

WESTERN WESTMORELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – OCTOBER 17, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority held a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. in the Authority conference room, duly advertised, as required, and with the following people in attendance:

1. Roll Call 5:04 P.M.:

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Kurt Bonnet	Mr. Stanley Caroline, Jr.	Ms. Lisa Kovac
Mr. Joseph Lapia	Mr. Dylan Mace	Mr. John Slivka

Late Arrival:

Mr. Kevin McHugh	5:23 P.M.
Mr. Charles Konkus	5:52 P.M.

Absent:

Mr. Charles Gilbert	Mr. Bob Regola
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Others in Attendance:

Mr. Chad Hanley, Consulting Engineer  
Ms. Amanda Lee, Consulting Engineer  
Mr. Stanley A. Gorski, Jr., Authority Manager  
Mrs. Johanna Wtorkowski, Finance Director and  
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer/Recording Secretary

Late Arrival:

Mr. Matthew Racunas, Solicitor	5:20 P.M.
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2. Mr. Caroline led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Comments: None
4. Communications: None
5. Secretary's Report: Joseph Lapia:
  - A. Mr. Lapia requested the approval of the minutes for the regular meeting of September 19, 2024 as presented. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Kovac and seconded by Mr. Slivka. The motion passed unanimously.This concluded the Secretary's Report.
6. Treasurer's Report: Due to Mr. Konkus' late arrival, Mrs. Wtorkowski requested the approval of the following requisition:
  - A. Revenue Fund Requisition No. 454: \$160,771.28: A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Ms. Kovac. The motion passed unanimously.This concluded the Treasurer's report.
7. Authority Manager's Report – Stanley Gorski, Jr.:
  - A. Monthly Update:

1. There were no NPDES violations nor by-pass events for September. Average plant flow was 2.41 mgd, and maximum plant flow was 4.27 mgd.
- B. Waste Management/Valley Landfill:
  1. Mr. Gorski reported that a meeting has been scheduled with representatives of Waste Management for October 30, 2024.
- C. Penn Township Sewage Authority (PTSA) Interceptor Update:
  1. Mr. Gorski reported that a meeting has been scheduled for November 11, 2024 with the Managers, Solicitors, and Engineers of WWMA and PTSA. PTSA's Solicitor, Mr. Schimizzi, is currently reviewing the draft agreement.
- D. Mr. Gorski requested Board approval of an additional premium for the workers' compensation insurance policy for the period from 10/02/25 through 12/31/25, with Duncan Financial Group/Keystone Municipal Insurance Trust, in the amount of \$4,425.00. Mr. Gorski explained that the original quote was for a twelve-month period. The additional premium will bring the workers' compensation policy to a calendar-year policy period. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Ms. Kovac. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gorski stated that he would like to keep FWF Insurance Agency, Inc., for the upcoming general liability insurance policy year, and obtain quotes in 2025 for the period from January 1-December 31, 2026. This will bring the general liability and workers' compensation policy to calendar-year policy periods. The Board agreed with Mr. Gorski.
- E. COA-Phase III Project CCTV Inspection:
  1. Mr. Gorski requested Board authorization to proceed with a CCTV inspection of the COA-Phase III Project interceptor prior to April 2025 (the expiration date for the two-year maintenance bond), at an estimated cost of \$40,000. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Mr. Bonnet. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. General Updates:
  1. Sodium Hypochlorite Disinfection System Upgrade:

Mr. Gorski reported that Mr. Hanley will provide an update on the Sodium Hypochlorite Disinfection System Upgrade Project.
  2. LSA Grant:

Mr. Gorski reported that he is working with HRG to finalize the project scope. Mr. Hanley will provide the Board with an update.
  3. Mr. Gorski reported that Mr. Hanley will provide an update on WWMA's plant hydraulic capacity.
  3. Mr. Gorski reported that three interviews for the maintenance position have been scheduled for October 22, 2024, at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Lapia, Mr. Caroline, Mr. Wolinsky, and Mr. Gorski will conduct the interviews.
  4. The Authority passed the annual Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test.
  5. Mr. Gorski reported that he has two minor items related to personnel to discuss during the Executive Session.

