

WESTERN WESTMORELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – MARCH 20, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority held a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. in the Authority conference room, duly advertised, as required, and with the following people in attendance:

1. Roll Call:

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Kurt Bonnet	Mr. Stanley Caroline, Jr.	Mr. Charles Gilbert
Mr. Charles Konkus	Ms. Lisa Kovac	Mr. Joseph Lapia
Mr. Dylan Mace	Mr. Kevin McHugh	Mr. John Slivka

Absent:

Mr. Bob Regola

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Matthew Racunas, Solicitor
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

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 monthly and annual reorganizational meeting of February 20, 2025 as presented. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Kovac and seconded by Mr. Lapia. The motion passed 8-0, with an abstention by Mr. Konkus, who did not attend the meeting.

This concluded the Secretary's Report.

6. Treasurer's Report: Charles Konkus:

Mr. Konkus requested the approval of the following requisition:

- A. Revenue Fund Requisition No. 461: \$427,653.15: A motion to approve was made by Mr. Gilbert and seconded by Mr. McHugh. 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 or by-pass events for February. Average plant flow was 5.14 mgd. Total rainfall was 4.01".

- B. Waste Management/Valley Landfill:
 - 1. Mr. Gorski reported that he has not yet heard back from the Landfill representatives, who are currently reviewing the proposed amended agreement.
- C. Penn Township Sewage Authority (PTSA) Interceptor Update:
 - 1. Mr. Gorski reported that PTSA's Solicitor is currently updating the agreement. Once Mr. Gorski hears from PTSA, a meeting will be scheduled. Mr. Caroline stated that the Solicitor's review is approximately 80% completed, and review should be completed within two months.
- D. Mr. Gorski requested Board approval to purchase a direct replacement effluent pump from Kappe Associates, Inc., at a COSTARS price of \$12,600.00, plus possible market adjustments for freight. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Konkus and seconded by Mr. Mace. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Mr. Gorski requested Board authorization to hire one (1) summer employee for a period not to exceed 120 days for the year. The current rate is \$16.00 per hour. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Konkus and seconded by Mr. Gilbert. After discussion, Mr. Konkus amended the motion to set an hourly rate of \$17.00, and Mr. Gilbert seconded the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Mr. Gorski requested Board authorization to refund Capacity Fees totaling \$28,500.00 (19 EDUs), for the Courtyard at Stonegate-Park View Court Extension (Capacity Permit #0406), to R.A. Snoznik Construction, Inc. Mr. Gorski stated that the subdivision was cancelled. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Mr. McHugh. Mr. Caroline asked if his planning module was deducted from plant capacity. Mr. Gorski stated that Mr. Snoznik did not submit a planning module. The motion passed unanimously.

General Updates:

- 1. WWTP Disinfection Improvements-Sodium Hypochlorite Project:

Mr. Gorski stated that he has not yet heard back from the PaDEP. In the meantime, Mr. Gorski and HRG are reviewing potential vendors for pumps and setups.
- 2. LSA Process Improvements Project:

Mr. Gorski reported that an onsite visit took place with Aerzen Blowers. Aerzen is proposing an air processing unit using Aerzen blowers. This will eliminate the need for one to two blowers on each side of the aeration tanks. There would be four or six blowers per side, versus eight blowers per side. Mr. Hanley explained that the previous plan consisted of air flow meters that would control the air. Aerzen has proposed a system that allows the operator to distribute airflow, as necessary. Mr. Hanley stated that he has met with people who are using the proposed installation, and he has developed a confidence in the system. Mr. Hanley stated that he will design a system with both methods for bidding, and the Board of Directors will be able to see costs for each design. Mr. Hanley stated that the Authority will be purchasing two new blowers for each side, and most of the time, only one blower at a time will be running on each side. A discussion followed.
- 3. COA-Phase III CCTV Inspection:

Mr. Gorski reported that further review of the CCTV inspection revealed a slight sag at the beginning of the Bushy Run Interceptor. The sag is located approximately thirty-five feet in from the manhole and consists of a six foot section. Mr. Gorski stated that Kukurin Contracting has been notified and will need to repair the section. A discussion followed.

