

**EAWA WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 2, 2014 - 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: K. Murphy, J. Buch, J. McCloud, and R. Erb. Absent: C. Brewer, D. Becker. Also present were G. Alspach, Solicitor; M. Skelly, Authority Manager; G. Haldeman, Operations Manager; W. DeVan, PWD; P. Lusardi, Engineer; and M. Powl, Admin Clerk. **Other Attendees:** J. Beers, L. Gaffney, P. Callahan, R. Sheidy.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**3. REPORTS:**

**Manager's Report: EAWA's Billing Process & Timeline** - Skelly said Board has a copy of the revised billing schedule. This was impacted by the 1978 Tenants Rights Act. He noted that we were able to cut a week off reading the meters because of new meters. The bad news is that the TRA will add 20 more days onto the billing process.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Billing Data** - Skelly reported that the latest rate increase for the Borough and WDT had no issues. The new \$625 tier provides the final harmonization for WDT. As predicted, no major impacts: Borough going from 5 to 6 tiers; WDT going from 3 tiers to 6; new tier only impacts about 42 customers; new tier helps spread-out rate load / makes it more equitable between residential and large users. For example: 150K usage translates from \$4.66 per 1,000 gallons to \$5.25 / 1000 gallons, or a 12.7% increase. We now have a better foundation to consider this rate spread further in future billings. The Borough's current billing results in the new tier representing about 31% of gallons, but only 18% of revenues.

**2014 Customer Survey** - Powl stated that the Board received a copy of the yellow three page survey that was mailed to 1378 randomly selected customers (1/3 of total customers); 250 tenant occupied and 1122 owner occupied. She said as of today, she has received 102 completed surveys and has a small pile of responses to manually enter.

**Presentation by Jonathan Beers, City of Lebanon Authority** - Skelly said he met with J. Beers, P. Lusardi, W. DeVan, L. Gaffney, and P. Callahan two weeks ago to discuss the request to participate in a feasibility study for potential purchase of Cornwall Quarry water. Skelly showed a few slides of Cornwall Quarry. Beers mentioned that he provided minutes to the Board from the meeting two weeks ago. He said the general concept is that the City of Lebanon Authority is looking for a water supply to supplement two current sources and the SRBC is requesting proposals for projects to mitigate consumptive uses during droughts. He said that during their Water Supply Study, they looked at the open pit of Cornwall Quarry as a potential source; however, it was dismissed due to several issues. Now that SRBC may be funding project, the quarry was reconsidered as an option. Beers said that

last Friday they submitted a proposal to use the open pit with 6 ½ - 7 billions of gallons of storage as a potential low flow mitigation for the SRBC. He knows it was preliminary before meeting with EAWA, but the applications were due last Friday. He said they are going to wait and see what the SRBC comes back with as far as their interest and what kind of money they could provide for a project like this. He said this could be a direct source of water for Lebanon or be used as makeup water. He noted that they are permitted for 11 mgd from their two sources and the supply study indicated that they would need 14 – 15 mgd for future growth.

Beers noted that EAWA's main concern was the effect of the water quality from Lebanon Authority diminishing water from the open pit. He said we would pump water during low flows which would draw the water level of the open pit down. If we drew the water level down 10 – 15 feet during July/August, we could replenish the water from the Swatara Creek once rainfall would start in fall and the amount that the SRBC and DEP would allow to be pumped into the Quarry. Treese asked staff how low we drew down the water level during a drought. DeVan replied 7 ft. and it took 6 months to replenish. Beers said he is not sure where the SRBC would want to pull the water from to replenish the quarry. Haldeman said we would need to address the makeup water through Mrs. Gible's pond. Treese said our concerns are emergency supply and the sense of what the water quality would be from pumping water back into the Quarry. He mentioned the possibility of having a dry summer and what would it do to us and Mrs. Gible if the water level goes down 22 ft. Callahan stated need for floating docks.

Beers asked the Board for their cooperation with the study with SRBC and requested a letter of intent from EAWA to submit to SRBC. He said Lebanon Water Authority will cover the cost of the study. Skelly said he can draft a letter of intent unless the Board needs to discuss further. Murphy asked if it is crucial to have the letter of intent by July 14. Gaffney said it is preferred.

**Action:** "That the Board authorizes Skelly to draft a letter of intent to the SRBC on behalf of the City of Lebanon to participate in the feasibility study and that the letter is approved by Board chairman prior to the letter being released to City of Lebanon."

**Motion:** K. Murphy

**Second:** R. Erb

**Approved**

Board asked Callahan for an update on his development. He stated that the process is moving forward and they were able to get through all the steps with PennDot. Alspach asked Callahan when EAWA could expect the deposit or agreement since the 2007 agreement was to settle within 3 years or H & K would need to pay \$25K per year. Callahan was apologetic and said they are close with a Penn DOT agreement (permit). Alspach noted that H & K is spending money to develop the property, but doesn't have an agreement or deposit with EAWA. Skelly asked the Board for a date that the agreement needs to be signed. Callahan requested 90 days to return the signed agreement with the required deposit.

**Action:** "That the Board grants H & K 90 days to sign the agreement and furnish the required deposit for Cornwall Quarry."

**Motion:** K. Murphy

**Second:** J. Buch

**Approved**

**Operations Manager's Report:** Haldeman stated that two of three inspection reports are finished. In 2008, when the tank was painted, the hinges & bracket were missing. Inspector never brought to our attention. Haldeman said it would cost \$4750 to repair the hatch on Buckingham Blvd. He said once the repair and the final inspection have been completed, he can finish the assessment. Groff Ave. tank should be in good shape for 10 years and W. Ridge Rd. for 15 years. Haldeman mentioned that the pack mixer arrived and T-Mobile needs to do some work on the cell tower. He said he will drain the MJT tank on 7/21/14, T-Mobile will complete their work, and on 7/24/14 the tank will be sanitized, cleaned and inspected.

**Public Works Director's Report:** None.

**Engineer's Report:** None.

4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Stoneybrook Subdivision** - Skelly said neither Alspach nor he has heard from the developer. Skelly said he was unsuccessful in arranging a meeting date with some of the Board members and developer due to conflict with schedules. Treese said July 15<sup>th</sup> at 8am still works to meet with the developer. He asked Skelly to notify the developer of meeting by July 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Atlantic Sunrise 42" pipeline** - Skelly stated that he met with representatives from Williams on 6/11 to discuss timing and potential impacts. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will likely take one year to review Environmental Assessment files. Skelly asked for BMPs to protect Rheems wells.

**Forino Easement Agreement** - Alspach said he has the Forino agreement finished and needs it to be signed by Chairman and Secretary.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.

6. **BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:** McCloud mentioned that he received an email request from a friend asking how frequently our fire hydrants are tested. Haldeman said once every 5 years; however, we can do fire flow testing in specific areas. Haldeman said the water system is flushed every year.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

8. **ADJOURN: 7:40 PM**

**Action:** "That the Board adjourn the work session meeting."

**Motion:** K. Murphy

**Second:** J. McCloud

**Approved**

Respectfully submitted,

M. Skelly, Authority Manager

**Approved at 8/11/14 Meeting**