

## WELLSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

MARCH 18, 2011

The meeting of the Wellsboro Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman Robert DeCamp, in the Council Room of the John E. Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building on March 18, 2011. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

**ATTENDANCE:** Municipal Members: Robert DeCamp, Dennison Young, Grant Cavanaugh, Ed Owlett and Tom Reindl. Council Members: Rudy Scharf, Joan Hart, John Sticklin, Mike Wood and Terry Bryant. Superintendent of Public Works: Mark Dieffenbach, Superintendent of the Water & Sewer Plants: Dan Brought, Borough Secretary: Susan Keck, Borough Engineer: Scott Bray, Borough Solicitor: Chris Lantz, Hydro-geologist from GeoServices: Joe McNally, East/Shell Resources: Jack Showers. Water & Sewer Clerk: Teresa Marshall. Visitor Pete LeVantier.

**MINUTES:** The minutes from February 15, 2011 were approved as written. Denny Young made the motion and Tom Reindl 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed

**SCOTT BRAY:** He met with Dave Kennedy from WECO at the Keck Well to discuss extending power to the well. They would like to run the line from Dalrymple's pole to a pole that would be set at the Keck Well. WECO is now working on getting an easement from Dalrymple. He has also talked with an electrician. We have only received one bid for the pump. The bid was from Modern Pump Equipment Inc from Liverpool. The bid quote was for \$29,959.00. It also included a list of equipment. Bob DeCamp asked Scott if that price was within the realm of what he was thinking and Scott thought it was. The small building has been ordered to put over the well to protect the equipment used for the SWIP testing.

There have been no significant signs of reduction of phosphorus or copper with the use of the ferric chloride. We have met with Osram, and their consultants are having the same problem.

**TOM REINDL:** Osram has offered to coordinate a joint effort to deal with the DEP on various copper issues. We had a meeting with the Borough and our consulting engineer out of Cleveland and with an environmental lawyer we work with. We have decided to do a preliminary test called Water Effect Ratio. We take a sample of creek water upstream and ideally we would take a sample downstream at low flow from the effluent (which we can't do right now). We are doing a modified test right now that would represent the flow when it was low and this is the ratio we would be putting it in if it were low. We put the bugs in and see how much copper could be put in before the bugs die. This would determine the effective copper level we would need to stay under. We did this for our facility and are also doing it for the Borough. We got the samples today and will be sending them out overnight and we should get the results back in a couple of days. We can hopefully go back to DEP with these results and ask for an official test this summer.

Our preliminary results from Osram look promising. This would hopefully allow those of us involved to raise our copper levels two or three times higher or more. The test hopefully will allow us to raise the level of copper significantly and maybe even not have copper limits because we would be well under the limit. What we are trying to prove is that the stream can handle more copper.

SCOTT BRAY: He has been trying to arrange a meeting with East/Shell for sometime and has found out why – one of the contacts we work with has left the company. He has also found out that the railroad may be putting another set of rails in and that would impact our installing our water line along the railroad track. Alternative locations for the line to run may have to be explored. We will have to get with the railroad and see what they are actually planning.

JOE MCNALLY: During the past month, we have been working on two tasks. One is to get the testing completed at the Keck well as quickly as possible. The second task is to find other water sources in the junction area. At a DEP meeting on February 9, 2011, we also discussed plans on the SWIP testing.

On February 24, 2011, we met with the SRBC to go over the results of Moody's pump test. We also incorporated some of Larry Conrad's comments from DEP into the meeting. Results from these meetings showed that we needed to do some additional testing of the stream flow west of Pa 287 and additional monitoring of the wetlands. We do not have the specifics of what DEP wants to do for the additional testing. Perhaps we could work that in along with the SWIP test. This may push the SWIP test back a little; depends on what additional testing DEP requires.

In the meeting with the SRBC, it was discovered that the stream monitoring where a weir was put in along Route 287 for the March 2010 test, had a heavy snow melt, making this test unusable. In coordination with the SWIP testing we will obtain the data that both groups are seeking. We are looking at putting some surface water monitoring locations on the Keck property and near the railroad area. Joe contacted Mary Worthington with the scope of the monitoring locations. The SWIP monitoring logistics and plan have been sent to DEP. We may get some minor comments on it but nothing too serious.

We at GeoServices also submitted the application for a temporary discharge permit. Mr. Conrad mentioned that he would like the snow melt gone before the SWIP test is done. There is some question whether it is tied into the wetlands and whether DEP will allow continuous pumping or not. DEP will be issuing a letter clarifying the need of the wetland monitoring. Joe doesn't know if they will see the draft letter first. There will be also some coordination with the Borough on laying the pipe for the discharge.

CHRIS LANTZ: The issue on the additional monitoring and the wetland, will it take more time?

JOE MCNALLY: The SWIP test is a six month period. We are hoping that, either at the very beginning, during or at the end of the test we can be set up to do the data.

CHRIS LANTZ: Would we have to have everything in place first before the SWIP test?

JOE MCNALLY: He responded that not necessarily but there may be an advantage to it. Once the SWIP test is started they don't want the test to stop. A lot of the times with the aquifer test, you are starting the pumping and after a short time you will see what the results are then it levels out. The most important information is found in the beginning or the end of the pumping. We are hoping to do it in the beginning. There are joint meetings with the people involved.

SCOTT BRAY: When are we talking about a start date?

