

# FINAL COPY

## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024**

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba  
Edward Crumb  
Chris Papastrat  
Ron Lake  
Bruce King  
Stephen Andrew (arrived 3:45pm)

Also Present: Ron Warwick, Assistant- Superintendent  
Billie Goodson, Business Manager  
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel  
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer  
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer  
Chuck Robinson, JSB Fiscal Officer/City of Binghamton Comptroller  
Clark Giblin, Deputy Mayor Village of Johnson City  
Jason Greene, P.E., GHD (via video) entered 4:00pm exited 4:14pm  
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary  
Carolyn Laskoski, Resident, Village of Johnson

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM. Sign in sheet was passed. Five (5) Board members were present. (Board Member Andrew arrived at 3:45pm and joined the meeting, at which time all Board Members were present). Chairman Kolba confirmed all signed in, identified fire exits and requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

Chairman Kolba asked if anyone would like the privilege of the Floor. No one wished to speak. The Chairman closed the floor.

## **Meeting Minutes Approval**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted September 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 5/0/1 (absent SA)**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratify the resolution declaring emergency for the three (3) Plant Water System Pumps that was declared at the Joint Sewage Board Special meeting held on September 25, 2024,**

**Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.**

**Motion carried. 5/0/1 (absent SA)**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted September 25, 2024, Special Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 5/0/1 (absent SA)**

## **Fiscal Officer Report**

Mr. Robinson noted that all financials are tracking well. Discussion on the Capital Reserve interest was held, although it was noted that the current yield under the NYCLASS account is around 4.1% year-to-date. Mr. Robinson will be sending out an e-mail for end of the year purchase orders and cut off dates. Ms. Goodson noted that she is anticipating a mid-November internal cut-off on Purchase Orders.

## **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Assistant Superintendent Warwick overviewed the Superintendent's Report below which included graphs, charts, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders. The first page of the report is set forth below.

### **September Assistant Superintendents Report October 8, 2024**

In September we received 1.94 inches of rain, for a total of 36.72 inches so far this year.

The average flow was 11.16 MGD for September.

*(continues to the next page)*

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report-cont.**

CBOD = 5 mg/L, TSS = 3 mg/L, Fecal = 15 MPN, Ammonia =?[TBD] mg/L, Phos. = ? [TBD] mg/L. Still waiting on 6 data points.

Micro-Turbines produced 39,463 KWH.

Operations Department is working with the Electrical Department on cleaning electrical disconnects throughout the plant.

Operations cleaned, inspected and replaced nozzles where needed in all CN and DN cells. Drained the north methanol tank and west sodium hypochlorite tank for cleaning and 5-year inspection on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Building maintenance cleaned up after NYSE&G crew cut down trees and brush around the transformer substation. Picking up debris and weed eating the area. As well as their normal duties.

Mechanics and Electricians continue performing their maintenance tasks utilizing the CMMS software and are finishing the flagpole landscape, lighting project.

The lab and operations have passed their PT's and continue to do a great job.

We continue to make progress on the CBS and PBS NOV's and working on getting the Plant Water pump replacement kept on track.

Binghamton Fire Dept. completed a tour of confined space/safety areas throughout the plant with our safety coordinator.

### **Grade 4 Management class-Morrisville-Request**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board, in accordance with the Travel Policy, and to be paid from the Travel and Training budget line (ES8130.54701), grants approval for registration and expenses for one (1) Operator II to attend the 3-day Grade 4 Management class in Morrisville on November 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 5/0/1 (absent SA)**

\*\*\*\*\*end of report\*\*\*\*\*

(Board Member Andrew arrived at 3:45pm; a quorum of six Board Members is now present)

### **Business Manager's Report**

Ms. Goodson is reporting-on and requesting Board approval for two items.

