

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Portage was held on Thursday, October 3, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room at 606 Cambria Street.

Those in attendance were:

Mark Castel, Chairman
Craig Castel
John Gartland
Brent Kinley
Jerome Yetsko

Also present were: Ron Cadwallader, Supervisor; Steve Sewalk, The EADS Group; Attorney William Barbin, Solicitor; Ron Portash, Mainline Newspapers; Christene Ringler, Employee; Mike Jubina; and John Belobsky, Joel Earns, Mike Chuckalovchack, Dave Hayes, Tony Golden, John Wagner, Doug Smay, Tom Richardson, ATV group.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mark Castel, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

II. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Mark Castel recognized Mr. Portash.

Mr. Mark Castel recognized the other residents present. Mr. Smay noted that when the ATV group met with the Portage Borough Council relative to the decision of the Board to ban all ATV activity on the Authority property, it was pointed out that some of the issues would be better addressed to the Water Authority Board rather than Borough Council. Mr. Smay stated that the group understands the issues the Authority is dealing with on the property; and when the meeting was held with the Borough, the group made some pretty generous offers to work with the Authority and would provide equipment and labor services to address the concerns. If the Authority would show the group the areas of concern, the group would be willing to place catch ponds or whatever is necessary to prevent the runoff into the creek. Mr. Smay commented that there is a lot of land in the area that is useful; and there are residents that are landlocked with everything being shut down. There are areas where, if you are coming from the other side and people are not aware of the changes and they enter the Authority property, they could be fined.

Mr. Smay indicated that the group would like to meet with members of the Authority on the property so that some trails could be marked out. As it relates to diversion ditches, Mr. Smay noted that the group has a commitment from contractors that would volunteer their time and materials. He noted that the group would like to see the Authority set an enforcement policy for the Game Commission and the Authority to follow so that the group can notify residents relative to entering the property. Mr. Smay questioned, as it relates to the Game Commission, is there a cost associated with them policing the Authority property, to which Mr. Mark Castel replied negatively. Mr. Smay questioned if the Authority would be receptive, after they receive the DEP reports, to share with the group the areas of concern so that the group can unlock some of the ground so that residents can move from one area to the other (i.e., from Herman's camp to Cichota's, which is not presenting a threat). Mr. Smay discussed with the Board the advantages of having ATV riders coming into town and the economic effect it has on the community and the various businesses.

Mr. Mark Castel pointed out that he is not sure what the liability would be for individuals bringing equipment on the property in the event someone would be injured. Mr. Belobsky commented that Ed Myers did the stone work above the reservoir; and he is willing to work with the group as well for further work. He indicated that Mr. Myers has stated that he would work with the group; and the group would purchase the gravel, fuel, hydroseed, etc. so that there would be no expense to the Authority. Mr. Belobsky pointed out that none of the work would happen until the spring because of the weather; and in April/May, there was discussion about hydroseeding around the dam, and the group could cover those expenses. The group would be willing to donate the fuel, gravel and limestone as well. Mr. Belobsky emphasized that the group would basically like to undo some of the damage that has been done. The group accepts the responsibility that the damage has been done and needs addressed. Mr. Smay pointed out that the group would also volunteer to police the area and assist the Authority. He commented that the days of a few individuals ruining it for everyone has to be done.

Attorney Barbin emphasized that the action taken by the Board was not because of just some recent incidents, but from many years of how the property was abused. He stated that the Authority has a DEP citation as a result of people running quads at Benscreek, which is an exceptional value stream. He pointed out that the purpose of the Authority, along with millions of dollars of investment, is to have a high quality, dependable water supply for the people and businesses of Portage Borough. Attorney Barbin commented that he has been an attorney for the Authority since the 1980's; and when he was told that the Authority was fine with ATVs being allowed on its property, he was shocked because there is no other Authority that allows free use of their watershed. Mr. Hayes stated that he is in the process of working with the Altoona Water Authority because they are purchasing a piece of property and they want the group to maintain the trails because they are receiving funds from DCNR. They are looking for an ATV group to maintain the trails for them; and information should be received in December relative to this. Attorney Barbin commented that it crossed all boundaries last month when DEP issued the citation; and the Authority does not want to see a fine being given and it having to use customer money to pay the fine. He pointed out that the Authority has to shut down the Benscreek plant pretty regularly because of muddiness in the water. Mr. Hayes questioned how much of the concern with the runoff is being caused by clearcutting in the area, to which Mr. Barton replied that only the areas below the watershed were logged (areas below the intake for the water supply) so this is not involved.

