

## FOX TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M.

**Members Present:** Russ Braun, Ken Huey, Michael Kamandulis, Rudy Pollino and Jerry Zimmerman, Jr.

**Others Present:** Tom Holleran, Wastewater Project Manager of HRG. **Others Present:** Chad Shields, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator and Juli A. H. Schlimm, Authority Clerk.

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Zimmerman, Jr., followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Tom Holleran presented his **Engineer's Report** for the evening.

Tom told members Chad had requested they look @ **the Air Release Valve** that is along Rt. #948. This would be upstream of the Pontzer lift station. Tom said if the board likes HRG can prepare a quote for the engineering of this. The work will need to be bid out. A Highway Occupancy Permit will be needed. The air release valve hasn't been replaced for many years. Tom said the manhole is about three and a half feet (3.5") deep. The discussion was that we need to be prepared to dig the whole thing up. It may or may not need to be done. It is located in the shoulder of the highway. Chad said it will need to be done at night when there is less flow. Michael Kamandulis and Rudy Pollino moved that HRG prepare a bid package for the work. This work will include Penndot's Highway Occupancy Permit. If the work is under ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) Chad can call and get prices for the work to be done. If this maintenance works, it is much better than the cost of a new lift station. There was discussion on restoring the pavement. Chad asked if the Township is doing any paving projects this year? Chad asked if the road shoulder restoration could be considered at the time the Township paving projects are done? Jerry suggested moving the manhole slightly to get it out of the road area. Chad said this should be the only time we have to dig it up. If we put PVC on metal for the turn off valve it won't need done again. This should allow us to only have to take the top off in the future. Jerry asked Tom if this will be prepared for our April meeting? Tom said probably not as he is working on our Chapter 94 Report due to the state at the end of March.

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He also has been involved with the gas meter repair at the plant. Tom will send the Chapter 94 “draft” up for Jerry’s review prior to signing it.

**The Gas Meter repair** at the plant was further discussed. Tom has done some research on this subject. Currently the HVAC system, heating and ventilation are all tied together. Chad shared he has had a difficult time finding prints on the installation. In talking with the different companies involved with the installation he hasn’t made much progress. When asking specific questions he has been getting passed around. The Authority has been dealing with **Draeger** since August on this. We have gotten several updated quotes for the work to be done. Tom suggested a controls engineer could come up and evaluate it from HRG. Chad said most recently he has talked to Drew Sellers of the **ES2 Company** in eastern PA that handles chlorine meters and tanks. He will see how they do first. ES2 Company will prepare a proposal. Tom said he doesn’t understand how Draeger installed a system that isn’t replaceable at this point. Tom has reached out to several past HRG employees who worked on this. They have all said to their knowledge it was a typical Headworks. He isn’t sure why Draeger is having such a problem with it. Chad said it was explained, it wasn’t Draeger’s design it was somebody else that worked for them at the time of the installation. Tom offered HRG’s control engineer to evaluate and get involved, if need be.

**REBCO** was down again on 3/4/19. Tom was actually here to look at the gas meter system at the time. This is the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) occurrence with the Rebco line. Tom took the time to compile all past emails of Steve Halmi’s of Deiss and Halmi and his list of recommendations from the past. This information was provided to members in an email prior to the meeting. The timing of the problems has become more frequent. This may be caused by not enough velocity in the force main with the present loadings. Tom recommended doing everything Steve Halmi suggested, like turning on the both grinder pumps at the same time; turning McDermott’s on at the same time, turning valves while there is flow in the line. Tom said he reached out to the E-1 pump manufacturer and our representative is in the Cranberry area. Tom sent him the Rebco plan designed by Deiss and Halmi. He did say it is possible to install two (2) larger pumps. The rep was going to do some research into this. Tom suggested, more frequent maintenance to keep the

***REBCO Continued:***

force main open. On this last date when experiencing the problems again, Chad and Shawn pumped two thousand (2000) gallons of water through the line. There was sufficient volume to clear it. This was at the fifty five (55) gallons a minute which was the recommended flushing velocity. The pressure was at seventy five (75) PSI (unit pressure of force per square inch). It was bitter cold then. Tom and Chad discussed it may be an air release problem. Chad said he thinks each one of the clean outs may be seeping out air. There are fourteen (14) clean outs in total. Chad said when opening them you can hear the air escape. Chad elaborated the air release behind McDermott's garage on Brandy Camp Road shot off air that sounded like a gun from the pressure. Chad said this is the lowest point in the line and it shouldn't be. Air is not getting out of the line, per Tom. Chad said they checked the air release valve on the power line location. It was taken off so they could view the line, which was clear. Tom mentioned there is a one inch (1") nipple where there should be a two inch (2"). This is on top of the hill by Rebco. This needs to be changed. Chad said they have a spare air release valve they plan to install by McDermott's when it is above freezing temperatures. The problem seems to be between McDermott's and Rebco. McDermott's pump runs fine per Chad. Chad said on Valentine's Day they flushed the entire line. Looking at larger pumps for the long-term solution, per Tom may be the answer. Turning both pumps plus McDermott's at the same time may also be another suggestion per Steve Halmi. This way maybe you wouldn't have to flush as often. The conversation was there may only be an approximate three hundred (300) gals. under the lift station. A tanker truck holds 2000 gallons to flush with. Tom took the "as built" map that Deiss and Halmi did and numbered the clean outs and the air releases. This will help in writing descriptions of what is happening and at what location, as things occur.

The **Chlorine flow pacing** has been addressed by the ***ES2 Company***.

***GIS Mapping*** – Tom needs to meet with the operators on this. They need to address the items that need to be corrected so this can be done.

***The NPDES Permit renewal*** – The testing results were gotten but have not been submitted to the state yet. Tom said this will be done. He did talk to the state about it.

