

# **CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**April 24, 2012**

The semi-monthly meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, in the Authority's meeting room.

**Present:** Joseph Bonner, Chairman; William Rissinger, Vice Chairman; Gustave Haun, Treasurer, Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer; William Evans, Secretary; and Donald Cameron, Assistant Secretary. Also present were Andrew Freimuth, Solicitor; John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; and Thomas Hauser, Superintendent.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public were present.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Bonner informed the Board that he attended the meeting with New Britain Township Supervisors to discuss the various projects of the Authority. Mr. Bonner had no new information to report from the meeting.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Evans announced the need to set a new date for the Personnel Committee meeting originally scheduled for April 19 at 4:00 p.m. A meeting of the Personnel Committee was scheduled for Thursday, May 3 at 3:30 p.m.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser**

Mr. Hauser reported that treatment plant operations were not considered normal during the month of March due to an ongoing nocardia outbreak. Plant operations began to stabilize toward the end of the month as Plant staff worked to control the nocardia outbreak.

Precipitation: 1.02 inches

Average daily flow: 3.62 MGD

Peak day flow: 6.32 MG

Process performance was good and all parameters were met.

Around the plant, routine maintenance was performed as scheduled. The staff replaced ballasts in the pump station wet well lights, took apart and reassembled the DAFT and final polymer units for the thickeners several times and vacuumed nocardia foam from the UV channels. Norcardia caused the digesters to foam up and spill over. Plant staff cleaned up the spill, which did not reach stream. Other activity was noted in the Superintendent's report for March 2012.

In the collection system, pump station maintenance was performed as scheduled. Lines were televised in the Tower Hill Woods development. Laterals were televised on Bates Drive, Oakmont and West View. Pump Station No. 7 was having problems with a 6-amp

breaker and dialer. The breaker and dialer were replaced with salvaged parts from Pump Station No. 5. Pump Station No. 7 was also having problems with the meter base. PECO turned the power off and plant staff replaced the meter base with a salvaged meter base at the plant. Lines were flushed for the slip lining contractor. Vents were plunged on Lilac and Peggy Lanes.

In response to a question from Mr. Cameron, Mr. Hauser stated that storm drains are covered during any spill.

Mr. Evans asked whether property owners are billed for plunging vents. Mr. Schmidt responded that plunging is routine and property owners are therefore not billed. However, if plunging becomes a habitual problem with a particular property, the Authority may send a bill, or refuse to further plunge the vent.

Mr. Evans asked how many loads were pumped out of Pump Station No. 7 while the meter base was inoperable. Mr. Hauser indicated that 19 loads were pumped out.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – John E. Schmidt**

Mr. Schmidt stated that a check has been prepared and is ready for the Board's signature for the payment of the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty of \$2,800 to DEP as authorized at the last semi-monthly meeting of the Board. The check will appear on the bill list for the next semi-monthly meeting.

Mr. Schmidt reminded the Board of the meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 26 regarding trail construction by Doylestown Township. Mr. Schmidt noted that he and Mr. Nolan plan to attend the meeting. Mr. Bonner indicated that he would also attend.

Mr. Schmidt discussed the proposed Aetna health insurance renewal. Mr. Schmidt reported that premiums for the Aetna portion of the Authority's health plan would be reduced by 11.8%, if renewed. This reduction would result in a reduction in payments for the year of approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000. Mr. Schmidt asked the Board to either approve the Aetna renewal or look at other options.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Rissinger to authorize the execution of the renewal agreement with Aetna. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The Board had a general discussion regarding health insurance premiums and social security benefits.

The Board also discussed the Authority's rates in response to recent publications of the average quarterly sewer bills in surrounding communities.

Mr. Schmidt reminded the Board members of the upcoming PMAA dinner scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2012.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Joseph Nolan, P. E.**

Mr. Nolan reported that the Phase II Expansion and Upgrade Project is on schedule.

In response to a question from Mr. Evans about the silo, Mr. Nolan stated that the work required to replace the silo has been advertised and Mr. Nolan expects to be taking bids in mid-May with a completion date of September, 2012.

In response to a question from Mr. Haun regarding the work bid for the silo, Mr. Nolan responded that the bids will be for furnishing and erection of the silo. Demolition was not included in the bid package and Mr. Nolan did not expect that the cost of demolition would require that such work be set out for bid. Mr. Evans inquired as to whether

anybody would collect and reuse the scrap metal from the silo following demolition. A general discussion ensued regarding the use of scrap metal from the silo.

Mr. Cameron asked whether the silo would be sanitized prior to demolition. Mr. Nolan and Mr. Schmidt stated that they did not believe sanitation was necessary because the silo holds Class A biosolids.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Andrew R. Freimuth, Esquire**

There was no Solicitor’s Report.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Approved by the Board with no changes 5-8-12*

Andrew R. Freimuth, Solicitor