It was stated by Mr. Smay that no one was notified prior to the action taken by Authority, not even Borough Council. He questioned if it is written specifically in the Authority's Charter that they can take action without conferring with other municipal authorities, to which Attorney Barbin replied affirmatively, stating that the information is included in the Municipal Authorities Act. Attorney Barbin explained that the Borough of Portage created the Municipal Water Authority and stated that it was created for the purposes of providing water for the people of Portage and the surrounding areas and they are bound, as a Municipal Authority, by all powers and responsibilities as set forth in the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Act. Mr. Smay commented that it is his understanding that this has to be written into the specific charter that creates each specific authority. Attorney Barbin emphasized that the Municipal Authority is independent of the Borough Council, which is stated in the Act; and it states that the Municipal Authority will make all decisions on the operations of the Authority.

Mr. Belobsky commented that the group was here at the meeting basically to try to work with the Authority. He stated that the Authority is currently in a predicament with the reservoir in Benscreek; and the ATV group is in a bind as well. What the ATV group is looking for is possibly two connectors for a total of approximately three miles where they would go in and do everything needed before the Authority even blessed it. In turn, the ATV group is willing to pay

for anything that is needed to get this accomplished, which will help the Authority to correct the situation in Benscreek. Mr. Smay agreed, pointing out that the group also informed Portage Borough, who has police power in the area if they wish, to create a police officer position for the area (would also purchase a side-by-side to be used to police the area). The group would also create a type of donation fund to offset any costs the Authority incurred for utilizing the Game Commission to police the area. Mr. Smay emphasized that the area currently is cleaner than it has been in a long time because of the efforts of the ATV group and the weekly cleanup that they do. Mr. Smay also pointed out the advantages to the town when there are ATV runs held in the area. He noted that the ATV group is the one that is monitoring and removing people that are causing damage to the property. Mr. Smay indicated that he would like someone from the Authority to come to the area and the group could mark off every motorized access trail so that those coming from outside areas would know the authorized travel areas. Discussion took place relative to the lack of current signage postings in the area and how the group could assist in posting at the various trail heads that lead to the Authority property. Mr. Barton commented that the posting of the signs is approximately one quarter complete; and the group volunteered to assist Mr. Barton in posting of the signs. Discussion also ensued relative to the lack of time needed for the logging roads to grow back up and what happens to the area when there is a large rain storm.

Mr. Kinley pointed out to the group that we are still at the point we were when the matter was discussed with Borough Council. He stated that the basis is that the Authority needs to be in compliance with what DEP is requesting. Mr. Kinley noted that the Authority needs to discuss further with the Forester what the course of action should be. He commented that the Authority would also need to investigate any liability concerns with individuals being on the property with equipment, etc. Attorney Barbin noted that we would also have to determine exactly what areas the group is referring to relative to the connectors and where the signage should be posted. Concerns were also raised relative to the imposing of fines by the Game Commission until the appropriate signage is in place.

Attorney Barbin noted that the Board would discuss this matter further relative to the area where more signage should be posted. He asked that the ATV group develop a plan relative to the connector trails they were referring to, which would be reviewed by Mr. Barton and the Board. Until that time, Attorney Barbin pointed out, there is to be no ATV activity on the watershed property as the decision by the Authority Board was that there would be no ATV activity on the watershed property and that Mr. Cadwallader would be obtaining a cooperation agreement with the Game Commission. Discussion ensued concerning what would happen if the Game Commission is on the property and the postings have not been completed (what the fine would be) so that there are no concerns.