This concluded the Authority Manager's report.

8. Consulting Engineer: Chad Hanley, HRG:

A. Update:

1. Mr. Hanley provided an update on WWMA's plant hydraulic capacity. HRG has completed an estimate of remaining equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) for the Brush Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Hanley reported that the plant currently has

sufficient organic loading, but the hydraulic loading is limited. Mr. Hanley stated that a conservative estimate of remaining EDUs before a hydraulic overload would be determined, based on the maximum flow for three consecutive months, is 960 EDUs. A more liberal estimate, considering that new construction would not have infiltration and inflow (I&I) provides an estimated 1,543 remaining EDUs.

It is noted that Mr. Racunas and Mr. McHugh joined the meeting during Mr. Hanley's presentation. Mr. Racunas joined the meeting at 5:20 P.M. and Mr. McHugh joined the meeting at 5:23 P.M.

Mr. Hanley reported that he would like to complete an application with the PaDEP for a "paper rewrite" through a permit amendment that might add an additional 1,600 EDUs in capacity for the plant, bringing the remaining number of EDUs to 3,143.

2. Mr. Hanley reported that he is continuing to work with Mr. Gorski on a couple of projects.

This concluded the Engineer's report.

9. Solicitor's Report – Matthew Racunas:

- A. Mr. Racunas stated that Mr. Gorski has already discussed the Landfill issue and the PTSA Service Area issue.

This completed the Solicitor's report.

10. Reports of Committees:

- A. Personnel Committee: Joseph Lapia: Mr. Lapia stated that the Personnel Committee reviewed the Authority's drug policy and will begin working on the Personnel Policy soon.
- B. Finance and Budget Committee: Lisa Kovac:
  2. (Out of Order) Ms. Kovac requested Board authorization to purchase a Capital Improvement Fund one-month United States Treasury Bill, in the amount of \$10,000,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Mace and seconded by Mr. McHugh. The motion passed unanimously.
  1. (Out of Order) Mrs. Wtorkowski presented the 2025 Operating Budget, and Mr. Gorski presented the 2025-2034 Capital Budget.

It is noted that Mr. Konkus joined the meeting during the presentation of the budget. The time was 5:52 P.M.

This concluded the Finance and Budget Committee report.

- C. Legal and Engineering Services Committee: Kevin McHugh: There was no report.

11. Requisitions and PENNVEST Payments:

Mr. Caroline requested Board approval of the following Requisition:

- A. Approve Capital Improvement Fund Requisition No. 125, in the amount of \$12,197.81: A motion to approve was made by Mr. Mace and seconded by Mr. McHugh. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Board Member Comments:

- A. Mr. Caroline commended Mr. Gorski and Mrs. Wtorkowski for their efforts in preparing the budget, stating that he appreciates the extra effort to get the information to the Board, early.

- B. Ms. Kovac also expressed her appreciation to Mr. Gorski and Mrs. Wtorkowski for their work.
- C. Mr. Konkus commended Mr. Hanley and the staff of HRG for their efforts. Mr. Konkus commended Mr. Gorski and Mrs. Wtorkowski for their contributions to the Authority, and he commended Mr. Racunas for pushing the Board to make decisions. Mr. Konkus expressed appreciation for younger Board Members taking an interest in the Authority and for Mr. Lapia's thorough review of the budget. Mr. Konkus commended Mr. Gorski for his work regarding the landfill issue and in dealing with the pending growth in Penn Township.

13. Old Business: None

14. New Business: None

15. Executive Session:

A motion was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Mr. Konkus, to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously. The executive session began at 6:28 P.M.

A motion to return to the regular order of business was made by Mr. Konkus and seconded by Mr. Lapia. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to the regular meeting at 6:46 P.M. The items discussed were personnel matters.

16. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Ms. Kovac. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 P.M.

