

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Portage was held on Thursday, March 2, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room at 606 Cambria Street.

Those in attendance were:

Dave Miorelli, Chairman  
Craig Castel  
Mark Castel  
John Gartland  
Jerome Yetsko

Also present were: Ron Cadwallader, Supervisor; Attorney William Barbin, Solicitor; Joe Beyer, The EADS Group; Mike Barton, Forester; Ron Portash, Mainline Newspapers; representatives from Blue Knob Fire Company; and Jim Cordwell, President, Jamestown Rod & Gun.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Miorelli, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

### **II. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Miorelli noted that the following correspondence was received:

- Announcement of PMAA Board member training; any interested Board member should contact Mr. Cadwallader.
- PMAA Spring Management workshops to be held in Hershey and Nemaocolin; any interested Board member should contact Mr. Cadwallader.

Mr. Yetsko questioned if Mr. Cadwallader attended PMAA classes this past month, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that he did not attend. However, there were four employees that did attend classes in Altoona recently.

### **III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Miorelli 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 expressed his commendations to the employees relative to the recent pipe project. The project went very smoothly due to their efforts. Mr. Cadwallader commented that there was a concern with a piece of conduit; however, it was addressed. Mr. Miorelli indicated that a commendation should be made to the plant workers, the field workers, the office staff, and everyone that was involved in this project. He noted that there were no glitches in the project; and the contractor was superb. Mr. Miorelli shared pictures of what the old line looked like. He indicated that the plant operators were vigilant relative to this matter. There was a piece of pipe put in a few years back; and it was over an electrical panel. The plant operators recognized that this was a safety concern and should be addressed. Mr. Miorelli emphasized that the employees did a fantastic job.

Mr. Cadwallader presented to the Board a change order for the pipe project. When the contractor placed one of the gaskets, it was bad and was leaking. As Mr. Cadwallader had the needed gasket available, he provided it to the contractor. The change order would be for the amount of \$404.68.

Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that he received a call from the State permit office (Mr. Theys) relative to the Mountain Avenue project. The permits on the Mountain Avenue project are ready to expire; and Mr. Cadwallader questioned the Board relative to renewing the permits. He indicated that there is no cost to renew the permits. Mr. Beyer pointed out that he is awaiting a return call from Mr. Custer relative to this project. Attorney Barbin questioned what the concern is, to which Mr. Beyer replied that the Authority sent out the income survey to the residents on Mountain Avenue. The results of the survey showed that the Authority would be eligible for a grant based on the income reported. Mr. Beyer did send the information to Mr. Custer and has not received a response to date. Attorney Barbin questioned if we want to find out if the income surveys are acceptable to make the Authority eligible for the grant, to which Mr. Beyer replied affirmatively. Mr. Cadwallader noted that, from what has been reported in the income survey, we would meet the criteria. Attorney Barbin questioned if another request of Mr. Custer would be if the grant monies are still available, to which Mr. Beyer replied affirmatively. Mr. Beyer noted that, previously, Mr. Custer had stated that there was \$190,000 available for the project. Mr. Cadwallader indicated that there was also a 20% administration fee. Mr. Yetsko questioned if this would be the entire area of Mountain Avenue, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the available grant monies would complete the project to approximately Porinchak's Store. Attorney Barbin questioned if the project is all designed and permitted, to which Mr. Beyer replied affirmatively. Attorney Barbin stated that he would contact Mr. Custer directly for a status on the availability of the grant money. Mr. Cadwallader also noted that he would extend the permits until we hear something from Mr. Custer.

As it relates to the old pipe yard, Mr. Cadwallader reported that the old yard has been cleaned out and turned over to the Ambulance Association. All items that were in the old pipe yard are now being stored behind the Township building. As it relates to the new pipe yard, Mr. Cadwallader commented that, as time and the weather permits, the staff is removing trees off of the property and burning the brush. As the work is being done, he has alerted the Township and the Fire Department. Mr. Cadwallader noted that in about another week, all of the trees should be removed from the property.

