

Northeastern York County Sewer Authority

February 24, 2025

The Northeastern York County Sewer Authority met on Monday, February 24, beginning at 6:00 PM at 200 North Main Street in Mt. Wolf.

Authority members and others in attendance were:

Mt. Wolf Borough

Patti Fisher
Anya Barlett

Manchester Borough

Dale Benedick
Judy Hilliard

East Manchester Township

Tom Beakler
Tyler Kramlick

Members absent: None

Engineer: Chris Toms, CS Davidson, Inc.

Solicitor: Peter Ruth, Stock & Leader

Office Manager/Recording Secretary: Desiree Boorujy – absent. Minutes were taken by Tessa Starkes.

Visitors/Employees: Employees Tessa Starkes & Peter Nestlerode

Agenda

A Barlett/Benedick motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

A Beakler/Barlett motion was made to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 27, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence/Visitors – Seth Predix attended the meeting to discuss the moratorium on connections to the Saginaw system. He has an agreement to purchase 4535 North Sherman Street in East Manchester Township and intends to build multi-unit residential homes. The zoning allows around 90-105 1-2 BR apartments, which would be serviced by the Saginaw plant. His engineer states an expectation of 23,500 gal/day of capacity. He'd like to know if the I&I issues have been taken care of, and if so, why the DEP is still limiting the Authority's connections. Mr. Toms explained the 3-connections per year restriction is primarily driven by instantaneous flow at the influent pump station that conveys wastewater to the plant. I&I is causing the two pumps to run simultaneously during heavy rain events. One pump must be able to handle all the flow, and the second pump is a backup in case the first one fails. After televising and addressing known issues, the only remaining issue is with a local mobile home park having a noticeable spike during rain events. Based on our agreement with that community, the Authority has done all it can. Ultimately, until the issues with the private system at the community are resolved, the connection limit will likely remain. Mr. Predix would like to submit a Connection Management plan which will need to be approved by the DEP. The Authority would need to submit a Corrective Action Plan documenting how the high flows will be controlled. Mr. Toms will find out if a full planning module needs to be submitted.

Operations/Administration Report

Tessa Starkes provided updates in Desiree's absence.

Bond Payments – Our principal loan payments will be paid by ACH.

2015 A & B Bonds payments will be paid by ACH on 3/25, totaling \$1,056,174.

2013 Bond payment of \$239,009 will be paid by ACH on 4/25.

Electric Supplier – Desiree met with a rep from an electric supplier. It's a bit preliminary but she does not want to wait too long and have to rush the process. The representative she met with this month stated that our current "middle man" supplier, who alerted us to an upcoming increase for July 2025, should have known how much the increase would be, but had stated we wouldn't know until the time comes. Per this representative, suppliers were made aware of the exact increase in August 2024.

Desiree has also emailed several other municipalities for references and hear most are using and recommending Constellation Energy. She will contact them to schedule a meeting and gather information.

Roof update - finally some resolution and movement. Pete and Desiree met with the contractor and paid 1/3 of the balance (\$16,500). The roof repairs/installation will be scheduled soon.

Pete Nestlerode reviewed the Maintenance/Operations Report:

Maintenance & Operations Report

New Truck – The new truck came in sooner than expected. The dealer will install necessary equipment and will deliver soon. We will be advertising the F-150 for sale on Municibid shortly.

Grit Room Heater – We've had contractors out multiple times since we installed this heater, to no avail. The gases in the building are getting into the sensitive electronics, which shouldn't happen because it's supposed to be an explosion proof unit. WYElectric thinks we should look into other options, such as a roof unit. We have some time to consider options, as the weather will be getting warmer soon and the heater will not be in use.

PAC Delivery – PAC delivery prices will be increasing for mini-bulk. After calling around for pricing, he realizes that the cost will put us over budget for chemicals. The cost increase will go from .28 to .65 per pound.

Solicitor's Report

Resolution 2025-2 – This resolution changes the Employee Handbook as it pertains to Personal/Sick time accumulating at anniversary date rather than calendar year. A **Kramlick/Beakler motion was made to approve Resolution 2025-2. The motion passed unanimously.**

Farm – Attorney Ruth received calls from two separate real estate brokerages inquiring about the Authority's level of interest in selling Sinking Springs Farm. He spoke with Pete Nestlerode and Tom Beakler before telling both entities that there is no interest in selling as it's important to the Authority's operations. There are also plan restrictions encumbering the property for those entities to consider. They are welcome to do their own due diligence to investigate the terms of the restrictions. Mr. Kramlick pointed out that even if the board would be interested, it would feel unethical to explore selling when we recently signed a new lease agreement with the farmer.

