

GREATER JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY
Thursday, September 15, 2022
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Mr. Don C. Hall, II, Chairman; Mr. Kevin Pile, Vice Chairman; Mr. Anthony Caputo, Secretary; Mr. Charles Arnone, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Richard Rambish, Treasurer; Mr. John H. Follansbee, III, Assistant Treasurer; Mr. Ed Cernic, Jr.; Marc McCall; James McDonnell; David Vitovich, Sheree Speicher

A. Don C. Hall, II, Chairman, called the Greater Johnstown Water Authority Meeting of September 15, 2022 to order at 3:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

John H. Follansbee, III and Richard Rambish were absent.

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES:

RDM – Johnstown, LLC

Michael Kerr, Tom Brown, Melissa Radovanic, Nancy Miller
Present via video: Brian Hohman, James Kukura, Mike Kukura, Victoria Kniss,
Sue Konvolinka,

Greater Johnstown Water Authority
William Barbin, Esquire, Solicitor

Accountant
James P. Deter, CPA

Gibson Thomas
Ed Schmitt, Chris Wharton

EADS Group
Brandon Palmer

Recording Secretary
Lori A. Behe

Others in attendance (via video)

Russ O'Reilly, Tribune Democrat reporter, Whitney

D. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Patricia Walker, 612 Fronheiser Street, Johnstown, addressed Authority members with regard to her ongoing water problem that has developed with the start and finish of the sewer upgrades. She reported low water pressure as a result. After having the matter checked she was told the City was responsible but that she should also contact the GJWA.

She noted her sidewalk was left in disrepair and asked that her house be "put back the way it was". Ms. Walker also owns 608 and 610 Fronheiser Street which has completely different problems.

Mr. Kerr commented Brandon noted a leak on the service and the meter read 53,000 gallons. He would double check the service line at the residence.

Mr. Palmer stated restoration items are on the punch list.

Mr. Kerr stated he would have the foreman at her residence in the morning to try to figure out what the issues are.

Chairman Hall asked Ms. Walker to give the Authority a chance to fix the problem.

E. NOTIFICATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Caputo referred Authority members to a letter received from Southmont Borough appointing Sheree Speicher back on the Board until December 31, 2025.

F. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The Board discussed a correction to the minutes.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 11, 2022 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Pile made a motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

The motion passed unanimously.

**G. TREASURER'S REPORT - REVENUE FUND TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF
AUGUST 31, 2022**

WATER REVENUE FUND

Members were referred to the following financial information for review:

BALANCE AS OF JULY 31, 2022

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Checking Account - FNB | \$2,282,221.88 | |
| Checking Account - FNB Sweep Account | -- | |
| Less Outstanding Checks | (\$488,612.16) | |
| | \$1,793,609.72 | \$1,793,609.72 |

RECEIPTS:

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| Water Service | \$939,086.40 | |
| Account Confirmation | \$4,700.09 | |
| FNB - Interest on Sweep Account | -- | |
| FNB - Interest on MM Account | \$160.89 | |
| Wells Fargo - Distribution of Income | \$8,019.79 | |
| RDM-Caretaker Rent - August 2022 | \$300.00 | |
| D. Stewart-Inv.#1921- Restoration costs for new service | \$322.00 | |
| A. Hernandez-Inv.#1922-Bal on acct for water tap fee | \$650.00 | |
| GJWA Sewer - Interest on Mack Truck | \$1,081.72 | |
| Norfolk Southern-Inv.#1885-water purchases and overpayment on acct | \$1,885.00 | |
| J. Kapelewski-Inv.#1905-Bal on acct for new service | \$600.00 | |
| RDM-September rent 2022 | \$6,216.78 | |
| RDM Sheetz-July 2022 | \$11,619.61 | |
| Lindy Paving - Inv.#1917&1918-Bulk Water Purchase | \$104.00 | |
| Wells Fargo-Pay Req#37-22-08CAP Reimb for Farben Settlement | \$45,000.00 | |
| Wells Fargo-PayReq#34-22-08CAP-4th material transfer | \$56,939.95 | |
| EnelX-Energy Rebate Inv. #1931 | \$1,770.98 | |
| Equitran-Inv.#1934-Annual PNG ROW | \$50.00 | |
| Lindy Paving - Inv.#1920-Bulk Water Purchase | \$8.32 | <u>\$1,078,515.53</u> |
| | | \$2,872,125.25 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| DIRECT PennVEST Loan #12597 | \$34,082.17 | |
| DIRECT PennVEST Loan #12719 | \$28,022.97 | |
| DIRECT Sheetz-Wex Inc. Fleet | \$11,619.61 | |
| VOID Check #24003 and 24004 | -- | |
| 08/04/22 Check Register - A | \$4,722.39 | |
| 08/11/22 Check Register - B | \$278,752.08 | |
| 08/19/22 Check Register -C | \$581,602.84 | |
| | | \$938,802.06 |