Mr. Yetsko indicated that Attorney Barbin, Mr. Barton and Mr. Cadwallader would work together to determine if the plan is appropriate and where the postings should be located and then inform the ATV group appropriately. If there is a concern, the ATV group could bring their concerns back to the Board. Mr. Smay noted that the group would also like to have a work session with the Authority to determine what the ATV group can do to assist and to work with the Authority. Mr. Smay noted that the ATV group would monitor the property and inform the Authority if there are any concerns. Mr. Yetsko pointed out that the decision has been made that the property has to be posted and anyone on the property will be penalized. Until the area recovers, it is the responsibility of the Authority to restore the area; and until it comes back to life, this matter would be reconsidered then.

All members of the ATV group departed from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Jubina expressed his concerns relative to the area that the ATV group wants to use. Mr. Barton noted that the proposed trails that the group shared is totally the Authority's property. Mr. Craig Castel questioned if the windmill roads are actually open, to which Mr. Barton replied that those roads are open to the landowners from the top of Blue Knob to Lilly Mountain Road. Any landowner, under the agreement, is allowed on that road from the point it leaves Route 164 to the end of the property that they own. Attorney Barbin stated that the Authority has the right to allow individuals to use that road, if they so desire, providing it does not cause a problem for the Authority.

Mr. Kinley pointed out that it was communicated to the group that the area is totally shut down to ATV traffic until the area gets back to normal. Mr. Craig Castel pointed out that the biggest concern now is keeping the ATVs off the property in the meantime. Attorney Barbin noted that, if the area is being monitored by the Game Commission, they will enforce it. Mr. Cadwallader explained to the Board that the Game Commission at the meeting indicated that, until the first of the year, if there is an ATV on the property, they will stop them and tell them they are not allowed on the property. They will take the individual's information and place it in the system. If, after the first of the year, that individual is found on the property, they will be fined. In addition, as long as an individual has written permission from a landowner to be on the property, they will not be fined. Mr. Kinley questioned if we will have to have the entire area posted first, to which Attorney Barbin replied affirmatively. Mr. Barton pointed out that the posting will be done by the end of next week.

Discussion ensued relative to the permission that the Authority has given to the Scagburners Club (snowmobiles) to be on the property on designated trails. Mr. Barton agreed that we have a designated trail agreement with the Scagburners Club; and the Game Commission is aware of this agreement and will not enforce anything against snowmobiles. Mr. Cadwallader commented that this would be unless we would specifically want it enforced. Attorney Barbin questioned the area the trail is in and whether it is along the creek. Mr. Cadwallader indicated that the Game Commission had mentioned this because the trail is along the game lands. Mr. Mark Castel pointed out that the trail is only open for a certain time for the snowmobiles. Attorney Barbin indicated that the Board's agreement was to ban motorized vehicles from the area so we should review the agreement. Mr. Mark Castel questioned if the trails are open to snowmobiles for only a certain period of time, to which Attorney Barbin replied that the agreement states that there has to be a certain amount of snow in the area. Attorney Barbin noted that he would review the agreement and provide a report to the Board at the next meeting.

Attorney Barbin questioned if Mr. Cadwallader has received a draft agreement from the Game Commission, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the Authority signed an agreement with the Game Commission many years ago which is still in force. Attorney Barbin indicated that we would need to review the agreement being that the earlier agreement may have stated that ATVs were exempt. Mr. Cadwallader will provide a copy of the agreement to Attorney Barbin to review.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that the Game Commission sent out an announcement relative to the availability of the trees as discussed in the past. Mr. Cadwallader will address this matter.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY AND MR. CRAIG CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE SEPTEMBER 2019 MINUTES BEING THAT THEY WERE DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

V. AGENT'S EXPENDITURES

ON MOTION OF MR. CRAIG CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. KINLEY, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO APPROVE THE AGENT'S EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$237.75. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

