

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 4, 2023, 4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority at approximately 6:36 pm in the public meeting room of the Upper Saucon Township Water and Sewer Department office building, 4774 Saucon Creek Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joaquim (Jack) DeMatos - Chairman
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer
Zachary Karasek – Secretary
John Guignet – Vice Chairman - **ABSENT**
Michael Shafer – Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor
Andy Bohl P.E., Engineer – **Left after MA (sick)**
Farley Fry P.E., Engineer
Patrick Lambert, Director of Water and Sewer Resources
Ed Rasich, UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources

VISITORS:

None

NOTIFICATION:

All public sessions of the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Treatment Authority are electronically recorded. The recordings are maintained as part of the record of the meeting until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from November 2023 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously with Mike Shafer abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets they received.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated December 4, 2023, was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

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Solicitor Brienza reported that Coopersburg had no sewer lateral inspections this month, their locking sewer lids still have not been delivered and there are still billing issues with Fairmont Shopping Center.

Tim Paashaus had a meeting with Dave Busch and supplied him with the information he had requested. Dave Busch still has not been paid by UST.

Attorney Brienza told the Authority that the airline replacement project for the plant does not require competitive bids because it's a repair of an existing facility.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Farley Fry, PE, presented the Engineer's Report dated November 30, 2023.

Mr. Fry said the UV disinfection system issues have brought Enaqua out twice to do random repairs and try to figure out exactly what the problem is. The plant is still getting random alarm codes, but the plant has not been given any type of guide to indicate what those codes mean. Paragon is reviewing the system for any electrical issues that could be causing the problem. The SCADA consultant did not find any harmonic issues. PSI sent as-builts which have been accepted, just waiting for the final payment request to be submitted.

Mr. Fry said that he did solicit alternate pricing for the airline replacement project. Zimmerman Environmental can do the work earlier than anyone else. Since this is an emergency project, Tom Beil has decided to go with them. Jack DeMatos is concerned that there is nothing in the initial agreement to hold the contractor to the time frame they are agreeing to, which is a completion date of 1/23/24. Farley suggested coming up with an amended agreement and presenting it to Zimmerman to sign so there is something in place to hold them to the timeframe.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Barron said that the Plant is in compliance.

Mr. Barron reported that Wind River is charging us for holding a truck for 12 days that had a "radiation hit" back in November. Patrick has an issue with how long they waited to let him know and the fact that our contract says they are to be hauling to LCA. They are taking their last load of the day to Hatfield as a convenience for themselves because it's closer to their shop. The cost they are trying to pass along to us is \$500/day for the truck to sit there.

Mr. Barron noted that Axiom was in to repair the East Aeration tank valve. The bearings were bad, so they replaced those.

Mr. Barron told the Authority that the blowers for the aeration tanks are only working at 62%. A PA One Call has been placed to dig for the new pilings.

Mr. Barron said the flows are up from rain from 1.4 MGD to 2.38 MGD.

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TREASURER'S INVOICE(S):

Mark Sullivan presented the Treasurer's report and needs approval for one request for payment from the Solicitor for general matters for the period of 11/1/23 through 11/29/23, in the amount of \$2,228.50.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Solicitor's Invoice's as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION (S):

A motion was made and seconded to recommend Zimmerman Environmental Inc. to perform an emergency repair of the 14" airline for the activated sludge system in accordance with the proposal received via email on 12/1/23 in the amount of \$206,500 in accordance with the scheduled substantial completion by 1/25/24 as provided by email 11/28/23 contingent upon submittal acceptance, insurance certificate, terms and conditions and any other required documents.

Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be **Monday**, January 8, 2024, at the Water and Sewer Building. This will be the re-organization meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek
Secretary