Area 2 Update – All easements for the Musser Run Expansion have been obtained.

Engineer's Report

N. George Street Pump Station Upgrade – This project is now underway. There will be one change, as the existing force main is not where it was expected to be, so there will be some additional costs.

Mt Wolf Sewer Line Repairs – CS Davidson has reviewed all of the video provided by USG. Based on the findings, Mr. Toms would like to move forward with two contracts. A large cause of the issues found was tree roots in the lines. Mr. Toms is proposing that we spray a foam treatment to kill the roots. This would be followed up with a lining project. Some lower priority issues were discovered that would be reserved for the grant the Authority applied for. Mr. Toms and the board hope that the root issue can be taken care of using Costars.

Musser Run Pump Station – Bids are open for this project. The low bidders on each contract were Doli for General Construction, WYElectric for the electrical construction, and Barrasso for the pipe work construction. All 3 of these projects are included in the Area 2 project. Proceeding with these 3 projects would complete \$2.1M of the Area 2 project. Mr. Toms recommended awarding the contracts to the apparent low bidders. The board expressed a concern with awarding Contract 3 at this time since the line will sit empty until the Area 2 system is constructed. **A Fisher/Kramlick motion was made to award contracts 1 and 2 to the apparent low bidders. The motion passed unanimously.** The board will revisit Contract 3 at the next meeting after Mr. Toms has had the opportunity to evaluate options to complete the portions of the contract that include line upgrades downstream of the Musser Run pump station. These upgrades are necessary to address capacity issues associated with the proposed higher pumping capacity of the new Musser Run station. **A Barlett/Benedick Motion to table Contract 3. The motion passed unanimously.**

Grant Opportunity – the state is offering a small sewer and water grant for projects that can be completed for less than \$500,000. Such projects will be listed and the grant application will be submitted. Mr. Toms suggested that he and Pete get together to determine whether addressing Orchard Business Park or Canal Road or to do an upgrade at Poplar Lane PS (downsizing) would

be best. Pete expressed that he would like to see improvements made at the Sherman Oaks PS, however, that can't be done until the issues with flows to the Saginaw plant have been resolved. Grant information will be provided for review and approval at next month's meeting. **The board motioned to authorize a grant submission for a pump station upgrade. The pump station was to be selected by Pete and Chris. Motion passed unanimously.**

Digester Project – Pete mentioned to Chris that he would like to have additional sludge storage at the plant. There are two unused secondary clarifiers on the creek side of the plant, and the digesters to be upgrade are opposite them. To address Pete's concern for space, the upgrades proposed for one of those secondary clarifiers could be applied to both tanks. With this idea, we would also need more blowers. During Pete and Chris's discussion it was decided that this may be a good time to investigate a dewatering process, so instead of creating two storage tanks and aerating, put in a dewatering press and storage pad and compare the cost of the two options. With the second option, we would then spread sludge rather than inject it because it would have a lower water content (20% solids instead of 3%).

Blower Replacements – Changes have been designed and quotes will be gathered to present soon.

Treasurer's Report

Payment of Invoices – **A Barlett/Kramlick motion was made to approve the invoices as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

Requisitions – The following requisitions were presented for approval this evening:

2025-3 – to CS Davidson in the amount of 20,428.24 for Inv. 180384 – Mount Wolf Sanitary Sewer, 180470 Musser Run Pump Station, 180563 Mount Wolf Blower Replacements, 180564 Aerobic Digesters.

2025-4 – to Northeastern York County Sewer Authority. This requisition reimburses the Authority for two items that were initially paid out of the Operating Account. One invoice was from PFM for quarterly fees and the other was for the purchase of a computer for Pete Nestlerode. The total is \$5,889.87.

A Beakler/Benedick motion was made to approve Requisitions 2025-3 and 2025-4 for payment. The motion passed unanimously.

No executive session was held.

Adjournment - **With nothing further to discuss, a Beakler/Kramlick motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. The motion passed unanimously.**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – Monday, March 24 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes taken by Tessa Starkes and transcribed by Desiree Boorujy.