Mr. Yetsko questioned the status of the Hough piece of property, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that he has not received any information. He will have to contact the Court House to see if the Hough's submitted the plans for the subdivision. Once this is done, the deed can be completed.

Concerning the pipe yard, Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that there is a ditch that runs through the property. He requested of the Board the purchase of 300 feet of 12" storm drain pipe to install in the ditch in order to pipe it to the creek. In this way, there will be no open ditch and the property will be level. Mr. Cadwallader stated that he reviewed the area with the Township and what the recommended plan was; and the Township has no problem with it. Mr. Yetsko questioned the cost of the pipe, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the total cost would be \$2,040 for the pipe. Mr. Yetsko questioned where the cost of the pipe will be taken from in the budget, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that it would be account #477, Maintenance of Mains and Services. He noted that the cost of the pipe is \$136 for a 20 foot stick, for a total of \$2,040. Mr. Castel questioned what the pipe will then be covered with, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the entire ditch would be soiled once the pipe is installed. Mr. Cadwallader commented that all of this work would be done in-house.

As it relates to the work on Upper Road, Mr. Miorelli commented that when he went up to the plant, it was all ice. There is a puddle of water that he saw, and he thought that a line broke. When he questioned the staff, he was told that the water is always laying in this area. The

water is coming off of the hill and laying in that area. Mr. Cadwallader commented that he is aware of this.

Mr. Cadwallader stated that, when the budget was being discussed, we talked about cleaning the well in Benscreek. He commented that he had DEP come in to show DEP what the well is actually doing. What is happening, Mr. Cadwallader explained, is that we are getting particles of iron coming off of the well head. It is oxidizing and creating the flock particles with the air that is coming down through. Originally, Mr. Cadwallader had looked at sequestering it with a sequestering agent; however, it is already oxidized so there is no sense in doing that. Mr. Cadwallader noted that DEP brought their well specialist in; and they have suggested that we have our geologist, Castleberry & Associates, do a videotape of what is happening. Mr. Cadwallader explained that one part of the project to clean the well was to replace the pipe with plastic pipe instead of the current galvanized pipe. Castleberry will pull all of this out, run the camera through, and videotape what is happening. In talking with Castleberry, they believe that there is a water bearing zone possibly below the casing shoes that may be rusted and creating the iron. They also believe there may be a water bearing zone down below that is leaving a little bit of iron in. Castleberry believes that it is fixable; however, they need to see where it is at. Castleberry will run the camera and pump each level down to the bearing zone to see where the iron is coming from. They can put a liner down through the casing with a balloon that inflates where they can seal it so nothing can come through, which would address the iron problem we are having. Mr. Miorelli questioned if we would be eliminating the galvanized pipe, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively.

Mr. Cadwallader reminded the Board that we had provided \$20,000 in the budget for the cleaning of the well and the pipe. He explained that Eichelberger and Somerset Well Drilling are the same company. The first quote he obtained was from Eichelberger's in Mechanicsburg; and the most recent was from Somerset Well Drilling. Basically, for Castleberry to come in and camera everything and to pull out the pipe and replace it, the total cost would be \$7,927.78. Attorney Barbin questioned if the cost of the liner would be additional, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Mr. Cadwallader explained that the \$7,927.78 quote would be Mr. Castleberry doing his services, writing up a report, and then installing the new pipe. Mr. Cadwallader noted that the new pipe would be sure-lock pipe which is a very durable plastic pipe and is connected with a rubber gasket. Mr. Craig Castel questioned if a quote was received from PM Supply for the pipe itself, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that he received a quote from LB Water and it is very compatible. Mr. Yetsko questioned if Mr. Cadwallader spoke with the plant operators relative to this project, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that Mr. Castleberry has not talked with the plant operators as yet; however, the plant operators were present when DEP was at the plant, and everyone was in agreement on what should be done. Mr. Miorelli questioned what we will draw off of until the project is completed, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that we can work around the weather; and, as long as it is not raining, we should be alright.

