

EAWA WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
May 3, 2017 - 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The EAWA Board meeting was held in the Meeting Room at 211 W. Hummelstown St. and was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Dr. C. Dale Treese. Members present: Rich Sheidy, Keith Murphy, and Rick Erb. Absent: Jeff McCloud and Chuck Brewer. Also present were George Alspach, Solicitor; Del Becker, Authority Manager; Gene Haldeman, Operations Manager; Peter Lusardi, Engineer; Michele Powl, Business Manager; and Melissa Read, Temp. Members of the Public: none present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

3. REPORTS:

Series 2008 Bonds - Becker provided a copy of the analysis from Concord Financial for the 2008 bonds. The analysis shows from a financial standpoint that it is a wash for retaining the bonds vs. calling them early. The primary advantage to calling the bonds and paying them down early is to unencumber the Authority from the bond proceeds tied to the Cornwall Quarry. Becker stated calling the bonds early would lessen complications if the quarry were to be sold. Alspach stated it would also clean up the balance sheet. Becker noted this is the last debt from the Borough from establishing the Authority. He recommended that the Board call the bonds as it will not place a financial burden on EAWA. Treese asked if there would be any additional fees to call the bond. Becker noted that Chris Gibbons stated there may be a minor legal fee. Treese asked how it impacts EAWA's rating. Becker indicated it should have a positive impact on the rating because EAWA would have less debt.

Action: "That the Board approves the calling of the Water Revenue Bond, Series of 2008."

Motion: K. Murphy

Second: R. Erb

Approved

Series 2012 Bonds - Becker stated that EAWA has another potential opportunity with the 2012 bonds. Concord had been to EAWA previously and suggested the bonds be called and refinanced should sufficient savings be possible. There has been some positive movement in the bond market over the past couple of weeks. Chris Gibbons is soliciting proposals from more financial institutions. He should have those soon, and if they can achieve savings, Chris's partner may be present at the Monday meeting to further discuss this. Alspach stated that this is being put out as a bank loan. Treese asked if EAWA would need to pay for inquiring. Becker said that there would be no fees involved until the bond closes and any fees are rolled into the closing costs. Becker said that he would let the board know if he heard back from Chris Gibbons prior to Monday's meeting.

Act 205 Pension - Becker stated that he included a detailed statement in the packet for the Board. The statement shows that the investments have returned almost 3%.

EAWA Performance Metrics 2016 - Becker stated that he updated the performance metrics based on the end of year financial results and customer operations numbers. There were better numbers in 2016 than in 2015. Calculations are based primarily on the Borough residential customers. Sheidy asked how EAWA could lose customers. Becker said that it depended on the way our billing software works. It depends on the number of unoccupied houses over a billing period. He said that EAWA should see an upside in the number of customers this year as we changed the way we bill multi-unit water customers.

Operations Manager's Report - Haldeman stated staff completed the flushing program, using approximately 6 million gallons. There were no major problems created with flushing. He would like to start a hard flush of each individual line and start a revised flush program for about a week in the fall. He said staff installed two valves on N. Market St. on either side of the bridge near Lucky Duck's. Staff changed a valve near Member's 1st on S. Market St. Wells are pumping at full capacity due to the rain. He started pumping Conewago and purchased a shed to store carbon for the reservoir. Staff will administer activated carbon to help reduce algae and improve smell and taste of the water. Haldeman started the leak detection on the system and will keep this as an ongoing project. Powl stated that there were less complaint calls than normal for the flushing system this year. Haldeman stated that he is flushing all the hydrants, and they are all in working order. Sheidy asked about what full capacity means in pumping a well. Haldeman stated that full capacity means that each well pumps according to what SRBC allows the authority to pump. Treese asked about the variable frequency drives. Lusardi said that he will have proposals soon for the Board. Becker stated that an advantage of the variable frequency drives would be to determine the rate of pumping for each well.

Engineer's Report - Lusardi stated he will provide proposals for June for the following: installing variable frequency drives for the clear well, options for the existing water treatment plant, and a plan for the wall of the embankment being undermined by the stream.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Personnel Policy Subcommittee - Becker stated that himself, Brewer, and Sheidy met and decided upon some options for modifications to the personnel policy. They will meet again in June to discuss. Becker is in the process of revising it now.

Rain Garden Project - Becker stated that the planting has been postponed until May 13th.

SRBC - Becker stated that the SRBC permit applications for Wells #6 & #7 will be made by next month. EAWA will be notifying all properties within ½ mile of these wells. Treese stated that it will be classified as a well field. Becker stated that when the Well 6 docket is approved, Well 7 will be rescinded. Lusardi stated that municipalities will be meeting with high officials in the SRBC to discuss grievances. He said that he could pass along some information for the authority to attend as well.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.

6. **BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:** Murphy asked about the process in the search for an administrative assistant. Becker stated that he is accepting applications until May 22nd. There is an ad in the paper now for the administrative assistant position. Treese stated that he was happy with the flushing program overall. Lusardi stated that he and Becker entered EAWA's water in the state's American Waterworks Statewide conference last Thursday. EAWA's water made the top five.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

8. **ADJOURN: 7:20 PM**

Action: "That the Board adjourns the work session meeting."

Motion: K. Murphy

Second: R. Erb

Approved

Respectfully submitted,

D. Becker, Authority Manager

Approved at 6/12/17 Meeting