**The Homestead Pump Station** has been working fine.

There are no new **Developer Plan reviews** at this time.

**Act 57 Tapping fee Study** - HRG's Financial Services prepared a proposal for this work to be done. According to Act 57 to be compliant a review should be done every five (5) years. The last time this was done was 2003, just prior to the Robin, Cherry Roads and Million Dollar Highway Projects. In doing the study it is possible the Tap Fee could go down. The cost of the proposal is seventy five hundred dollars (\$7,500). It could go up slightly for next year. This fee did not include the review fee involved with reviewing the information. That fee was separate. This review fee was under two thousand dollars (\$2,000). Tom mentioned Fox has been billed at a corporate rate. He would prefer billing us at a Schedule B rate for time and materials, which is twelve to thirteen percent (12-13%) less. Our Act 57 information is deficient with no reflection on Juli, per Tom. There wasn't enough information for Kevin, the person who was doing the evaluation to be able to do it quickly. Jerry said it would be different if there were plans to service Lovers Lane or Hayes Road. If a developer comes in and challenges the Authority on the cost there could be an issue. Jerry suggested the Authority plan for this expenditure within the Authority's 2020 Budget. That way it can be done next year. Jerry commented that it takes Fox a lot to recoup the cost of the study.

**Analytical Testing** results were presented for the month and the **January 2019 Discharge Monitoring Report**. No sludge has been hauled.

**The Jim Nissel Project** additional information was requested by the state on 2/14/19. This was submitted on 2/26/19. Russ asked what the information was. Juli and Chad elaborated it was about the flows and lift stations locations that it would flow into. We haven't heard anything further. This is for one (1) single additional EDU. Chad said one question was why our present flows are higher than our projected flows? Chad said we've had such a huge amount of excessive rain in the past year.

Another email was received from **Integrity Energy** for West Penn Power service for a renewal contract. Currently we are paying a rate of .05390/kWh through

***Integrity Energy Contract renewal -***

July of 2020. The renewal offer for the new contract is at .05680/kWh through 5-1-2023. They also provided information that without the contract West Penn Power rates are expected to increase to .06962 with a sixty four percent (64%) increase as of December 1<sup>st</sup>. After discussion Ken Huey moved to sign the renewal contract at the new rate of .05680/kWh through 5/1/23, seconded by Rudy Pollino, motion carried.

According to Jerry ***Radkowski's*** on Main Street, are looking at the Thompson adjoining property. This used to be owned by Micale's.

We received a document from ***Windstream*** regarding Chapter 11. They currently owe us one hundred forty three dollars and sixty five cents (\$143.65). This information will be provided to Solicitor Devittorio. Juli is unsure if we will be able to collect this.

The Authority received a recall on our ***2013 F-150 Ford Truck***. An appointment will be scheduled to address this.

***THE BILLS WERE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT*** and paid with Check #2523 through Check #2553 in the amount of Forty four thousand one hundred thirty four dollars and eighty seven cents (\$44,134.87), as moved by Russ Braun, seconded by Rudy Pollino, motion carried. It was noted that Check #2513 from last month for National Business for Brother Printer supplies was voided in the amount of three hundred seventy four dollars (\$374). This was done as the shipping cost of thirty four dollars (\$34) was waived. The revised charge was placed on our VISA bill to be included with the bills for tonight.

***Monthly overtime*** hours were presented.

***Solicitor Devittorio's February Fee Statement*** showed a credit balance of two thousand eight hundred ninety six dollars and forty four cents (\$-2,896.44). Cost to the Authority for this month was thirty three dollars (\$33).

***Bills-In-Arrears*** outstanding accounts due as of 2/8/19 were as follows: Account #2950 paid one hundred seventy two dollars and twelve cents (\$172.12). Account

**Arrears Continued:**

#3535 paid two hundred dollars (\$200). Both had been posted for shut off on 2/18/19.

**Bills-In-Arrears** that had fell due as of 1/8/19 has one (1) outstanding delinquency. Account #3405 for Christopher and Nikki Lion had remained unpaid in the amount of three hundred forty three dollars and fifty eight cents (\$343.58). Their property has been posted for a second time. St. Mary's Water was notified again on 2/13/19. Lion's then made a partial payment of one hundred ninety three dollars seventy cents (\$193.70) on 2/25/19 with a past due bill. The past due amount then incurred a ten percent (10%) penalty plus the new monthly fee of fifty two dollars (\$52). The updated balance they now owe is two hundred sixteen dollars and eighty seven cents (\$216.87). If this is not paid St. Mary's Water said they will take shut off action in a month. This account had also been previously discussed as filing a lien against the property would be an option.

**The Bills-In-Arrears Report** as of 2/8/19 was discussed. Sixteen (16) accounts received delinquency letters. Three thousand one hundred ninety nine dollars and twenty eight (\$3,199.28) was owed on delinquent accounts. Payments were made in the amount of two thousand four hundred sixty dollars and twenty five cents (\$2,460.25) to include six (6) partial payments. Two (2) accounts remain unpaid and will be posted for water shut off action.

**A Bad Check** letter was written to customer Sandy Major a tenant at 331 Main Street for bad check charges on account #2180. A copy was sent to the owner David Hoffmann of Chambersburg, PA. The total amount due including past due, penalty, bad check charges and bank fees is two hundred fifty four dollars and ninety five cents (\$254.95). A partial payment of forty dollars (\$40) was received toward the amount due.

A letter dated 2/25/19 was received from **St. Mary's Insurance Agency** regarding a reimbursement in the amount of four hundred thirty eight dollars and forty nine cents (\$438.49) from the Municipal retrospective rating pool refund for 2015/16.

**THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M.** As there was no other business to be discussed the meeting **ADJOURNED @7:05 pm.**