4. Bids for the odor control carbon media replacement for the primary clarifier odor control unit were received. Mr. Hanley will be making a recommendation regarding the bid results.
5. Mr. Gorski reported that the final review of the Authority's Drug and Alcohol Policy will be completed next Friday. The policy will then be presented to the Personnel Committee and the drug testing administrator, then to the full Board for approval, and then to the Union.
6. Mr. Gorski reported that he and Mr. Hanley will be meeting with a vendor on March 26, 2025, to discuss equipment that would remediate hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas in the centrifuge room. Mr. Gorski is also evaluating a chemical addition to remove H₂S from the digester, which is the source of the H₂S gas. The centrifuge room is adjacent to the lab, and the safety of the lab employees must be ensured.
7. Mr. Gorski met with Mr. Ted Dornan, a resident within the COA-Phase III Project. Mr. Dornan purchased property that is located within a wetlands area. Prior to construction of the new interceptor, rainwater drained to the creek. The construction raised the elevation of the interceptor by two feet, and now, his property is flooded during heavy rain events because the rainwater no longer drains into the creek. Mr. Dornan has asked the Authority to divert the flow of water from his property. Mr. Gorski stated that he would like to hire a local contractor to dredge the area or to divert water from the yard to the creek. Mr. Hanley stated that he would not recommend the installation of a drain because the area is designated as a wetland. A discussion followed.
8. Mr. Gorski stated that Mr. Lapia asked him to draft a policy for Capacity Fee refunds. Mr. Gorski distributed a draft of the refund policy to the Board Members. Mr. Gorski will present the policy to the Board for approval at the April 17, 2025 meeting.
9. Mr. Gorski reported that registration for the WEFTEC Convention will be opening soon. The budget includes attendance by the Authority Manager, the Operations and Compliance Manager, the Foreman, and one Board Member. The WEFTEC Convention will be held in Chicago, Illinois, from September 27, 2025 through October 1, 2025. Mr. Gorski asked any Board Member who is interested in attending to contact him.

This concluded the Authority Manager's report.

8. Consulting Engineer: Chad Hanley, HRG:
 - A. Update:
 1. Mr. Hanley reported that HRG submitted the Toxic Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Report and NPDES permit amendment application to the PaDEP on February 19, 2025. There has been no reply yet from the PaDEP.
 2. The bids for the odor control carbon media replacement were received. The lowest bid was submitted by Continental Carbon Group USA, Inc., at a cost of \$58,000.00. Mr. Hanley entertained a motion for authorization of an award to Continental Carbon Group USA, Inc., in the amount of \$58,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Kovac and seconded by Mr. Gilbert. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded the Engineer's report.

9. Solicitor's Report – Matthew Racunas:
 - A. Mr. Racunas stated that a meeting will be held next week to complete a final review of the Authority's Drug and Alcohol Policy.

This completed the Solicitor's report.

10. Reports of Committees:

A. Personnel Committee – Joseph Lapia: There was no report.

B. Finance and Budget Committee – Lisa Kovac:

1. Ms. Kovac requested that the Board authorize the purchase of a Capital Improvement Fund one-month United States Treasury Bill, in the amount of \$10,365,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lapia and seconded by Mr. Konkus. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded the Finance and Budget Committee report.

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

11. Requisitions:

Mr. Caroline requested Board approval of the following Requisition:

- A. Approval of Capital Improvement Fund Requisition No. 130, in the amount of \$6,165.50: A motion to approve was made by Mr. Gilbert and seconded by Ms. Kovac. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Board Member Comments: None

13. Old Business: None

14. New Business: None

15. Executive Session: None

16. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Kovac and seconded by Mr. Lapia. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 P.M.



Joseph N. Lapia, Secretary



Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.
220 West Kensinger Drive, Suite 100
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
724.779.4777
www.hrg-inc.com

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT

WESTERN WESTMORELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Attn: Mr. Stanley A. Gorski, Jr., Authority Manager
Report Period: February 2025
HRG Project Number: R008234.0426
Prepared: March 13, 2025



March 20, 2025 Authority Meeting

RETAINER SERVICES (.0426)

- HRG attended the February Board Meeting and shall attend the March Board Meeting.
- HRG submitted the Chapter 94 Wasteload Management to DEP on February 28th.

