

LOWER TEN MILE JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

144 CHARTIERS ROAD

JEFFERSON, PA 15344

724-883-2743

MINUTES

April 15, 2026

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:

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

Brian Sypin
James McCollum
Gary Mylan
Tom Davidson

Also attending were:

Adam Belletti, Solicitor
Bob Dengler, Engineer
Cathy Henderson, Customer
Michael Hughes, Public

Bruce Howard, Lead Operator
Sharon Confortini, Secretary
Daniel Foster, Customer

MINUTES

A motion approving the minutes of the March 18, 2026 meeting was made by Mr. Mylan, seconded by Mr. Davidson 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. Sypin, seconded by Mr. McCollum and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr. Dan Foster, 76 Main Street Braden Plan Clarksville PA, is requesting a waiver from Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority to build a detached garage closer to LTMJSA's main sewer line than the ten (10) feet policy permits. Mr. Foster stated the closest part of the structure would be 6 ½ feet from the Authority's sewer lines. The board is concerned with the possibility of damaging the new garage if in the future the Authority needs to fix the sewer lines. Mr. Foster stated he would sign a waiver agreement between the Authority and Mr. Foster. Mr. Davidson made a motion authorizing Mr. Belletti to draw up an agreement between Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority and Mr. Foster that indicates the customer would not build his garage any closer than six and a half feet from the Authority's main line and that Mr. Foster assumes all risk if the Authority needs to repair their line. Mr. Belletti will contact Mr. Foster to finalize this agreement. Mr. Bupka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Henderson inquired into the reason the Authority had to raise their rates to \$72.00. Mr. Goughenour stated that for the last two years Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority has barely been able to pay all of their obligations while maintaining the sewer system. Since the Authority has only 1400 customers, with no immediate prospects of adding more customers or any other means of income, the Authority had to increase the rates to continue being able to pay their obligations.

Mr. Hughes, 44 Main Street Clarksville PA, asked the board if they had any plans on extending Lower Ten Mile's sewage line to include his home, located near Ten Mile bridge. Mr. Howard explained Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority currently has sewer lines as far as Pitt Gas and Greenwood Trailer Park; the Authority does not have sewer service in Besco. Mr. Howard stated East Bethlehem Township has an Act 537 Plan on file and in the past has attempted to get grant money for sewer expansion in that area. Mr. Hughes was advised to ask East Bethlehem Township as to the status of the Act 537 Study.

OPERATION'S REPORT

Mr. Howard stated the Williamstown Lagoons had a clog between lagoon #1 and lagoon #2; it took Mr. Howard and Mr. Bricchetti a month to pump down the lagoon; finally pumped down on Monday April 13, 2026. NexGen Industrial Services was able to open the valve to get the flow moving. Mr. Howard was not sure what caused the clog but everything is fixed at this time. Mr. Howard stated there is a foot and a half of sludge left in the lagoon at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCollum made a motion accepting the 2025 Audit and approving the Financial Statement in the newspaper. Mr. Sypin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Confortini advised the board the part time secretary, Susan Dains, has decided to retire on January 14, 2027. The board decided to start the new hire process in either July or August 2026 so the new employee would be able to start work beginning of November 2026.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Belletti informed the board one of the Initial TAP accounts was paid in full from the sale of the property through the Washington County Upset Sale. Mr. Belletti will be submitting the documents to satisfy the lien the Authority had placed on the account years ago for nonpayment.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dengler stated the Authority was notified by Representative Reschenthaler's office that our grant application for the Country Club Sewer Extension Project would be included in their FY 2027 Appropriations Request. It will be included in the first negotiations for the 2027 Budget, which should start in the fall of 2026.

Mr. Howard stated the Mather VFDs are all working properly. Since the initial installers, Cambria Systems, did not resolve the ongoing issues with the new VFDs and the Authority had to get another contractor to fix the issue, Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority will not pay the last invoice from Cambria Systems in the amount of \$1,351.10 from April 22, 2025.

Mr. Dengler stated Gannett Fleming submitted a Statewide LSA Grant application in the amount of \$830,000.00 on behalf of the Authority for the Pitt Gas Rehabilitation Project. LTMJSA probably won't hear whether the Authority was awarded this grant until September 2026, at the earliest.

Mr. Dengler stated Gannett Fleming submitted the Authority's Chapter 94 Wasteload Management Reports to PaDEP.

Mr. Dengler stated he didn't get any additional feedback regarding the Solar Project in Williamstown. The board members decided not to pursue the Solar Project any further.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jamie Forman made a motion to adjourn at 5:37 p.m., seconded by Mr. McCollum and the motion carried unanimously.