

606 Cambria St.  
Portage, PA 15946

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENTS**

Dino Scarton, Chairman  
Mark Stancovich, Vice Chairman  
John Williamson, Secretary  
John Bilchak, Vice Secretary  
Thomas Riskus, Treasurer

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Charles Gouse, Superintendent  
Joe Beyer, the EADs Group  
Toby McIlwain, Solicitor  
Amber Malzi, Recording Secretary  
Josh Nider, The EAD's Group  
Steve Sewalk, The EAD's Group

Visitors- Mike Smithbower

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Scarton called the Regular meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.  
  
Mark Stancovich motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to enter into executive session at 5:39 P.M. to speak about pending Litigation MOTION CARRIED 5/0  
Mark Stancovich motioned; John Williamson seconded to exit executive session at 6:24 P.M. MOTION CARRIED 5/0
- II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Jason Floyd from Mountain research attended and gave update on Well cleaning at both Treatment plants, Jason stated everything in scope of work is completed with the exception of restoration. John Crum arrived at 6:00 p.m. to observe.
- III. **PERSONS REQUESTING BE ADDED TO AGENDA** -None
- IV. COORESPONDENCE -None
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Minutes were tabled due to incomplete
- VI. **INVOICES**  
Mark Stancovich motioned; John Bilchak seconded to approve the December 2025 invoices totaling \$309,663.62. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0
- VII. **TREASURER'S REPORT**  
John Bilchak motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to approve the December 2025 Treasurers Report for \$1,170,431.75. MOTION CARRIED 5/0
- VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT PROVIDED BY CHARLES GOUSE**
  1. **Leaks** – 2 leaks reported at the meeting. 3 Meter pits installed for sale or transfer.
  2. **Plants** – Chairman Scarton requested the plant operators provide a report for next month.
  3. **Administrative** –
    - Possible discounts for customers – Board suggest do more research into what other Authorities are doing.
    - HSWA installed the tap for Rosebud on 01/13/2026 vault is installed MABP has taken over their account. Rosebud was told me need to know in advance before any large withdrawals are taken from the 4" line.
1. **ENGINEER'S REPORT PROVIDED BY JOE BEYER**
  1. **Emergency Action Plan** (EAP) (no update)
  2. **Notice of Violations:** Next date for issuing another notice shall be no later than March 2, 2026 (every 3 months)  
**2a New Plant(s) COA**
  3. **Waterline and Water Meter Replacement Project**

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- Permits submitted
  - PennVEST closing January 23, 2026. After reorganization, it will determine who from the board will need to be in attendance
  - Pre-Construction meeting scheduled for 1/26/26 at 1pm
  - Continental plans on starting 1<sup>st</sup> week of February along Johnson Ave.
  - Notice to Proceed for 2/2/26
  - Proposal to open cut thru arch instead of boring. Verify with Railroad and PADOT to see if acceptable
    - Board decided to not go through with this way would delay completion.
- 4. **BAMR Waterline Project** (no update)
  - Application was submitted 8/25/2023 for the AML/AMD Grant Program, was not selected for funding.
  - Michael Haney sent email 10/1/2024 – is going to provide some dates to meet about this again.
- 5. **Well Drilling in Martindale**(no update)
- 6. **Inter connection with HSWA** – (no update)
- 7. **COA** signed 7/1/2025
- 8. **Well Cleaning and Pump Replacement (MT Research)**
  - a. Benscreek step test completed, 72 hour test (wrap up Thursday afternoon)
  - b. Martindale – the 72 hour test completed (Martindale well pump is too small)
  - c. DEP notified of well rehabilitation completeness on 12/18/25. Met CO&A deadline of 12/31/2025
  - d. Mountain Research can provide additional information if/when needed
- 9. **Martindale Plant/Tank Site (future)** (no update)
- 10. **Get the Lead Out Initiative** (on going, by EPA)
- 11. **SOP for reservoir use at Martindale** will prepare
- IX. **KSA REPORT PROVIDED BY TRAVIS HUTZELL** we were awarded LSA Grant for the Maintenance Equipment for \$178,389.00 and LSA Grant for Fire Hydrant Stortz fittings for \$39,365.00
- X. **SOLICITOR REPORT PROVIDED BY ATTY TOBY MCILWAIN**
- XI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

John Bilchak motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to approve Southern Corrosion Maintenance for Munster Road Tank at cost of \$19,677.00. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0
- XII. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mark Stancovich motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to approve HRI Change Order #1. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

Mark Stancovich motioned; John Williamson seconded to approve Darr Construction Change Order #1 MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

Thomas Riskus motioned; Mark Stancovich seconded to approve Toy Drilling Change Order #2 MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

John Bilchak motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to approve Resolution 2026-01 Waterline Project Reimbursement MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

Waterline & Meter Replacement Project – Notice to Proceed moved to Agenda for next week. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

Thomas Riskus motioned; John Bilchak seconded to approve and sign the Letter of Equity for USDA MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

Mark Stancovich motioned; John Willimason seconded to Advertise in Tribune Democrat and schedule for a Special Meeting for Friday 01/23/26 MOTION CARRIED: 5/0
- XIII. **ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE MONTH-**

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Mark Stancovich motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to approve adjustments for Sharon Mahan, Martin Parrukl, Mark Klemen MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mark Stancovich motioned; Thomas Riskus seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 P.M.  
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

Respectfully Submitted,  
Charles Gouse