

LOWER TEN MILE JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

144 CHARTIERS ROAD

JEFFERSON, PA 15344

724-883-2743

MINUTES

September 17, 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.

Gary Mylan
Tim Phillips
Joshua Forman

Also attending were:

Christopher Simms, Solicitor
Bob Dengler, Engineer
Brean Fuller, Customer
Ashley Mullen, Customer

David Brichetti, Lead Operator
Sharon Confortini, Secretary
Dennis Ewart, Public

MINUTES

A motion approving the minutes of the August 20, 2025 meeting was made by Mr. Jamie Forman, seconded by Mr. Goughenour 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. Goughenour, seconded by Mr. Phillips and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr. Dennis Ewart, father of Brean Fuller (customer) stated the sewer line and manhole at his daughter's property, 172 Second Street Pitt Gas Clarksville PA, continually had problems after the Authority's contractor, NexGen Industrial Services, had repaired a collapsed brick manhole. Mrs. Fuller is requesting the reimbursement of the cost they incurred from Don Shriver's Video Drain LLC in the amount of \$3,500.00. Don Shriver's Video Drain videoed the line and found the lateral was hydraulically cemented shut so they had to cut a hole through the cement to allow water to drain. In addition, Don Shriver's Video Drain LLC jackhammered and replaced the clay line from the foundation wall in the manhole and correctly cemented the manhole. Mr. Jamie Forman made a motion authorizing the Authority to reimburse Ms. Fuller the cost of the repair in the amount of \$3,500.00. Mr. Goughenour seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ashley Mullen stated her late husband Erik Mullen had paid \$1,800.00 to the Authority in April 2025 for the cost of an Initial TAP fee (\$1,750.00) and inspection fee (\$50.00) for 537 Fifth Street Mather PA. Mr. Mullen was interested in building a garage on the property. Mrs. Mullen stated that now that Mr. Mullen is deceased she has no plans to build a garage on the property, and is requesting a refund of the \$1,800.00. Mr. Goughenour made a motion authorizing the Authority to refund the \$1,800.00 to Mrs. Mullen. Mr. Joshua Forman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OPERATION'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Confortini stated the United State Postal Service had lost all of the bills the office mailed on August 25, 2025. Mr. Joshua Forman made a motion to forgo the assessing of late fees for the bills due for payment by September 20, 2025. Mr. Bupka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Simms stated he is finalizing the wording of the union contract regarding the Health Insurance and Operator's license sections to reflect the negotiations made by the Authority's Negotiation Committee and the employees' union; Mrs. Confortini will update the salary changes and the new dates of the contract. Mr. Simms will bring the updated union contract to the October 2025 board meeting.

Mr. Simms stated, in regards to the reimbursement of \$3,500.00 to Breann Fuller, Mr. Howard should speak with NexGen Industrial Services in the hopes of possibly getting a portion of the \$3,500.00 back before Mr. Simms gets involved in the situation.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dengler stated the Authority is still waiting for the final draft of the Mather STP NPDES Permit Renewal from PADep.

Mr. Dengler stated he contacted USEPA regarding the possibility of reallocating the \$500,000.00 grant secured under the USEPA FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program to the Country Club Sewer Extension Project instead of the Chartiers Road Extension Project since Morgan Township did not approve extending the sewer lines to Chartiers Road. According to EPA the Authority can request a scope change but the request would need to be approved by Congress.

Mr. Dengler stated the Authority would need to make a decision:

- 1) Remove the Chartiers Road Extension Project from the Act 537 Planning Module and resubmit the module to DEP for approval or
- 2) Keep Chartiers Road Sewer Extension Project on the Act 537 Planning Module and advise Morgan Township supervisors that the \$500,000.00 is now reallocated to Country Club Road, which would mean the Chartiers Road Project would not be funded at that time.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to submit a scope change to USEPA to reallocate the \$500,000.00 grant secured under USEPA FY2023 Community Project Funding Program to the Country Club Road Extension Project instead of the Chartiers Road Extension Project. The motion also included the retention of the Chartiers Road Extension Project on the Act 537 Planning Module for a possible sewer extension project in the future. Mr. Joshua Forman seconded the motion. The motion passed, excluding Mr. Mylan who would prefer the \$500,000.00 be allocated toward sewer lines in Pitt Gas.

Mr. Dengler stated the Authority would have a better chance getting the USEPA FY2023 \$500,000.00 grant reallocated to the Country Club Road Sewer Extension Project than asking them to consider using the grant money to repair the existing sewer lines in Pitt Gas; in addition, a new Act 537 Planning Module would need to be completed. Mr. Bricchetti stated he, along with Mr. Howard, would check on the manholes in Pitt Gas, get an idea of how many need replaced/repared and bring that information back to the board at the October 2025 board meeting.

Mr. Dengler stated Senator McCormick's office had advanced the Authority's request for \$922,000.00 from the FY 2026 Appropriations, which is for the Country Club Road Extension Project. This grant has a 20% matching funds requirement of \$184,000.00. The total estimated project cost is \$1,675,215.00.

Mr. Dengler stated the Commonwealth Finance Board did not meet this month to review the grant applications submitted to them for the Statewide LSA Grant Program. The Authority submitted a grant application in November 2024 for \$1,000,000.00 for the Country Club Road Sewer Extension Project.

Mr. Dengler stated Gannett Fleming is still gathering all the information needed by RCAP Solutions, Inc. to complete the Authority's Emergency Response Plan and Risk & Resiliency Assessment required by USDA.

Mr. Dengler stated he spoke to the representative from Cambria Systems Inc. regarding the warranties on the VFDs that are malfunctioning at the Mather STP. The representative is not sure if the problem with the VFDs are with the VFDs themselves or with something outside of the VFDs; said the problem could be with the motors or the electrical wiring. The representative feels that since both VFDs are malfunctioning there is a low probability that both of the VFDs are bad and therefore feels there is something else causing the problem. Mr. Dengler said he would contact Mr. Howard when he receives additional information from Cambria Systems regarding the warranties.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The board decided to hold the annual budget workshop on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 4:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jamie Forman made a motion to adjourn at 5:36 p.m., seconded by Mr. Joshua Forman and the motion carried unanimously.