Attorney Barbin questioned if the proposal is ready to be approved by the Board, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Mr. Cadwallader explained that, with the cleaning of the wells as we had thought and the Coyote we wanted to use, we would have had to pump all of the water out into tanks, add soda ash to it because of the pH, wait until it was stable, and then put it into the lagoons and go from there. With the Coyote, you had to do this every year with the cleaning of the well. Therefore, Mr. Cadwallader, having DEP involved and their input really helped us out. Mr. Miorelli questioned, if the pH was the problem, what is the normal pH, to which Mr. Cadwallader that normal pH is between 6.2 and 6.5 coming in. Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that the biggest problem we are having is with the iron. As it is coming down the plastic pipe, there is nothing for it to cling to. When the generator kicks on on Monday, for a

brief period of time before it cycles itself, you get a blast of orange coming in from the iron that is present. Mr. Cadwallader stated that we then have to shut the plant down and let that water go to waste until it clears up and then bring it back in.

ON MOTION OF MR. MARK CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM SOMERSET WELL DRILLING AS DISCUSSED ABOVE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,927.78. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that we have been receiving some dirty water complaints from customers in Benscreek. We have brand new plastic mains with the exception of the old 6" and 4" pipes which are cast iron that are still in service. Mr. Cadwallader indicated that he and the plant operators discussed these concerns before DEP came in and then talked with DEP when they were visiting. Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that what we are looking at doing is to add a zinc orthophosphate as a corrosive inhibitor on that side. This is the same thing that was done on the Martindale side to battle the dirty water complaints that were being received. When this was done on the Martindale side, it did address the concerns. Mr. Cadwallader noted that DEP is in agreement with this plan of action. If the Board is in agreement, Mr. Cadwallader stated, we have everything that is needed on our side to put this in; however, we would just need the Engineer to file for the permit to add the chemical. The cost of the permit would be \$750. Mr. Cadwallader noted that he does have the pump and the chemical at Martindale; and once the permit is received, the project can move forward.

ON MOTION OF MR. MARK CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. CRAIG CASTEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED MOVING FORWARD WITH THE PLAN OF ACTION AS DESCRIBED ABOVE TO ADDRESS THE DIRTY WATER COMPLAINTS AND TO HAVE THE ENGINEER FILE FOR THE PERMIT, THE COST OF WHICH WOULD BE \$750. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

Mr. Cadwallader pointed out to the Board that a quote was received from Heritage Environmental at the time the budget was being prepared for the chlorine equipment for the Martindale plant (the chlorine throat that creates the vacuum for the rotometer to pull the gas off of the tank). The original quote from Heritage totaled \$3,540; however, Heritage has indicated that there has been a price increase. The total quote now is for \$4,250, an increase of \$710, because of the price going up on pieces and parts. Mr. Miorelli questioned if there is another vendor we can contact, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the plant operators can contact Capital Controls that we used previously and Mr. Cadwallader can bring the information back to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Miorelli questioned if Heritage is also bringing the chlorine itself, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied negatively, stating that the chemicals come from Univar. Mr. Yetsko questioned if Heritage stated why there was a price increase, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that the price went up from Heritage's distributors so he had to increase as well. Mr. Miorelli questioned if this equipment is isolated in its own room, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied affirmatively. Mr. Miorelli commented that no employees should be in this area alone working, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that they are not as this was a rule that was established some time ago.

Mr. Cadwallader reminded the Board that, as discussed at the last meeting, the EPA has selected the Authority for testing of unregulated contaminants. By July, we will have to have a

plan set up for the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule. Mr. Cadwallader commented that we are currently below the 10,000 limit, so this is why we were picked for this. We will have to test for the next year, starting in October, twice a month (beginning of the month and middle of the month). Mr. Cadwallader noted that the cost of the testing will be \$120 per month through October; and this is State mandated. Mr. Cadwallader commented that we did a similar testing in 2008; and we fell below the bin qualifiers. We are now into the second round. Mr. Miorelli questioned where the samples are drawn from, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that they are drawn from the reservoir. Mr. Miorelli questioned what will be done if the turbidity is high, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that he would then contact DEP and question if the samples should be pulled or not.

