

LEHIGHTON WATER AUTHORITY

MINUTES Wednesday, November 8, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Lehigh Water Authority was held on the above date in the Municipal Building. Chairman; David Harleman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Attendance:

David Harleman; Chairman, Lamont Ebbert; Vice-Chairman, Russell Schoenberger; Secretary, Gordon Ripkey; Treasurer, Larry Markley; Asst. Treasurer; Tucker Haberman; Superintendent, Jeffrey Ebbert; Asst. Superintendent, and Nicole Nothstein; Administrative Secretary

Jenny Cheng; Solicitor-absent

Minutes:

The minutes of the last regular monthly meeting of Wednesday, October 4, 2023, were approved on a motion by Lamont Ebbert seconded by Larry Markley and passed.

Secretary's Report:

1. Larry Markley made a motion, seconded by Lamont Ebbert to credit William G. & Ruth Hartranft for the actual cost (\$2,250) of the tapping fee, less the \$403.00 paid to them for the easement.
2. A motion was made to authorize David Harleman to sign the agreement with Storm Lumber & Logging for a 50-acre sample timber harvest on a motion made by Gordon Ripkey, seconded by Larry Markley and passed.
3. The 2022 Inactive Accounts totaling \$863.80 submitted by the Utility Billing Office's request to write them off was approved on a motion made by Gordon Ripkey, seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed.
4. The 2024 monthly meeting dates were approved on a motion made by Gordon Ripkey, seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed.
5. Larry Markley made a motion, seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed the final payment of \$18,210.01 to Dunmore Roofing & Supply Co., Inc. for the filtration plant roof replacement.
6. A motion was made by Gordon Ripkey, seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed to roll over the Edward Jones CD that matures on 11/15/23 into a 3 month CD, cash out the interest and deposit into bank account.
7. A motion was made by Gordon Ripkey, seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed to open a 9 month CD with Edward Jones for \$200,000.00.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Our engineer, Lori Kappen; Gannett Fleming failed to submit the NPDES permit for the Lehigh River to DEP by the due date. She had reached out to DEP earlier in the year because the US EPA modified their regulations back in 2008 to exclude water transfers from the NPDES program and Lori believes we should no longer need to permit the Lehigh River transfer. DEP disagrees with her. She was told to complete the forms and submit them.

2. Gordon Ripkey made a motion, seconded by Larry Markley and passed to approve the service agreement with Hach for the three new turbidimeters at a cost of \$6,450.50.

Old Business:

1. Wildland's Conservancy—Dennis DeMara sent an email inquiring if the board is getting closer to a decision on the proposed easement.
2. Surveying – Ralph Clay and Eric Snyder; Keystone Consulting Engineers were present to discuss surveying the property for the proposed easement with Wildlands Conservancy. The board also discussed interest in having survey work completed for all the property owned by the Authority. Eric Snyder is going to reach out to Wildland's Conservancy to set up a meeting to discuss the area in their proposed easement and work on a quote to present to the water authority board to complete surveying in that area. The surveying of all the property will be done in portions until complete.
3. Lehigh River Crossing—Larry Markley made a motion seconded by Lamont Ebbert and passed to adopt and authorize Russell Schoenberger to sign Resolution 2023-2 Requesting Local Share Account Funds for the Lehigh River Water Main Crossing.
4. Solar Energy—Jimmy Ettele provided updated cost for solar panels at the filtration plant. Board feels cost are too high.
5. Lead replacement project—Tucker and Jeff worked on cost to replace lead service lines within the system, they project it will be \$980,559.62. A motion was made by Lamont Ebbert, seconded by Russell Schoenberger to submit the pricing to Gannett Fleming for their input and for possible grants that we could apply for funds for this project.
6. Carbon Plaza Mall—nothing reported.

Approval of all Reports, Account Payables and Additional Account Payables:

On a motion by Lamont Ebbert seconded by Russell Schoenberger to accept all reports and pay all bills.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Lamont Ebbert seconded by Larry Markley the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Russell Schoenberger
Secretary