

EAWA WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2015 - 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: John Buch, Del Becker, Keith Murphy, Rick Erb, Jeff McCloud and Chuck Brewer. Also present were George Alspach, Solicitor; Wayne DeVan, PWD; G. Haldeman, Operations Manager; M. Skelly, Manager; G. Miller, Business Manager and M. Powl, Administrative Clerk. **Other Attendees:** Rich Sheidy and William Troutman.

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** William Troutman said he owns a house with two units on E. Park St. (he occupies one unit and his mother occupies the other). He read in the Borough newsletter about the separation of shared water services at the homeowner's expense. Troutman's concern is how this impacts the elderly residents and new property owners on his street and other streets in the older part of Elizabethtown. Troutman was under the impression the water line would need to be run from the street into the house, which could cost the homeowner between \$5-15K. Haldeman said no; the water line would be split at the curb stop with a T and two curb stops would be installed. Brewer asked if any estimates were obtained. Haldeman said it is normally between \$1-2K and explained the plumber would use an electric jackhammer to force the pipe from the basement wall out to the curb box instead of having to excavate the yard and dismantle any porches; a sidewalk may need to be repaired. Troutman said one of the conditions stated in EAWA's letter is road work by the Borough. He asked if the Borough repaved E. Park St. if he would need to separate his water service. Murphy said only if he wanted to plan for the future and change the deed from one to two units. EAWA would still abide with waiving the tapping fees; if both units are owned by the same owner, the policy doesn't apply. Treese noted the Borough has a 10 – 15 year paving schedule (subject to change) to aid homeowners with planning for such items.

Troutman asked EAWA how the sewer lines would be affected and was advised to contact the Borough. He said EAWA may want to discuss with the Borough. Troutman heard Manheim Borough had a similar problem and received state or federal grant money to assist residents with the cost. He asked if EAWA had looked into this. Treese said no. Skelly said he would contact Manheim Borough to obtain more information. Becker noted most federal grants are based on specific income requirements and he does not know if EAWA would be eligible. Treese advised Troutman the policy was circulated to each of the municipalities involved in the Authority to review and address any comments or concerns.

Troutman asked how the policy affects landlords with multiple units. Murphy explained a property with 4 units owned by the same person would not be affected; however, if there are two units deeded separate with two different owners, the owners would need to have a plumber separate the water service.

3. REPORTS: 1080 Ridge Rd Booster Pump - Skelly said Board discussed this already at 9/14 meeting. He received a few phone calls from Ironstone Builders; however, did not hear from owner or DEP. Skelly said a letter was received from Ironstone Builders dated 10/1 (Board received copy) requesting assistance with the cost of a booster pump. Treese said Board is not reconsidering assistance.

Cornwall Quarry - Skelly noted second and last time extension check for \$25K was received from H. & K. Deadline for full pay-out as per agreement is Oct. 2016.

Standard & Poor's Audit - Skelly mentioned the official report was received from the 9/14 phone audit. EAWA's rating does not change. Skelly shared report with Chris Gibbons and said it was good. Skelly noted EAWA could receive a potential increase in rating in years to come when EAWA has completed more years of recent management practices.

SRBC - Skelly said Fisher expressed concerns about Mount Joy Borough Authority submitting application to the SRBC to increase their water production from 1.6 MGD to 1.8 MGD. Treese asked Skelly to inquire with Mount Joy Borough Authority as to which aquifer and request Fisher to write a letter to the SRBC about EAWA's capacity concerns. Treese advised Skelly to copy Haldeman on the information.

Follow-up / Summary of 9/26 Pre-Budget Meeting - Skelly stated a draft copy of 9/26 minutes were emailed to Board.

Presentation on Full-Cost Pricing / Rate Recovery - Skelly said this was an item carried over from the 9/26 that the Board expressed interest in exploring. This Resolution does two things: (1) harmonizes the last MJ Twp. Rate tiers; (2) raises our top tier. Skelly provided a presentation for increasing the top tier rate for Borough and WDT from \$1.25 to \$2.00 for every 1,000 gallons used over the 5,000,001 tier. Board discussed the presentation findings and its impact. Skelly said long-term goal is to achieve greater equity (closer spread) for all tiers. Treese said this may take a long time to achieve, but we should calculate what the full recovery costs will be, examine timing, and determine a rate increase schedule for commercial / large users (over 2017 – 2019) to apply the same principles to raise the rates as was done for equalizing the rates for the 3 districts. Treese said that EAWA did not plan for keeping up with increasing operating costs as part of 2007 – 2008 rate changes and doesn't want to repeat that history. This will be a first step.

Rate Increase Resolution 2015-4 (MJT and Large User tier) -

Action: "That the Board approves Resolution #2015-4 Amending MJT water rates (WR4) and large user rate tier, effective December 2015."

Motion: J. Buch

Second: K. Murphy

Approved

Operations Manager's Report: Haldeman advised the test results were positive for total coliform for Rockwood Tank. Haldeman said he already contacted DEP and did required follow-up repeat testing. No Tier 1 public notice is required yet. DeVan

noted he read an article recently about bacteria tests and it stated 99.9% of test errors are caused by the samples areas. Gene will get back to Board with 2nd test results and if public notice will then be required.

Public Works Director's Report: None.

Engineer's Report: None.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

5. NEW BUSINESS: None.

6. BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS: None.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

8. ADJOURN: 7:57 pm

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

Motion: J. Buch

Second: J. McCloud

Approved

Respectfully submitted,

M. Skelly, Authority Manager

Approved at 11/9/15 Meeting