

REGULAR MEETING

May 6, 2025

6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of the Municipal Authority of the City of Sunbury, County of Northumberland, Pennsylvania, was held Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Authority Administrative Building, 462 South Fourth Street, Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

Norman Koch, Chairman
Thomas McBryan, Vice Chairman
Larry Welfer, Board Member
Thomas Krieger, Board Member, via phone
David Persing, Asst Secretary/Treasurer
Cory Fasold, Secretary / Treasurer
Jerome Alex, Board Member
Jason Neidig, General Manager
Matthew Billman, Wastewater Department Manager
Patrick Bennett, Solid Waste/Recycling Dept Manager
Todd Kerstetter, Solicitor
Jennifer Kremer, Recording Secretary
Kathy Paige, Recording Secretary

Chairman Koch called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Chairman Koch stated that nobody was present for public discussion.

-Chairman Koch then presented the meeting minutes from April 1, 2025. There being no corrections on motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by David Persing, the minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

A discussion then ensued regarding the set up of the financial reports. It was determined to table this decision until another meeting can be held including the auditor.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Matt reviewed his report and discussed ongoing items since the last meeting. He reported on the Guigi's situation, stating that the grease trap was delivered on April 29, 2025. The owner is working with the plumber to get install scheduled.

Matt next gave an update that there will be a meeting on May 14th to go over the plans with Entech's design for the Packer Street project. Authority staff should have plans to review within the next few weeks.

Matt stated there is a meeting scheduled with the City and other officials on May 13, 2025 to discuss the FOG ordinance and contents.

On April 25, 2025 Matt was alerted by the Code Office of a food truck operating in the area of Third and Market Streets, that was dumping grease down the catch basin. Matt wrote a letter to the owner citing the Authority's rules and regulations and delivered it to the owner that same day. Sewer department cleaned the grate, and they will monitor the basin for further evidence of grease. There was also a report of one residential customer dumping grease into a catch basin and they have since been told to stop.

Matt then praised the department crews for all coming together to help in the cleanup effort from the storms that came through the City on April 29th. Some large trees came down on the Sewer Office roof and behind the main office. Everyone pulled together to get it cleaned up. He also noted that we had a few employees help with the demolition of the building that collapsed on Julia Street.

Matt next reported that the new pickup ordered from Sunbury Motors has arrived. We will pick it up on Friday. He asked if the Authority wants to keep the old truck for plowing purposes, or put it on Muncibid to sell it? Matt to get a few cost estimates on sale value vs keeping for plowing and bring back to the Board.

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING MANAGER'S REPORT

Pat started by reporting that tonnage for April was almost 54 ton short of April 2024.

Pat said that the tonnage from the City Cleanup this year totaled 54.96 ton, and the Authority's cost for the cleanup was \$1,686.80. The City paid the other \$1,686.80 of the total cost of \$3,373.60.

Pat reported that the Transfer Station received a new credit card terminal which now has the capability to swipe, insert or tap a card.

Discussion then ensued regarding an increase in trailer damage over the past few months. Pat and Jason had meetings with Jay Alexander from Wayne Township and the dispatcher, as well as the Authority's employees. The process has not changed, however, the inspection procedures are being intensified to try and alleviate some of these issues. It was noted that less garbage waste and an increase in construction debris could be the cause of more holes.

Pat then stated the River Cleanup and Little Shamokin Creek cleanups were both successful with many volunteers turning out to help the effort.

He next reported two radiation hits during the month of April, both due to medical testing waste.

Recycling sold another load of mixed goods to Jeff's Recycling along with 15.91 ton of plastics to NH Kelman. A discussion was held then regarding using NH Kelman for all of the Authority's recycled products. They are offering a higher price to us, as well as use of a trailer to collect it. They are the only group he can find to accept our glass, which is a large part of our collection from local restaurants/bars. We currently use Jeff's Recycling for these baled items. Pat was instructed by the Board to talk with Jeff to see if he can do better with his pricing.

Pat next reported that the total price for the new baler is \$202,470.00. The amount he will receive from the 902 Recycling grant is \$178,002.00, leaving the Authority's portion at \$24,468.00. The

price is a little different than originally thought, but he can recuperate some of the extra cost through future grants. Pat will also get an estimate on what our current baler might be worth.