GENERAL SERVICES (.0427)

- Landfill agreement:
 - HRG provided final exhibits to WWMA Staff and HRG and WWMA met with Waste Management (WM) on January 24th to present the exhibits and agreement. HRG and WWMA Staff met with WM on February 12th to review the draft agreement. No response has been received from WM as of the writing of this report.
- HRG is working with Authority Staff to troubleshoot equipment restarting issues after power outages at the plant.
- HRG assisted with SCADA and instrumentation reviews.

PLANNING MODULE REVIEWS (.0428)

- HRG provided a capacity verification for the Huss Subdivision.

NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL (.0429)

- Phase 2 – TRE Report
 - Results demonstrate there is a lab interference and indicate that free cyanide limits and testing requirements may be removed from the NPDES permit. HRG worked with Authority Staff on finalizing the formal TRE Report ahead of schedule (submitted on February 19th). DEP has completed their completeness review and is working on Technical Review with a target completion date of November 5, 2025.
- Phase 03 WQBEL Compliance Report
 - Given the findings of the TRE and pending approval of the permit amendment application, this phase will not be required.

- Phase 05 Permit Amendment Application
 - Given the findings of the TRE Report, HRG prepared an NPDES permit modification application to remove free cyanide requirements and the need for the WQBEL Compliance Report. This application was submitted as an appendix item to the final TRE Report.

WWTP PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS (.0430)

WWTP Evaluation Study

- No activity this month. HRG and WWMA will meet with PADEP to discuss required permitting for the WWTP rerate in the future; it is intended that we first work through the permitting for the TRE and the disinfection projects before approaching DEP on the rerate.

GIS SERVICES (.0431)

- No updates.

SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS (.0432)

Phase 03: Odor Control Carbon Replacement

- Rejection letters were issued and the project was reposted to PennBid. Bids will be opened on March 13th at 10:00 AM. HRG will have a bid review and recommendation report for the meeting.

WWTP DISINFECTION IMPROVEMENTS: SODIUM HYPO (.0434)

- HRG continued to proceed with the design of the sodium hypochlorite system inclusive of dosing pumps, bulk storage, and chemical containment.
- HRG coordinated with vendors to select and size equipment and prepare technical specifications.
- HRG submitted the Water Quality Management (WQM) permit application to DEP on January 10th. The permit application has passed the completeness review and is currently under technical review. DEP estimates a return date at the end of May 2025. DEP contacted HRG asking for additional information. This information was promptly returned to DEP on March 4th.
- HRG conducted a site visit on February 21st to finalize some design decisions.

LSA – PROCESS CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS (.0435)

- HRG began preparing process calculations and reviewing SCADA needs for the project.
- HRG attended a site visit on January 9th with WWMA to visit an installation of a proposed option for the blowers.
- HRG met with WWMA on February 3rd to discuss the next steps for the project.
- HRG attended a site visit on February 5th with WWMA to visit an installation of a proposed option for the blowers.
- HRG and WWMA met with Aerzen on February 11th to learn more about their blowers and control system. An additional meeting with Aerzen was held on March 13th to finalize scope.

PTSA SERVICE AREA EXPANSION (.0436)

- No activity this month. Previously,
- HRG attended a meeting with WWMA and PTSA in December 2024.

PHASE III INTERCEPTOR CCTV PROJECT (.0437)

- Insight Pipe mobilized and completed the work in January.
- HRG has received all videos, has completed the review, and compiled findings. HRG provided an update to WWMA on March 5th and discussed a sag that was present. HRG is reviewing initial CCTV captured at the time of the project to determine if the sag in the pipe has progressed over time and if the sag exceeds contract requirements and industry standards. HRG will provide a recommendation to WWMA should a repair 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/LBL/ALP/SCS/AEL

\\Hrg.local\hrgdfsfiles\Project\0082\008234_0426\Admin\BOD CE Reports\2025\2025.03.20_HRG_CE_Report.docx

c: Ms. Johanna Wtorkowski
Mr. Mark Wolinsky