VI. INVOICES

Borough of Portage	\$ 2,270.24
Brent Kinley	45.00
Cambria Mailing Services, Inc.	77.89
Cintas	71.31
CMPA	1,000.00
Craig Castel	45.00
EADs Group	704.81
Eichelbergers, Inc.	180.00
Fairway Laboratories, Inc.	1,978.00
Groff Tractor & Equipment	19.37
Hite Company	62.88
John Gartland	45.00
Kline Kimlin	6,450.00
L/B Water Service, Inc.	1,500.45
Long's Equipment	52.00
Long Barn Inc. II	11.80
Ludwig Electric LLC	467.00
Mark Cstel	45.00
Mary L Elchin	260.00
Mosholder Insurance Agency	1,451.00
Peoples Natural Gas Company	17.28
Portage Auto Parts	3.98
Portage Post Office	165.00
Portage Service Center	300.65
Pristow's Sales & Service Inc.	82.62
Pro Disposal, Inc.	559.00
Ray Oil & Gas Co	762.70
RDM – Johnstown LLC	190.00
Ronald J Cadwallader Jr	20.00
Sharon Squillario	50.00

Stager's Store	528.14
Univar USA, Inc.	7,323.71
Visa – 1st Summit	211.83
Water System Solutions, Inc.	126.00
	<u>\$ 27,077.66</u>

	<u>Paid Bills</u>	
Cambria Systems	\$ 1,017.64	
Highmark Blue Shield	7,097.74	
Mosholder Insurance Agency	6,467.00	
PA One Call Systems, Inc.	46.41	
Penelec	1,356.70	
Comcast	315.67	
Pro Disposal, Inc.	161.00	
Sheetz Fleet Service	449.38	
Staples	156.97	
Verizon	479.14	
Aflac	158.48	
Donna Plummer	100.00	
REA Energy Cooperative Inc.	966.56	
Verizon Wireless	95.22	
	<u>\$ 18,867.91</u>	

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO ACCEPT AND PAY INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$72,509.48 (REGULAR BILLS, \$27,077.66; PAID BILLS, \$18,867.91; PennVEST, \$3,896.36 AND \$5,508.55; USDA, \$16,051.00; 1ST SUMMIT, \$1,108.00). BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

ON MOTION OF MR. CRAIG CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE SEPTEMBER 2019 TREASURER'S REPORT AS IT WAS PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE REPORT WITH A BALANCE OF: BEGINNING CASH, \$1,750,138.25; CASH IN, \$230,880.91; CASH OUT, (\$230,187.10); ADJUSTMENT, \$0; ENDING CASH, \$1,750,832.06. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mark Castel noted that Mr. Cadwallader's report was distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting; and he asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the report.

Mr. Cadwallader reported that all of the settling tubes have been installed at the Benscreek plant. The videotaping of the structure before it gets into the plant will be taking place within the next two weeks.

Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that flushing of the lines will take place the week of October 14.

Mr. Cadwallader stated that, on October 22, himself, along with Messrs, Kennedy, Moore and Gouse will be going to Greensburg to take tests.

Mr. Cadwallader commented that Mr. Beyer will be discussing with the Board various grants that area available.

Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that he had talked to the Board previously relative to the elimination of the pump stations in Martindale and he had toured the Board members of the area. Mr. Cadwallader provided to the Board a quote for what the project would entail as well as the cost of the project, along with the purchase of two generators (not including the concrete pads and the purchase of a small piece of property to place the generators), fencing and propane. Attorney Barbin questioned if this was part of the consent order work, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Attorney Barbin commented that this project would need to be completed by March 31 to be in compliance with the consent order. Mr. Cadwallader stated that work on the project has already started. Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that Mr. Brian Cadwallader did a lot of the work on the scope of the project, which will save a lot of money. Mr. Cadwallader noted that, if we would place generators, we would have had to acquire land because the spots where the pump stations are would not have been large enough. With the scope of the project designed by Mr. Brian Cadwallader, everything at the pump station will go away. We will tie off of the new line going down and tie in at Gigtown, which will keep pressure there; and then we will take the line down, bore under the highway, and take the line over to the pump station on Frazier Avenue and tie in there. Everything will be fed out of the plant via two power pumps. The pressure is now at 110 now; and even with the gravity going down through the area, it will still create more pressure for the residents. Mr. Craig Castel questioned if we will be reusing the pumps, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Mr. Cadwallader noted that, if there would be a power failure, the generator will kick on, which will make us in compliance with the consent order as well. He commented as well that the automatic shutdown, which was part of the consent order, will be taken care in-house as well.