### **2024 Budget Modification Request**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves a 2024 Budget Modification as follows:**

- 1. Decrease ES.923 Net Assets-Restr, Other Purpose by \$105,000.00**
- 2. Increase ES8130.XXXXX Head House Rebuild/Refurbish by \$90,000.00**
- 3. Increase ES8130.XXXXX Flygt Pump Rebuild/Refurbish by \$15,000.00**

**and that corresponding requests for legislation be submitted to the Owners' legislative bodies. (NOTE: "XXXXX" denotes a new budget line to be created).**

**Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.**

**Motion carried. 6/0**

### **Request for Permission to Advertise for Liquid Dewatering Polymer Flocculant**

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorizes the Business Manager to advertise for Liquid Dewatering Polymer Flocculant in accordance with the Invitation to Bid and bidding documents included in the Board Folders.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 6/0**

### **Award of Contract-Shannon Chemical Corp. for Phosphoric Acid 75% Solution**

It was noted that four bids were received for supply of Phosphoric Acid 75% solution.

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the award of an 18-month contract beginning November 1, 2024, to Shannon Chemical Corporation for supply of Phosphoric Acid 75% solution at a unit price of \$9.17 per gallon delivered and directs the Chairman to sign the contract letter agreement.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 6/0**

\*\*\*\*\*end of report\*\*\*\*\*

Board Member Lake asked a question about Sole Source designations. Mr. Paniccia responded that state procurement rules require due diligence and contemporaneous proof of the basis for making the Sole Source designation, so it is not possible for the Board to delegate its responsibility for approving Sole Source designations to a Board employee.

### **IWPP Report-GHD Jason Greene**

Mr. Greene overviewed the submitted IWPP Report for September 2024, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folder.

He also mentioned that permit renewals for Binghamton University and Lourdes Hospital were part of GHD's work effort over the past month. The 2024 Industrial Survey questionnaire responses are still being collected.

Discussion was had about the DEC's draft for the new plant SPDES Permit, which the DEC intends to modify to include the Owners' Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) as well as their sewer collection systems, and it was mentioned that the Superintendent has consulted with GHD and forwarded the draft permit to Jason Greene, P.E. for his advice and comments.

\*\*\*\*\*end of report\*\*\*\*\*

### **Board Committee Reports**

Construction: A brief discussion was held referencing the handicap ramp and curb cracks on the driveway areas. Superintendent Wagner says this type of work will be completed in house. Chairman Kolba and Facility Engineer Reeve will discuss the areas to repair.

Personnel: Committee Chair Andrew mentioned that PESH will be on site to evaluate confined space areas on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Finance: Board Member Crumb mentioned that the 2025 Health Insurance program documentation will be ready by the next regular meeting.

Flow Management: Board Member Crumb noted the Board's approval for the workforce housing project at Oakdale Commons has been submitted.

Future Planning: Board Member King reported that the committee is close to having a draft of the 5-year plan ready for Board review and expects it will be ready by one week before the next regular meeting.

Ad Hoc: Nothing new to report.

\*\*\*\*\*end of reports\*\*\*\*\*

**Old Business**

**City of Binghamton Emergency Confined Space Rescue Agreement**

Board Members held a discussion with Co-Counsel Paniccia. After discussion, it was decided to have Co-Counsel Paniccia call Corporation Counsel of the City of Binghamton to discuss the concerns with the proposed liability wording, given the Board is an unincorporated entity. Mr. Lake does not believe the Board's insurance carrier will cover a liability assumed by contract.

**Executive Session: None**

The next Regular Meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 3:30pm.

**Adjournment:**

**Steve Andrew made a motion to adjourn.**

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.**

**Motion carried. 6/0**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Michele Cuevas  
Confidential Secretary

cc: Board Members  
Mayor Kraham, City of Binghamton  
Mayor Meaney, Village of Johnson City  
City Clerk, City of Binghamton  
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City  
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.  
Chuck Robinson, Fiscal Officer  
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent  
Brown & Brown Empire State  
Haylor, Freyer & Coon  
Joshua Holland, Village of Johnson City Director of Public Services  
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Engineer  
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