As it relates to the change order for the pipe project as discussed earlier in the meeting, the following action was taken:

ON MOTION OF MR. MARK CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE CHANGE ORDER FOR THE PIPE PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$404.68. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

#### **IV. FORESTER'S REPORT**

As it relates to the roads that were closed off above the reservoir, Mr. Barton stated that he revisited the trails since they have been posted and closed to four-wheel traffic. Since the word has gotten out, the four-wheel traffic has been obeying the signs and no one has breached the roads we closed off. Mr. Miorelli questioned if these are Federal signs, to which Mr. Barton replied that these are the signs that the Game Commission has given him. He has requested Federal signs and will post them when received. Mr. Miorelli commented that he has heard that they are putting DUI checkpoints on the various trails which could result in a \$4,000 fine and the loss of the driver's license.

#### **V. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Mr. Miorelli recognized Mr. Portash, Mainline Newspapers. He also recognized the representatives from Blue Knob Fire Company and Mr. Cordwell.

The representatives from Blue Knob Fire Company noted that they were present at this evening's meeting to express their appreciation to the Authority for everything the Authority has done for the Fire Company. The representatives noted that they will have the remainder of the work done soon, weather permitting; and then they would like to see if the Authority had any other questions or concerns that would impede the Fire Company from continuing on. Mr. Barton stated that essentially the Fire Company removed the main trails of concern out of the run, so this took away a lot of the concerns. Where the run is being held now, he commented, will not be a problem. Mr. Barton pointed out that the only thing he would offer is that it is stated in the agreement between the Authority and the Fire Company that the Fire Company clean up the area within 30 days following any run, weather permitting. The representatives questioned if they repaired trails that they have not ridden on, to which Mr. Barton replied that there is a section of a trail that the Authority asked Mr. Chappell to do that the Authority would pay for, which was about 2,500 feet; however, Mr. Chappell has not completed this trail as yet. Mr. Barton commented that he has walked and flagged everything personally; and it is his understanding that every trail that he has flagged and walked the Fire Company has ridden on during one of their runs in the past and it has not been cleaned up. If there is an area in

question, Mr. Barton indicated, he can certainly look at it. There are some areas that look like they have been heavily ridden more than the regular trails have been.

Mr. Barton commented that there are some areas that were painted before where the paint is still present. The representatives from Blue Knob pointed out that at no point in time had they ever used paint, so this must have been someone else that was using the trails. They noted that this has never been their process to use paint at any of the runs. Mr. Miorelli commented that Blue Knob has to realize that, after their runs, County Line Road is marked differently now. From Piper Lane to Route 164 on the right hand side, it is all torn up; and it was marked differently. Mr. Miorelli pointed out that he is not saying this was Blue Knob; however, what he is saying is that, if someone participates in a run that Blue Knob has, that individual may be under the impression that they can come to the trails anytime and go where they want. He pointed out that this is not the way it works.

The representatives from Blue Knob noted that they were just requesting a clarification. Attorney Barbin pointed out that there is a section that the Authority intends to pay for. The representatives commented that if the Authority had a load of stone delivered, they did not want to be obligated to that. Mr. Barton commented that the Authority did pay for two loads of stone for an area Blue Knob used because the Authority wanted more of an overdressing. He emphasized that, on the Authority's part, we are only looking to protect the water resources. Blue Knob basically had 10 years' worth of runs that no one cleaned up after; and the agreement was clear that Blue Knob had 30 days following a run to do the cleanup. The representatives from Blue Knob noted that they would complete the current cleanup and then would come back to the Board at the next meeting to ensure it meets with the Authority's approval. Attorney Barbin pointed out that, as long as it meets with Mr. Barton's approval, this would be sufficient for the Board as well. Mr. Barton stated that Blue Knob can call him at any time and he will make himself available. Mr. Yetsko questioned if Mr. Barton's time is to be paid by Blue Knob as noted in the agreement, to which Mr. Barton replied affirmatively stating that, until this year, he has never sent a bill to Blue Knob for his services.