Mr. Cadwallader stated that he discussed this with Cambria Systems; and they will give us a point of start for us to do the wiring in-house. Mr. Mark Castel questioned if any permits will be needed, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied negatively. Mr. Mark Castel questioned if the new line will need flushed and chlorinated once placed, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Mr. Cadwallader explained to the Board that there is no work that will need done around the plant. Coming out of the plant, there is a 2" line that we put in on Dusty Lane, which will take care of three residents. We went with a 4" line off of the 2" line in order to provide more volume. Mr. Yetzko questioned if there will be sufficient pressure, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively.

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PURCHASE OF THE MATERIALS FOR THE CONSENT ORDER PROJECT AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

Discussion ensued relative to scheduling of a budget preparation meeting. Following discussion, it was agreed that the meeting would be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cadwallader stated that he included in the Board packet information from DEP relative to the Benscreek reservoir. DEP does not want to schedule a meeting, but outlined in the letter what needed to be followed through on. Mr. Cadwallader explained that, if we do look at funding for the project, it must be done by a contractor. If the project is done in-house, it will be just materials. Mr. Cadwallader noted that he discussed this with the employees; and it is felt that the project could be done in-house; however, we would need to take into consideration other projects as well that will need accomplished. Mr. Cadwallader explained that beginning October 1, it will be spawning season for brook trout so we would not be able to do anything. Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that, on the back part of the dams where the erosion is (where the clay is), we would line the entire side with sandstone and #4 limestone on top of it in order to stabilize the embankment. As it relates to the wall around the dam and the spillway, it would require some concrete work (Mr. Beyer provided an example). Attorney Barbin questioned if we would be able to expand the spillway, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied negatively. Mr. Cadwallader commented that this is a project that we would need to include under the budget discussions. He noted that there is a grant available for high hazard dams that could be considered as well.

Mr. Cadwallader noted that the health insurance for the employees is coming up for renewal. Information was provided to the Board prior to the meeting, which was also shared with the employees. Mrs. Ringler explained to the Board that we currently have Highmark insurance with a \$750 deductible, along with a vision plan. To renew the current plan, the premium would increase from \$7,021 to \$8,366 (monthly). Mrs. Ringler contacted UPMC for a quote; and UPMC has a policy with a zero deductible for \$7,721 (monthly). The UPMC vision plan is cheaper than the Highmark plan; and UPMC also has the availability of a dental plan for \$102 and the vision would be \$60.30. Mrs. Ringler stated that she and Mr. Feathers would not be utilizing the insurance; however, all other employees would be, including Mr. Cadwallader who had opted out of the plan last year. Mrs. Ringler stated that the dental coverage would be extra; however, if you add on the dental coverage, the premium is still less than what we are currently paying for the \$750 deductible with Highmark. Mr. Craig Castel questioned if the employees were comfortable with switching to UPMC, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively stating that the employees were comfortable with the copays as well; and their providers accepted UPMC insurance. Mr. Yetsko questioned if this would be for one year, to which Mrs. Ringler replied affirmatively stating that the coverage would be effective December 1, 2019.

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. CRAIG CASTEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE CHANGE TO THE UPMC HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEES FOR THE COMING YEAR, TO INCLUDE DENTAL AND VISION COVERAGE. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

IX. ENGINEER'S REPORT

A copy of the Engineer's Report was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Mr. Beyer informed the Board that there has been no change relative to the Emergency Action Plan.