  
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Joseph N. Lapia, Secretary



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## CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT

### WESTERN WESTMORELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Attn: Mr. Stanley A. Gorski, Jr., Authority Manager  
Report Period: September 2024  
HRG Project Number: R008234.0426



### October 17, 2024 Authority Meeting

#### RETAINER SERVICES (.0426)

- HRG attended the September Board Meeting and shall attend the October Board Meeting.
- HRG prepared the 2024 Q3 Tap Fee calculation.
- HRG began the Annual Report and will have a draft report for Authority Staff at the end of October.

#### GENERAL SERVICES (.0427)

- HRG attended a meeting regarding the PTSA service area interceptor expansion.
- HRG is working with Authority Staff to troubleshoot equipment restarting issues after power outages at the plant.
- Landfill discharge:
  - No work this month; previously: HRG met with Authority Staff multiple times during the month of May to discuss the landfill agreement review.
  - HRG investigated the feasibility of SBRs in future plant expansions and the impact of the landfill's ammonia loading to the sizing of these SBRs. HRG also investigated technologies by World Water Works and is working on additional process proposals.

#### PLANNING MODULE REVIEWS (.0428)

- Norwin High School Stadium Project and Rhodin subdivision was reviewed in September.

#### NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL (.0429)

- HRG finalized the TRE workplan and was submitted to PADEP on May 14, 2024 ahead of the July 1, 2024 deadline.
  - PADEP commented on the workplan on June 3, 2024 and HRG addressed their concern on June 3, 2024. PADEP was satisfied with our response.
- HRG proceeded with the TRE Report preparations and will continue to work on it as sampling results come in.
  - HRG assisted with a sampling plan and laboratory investigations. HRG attended a meeting with WWMA Staff to discuss lab results and next steps,

## **WWTP PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS (.0430)**

### **LSA State-Wide Grant Project**

Grant funds must be spent by June 2026. The goal is to complete drawings and scope of work specifications in summer 2024; approve COSTARS proposal and submittals in fall 2024; and commence construction in early spring 2025.

- HRG met with Authority Staff on August 7<sup>th</sup> to review alternatives considered over the past year and refine the scope of this project. HRG prepared a few alternatives with ballpark cost estimates and sketches to present to the board. HRG worked with Aerzen to get a blower selection for price and performance comparison. Design work for the blower replacement for using LSA funds will be under a separate job number.

### **WWTP Evaluation Study**

- HRG continues to evaluate WWTP alternatives in conjunction with the landfill review and the LSA project.

## **GIS SERVICES (.0431)**

- No updates.

## **SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS (.0432)**

- No updates.

## **CULVERT INSPECTION (.0433)**

- The inspection was conducted on September 16<sup>th</sup>. HRG is preparing the inspection report and will share with Authority staff prior to submission to PennDOT.

## **SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE BULK FEED SYSTEM (.0434)**

- HRG performed dosing calculations, pump selection, tank selection, and layout sketches in the existing chlorine gas room and the garage. Additionally, HRG evaluated the structural integrity with placement of sodium hypochlorite tankage within the garage. Ultimately, WWMA has chosen the existing chlorine gas room as the hypo location.
- HRG met with Authority Staff to discuss sodium hypochlorite ("hypo") tank and pump sizing on July 10<sup>th</sup> and conducted a site visit to evaluate possible locations on July 18<sup>th</sup>. HRG will conduct another site visit on September 12<sup>th</sup> to evaluate existing electrical and controls in the chlorine gas room.
- HRG assumes equipment procurement through COSTARS and that work will be performed via WWMA Staff, COSTARS, and electrical labor under the bidding threshold.
- HRG has confirmed with DEP that a water quality management permit revision will be required.

## END OF ENGINEER'S RETAINER SERVICES AND ACTIVE PROJECTS REPORT

Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.



Chad E. Hanley, P.E.  
Group Manager | Water & Wastewater

CEH/SCS/LBL

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c: Ms. Johanna Wtorkowski  
Mr. Mark Wolinsky