers, Contractors, and Consultant's access to several workflow processes developed by PWSA. Several of these processes consist of construction submittals, board resolutions, change orders, task orders, invoices, certified contractor pay applications, schedule management, documentation management, project cost information, and executive summary reporting and dashboards.

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

Mr. Sciulli – This is a renewal of our existing system, correct?

Mr. Barca – Yes, this is the licensing cost for all our users. This program has all the reporting and other functionalities that we need.

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

No. 53 of 2021 Approving Procurement of SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) Equipment to CED Mosebach

Funding: Water Treatment Operating Budget \$516,541.18

An upgrade at all remote sites (pump stations and lift stations) is required. The upgrade is because the SCADAPack units are end of life and end of support. The processors on many of the units are failing requiring the upgrade.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Domach so moved, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

Mr. Domach – Can you give us an idea how up to date the SCADA will be system wide?

Mr. Obermeier – I will get that information to you.

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

No. 54 of 2021 Approving an Amendment to the Code of Ethics Policy

The revised policy includes provisions related to formalizing Environmental Compliance reporting processes and procedures within the organization. This Policy replaces the current Ethics Handbook and Suspected Misconduct and Dishonesty policy and is now all encompassing.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. Cristello seconded the motion.

Mr. Turner –The current policy does not permit an employee to accept an honorarium. I can certainly envision one of our people attending a conference and our staff providing valuable information to other water companies and they are presented with what I would call a de minimis honorarium like a \$25 gift certificate. That’s the only very minor concern that I would have.

Mr. Carmichael – Our current policy does follow the Pennsylvania Employee Ethics Act which does prohibit us from accepting an honorarium. So, while it does state that it is an obvious restriction for people, the overarching policy that we also follow will allow for some leniency for accepting those kinds of rewards or gifts that have a de minimis economic impact. If an employee is concerned as to whether they can accept a gift like that, they should always check in with our Ethics Officer or our HR staff prior to receiving those gifts. You can also err on the side of caution by not accepting those gifts, but still accepting the opportunity. Given the overarching policy, I would not see accepting a small honorarium as a violation of this policy.

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

No. 55 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for Construction of Highland No. 2 Reservoir Liner and Cover Replacement to Layfield USA Corp; and a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services to H.R. Gray

Funding: Capital Budget Cumulative \$14,568,550.89

The scope of this project includes replacement of the reservoir liner, baffles, floating cover, rainwater removal cover pumps, and associated pump

controls and electrical upgrades. The nature of this work requires that construction activities take place during favorable weather conditions.

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

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

No. 56 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Project Management Services for 2021 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement Project Contract A to Mott MacDonald

Funding: Capital Budget \$660,599.65

This agreement is necessary for the provision of technical embedded staffing to aid in the management and execution of the 2021 Small Diameter Water Main Replacement Contracts B and C, which involve the replacement of lead service lines in the process of relaying water mains.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

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

No. 57 of 2021 Approving the Award of Multiple Operating Contracts for Construction for Option Year 1 of 2021 Urgent Water Repair Contract to A. Folino Construction and Independent Enterprises, Inc.; and a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services to Hatch Associates and Consultants

Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$5,666,795.66

This multi-year annual Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contracts involve the urgent repair or rehabilitation of the public water system including water mains, valves, service connections, hydrants, and related appurtenances, as required.

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

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

No. 58 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for Construction of the 2019 Small Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation Contract No. 2 – Brownsville Road Storm Sewer Project to M. O’Herron Company

Funding: Capital Budget \$467,778.00

This project includes the rerouting and construction of new storm sewers to separate storm structures cross connected to the separate sanitary sewer.

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

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

No. 59 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Design and Engineering Services for the 2022 Small Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation – Contract 1 Project to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.

Funding: Capital Budget \$448,077.81

The project scope includes the rehabilitation of over 22,500 linear feet of sewers ranging from 8 to 30 inches in diameter through the installation of Cured-In-Place (CIPP) lining and associated excavated repairs to sewers and structures.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Mr. Turner seconded the motion.

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

No. 60 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Design and Engineering Services for the 2022 Small Diameter Sewer Rehabilitation – Contract 2 Project to Wade Trim

Funding: Capital Budget \$472,151.24

The project scope includes the rehabilitation of over 20,000 linear feet of sewers ranging from 8 to 24 inches in diameter through the installation of Cured-In-Place (CIPP) lining and associated excavated repairs to sewers and structures.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. McCormick Barron so moved, and Ms. Strassburger seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciulli – Both of these companion pieces were listed as 2022 Small Diameter Sewer Rehab. This doesn't necessarily mean that the work gets done in 2022, these are monies that have been established as part of the 2022 Capital budget and there is still 2021 work being done, correct?

Mr. King – That is correct.

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

No. 61 of 2021

Approving an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Inspection Services for 2020 Manhole and Point Repair to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.

Funding: Operating Budget \$90,000.00

This 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 Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

Ms. Cristello – On the supplier diversity program status, there is a goal and there is an actual for them. What is the time frame we are looking at for them to meet their goals?

Mr. King – The actuals are at 15%, which is above what the base amount is, but less than the goals. We would anticipate that this vendor, who has been fairly consistent in past contracts, meeting their goals with the attainment of the contract period provided.

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

No. 62 of 2021 Approving the Award of Multiple Operating Contracts for Construction of 2021 Urgent Sewer Repair – OPS to M. O’Herron Company and Independent Enterprises, Inc.; and a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management and Construction Inspection Services to Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc.

Funding: Operating Budget Cumulative \$7,582,086.00

These multi-year annual Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contracts involve 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, as required.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Thomas so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciulli – I’m happy to see new companies get involved in PWSA work. Have they done work for PWSA in the past?