As it relates to the PA Small Water and Sewer grant, Mr. Beyer indicated that a letter has been provided to DCED indicating that all funds have been exhausted. Mr. Beyer noted that the Authority received the MSDS permit for the Martindale plant and there are new monitoring requirements for that. Mr. Cadwallader commented that this was accomplished for both plants;

and once the results are received, he will forward them. Mr. Beyer indicated that the annual dam inspection report will be sent to DEP next week.

Mr. Beyer discussed with the Board the various grants that are currently available. He noted that the PA Small Water and Sewer grant is available (one used for the Mountain Avenue project), which is an 85/15 match. He questioned if there are any projects that could be considered for this grant. Mr. Cadwallader noted that three projects would be: (1) Main Street; and (2) doing from Fiddler's Green into town, across Farren Street, down to Dulancey. Mr. Cadwallader noted the biggest priority would be the Main Street project. Mr. Beyer noted that a project would need to be chosen so that a Resolution could be approved by the Board at the next meeting because the grant applications are due in December. Mr. Beyer noted that there is also an H2O grant available, which is a 50/50 match; however, the Authority could apply for a PennVest or USDA grant/loan as well under this grant. Mr. Cadwallader noted that this may be the better grant to apply for because we are going to have more restoration on Main Street. Mr. Beyer noted that, with the H2O program, it is for high hazard dams and high hazard unsafe dams, which would include Martindale. Mr. Cadwallader noted that the Board would need to decide which percentage they would be comfortable with in funding; i.e., 50% or 15%. Mr. Yetsko commented that we should check into any grant monies that are available, to which Mr. Kinley agreed. Mr. Beyer noted that he would meet with Mr. Cadwallader relative to the specifics. He will then prepare Resolutions to be approved by the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Beyer indicated that the Authority would also need to obtain letters of support from the State representatives, Cambria County Planning Commission, etc.

Mr. Beyer also provided to the Board information that could be considering during budget preparation.

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Barbin indicated that he submitted his report prior to the meeting.

Attorney Barbin pointed out that Mr. Cadwallader had contacted him relative to the need a social media policy. He indicated that social media policies can have three different components and it can be a policy to present to employees relative to how they react to Authority/Borough business because either one can affect the operation of the Authority. Social media policies are also issued if the Authority has its own social media presence. Attorney Barbin noted that he does not think it is good for an Authority to have a social media presence. Mr. Cadwallader stated that the only thing that the Authority has is a website for the Water Authority, which only provides information to the customers and there is no interaction on the site with customers. Attorney Barbin indicated that the policy he drafted was taken from a sample policy, which can be reviewed by the Board and paired down as appropriate. Mr. Kinley stated that, as has been seen, some residents have made comments on social media; and we need to have something in place to let the employees know what the policy is relative to responding to social media. Attorney Barbin pointed out that we cannot deprive our employees of their first amendment right of free speech; however, the proposed policy does state that responses are discouraged in social media and should be addressed to the Authority Board. Mr. Yetsko indicated that he reviewed what was proposed; and he personally feels it is not needed at this time and any concerns could be addressed by the Superintendent if a need arises. Attorney Barbin stated that he agreed with Mr. Yetsko. The Board agreed to table this matter for the current time.