BALANCE AS OF AUGUST 31, 2022

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Checking Account - FNB | \$2,410,490.37 | |
| Checking Account - FNB Sweep Account | -- | |
| Less: Outstanding checks | <u>(\$477,167.18)</u> | |
| | \$1,933,323.19 | <u>\$1,933,323.19</u> |

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND REDEMPTION FUND-AUG. 2022

GR JOHNSTOWN WATER SER 08 CAP & RED #3976

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Ameriserv Financial CD | 11/03/22 | .30% | \$2,176,311.69 |
| First National Bank | 04/08/23 | 1.20% | \$338,689.13 |
| First National Bank | 08/12/23 | 2.35% | \$500,000.00 |
| First National Bank | 11/17/23 | .40% | \$250,000.00 |
| First National Bank | 03/01/23 | 1.05% | \$240,000.00 |
| Ameriserv Financial CD | 10/10/22 | .30% | \$250,000.00 |
| PLGIT | | 2.28% | \$240,473.24 |
| Blackrock FDS Treas TR#62 | | 2.06% | <u>\$812,275.98</u> |
| | TOTAL | | \$4,807,750.04 |

GR JOHNSTOWN WATER 2015 NORTH FORK RESERVOIR FUND

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------|----------------|
| First National Bank | 03/01/23 | 1.05% | \$348,475.50 |
| First National Bank | 05/05/23 | 1.47% | \$250,000.00 |
| First National Bank | 04/08/23 | 1.20% | \$463,738.50 |
| First National Bank | 04/19/23 | 1.20% | \$250,000.00 |
| First National Bank | 08/15/23 | 2.35% | \$1,300,000.00 |
| First National Bank | 11/05/22 | .30% | \$500,000.00 |
| Ameriserv Bank CD | 11/18/22 | .35% | \$450,000.00 |

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| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|-----------------------|
| First National Bank | 11/17/23 | .40% | \$500,000.00 |
| PLGIT | | 2.28% | \$324,075.39 |
| Blackrock FDS Treas TR#62 | | 2.06% | <u>\$318,931.47</u> |
| TOTAL | | | \$4,705,220.86 |

GR JTWN WATER PURCHASE ACT #1915

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------|-----------------------|
| First National Bank | 11/17/23 | .40% | \$1,005,943.62 |
| First National Bank | 05/25/23 | 1.75% | \$438,178.33 |
| 1st Summit Bank CD | 10/19/22 | .40% | \$250,000.00 |
| BlackrockFDS Treas TR#62 | | 2.06% | <u>\$40,049.70</u> |
| TOTAL | | | \$1,734,171.65 |

ACCOUNT SUMMARY OF CAPITAL FUNDS:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Cap Imp & Red Acct #3976 | \$4,807,750.04 |
| 2015 North Fork Reservoir Fund | \$4,705,220.86 |
| Water Purchase Account | <u>\$1,734,171.65</u> |
| TOTAL | \$11,247,142.55 |

BALANCE AS OF AUGUST 31, 2022

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Checking -First National Bank-Water Revenue | \$3,302,883.90 |
|---|----------------|

BILLS TO BE PAID

WATER REVENUE FUND BILLS

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Paid after August 11, 2022 meeting - Water | \$585,608.07 |
| To be paid at Sept. 15, 2022 meeting-Water | <u>\$272,735.66</u> |
| TOTAL | \$858,343.73 |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| GJWA 08 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BILLS | \$135,033.55 |
|---|--------------|

GJWA 2008 CAP IMPROVEMENT FUND

RDM JOHNSTOWN, LLC

39-22-08CAP

| | |
|---|------------|
| Invoice #8025- Labor and Equip for 758-53T-Rpr 10'of 4" DI at 111 Peter Street | \$1,472.45 |
| Invoice#8024-Labor and Equip for 758-54T-Replc10'of 8" DI at Singer Street | \$3,584.55 |
| Invoice#8026-Labor and Equip for 322-4T-Replc 4" valve at 243 Blair Street | \$1,216.34 |

GREATER JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY

GJWA Board Meeting
Thursday, September 15, 2022

40-22-08 CAP

Reimbursement for material purchase for Westmont Reservoir
Park Waterline \$113,978.79

GIBSON-THOMAS ENGINEERING CO., INC.

41-22-08 CAP

Invoice #79076-NF Spillway Eval-Eng. ServicesWO#2022-07 \$6,142.00

GIBSON-THOMAS ENGINEERING CO. INC.