Mr. King – They have. They are on a number of sewer related projects functioning as a subcontractor. We have reviewed their work and comments from other contractors and feel that they can handle this work.

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

No. 63 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Professional Services Agreement for Engineering Design and Design Services During Construction for the Hayson Avenue Neighborhood Sewage Backup Protection Project to HDR Engineering, Inc.

Funding: Operating Budget \$308,400.00

This project consists of the construction of customized solutions specific to each of the eleven properties identified that historically experience surface flooding and basement backups during extreme wet-weather events in order to protect these properties from future sewer backups.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. McCormick Barron so moved, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

Mr. Turner – It is my understanding that while this contract is not going to resolve the flooding type problems that occur in that neighborhood, we are hopeful that this will resolve the sewage backups, is that correct?

Mr. King – That is correct.

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

No. 64 of 2021 Approving an Amendment of a Professional Services Agreement for Design and Engineering Services for Queenston Sewer Improvements to Wade Trim

Funding: Capital Budget \$80,225.00

This amendment is required to address the addition of 300 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe and for further investigation to determine the location and connections to an unmapped sewer during the preliminary design phase. This sewer separation project will address an open formal PUC complaint registered by an affected resident in the area by helping to address recurring flooding and basement backups.

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

Mr. Turner – Can you explain the 25% amendment of this contract?

Mr. King – Yes. We did have a first amendment to the project for the professional services agreement where we added the separation design element to this project. This is a furtherance of it so that we can complete what we hadn't identified previously, which was finding a sewer that was unmapped. And this will allow us to complete the project and resolve the PUC complaint.

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

No. 65 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for Construction of the Nobles Lane Stormsystem Improvements to Independent Enterprises, Inc.

Funding: Capital Budget \$329,290.00

This project includes the strategic installation of various storm system improvements, including catch basins, manholes, and storm sewers on Cloverdale Street and Nobles Lane to increase stormwater control.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

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

No. 66 of 2021 Approving the Award of a Capital Contract for Construction of Winchester Drive at Grovemount Stormsystem Improvements to Independent Enterprises, Inc.

Funding: Capital Budget \$418,649.50

This project includes the strategic installation of various storm system improvements, including catch basins, manholes, storm sewers, and outfalls near Winchester Drive and Grovemount Road to help improve stormwater management.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

Mr. Sciulli – I’m happy to see that there are more of these cost-share opportunities with the City and with DOMI in particular.

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

No. 67 of 2021 Approving the Submittal of an Application to ALCOSAN’s GROW Grant Program for a Sewer Improvement Project in the M-42 Streets Run Sewershed

PWSA and the Boroughs of Baldwin, Brentwood, Whitehall, and West Mifflin Sanitary Sewer participated in and collaborated with ALCOSAN in a Flow Monitoring and Flow Isolation Measurement Program in the M-42 Sewershed (Streets Run and Glass Run). Through this assessment, the M-42 in Streets Run Sewershed Project was deemed to be a viable candidate to provide sufficient source flow reduction for this program and therefore receiving ALCOSAN funding is favorable. ALCOSAN has invited the municipalities to apply for funding through the GROW Grant Program.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Dr. Murrell so moved, and Ms. Cristello seconded the motion.

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

No. 68 of 2021 Approving Entering into a Grant Agreement with The Heinz Endowments for Developing a Strategic Plan for the Stormwater Program

The Heinz Endowments has approved a grant to PWSA for \$100,000.00 to support the engagement of a visionary project team by the PWSA and the City of Pittsburgh to develop a strategic stormwater master plan to create a global model that would serve as Pittsburgh’s blueprint to address local water challenges.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Ms. Cristello so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

Mr. Turner – I do know that we are underway with discussions with two other foundations, and I’m optimistic that we will get full participation from all three of them for this important endeavor.

Dr. Murrell – I would like to echo Jim’s sentiment.

Ms. Strassburger –Why is a new stormwater plan necessary when we already have a stormwater plan in place and it is not that old? The concern raised to me is as to why we are spending resources, in this case grant dollars, to seek a consultant to update this plan. I think it would be helpful for the public to hear the reasons why it is necessary.

Mr. Sciulli – I think that is a good point. I will ask staff to put something together so we can get the information out to the general public. I also want to thank the Heinz Endowment for their support. As Jim indicated, we have two other foundations that will also participate in providing funds for this very important strategic plan.

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

No. 69 of 2021 Approving the submittal of an Application to ALCOSAN’s GROW Grant Program for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements

In coordination with the Port Authority’s Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, PWSA is implementing stormwater/green infrastructure (GI) improvements in the Uptown Neighborhood. PWSA’s project area includes 5th Avenue and Forbes Avenue, between Pride Street and the Birmingham Bridge. The project area is located in the M-19 and M-05 sewersheds. The design goal for the project is to manage 1.5-inches of runoff from approximately 4.5 acres of impervious surface.

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

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

New Business

No. 70 of 2021 Requesting Approval of an Amended Agreement With the Pittsburgh Joint Collective Bargaining Committee (PJCBC) dated January 01, 2021

Amending previous Resolution approved authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to sign collective bargaining agreement effective January 01, 2021, and shall remain in full force and effect until 12:00 midnight, December 31, 2024 (which was previously 2023) and from year to year thereafter unless either party shall notify the other in writing on or before June 01, 2024.

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to approve for discussion. Mr. Turner so moved, and Dr. Murrell seconded the motion.

Mr. Turner – Can you summarize briefly the changes that were made here?
Mr. Carmichael – The biggest difference is that this is now a 4-year contract instead of a 3-year.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Chair Sciulli entertained a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Mr. Turner so moved, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

The next scheduled Regular Board Meeting will take place on Friday, June 25, 2021.

Jim Turner

James Turner, Secretary