



Binghamton-Johnson City
JOINT SEWAGE BOARD



Ray L. Standish, P.E.
Edward Crumb

FINAL COPY

George Kolba, Jr.
Stephen Andrew
Ron C. Davis

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON -
JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD**

Thursday June 28, 2018

Joint Sewage Treatment Plant – Administration Building Conference Room

Members Present: George Kolba, Jr., Chairman *Pro Tem*
Edward Crumb
Ray Standish
Steve Andrew
Ronald Davis

Also Present: Cathy Young, Superintendent
Charles Pearsall, Business Manager
Al Paniccia, Esq., Counsel
Laura Lee Perkins, Transcriptionist

Guest: Tom Scanlon, City of Binghamton 7th District Councilman
(exited at 4:15pm)
John LaGorga, P.E., BCEE, GHD (via telephone at 4:02 PM)

George Kolba called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. Five (5) Board Members were present. Attendance sheet was passed for signatures. Fire exits were identified.

Call placed to John LaGorga, P.E.

Mr. LaGorga reported that bid openings for the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) were done on Tuesday, June 26th; no bids were received. There were four (4) bid plan holders the week before. GHD called around and talked to the Contractors. They were getting the sense that there wasn't going to be a lot of bidders; thought there would be at least one (1) bidder. Two of the bidders asked for additional time as they were involved with a bid for work at the Binghamton Water Filtration Plant. That was taking up some of their bid effort time as they were putting together bids for that. GHD elected not to ask the Board for an extension, knowing how extensions will be requested again and again by contractors. The bidders brought up the red tape involved with a DEC grant contract – requirements for minority and women-owned businesses and the paperwork associated with that and EEOC. Mr. LaGorga recommends that they should take the same bid documents and re-advertise for another 3-4 weeks. Would also like to contact the 4 plan holders as to why they did not submit bids. Believes the lack of bids was timing, not the work involved.

Catherine P. Young, Superintendent
Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Facilities
4480 Vestal Road, Vestal, New York 13850
Phone: 607-729-2975 Fax: 607-729-3041
Email: bjcwwtp@stny.rr.com

George Kolba, Jr. asked Mr. LaGorga if GHD had contacted any of the prospective bidders; he stated they have not had the opportunity. Believes they can call around this week. Will get back to the Board before July 4th via email.

Edward Crumb's biggest concern with work associated with the Grant is funding and the increase to the scope from including Owner project items. He suggests that the Board rebid only the 1st 3 items of the scope items which are germane to the Grant and notify the Owners that no bids were received for the Owner scope work items, therefore there is no Contract, and they will need to pursue their own alternatives.

Mr. LaGorga will do as the Board instructs. The contractors can't start the work until the middle of July due to NYS-DEC restrictions; have-until March to complete in-river work.

Mr. LaGorga will reach out to Contractors and bid houses; will rebid in a few weeks.

Edward Crumb expressed concern that we may face a higher cost now; recommends putting notice of the bid opportunity on the State Contract website; use clearing house; notes that there is a waiver request procedure if not able to get minority and women-owned companies.

Mr. Kolba knows of 1-woman owned business for the excavating, but she is fully booked.

Mr. LaGorga – stated that GHD has the state-certified list of potential MWBE subcontractors; 23% MWBE participation is required under the grant; will gather info, discuss bid items; will communicate via email before next Board meeting

Charles Pearsall presented the 2018 Rate Chart with corrections

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Board to approve the 2018 Rate Chart as presented with corrections and that the schedule be retroactive to January 1, 2018 in terms of surcharge rates. Stephen Andrew seconded the motion
Motion Carried 5/0

Charles Pearsall discussed the 4 proposal submissions for the 2017 audit; narrowed down to 2, which were brought in to the Finance Committee (EFPR, Williamsville and Insero, Ithaca). Both presented very well; EFPR's presentation was more professional. Mr. Pearsall reached out to some of the reference contacts given; rated high – most have Grant funds similar to FEMA.

Contacted Town of Union – has been using Insero x 6 years – responsive, willing to do special focus reviews.

EFPR – Mr. Pearsall sent out requests for references to 3 of their clients; received response from Chemung -- highly recommended; used by a lot of entities across the State.

Edward Crumb pointed out that EFPR proposed to assign more Senior people and broader experience including work with DEC (prior client) and SEMO (prior client); have multiple clients that encompass wastewater plants, water utility clients, and is the auditor for the Binghamton School District, so the firm has worked in the area.

Mr. Kolba reported that he called Chuck Shager, who said he has worked with both of the firms and would recommend either.

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Board to accept the 5/28/18 proposal from the EFPR Group for auditing services for year ended 12/31/17 with 2 potential extension years (ending 2018 and 2019) at the cost of \$18,000.00 all inclusive, to be paid from Professional Services budget line. J8130.54410 and authorize the Chairman *Pro Tem* to sign the Engagement Agreement as prepared by Counsel.

Stephen Andrew seconded the motion

Motion Carried 5/0/1 (Vacant)

Ray Standish made a motion for the Board to adjourn

Stephen Andrew seconded the motion

Motion Carried 5/0/1 (Vacant)

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Lee Perkins
Transcriptionist

cc: Board Members
Mayor Rich David, City of Binghamton
Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer
Catherine Young, Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor Freyer & Coon
Robert Bennett, P.E., Village of Johnson City, Engineer
Ray Standish, P.E., City of Binghamton, City Engineer
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