The representatives from Blue Knob departed from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Cordwell commented that, in listening to the discussion, Jamestown Rod & Gun has four-wheel runs also. Mr. Cadwallader commented that the Authority has never had any concerns with the runs conducted by Jamestown Rod & Gun. Mr. Cordwell stated that, if the Authority every needs assistance in repairing anything on the trails that the Rod & Gun Club uses, he should be contacted directly and he can get assistance from those that use the trails. Attorney Barbin emphasized that the key is cleaning up after every run.

## **VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2017 MINUTES BEING THAT THEY WERE DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

## **VII. AGENT'S EXPENDITURES**

No Agent's expenditures to be presented.

**VIII. INVOICES**

Battery Warehouse	\$ 190.00
Borough of Portage	321.45
Cintas	46.05
CMPA	1,000.00
Commonwealth of PA – Unclaimed Property	602.04
Craig Castel	50.00
FWF Insurance Agency, Inc.	2,195.00
Groff Tractor & Equipment	1,449.26
Hach	2,284.66
Hesel Excavating	400.00
Hite Company	68.11
J&J Truck Equipment	137.99
John Gartland	50.00
KirCon-Breco Service LLC	27,244.68
Link Computer Corporation	144.38
Mark Castel	50.00
Mary L Elchin	144.00
Mountain Research, LLC	214.50
Portage Area Sewer Authority	127.86
Portage Auto Parts	82.09
Portage Post office	147.00
Portage Service Center	1,113.73
Ray's Tires	225.00
Ray Oil & Gas Co	3,943.19
RDM – Johnstown	170.00
Ronald J Cadwallader, Jr	20.00
Sharon Squillario	50.00
Stager's Store	97.56
Verizon Wireless	150.64
26 Consumer Deposits	1,788.24
	<u>\$44,507.43</u>

**Paid Bills**

Long Barn Inc. II	\$ 45.20
PA Once Call System, Inc.	20.32
Visa – 1 <sup>st</sup> Summit	138.15
Water System Solutions, Inc.	136.00
Penelec	1,513.63
Adam Patz	100.00
Aflac	226.22
Comcast	292.79
Highmark Blue Shield	7,942.03
Peoples Natural Gas Company	305.98
REA Energy Cooperative Inc.	1,385.05
Terry Moyer	100.00
Pro Disposal, Inc.	142.00
Sheetz Fleet Service	273.29
Verizon	446.94
	<u>\$13,067.60</u>

ON MOTION OF MR. GARTLAND, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO ACCEPT AND PAY INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,030.94 (REGULAR BILLS, \$44,507.43; PAID BILLS, \$13,067.60; PennVEST, \$3,896.36 AND \$5,508.55; USDA, \$16,051.00). BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

**IX. TREASURER'S REPORT**

ON MOTION OF MR. CRAIG CASTEL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE FEBRUARY 2017 TREASURER'S REPORT AS IT WAS PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE REPORT WITH A BALANCE OF: BEGINNING CASH, \$1,464,201.13; CASH IN, \$223,201.35; CASH OUT, (\$232,547.68); ADJUSTMENT, \$0.00; ENDING CASH, \$1,454,854.80. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

**X. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Beyer commented that a copy of the Engineer's Report was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

As it relates to the Mountain Avenue project, Mr. Beyer stated that this was discussed earlier in the meeting. Attorney Barbin will be contacting Mr. Custer; and Mr. Beyer will also make another inquiry of Mr. Custer as well.

As it relates to the Benscreek treatment plant as discussed by Mr. Cadwallader earlier in the meeting, Mr. Beyer noted that he will obtain the necessary pricing next week.