42-22-08 CAP

Invoice #79073 - NF Waste Valve Repair-Inspection WO#2019-07 \$1,616.72

GIBSON-THOMAS ENGINEERING CO. INC.

43-22-08 CAP

Invoice # 79074 Westmont Brick Tank Replacement-Engineering
WO#2020-1 \$2,606.50

GIBSON-THOMAS ENGINEERING CO. INC.

44-22-08CAP

Invoice # 79075 Old Westmont Waterline Upgrades - Engineering
WO#2021-1 \$1,021.00

ALLEGHENY FIELD SERVICE AND CONSULTING

45-22-08CAP

Invoice #AFS22188-1 - 50% down payment Eaton Drive Stack
Assembly for Millcreek \$3,395.00

AMOUNT \$135,033.35

**Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.**

The motion passed unanimously.

H. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

William Gleason Barbin, Esquire, Solicitor, had no items for action but noted an item would be discussed later on with regard to sewer pressure testing on resale.

Mr. Barbin reported a meeting was held regarding the JETSA sewer bill for the Salt Lick Water Treatment Plant and is awaiting a response from that authority's Counsel.

He noted the CSA shutdown would potentially have an effect and requested guidance from the Board as to how to proceed on the matter. Mr. Kerr explained CSA is paid in one lump sum and the rate CSA charges the GJWA is substantially higher than

what they charge industrial customers. He noted concerning issues include the water quality and the treatment issues at the plant that the water comes to, the price of the water that was in the agreement and the duration and the difficulty that it would pose with the shutdown. Mr. Kerr noted the contract was renewed in the early 2000s. There was further discussion regarding the contract with CSA and some upcoming shutdowns.

RDM will provide additional information after which the Board would revisit the matter.

Mr. Speicher noted the different municipalities are requesting a report of timeframes with regard to pressure testing on resale.

Mr. Barbin clarified the issue is how long is the test good for to avoid the requirement to pressure test on resale. He explained that those who do not sell an interest in their property are not required to retest under anybody's rules anywhere in Greater Johnstown.

Mr. Kerr added the consent order requires the retest upon sale. He stated Ms. Speicher had inquired as to the duration of time that could pass from the point that a house passes pressure testing for that test to be valid to sell the house. Mr. Kerr noted that currently it was one year, and Ms. Speicher suggested lengthening that period of time. There was further discussion.

Mr. Cernic made a motion to extend the period of time for pressure testing on resale to five years for all customers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Caputo.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Hall inquired if he would be correct in telling a Westmont Borough resident who has been CCTV'd that if you sell your property you must have a pressure test with no exceptions. He noted there is confusion regarding the matter. Mr. Barbin clarified that there was no time limit as it was not the recommended test.

Mr. Kerr explained the policy of the Authority would require that person who passed a CCTV test to pressure test their property upon the sale of the house. Another option is to sell the property, and the buyer of the property pays the surcharge until that home is pressure tested.

It was noted that on-grade homes would be pressure tested to the foundation and at the foundation an additional inspection.

Ms. Miller referred members to the agreement in the packet authorizing electronic access to PennDOT systems with regard to any future projects.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to authorize the Chairman to approve the PennDOT agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kerr talked about a recent emergency situation with a PennDOT project, that somehow when PennDOT was doing all their planning, they missed including the 8-inch main that runs up Osborne Street that feeds the emergency room. He stated the entire purpose of this project was to change the grade at the intersection at Osborne Street. He noted that PennDOT was going to take all of the cover off of the GJWA line and leave about 18 inches of road surface on top of it. Mr. Kerr comment that "that is not okay under any circumstances".

He stated, after further discussion, PennDOT wanted the Authority just to relocate the entire main, but a commitment was received from PennDOT to do that on the 75 percent reimbursement portion of the contract. So the 8-inch line up Osborne Street feeding the hospital had been replaced.

The Solicitor's Report was approved unanimously.

I. ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT - James P. Deter, CPA

Mr. Deter referred members to his August 2022 report for further discussion which included his attendance at the monthly meeting, a reconciliation of monthly trustee reports, a Summary of Capital Expenditures, preparation of a Revenue Fund Cash Flow Analysis and Capital Improvement and Redemption Fund Cash Flow Projections, reviewed receipts and expenditures as reported and prepared Form DCED-CLGS-04 and submitted it to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Mr. Deter explained Form DCED-CLGS-04 is an annual financial information filing requirement that DCED has required for years.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the Accountant's Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The motion passed unanimously.

J. ENGINEERS' REPORTS– Gibson-Thomas Engineering Company

Ed Schmitt referred Authority members to his report for further discussion.

