

BCWSA



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 15, 2025

PRESENT: John Cordisco, Bryan Allen, Michael Schwartz; Raymond Richardson and Michael Fehrle
Benjamin W. Jones, CEO; Jason Hillaert, CFO; Scott Holbert, Esquire; Russell Dunlevy, P.E.; Steven Hartman, P.E.; Joe Pezzino, IT Admin and Sarah Schaffer, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER:

The BCWSA's Vice Chairman, Bryan Allen, called the Regular Meeting of the BCWSA to order at 10:00 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Those present pledged allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion that unanimously approved the Minutes of the BCWSA Regular Board Meeting held on December 18, 2024. (Minutes are attached to the Minute Book)

REPORT OF THE CEO: Benjamin W. Jones

-Bid Award/ Municibid Results-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously awarding the sale of seven (7) used vehicles/equipment to the highest responsive bidders through the Municibid government auctions. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and bid tabulation is attached to the Minute Book)



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-Water & Wastewater Treatment Chemicals 2025-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously awarding the Water & Wastewater Treatment Chemical Contract to the multiple vendors based on the chemical and the lowest line-item cost, as outlined on the bid tabulation. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and bid tabulation is attached to the Minute Book)

-Sewer Service Agreement; Bensalem Township-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving the Sewer Service Agreement between BCWSA and MMAC PIX2 BENSALEM PA SPE, LLC for the proposed conversion of an old school annex building into a four (4) unit commercial office space requiring the purchase of six (6) EDUs (4 new, 2 existing) in Bensalem Township. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and agreement are attached to the Minute Book)

-Sewer Service Agreement; Richland Township-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving the Sewer Service Agreement between BCWSA and Olympus Pines, LLC for the proposed construction of a car wash requiring twenty (20) EDUs (3 existing, 17 new) in Richland Township. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and agreement are attached to the Minute Book)

-Reservation of Capacity; Bensalem Township-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving ROC between BCWSA and IMC Properties, LLC associated with the proposed construction of a religious institution requiring the purchase of six (6) EDUs (4 new, 2 existing) in Bensalem Township. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and agreement are attached to the Minute Book)

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Gilmore & Associates

Russel Dunlevy, P.E., reviewed the Engineers Report dated 01/15/25 with the Board of Directors.

**1. Upper Dublin Diversion Force Main; BCWSA Contract UDT-14-FM
Application for Payment No. 1**

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving Application for Payment No.1 to Joao & Bradley Construction Co. for work on the referenced sanitary sewer force main installation project in Upper Dublin Township as recommended by the Engineer.



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Consulting Engineer's Report

Steven Hartman, P.E., had no Consulting Engineers Report to review with the Board of Directors.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Scott Holbert, Esquire

Mr. Holbert stated that the Board of Directors met in Executive Session prior to the start of the Board Meeting where two items of litigation were discussed; one of the items is on the Agenda for action, which is the McCluskey Settlement Agreement.

-Re-Purchase Agreement; Doylestown Borough-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving request for a refund of \$22,000 associated with the Tapping Fees for a Reservation of Capacity Agreement between BCWSA and Roscommon Tract, LLC that required the purchase of three (3) EDUs in Doylestown Borough. (memo from BWJ dated 01/15/25 and agreement are attached to the Minute Book)

-Settlement Agreement-

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion unanimously approving the Settlement Agreement between Margaret McCluskey and BCWSA in the amount of \$5,000. (agreement is attached to the Minute Book)

CFO's REPORT: Jason Hillaert, CFO

-Bills for Payment-

Jason Hillaert, CFO, presented a List of Bills that were prepared by in-house staff, and he recommended Board approval.

Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion that unanimously approved the Bills for Payment dated 01/15/25. (List of bills is attached to the Minute Book)

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to Report

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Jones wanted to update the Board of Directors as a result of what has been transpiring in Los Angeles, California. It is a catastrophe and something that will take many years to rebuild. A lot



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of it focuses on the water department, what did or didn't happen, and some constraints on their system. He wanted to acknowledge what the Board of Directors have done, and where they are today regarding fire protection, so they are aware in case they are questioned, as many people have been asking.

Mr. Jones stated that in their case, they are treating wildfires, that is not something that the systems are designed to do, and in their case, they ran out of water. The hydrants had gone dry, they had taken a reservoir out of service about eleven months ago that had a cover that had some tears in it, unfortunately, that reservoir was not available when they had the fires, and the hydrants were opened. They had about three million gallons in elevated tanks to service that section of Los Angeles and not enough water capacity to put out the fires and sustain that.

Adversely, should our customers raise questions, about four years ago we purchased the rights to Lake Galena for our water reserves; from our perspective it was one of the things that was necessary to ensure we had sufficient capacity that was set aside, to the point of 1.8 billion gallons. There is also a conveyance line that runs down County Line Road that was built about twelve years ago when we left the City of Philadelphia; it is all gravity, it is not pushed by pumps. We also have that line, and it is oversized; much because of Aqua not participating in the actual project but paying for it. We have excess capacity to flush additional water into our systems and into the elevated tanks which we have about eleven million gallons, almost four times the amount that that section of Los Angeles had.

Mr. Jones stated that while we do not anticipate that kind of disaster that they have gone through and cannot imagine being out there and having to deal with that, and the loss, more than 350 billion dollars. At this point, if the Board of Directors are questioned, they have the answers and see that they have made good investments. We have made sure that those costs have been absorbed into our budget and improvements have been made over the last ten years to their system and he believes we are in good shape.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to be presented to the Board, Mr. Schwartz moved, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion that unanimously adjourned the meeting.

Mr. Allen stated he looks forward to working with the Board of Directors for another year.

02.26.25

DATE



SECRETARY

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING; February 26, 2025, at 9:30 AM



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