Mr. Beyer commented that he will await the Board's recommendation on a date and time for a workshop relative to the long range plan. As it relates to the long range plan, Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that he met with the employees from the plant and distribution concerning what they would like to see included in the long range plan. Mr. Cadwallader prioritized what the employees shared with him; and this can be shared with the Board when the workshop is scheduled.

Mr. Miorelli again commended the plant workers on the recent pipe project. He noted that the employees recognized a concern and brought attention to it so that it could be addressed. Mr. Miorelli emphasized that this could have been a major concern and could have been a major expense for the Authority. He noted that the public does not see this end of what the employees are doing; and the same is true with the field employees. He commended all of the employees for a job well done.

**XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Miorelli commented that Attorney Barbin submitted his report prior to the meeting; and he questioned if any Board member had any questions on the report.

Attorney Barbin stated that there are two pending real estate transactions. One is the Hough property; and the deed can be completed once the subdivision is recorded. The second



outstanding real estate transaction is the offer made by Highland Sewer and Water as discussed at the last meeting. Attorney Barbin noted that, as Highland is the owner of the property, they will need to prepare the deed; and then the Authority would need to pay to have the deed recorded. Attorney Barbin has requested a status of the preparation of the deed but has not received a response.

## **XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Employee Issues

Mr. Cadwallader noted that he met with all of the employees and there were no matters brought forth.

Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that he did discuss with the employees the matters relating to the pension plan. Mr. Miorelli explained to Attorney Barbin that, at the time of budget discussions, the Board agreed to a 2% raise for the employees; and the Board agreed to budget an additional 1% for the Authority to increase its contribution to the pension plan. Mr. Miorelli pointed out, however, the Board was told that, if it contributed an additional 1%, it would not go directly to the employees but would go into a pool to be used for employees that have already retired. Since this time, Mr. Miorelli explained, discussions have taken place with the pension manager; and he informed us that the 1% would go directly toward each employees' interests. Therefore, Mr. Miorelli noted, what the Authority has offered to the employees is that, if every employee would agree to match the 1%, the Authority would be willing to contribute the additional 1% into the pension plan. Attorney Barbin stated that he would see nothing wrong with this plan.

In addition, Mr. Miorelli explained that what is taking place currently is that the pension deductions are being taken after taxes; and what the pension manager would like to do is that these contributions be taken pre-tax. In this way, for every \$10.00, it would cost the employee roughly \$6.66. Attorney Barbin pointed out that PMRS is a very trustworthy organization; therefore, if this is what PMRS is recommending, he would feel comfortable with it as well. Mr. Cadwallader stated that one additional change would be the option for an employee to pull the monies at the time of retirement in one lump sum, which would need added to our current plan. Mr. Cadwallader commented that, at the time the plan was put in place, this was not an option. He noted that the Sewer Authority employees do have this option in their plan.

Attorney Barbin noted that the Board would need to take action to proceed with the 1% matching funds for the employees and to amend the pension plan to provide for the withdrawal of employee contributions as a lump sum at the time of retirement. Mr. Miorelli pointed out that, the only way that the Board would agree to the 1% additional contribution is that if all employees agree to contribute the 1% individually as well, to which Mr. Cadwallader replied that all of the employees are in agreement. Attorney Barbin indicated that the Board action would then be that all contributions to the pension plan are made with pre-tax dollars, the Authority will match up to a 1% contribution as long as all employees are making a 1% contribution, and amending the pension plan to permit lump sum withdrawal of the employee's contribution at the time of retirement. Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that, at the current time, the employees are contributing 3% to the pension plan so the motion should read the addition of the 1% for a total of a 4% contribution by the employees. Attorney Barbin questioned what the Authority's current contribution is, to which Mr. Miorelli replied that it is currently 3%; however, this does fluctuate with the market.

Attorney Barbin commented that, due to the complexity, perhaps the pension manager should provide a Resolution to the Board to include all of the changes discussed to be presented to the Board for approval. We want to be specific with the language so that there are no concerns. Attorney Barbin asked that Mr. Cadwallader contact the pension manager to prepare the Resolution to be presented to the Board for approval.