Mr. Schmitt reported the North Fork project is moving forward, Moody and Associates are onsite and pump tests are proceeding. A report would be generated and forwarded to DEP and hopefully the permit would be received.

He reported action and movement on the FEMA Grant and appreciated Mr. Barbin's efforts regarding the matter.

The North Fork intake sensor is due to arrive on the 19th. The contractor is due back on the 26th.

James Excavating have been working on the Westmont Tank with exterior piping to the tank and the meter and valve pit and is scheduled to be completed by Monday. The meter pit is expected to arrive October/November timeframe and after setup, demolition would begin on the old tank.

Mr. Schmitt noted discussion at a recent manager's meeting with regard to the Kernville Pump Station. He talked about two pipes that need to go across and would have that done before the gas company paving project.

(Mr. Cernic exited the meeting at 3:41 p.m.)

EADS Group

Brandon Palmer, EADS Group, had no written report but noted at the last sewer meeting a proposal was approved for work on the Westmont Pump Station upgrade at Drury Lane which was built in 1961. He noted that at the time it was not anticipated that a work quality permit would need to be submitted to DEP, and they cannot locate an existing permit for that pump station. Mr. Palmer requested an answer in writing that a permit was absolutely necessary and awaited a response. He estimated the cost of the permit at approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000, and \$9,000 for the project. He will provide an update at the next meeting.

Mr. McDonnell made a motion to approve the Engineers' Reports. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

The motion passed unanimously.

K. MANAGER'S REPORT – Resource Development & Management, LLC

Michael Kerr referred Authority members to the monthly Manager's Report for September of 2022 for discussion.

He noted pressure testing on resale was covered under the Solicitor's Report.

The only item for action is work to be coordinated with Snyder Environmental on Cooper Avenue. Mr. Kerr explained that due to the slope, the line is going to require an open cut the entire length of Cooper Avenue. Mr. Kerr noted this as an opportunity to replace the lead services to avoid digging a second time. A new work

order is requested for the 30 services in the amount of \$4,000 per service or approximately \$120,000.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve a new work order in the amount of \$120,000 to replace 30 lead services along Cooper Avenue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kerr stated a new requirement that would be put in place in 2024 would require all water authorities to have a detailed inventory of lead services. He noted the GJWA has inventoried approximately 20 percent of every lead service in the system and will be completed before the requirement is put into place.

He noted as a whole there are approximately 25,000 pressure tested connections or approximately 76 percent compliant. He expects that by the end of the consent order, the system as a whole would be approximately 80 percent compliant.

Mr. Arnone as the GJWA's representative on Council noted the City issued another \$1 million to the JRA for sewage work to assist families with the completion of the work. He stated, based on \$4,000 per unit, Mrs. Komar estimated \$10 million worth of work that needed to be completed to bring the City as a whole into compliance. He estimated that 20 percent of the residents were not going to have the work done, which would require legal action. Mr. Arnone suggested taking a substantial amount of money through the Authority and offering it to the customer and attaching that cost to their bill to get the work done.

Mr. Barbin suggested \$6 per \$1,000 for 20 years. There was further discussion.

(Mr. Arnone exited the meeting at 3:54 p.m.)

Mr. Kerr noted that nearly \$200,000 has been received from LIHWAP and \$16,000 from ERAP programs.

Back flow test reminders were sent out to commercial properties.

A severe rain event at Salt Lick created difficult production for the month of August.

New motor control hardware has been ordered for the Millcreek Pump Station and a new motor has arrived for the Dale Pump Station.

He reported that 209 lead services year to date had been renewed or replaced. And the opportunity to do another 30 on Cooper Avenue has already been discussed.

Mr. Pile made a motion to approve the Manager's Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vitovich.

The motion passed unanimously.

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

With regard to DEP Pittsburgh, Mr. Barbin indicated that new attorney, Melanie Seigel, who was currently handling the sewer project, read an article in the Tribune, which was not entirely accurate, indicating the GJWA abolished pressure testing. He stated the new attorney would meet with operational staff and get back to Mr. Barbin.

M. NEW BUSINESS

None.

N. COMMENTS

There was discussion regarding a change in November's meeting schedule. The meeting dates were noted as November 10 and November 24, which is Thanksgiving Day. The November 24 date would be changed to Tuesday, November 22, 2022. There is no change to December's meeting dates scheduled for December 15 and December 29.

Chairman Hall noted that just as an FYI, a meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2023 and the second meeting would be tentatively scheduled for either February 16 or Tuesday, February 21.

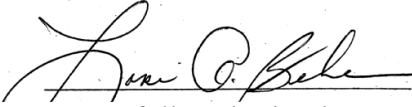
O. NEXT MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

P. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Vitovich made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Behe
Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.