Pat next started a discussion on the container rentals done through the Transfer Station. They currently rent out 8 cubic foot containers for \$150 for a two week period to customers of the Sunbury Municipal Authority. Other private companies charge much more than this for less time. Pat is proposing a rate increase to \$225-250 per container rental and for a period of only one week. It is in his budget for next year to purchase some new containers. Board instructed Pat to add this topic to the next agenda for decisions to be made on the specifics of this process.

Lastly, Pat asked the Board if it was okay to close the transfer station down on a Saturday in the near future to have the lots seal-coated. It takes 2-3 days, so he would like to close for a Saturday and Sunday to get the work scheduled and completed. This has not been done in about 5 years. The Board agreed it was okay to close the transfer station for one day as long as the public was informed well in advance.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason started by reporting that the BRIC grant application was submitted, but nothing has changed yet regarding the program. It is still cancelled.

Jason stated there is nothing new to report on the class action suit regarding Microplastics and PFAS.

He echoed Matts comments regarding the departments' handling cleanup of the trees and storm damage.

He then reported that in conjunction with the City, a grant request was submitted through Dan Meuser's office to replace the water main line from the River to the Water Plant. The estimated cost for this project is \$25 million. The grant had no threshold listed.

Jason and Jenn attended a medical marijuana seminar in Williamsport and Jason feels the Authority made the right move by having the employee letter signed and the employee drug tested. The results were negative and the employee is now operating equipment and doing well as part of the group.

Jason then relayed some information regarding software vendor PC Scale, for use at the Transfer Station. After a brief demonstration, it seems the software would work for our needs, however, the annual cost for this is upwards of \$20K per month. Does not seem feasible.

Jason also stated that Fought's disposal uses our Transfer Station and he has sent them a letter thanking them for their business and support, as he noticed they have been utilizing our services more frequently recently. Jason to meet with them on Thursday to discuss options for better accommodations to them if they continue to increase their business with us.

Next Jason asked whether it was okay to use checks received from vendors for the company picnic. The Board said it was okay.

Jason reported on the property at 370 Market Street needing to be dug up because the old, galvanized line was corroded and broken. Crews repaired and replaced the line. The new owners are out of New Jersey and will be turning the building into apartments. A fire service will be going in at the property.

Jason touched on two articles in the newspaper, one regarding grease trap issues in Selinsgrove and one talking about the landfill no longer accepting roll-offs.

Jason then spoke about the FOG proposal by Entech, stating their desired price to create rules and regulations for the Authority was \$5,800. Discussion ensued and the Board feels the City should participate in the payment of the costs incurred during this whole process. The motion to approve this proposal was tabled until after the meeting next week.

Lastly, Jason mentioned the Consumptive Use Mitigation Grant for the mixers was denied. However, he feels this project needs to continue moving forward, as it is very important for the water process.

On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to accept the Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat Burke was not present at this meeting, so Jason reviewed Pat's submitted report.

The items on Pat's report were previously discussed or had no board action required, so on a motion made by Jerome Alex, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Kerstetter touched on the fact that we will have more definitive answers and direction after the meeting regarding grease traps, ordinances, rules and regs, etc. happens. He reviewed the Danville ordinance and feels our Authority has enforcement as an advantage with City involvement but it will require coordination. He will look to the Board for direction on how to proceed.

On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to accept the Solicitor's Report as presented. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A discussion was held regarding having Pat Bennett only attend one meeting per month, but still covering all three of his departments' reports. Pat will now attend the first meeting of the month and report on all three departments, along with Matt reporting on Wastewater. The Water Department will be the only department represented at the second monthly meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom McBryan asked that a column be added to the one report for when the loans will expire, and also when the percentages go up. He then stated that we may have a 15-year max by the state for investing. He is going to look into this further.

COMMENTS

Jerome Alex asked that he be notified via text message when there is a break reported in the City so he knows where work is being done. Jason said he would ask the managers to report breaks to him.

The list of expenditures from April 16-May 5, 2025, was presented for payment. On motion of Jerome Alex, seconded by Tom McBryan, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chairman

Approved:

Solicitor