

LOWER TEN MILE JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

144 CHARTIERS ROAD

JEFFERSON, PA 15344

724-883-2743

MINUTES

April 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority was called to order at 5:00 p.m., at the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority office.

Those members present were:

Kenneth Frameli, Chairman
Tom Goughenour, Vice Chairman
Jamie Forman, Secretary
Benjamin Bupka, Treasurer
George Riecks, Asst. Sec-Treas.

Brian Sypin
Tim Phillips
Tom Davidson
Joshua Forman
Gary Mylan

Also attending were:

Christopher Simms, Solicitor
Bob Dengler, Engineer
Genea McCartney, Jefferson Fire Department
Todd Snyder, Jefferson Fire Department

Bruce Howard, Lead Operator
Sharon Confortini, Secretary
Jeremy Kern, Jefferson Fire Department

MINUTES

A motion approving the minutes of the March 19, 2025 meeting was made by Mr. Mylan, seconded by Mr. Sypin and the motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion approving the Treasurer's Report and to pay the outstanding invoices was made by Mr. Bupka, seconded by Mr. Phillips and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr. Kern, Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department, asked the board members to reconsider the additional Initial TAP fee assessed to their RV Park account based on the 2024 water readings. Mr. Kerns stated the RV Park at the Jefferson Fire Department had multiple water hydrant leaks, which drained into the ground and did not penetrate the Authority's sewer system. The Fire Department has since repaired these multiple leaks and would like the Authority to remove the additional Initial TAP fee. Mrs. Confortini will contact the water company to get a new water reading starting with September 2024, when they made the repairs, to the date of the current water reading; then reassess the number of EDUs to bill the Fire Department. Mrs. Confortini will inform the Fire Department of her findings, then adjust the EDUs and TAP fee accordingly.

OPERATION'S REPORT

Mr. Howard stated he received a quote of \$3,150.00 from P.F.B. Electric LLC to replace the dust to dawn lights at the Mather STP. Mr. Davidson made a motion authorizing P.F.B. Electric LLC to replace the dust to dawn lights at the Mather STP at a cost of \$3,150.00. Mr. Goughenour seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Confortini stated she needs approval for the 2024 audit mailed to each of the board members to review. Mr. Phillips made a motion approving the 2024 audit performed by Guthrie, Belczyk & Associates, P.C. Mr. Sybin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Confortini stated she spoke to Mark Strayer regarding the extra security for the new computers purchased for the office. Mr. Strayer stated he is not aware of any company that will cover the cost of a monetary breach in a computer system. However, Huntress Cyber Security, which Strayer Communications uses themselves, has stopped many viruses from penetrating the computer systems of Mr. Strayer's customers by shutting them down as soon as they detect a breach. Mr. Davidson made a motion approving the extra security on the new computers at an annual cost of \$540.00. Mr. Goughenour seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

LEGAL REPORT

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dengler stated he had nothing new to report regarding the Mather STP NPDES Permit Renewal he submitted to PaDEP on June 28, 2024.

Mr. Dengler stated the statuses of the grant applications submitted on behalf of Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority are as follows:

1. The Authority still has the \$500,000.00 grant approved through USEPA FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program for the Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project.
2. Mr. Dengler is still waiting for the results of the \$1,000,000.00 grant application from The Statewide LSA Grant application submitted in November 2024 for the Country Club Road Sewer Extension Project. Mr. Dengler heard the decision might take place in September 2025.
3. Mr. Dengler stated it appears the Authority was not awarded the \$1,340,172.00 grant from the 2025 Appropriations Funding from Senator Casey's and Fetterman's Offices and from Congressman Reschenthaler's office for the Country Club Sewer Extension Project. Mr. Dengler will continue to watch for any grant opportunities in the 2026 Appropriations Funding.

Mr. Dengler stated the Authority had not received any comments from the public so the 30 Public Comment Period is completed for the Act 537 Planning Module for the Chartiers Road Extension Project and the Country Club Road Extension Project. Therefore, Mr. Dengler will send Morgan Township a copy of the Act 537 Planning Module. Morgan Township will need to pass a Resolution accepting the planning module before being sent to PaDEP for approval.

Mr. Dengler stated Gannett Fleming has completed the Chapter 94 Wasteload Management Reports and have submitted them to PaDEP.

Mr. Dengler stated he had submitted a grant application on the Authority's behalf to the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Program in the amount of \$269,000.00 for the Greene County Country Club Extension Project. This grant has a matching funds requirement in the amount of \$40,350.00.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Howard stated he received another quote for the new truck from GM Hondru Fleet, Philadelphia PA, in the amount of \$74,345.25; compared to the quote from Fox Ford, Waynesburg PA, in the amount of \$75,975.00. Mr. Howard stated he contacted other dealers but they are not affiliated with CoStars. Mr. Joshua Forman made a motion approving the purchase of the new truck from Fox Ford in the amount of \$75,975.00. Mr. Bupka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard stated he spoke to Morgan Township regarding the Authority offering to purchase back flow preventers, along with the material required for installation, for those customers in Mather that continually experience basement flooding when there are heavy rain storms; only if the township is willing to install the back flow preventers and the home owners agree to maintain them. Mr. Howard heard the township never brought the issue up at the last township meeting. Mr. Goughenour recommended Mrs. Confortini send a letter to Morgan Township requesting them to include the issue on their next month's meeting agenda.

Mr. Mylan stated a customer in Williamstown approached him complaining about basement flooding when there are heavy rainstorms. Mr. Howard stated he would speak to the customer regarding this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Howard informed the board that the employee's union contract will expire on August 31, 2025. Mr. Frameli stated the issue would be discussed at the May 21, 2025 board meeting.

Mr. Goughenour stated he received a verbal estimate from NexGen Industrial Services to install a concrete bay at the Mather STP to be used for parking of the new company truck. The estimate quoted would not exceed \$12,000.00. NexGen Industrial Services will provide the Authority a more detailed quote once they personally evaluate the site in question.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Davidson made a motion to adjourn at 5:34 p.m., seconded by Mr. Riecks and the motion carried unanimously.