XI. FORESTER'S REPORT

Mr. Barton stated that he was unaware of the problem at the Benscreek reservoir until he was contacted by Mr. Cadwallader. He would like to take part of a day and look at the area that was discussed by the ATV group. Mr. Barton is assuming that there was an old logging road that was used in close proximity to the proposed area discussed by the ATV group; and he is assuming that the mud problem came from that area. Mr. Barton noted that the concerns did not come from upstream or either branch of the stream. However, Mr. Barton pointed out, if the concerns are coming from the streams, we did have \$10,000 in work done on the trails by Mr. Raptosh about four years ago. As it relates to the conversation earlier in the meeting, Mr. Barton pointed out that, if the ATV group wants to help the Authority, it is Mr. Barton's opinion that we should bring them on board with the three trails they are proposing to use. He can then walk the trails they are proposing and see what is involved. If the ATV group is willing to provide the funding and equipment to clean up the trails they are proposing, Mr. Barton indicated, we perhaps should listen to what they have to offer as what they are proposing is far removed at the upper end of the water shed below the Sportsman's Club. The one trail they are proposing goes from the Cooney strip cut to the top of the Herman property; and it would involve one stream crossing and three spring crossings. Mr. Barton stated that it would probably take the group at least six months to clean up the proposed area. He pointed out that if we have a problem just because we eliminated four-wheeler traffic in the area, this does not mean the problem is just going to go away; and it could get worse with time if we do not take corrective action and corrective action could be very expensive in terms of time and materials. The Authority could have a really big problem on its hands that the ATV group can help with. Attorney Barbin indicated that we could have an agreement with the group, only when the route is cleaned up, that could be terminable at any time; and he is sure that the Game Commission would allow you to exempt a certain trail. Mr. Barton commented that the other two trails the group is proposing do not involve any water crossings whatsoever as they are very far removed from the watershed; and these were trails we were going to allow Blue Knob to use anyway because it does not impact our water.

Mr. Barton indicated that he will be receiving more posters tomorrow and will be posting them, with everything completed by the end of next week. Mr. Mark Castel questioned if it is posted as a safety zone around the plant, to which Mr. Barton replied negatively. Mr. Barton noted that, representing the Authority, he would walk the trails being proposed by the ATV group to see what is involved. Attorney Barbin commented that the Board should give Mr. Barton authority to talk with the group on its behalf as it is always good to talk with the public. Mr. Barton indicated that he could then come back to the Board with his recommendations. The Board agreed that Mr. Barton is authorized to speak to the ATV group on the Authority's behalf. He will then bring back to the Board a map of the proposed trails and his recommendations. Discussion ensued relative to what would be done in the future if the ATV group requested more trails in the area, to which Attorney Barbin replied that we need to listen to what the group is proposing; and at a proper time, the Board would need to determine the appropriateness of granting the request. Mr. Kinley pointed out that any work that would be done on the property would need to adhere to DEP standards.

Mr. Barton commented that there was an article in the Mainliner recently relative to clear cutting affecting the water in the watershed. Unless it crosses 164 and into the Benscreek uphill, Mr. Barton explained, this will be below the watershed and probably will not be affecting us. Mr. Barton pointed out that there has been no clear cutting on the watershed since he has been the Forester. The cutting that was done on the Cooney section is all below the Benscreek intake. Mr. Barton went back over the trails and made sure they were retired before the Authority purchased the property.

Mr. Barton stated that he has been asked by Mr. Cadwallader to revisit and remark the boundary lines; and he will be remarking the property again in blue to distinguish the Water Authority property.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business to be presented

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Budget Meeting

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Adjustment Requests

Mr. Cadwallader presented a request for adjustment received from the resident at 508 Mountain Avenue wherein a filling inside the pit burst. Amount billed, \$279.86; average bill, \$25.46; subtotal, \$254.40; less 50%, \$127.20; amount due, \$152.66; consumption, 28,500 gallons; average consumption, 1,500 gallons.

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. KINLEY, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE ABOVE REQUEST FOR ADJUSTMENT AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

- Request from Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission

Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that a letter was received from the Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission (PAJRC) requesting that the same consideration be given to PAJRC for 2020 relative to water usage at the Park. In the past, the Authority agreed to a cap of 500,000 gallons; and if PAJRC would exceed that cap, usage would be paid at the normal rate charged to other residents. Mr. Cadwallader noted that PAJRC did submit their current budget as well as the proposed budget for 2020.

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE PORTAGE AREA JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION FOR WATER USAGE FOR 2020 AT THE PARK AT A CAP OF 500,000 GALLONS, WITH ANY USAGE OVER THAT AMOUNT TO BE PAID AT THE NORMAL RATE CHARGED TO OTHER RESIDENTS. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:15 P.M. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KINLEY AND MR. YETSKO.

XVI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Squillario".

Sharon Squillario
Recording Secretary