

# Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2019



The Public Meeting was called to order by Chuck Leonard at 6:34 pm.

**Roll Call:** Present: Lynn Crist, Edward Feigles, Chuck Leonard, Todd Pysher, Pat Deitrick.

**Absent:** Leon Liggitt, Teri Snyder

**Guests:** Eric Moore, Executive Director; Alyssa Henry, WBRA Project Coordinator; Jonathan DeWald, Esq., Solicitor for WBRA; Bob Eder, Clinton Township property owner; Rocky Sanguedolce, Montgomery Borough Property owner; Fran McJunkin, Tony Mussare, and Jack McKernan from Lycoming County; Devin O'Rourke Century 21 Colonial Real Estate, Pat Higgins, Sheetz representative and Amber Wilt, Montgomery Borough Council

## **Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Public Comment:** County commissioners were in to discuss the possibilities of offering a loan to WBRA at competitive rates comparable to PennVest. **Motion** to move forward with working on a funding agreement with Lycoming County by Pat Deitrick. Second by Ed Feigles. All were in favor. Motion passed. Devin O'Rourke and Pat Higgins were pleased by this outcome and they came to urge WBRA to continue moving forward with the Route 15 Sewer Project. Bob Eder came to voice his concerns about replacing his septic system and where the sewer on 54 would end and if he had to connect. The board decided not to aggressively approach that area of Route 54. Amber Wilt came for the discussion of the contractual requirements to continue East Houston Ave water main replacement. The Board discussed whether the construction work could be handled under the exiting MWSA-WBRA Operational Agreement. **Motion** to have a signed agreement before completing water line work on E Houston by Todd Pysher. Second by Pat Deitrick. All were in favor. Motion Passed

**Approval of Minutes:** **Motion** to accept meeting minutes of May 8, 2019 made by Ed Feigles. Second by Lynn Crist. Four were in favor and 1 member abstained because of an absence. Motion passed.

**Approval of Bills /Treasurer's Report:** **Motion** to accept Bills/Treasurer's Report made by Ed Feigles. Second by Lynn Crist. All were in favor. Motion passed.

## **Old Business**

Route 15 water: Penn College of Technology had some staff turnover and we are still reaching out to see who is best to talk to.

Opera House: Continuing to work with Connie Sherman to build an agreement to use Opera house.

Base Rate Cost Analysis: In response to concerns from some customers who own rental properties in the service area, WBRA staff completed a preliminary calculation of the base cost of sewer service. The Board discussed the base cost approach and determined that the potential cost impact was not sufficient to justify the cost and time to develop and maintain a special base rate for shut off customers.

## **New Business**

Resignation of Richard Miller: WBRA received notice that Richard Miller has resigned from the West Branch Regional Authority.

Community Sign at Muncy PS site: WBRA has received notice from PennDOT that the welcome sign located on the Muncy Pump Station property at the intersection of Water St and Angletown Road does not have a proper PennDOT permit and will be torn down unless a permit is obtained. Ownership of the sign is uncertain, as staff could not locate a record of an easement for the sign placement. Staff intends to contact to the owners of the small signs affixed to the larger sign and provide them with an opportunity to remove their signs prior to demolition of the larger sign structure. The Board indicated support for this approach.

## Policies:

2019-015: Meals per diem-tabled until next meeting

2019-016: Home Inspection Results-tabled until next meeting

Blood Drive: WBRA will be holding a blood drive on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019


2019 Authorization Letter: A general authorization letter is required for tasks such as registering Authority vehicles with PennDOT. The Executive Director is redrafting the authorization letter and will bring the revised version to the next meeting.

Municipalities Fee: Pat Dietrick inquired why the founding municipalities are charged for sewer service. The Executive Director explained that it was the choice of the previous Board to require one EDU of service to be applied to all municipal offices, etc. based on a lengthy discussion of the issue. The current Board voiced support for removing the requirement. The Executive director noted that the Authority is limited by the Municipal Authorities Act with regard to the dollar value of what it can donate to a government or non-profit cause. Staff will develop a proposed policy for donating 1 EDU to each founding municipality only, for consideration by the Board.

**Committee Reports:**

Both the Planning and the Equipment Committees will meet on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm for Equipment Committee and 6:30 pm for planning committee.

With no Further business to conduct, motion made by Chuck Leonard to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Certified as Approved Meeting Minutes of the WBRA: 

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