Mr. Miorelli noted that he would like Mr. Cadwallader to obtain some information for the Board to review. He explained that averages run between 2% - 3% for raises for most employees. As an example, he asked Mr. Cadwallader to consider a 2% raise. For the next budget, figure out what it would cost for a 2% raise for all nine employees. Then, take that sum, and see what it would do to expand the multiplier. Basically, Mr. Miorelli noted, consider an employee giving up their pay raise to expand the multiplier for the next budget. Mr. Miorelli noted that, with a 2% raise, sometimes in two months you do not even realize that you received it because the monies were spent. In this way, these monies could be rolled into the employee's pension plan; and the employees deserve a pension plan the same as any other employee that is working. Attorney Barbin questioned if this is to be considered now, to which Mr. Miorelli replied negatively stating that this would be considered when the Board is discussing the budget for next year; however, any action taken would need to be in full agreement of all employees. Mr. Castel commented that the 1% was the only item discussed during budget preparation for this year.

- Blue Knob Poker Run

Discussed earlier in the meeting

- Small Water Systems Grant

This matter was tabled.

- Retirement Plan for Employees

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

### **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- Martindale Dam Safety Inspection

Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that everything is fine with the dam. The only recommendations received via the inspection were to keep addressing the cat o'nine tails on the edges of the dam, the grass on the spillway, and the proactive actions relative to the spillway and the cracks.

- Benscreek Well

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

- Benscreek AWOP Award

Mr. Cadwallader apprised the Board that the Benscreek Plant will be receiving an AWOP award for keeping the turbidity under a 1. The award is presented by DEP at the PA Rural Water meeting in State College; and the Authority has received the award for the last 15 years. Mr. Cadwallader noted that they would like someone from the Authority to attend the conference in State College to accept the award, to which Mark Castel interjected that it may be beneficial for one

of the Authority employees to attend to accept the award. Mr. Cadwallader agreed, noting that the employees can also obtain contact hours for attending the conference as well.

- CareerLink

Mr. Cadwallader informed the Board that he received a call from CareerLink indicating that they will be holding a job fair at the school on March 15 and would like someone from the Authority to attend. Mr. Cadwallader commented that, as long as there is nothing pending, he will attend to explain that there are jobs available for water operators in the field and in the water treatment plants.

#### **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:50 P.M. TO DISCUSS WAGES FOR MARY ELCHIN. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

#### **XV. RECONVENING INTO REGULAR SESSION**

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. CRAIG CASTEL, THE BOARD RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION AT 7:58 P.M. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

As a result of the Executive Session, the following action was taken:

ON MOTION OF MR. GARTLAND, SECONDED BY MR. MARK CASTEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO INCREASE THE WEEKLY WAGES FOR MARY ELCHIN TO \$65.00 PER WEEK. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

#### **XVI. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Computer System

Discussion ensued at this time relative to hacking of the Authority's computer system. Mr. Mark Castel mentioned this matter as a result of a recent hacking at his place of employment. Mr. Cadwallader pointed out that there should be no concerns relative to the Authority's computer systems.

- Danny's Metal Scrap Money

Mr. Cadwallader commented that there was an additional \$102.60 scrap metal that was taken down, so the total would be \$2,493.60. Mr. Yetzko noted that the Board had agreed at a previous meeting that all scrap metal monies would be placed into the Market Money Account.

- Return of Consumer Deposits/Unclaimed Money

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. MARK CASTEL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RETURN OF CONSUMER DEPOSITS/UNCLAIMED MONEY TO THE STATE AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

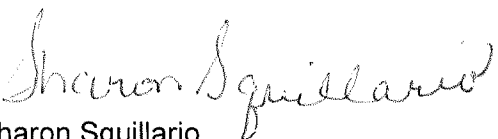
**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:06 P.M. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MIORELLI, MR. CRAIG CASTEL, MR. MARK CASTEL, MR. GARTLAND, AND MR. YETSKO.

**XVIII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon Squillario  
Recording Secretary