JOE MCNALLY: DEP wants to include a wet period that would be April, May and June; followed by a dry period of July, August and September. There is another wet period of October, November and December but this would be too late. We could start a little later than April first but not much later. DEP wants to come at the end of the test and do their testing and Mr. Conrad will not collect the sample if the ground is frozen. If we start too late the back end of the test could be on frozen ground. A letter was included in the packet on what the details of the meetings were.

BOB DECAMP: He thought that the railroad committee of GROW was on board.

PETER LEVANTIER: He received a letter from the Wellsboro Municipal Authority concerning a leak on his line and that he take corrective action. He is coming to the Authority for help. He wanted to know if the driveways below him or the pond could have created the leak.

MARK DIEFFENBACH: He had Joe Hastings come in and test the first 1/3 of the line and has found no leaks so the pond wasn't the issue. Les Johnston did the initial work in putting the line in. The meter pit we put in shows a 71,000 gallon difference than your meter shows. This shows an average loss of 60 gallons a day. This was an extra long service line and this is why Jackie Forer purchased a monitoring meter. The township supervisors didn't want their residents to be saddled with the cost of copper to do the service lines so they asked to have high pressure plastic lines put in; making it hard to find leaks.

PETER LEVANTIER: He needs some more time to fix the leak to allow the ground to thaw. The lower section has been checked and there is no leak in that section. In the upper section is where the leak is.

MARK DIEFFENBACH: He purchased material for the contractor to test the first 300 feet of the line and he witnessed him shutting off and turning on the valves. You would have about 200 feet to test. After your meter pit you are fine.

PETER LEVANTIER: He can now say he has been to the meeting and has been told what needs to be done.

SUE KECK: She has asked everyone if the format for the budget was acceptable. The Borough would write a monthly check to the Authority for the bills that needed to be paid and the Authority would pay the bills. They agreed the format would work and the auditors approved this format. She would like to use it at next month's meeting.

Some of the Borough Council and employees attended the County-wide Source Water Protection meeting along with Mr. Reindl. Ms. Keck had gone to another meeting today and they have named the group "Tioga County Source Water Protection Coalition". Being a countywide group we are able to have a bigger voice in applying for grants. One of our goals is to educate our children and adults on source water protection. There are ten members in this group. There are only 220 Pennsylvania Source Water Protection Plans currently in place. The Coalition will be meeting quarterly. One of our goals is to have all of the water suppliers in our county have a Source Water Protection Plan in place. We will be working with the Conservation District to apply for grants. Bob asked if Potter County was involved and Sue responded that they weren't but that DEP and PRWA and the Conservation District all were involved.

BILLS: Sue stated that the bills that we received add up to approximately \$60,000.00 from GeoServices and \$2,000.00 for engineering services. Since the new budget format was approved the Borough will do the appropriate transfers.

SUE KECK: The \$512,000 awarded by the Safe Water Grant through Matt Baker's office is a reimbursement grant that will pay for the all costs incurred on the sand filter bed only. There may be an opportunity for us to apply for "change of scope" in May or June. There is \$80,000.00 in labor costs that can be reimbursed and \$289,000 in materials. The completed agreement will be here next week and it can be signed and returned and then we can begin the reimbursement process.

BOB DECAMP: The \$289,000.00 is from the line of credit and the \$80,000.00 is not. Sue replied "right".

RUDY SCHARF: What is left of the grant? Should be about \$200,000.00

SUE KECK: Once they reimburse the \$289,000, then we can reimburse the line of credit. The \$80,000 will be reimbursed to the Borough. So we basically have another \$512,000.00 left on the line of credit.

RUDY SCHARF: He was asking what was left of the \$512,000.00 for a new scope. Sue said that about \$210,000 left on the grant.

TERRY BRYANT: Let's talk about the grant only. We owe \$512,000.00 out of that we pay the loan off of \$289,000.00 and pay off the \$80,000.00 to ourselves get us up to approximately \$360,000.00. Can we reapply for the balance?

SUE KECK: Yes, we can reapply, it possibly can be approved by DEP but the earliest we can apply for this is May. DEP needs to approve it first. If we get it then it has to be spent by 2012. Terry asked about the bank loan was for what? Bob Decamp responded by saying that is was for \$512,000.00 and there was an annual renewal. We can pay off and re-borrow up to that amount.

Sue has been talking with DEP's Janet Fisher and she has e-mailed her back today with the project schedule. We can include everything from July 2010 up to June 30, 2012. If our "change of scope" of work application is approved we have up till June 30, 2012 to use it.

BOB DECAMP: This figure does not include the stockpiling of sand? Terry Bryant stated that they hadn't really talked about that. Sue asked Janet Fisher of DEP about the labor involved but didn't ask her about stockpiling sand.

TERRY BRYANT: If we can't get that \$150,000.00 we need to find a way to stockpile sand.

SCOTT BRAY: It will probably be April or May before we know if we need sand.

JOHN STICKLIN: He asked if the scope was relative to the sand problem. Sue stated that the change in scope would be for water issues, water exploration and hydrogeology fees.

TERRY BRYANT: They want numbers. We have numbers.

SUE KECK: We can't apply for this until May. It will take 6-8 weeks of legal paperwork on their end.

RUDY SCHARF: We have budgeted \$40,000.00 for sand in the water budget.

JACK SHOWERS: The management development team of Shell was unaware of the financial commitment that was made to the Borough by East and one of the guys that was involved in the commitment has since left the company. He had a positive feeling the Shell will still honor the commitment of \$300,000.00 but at this point Shell is in the dark. If Shell is going to make commitment of \$300,000.00 to help bring the Keck Well online, we need to take a pause. He has talked with Joan Hart about it. He still plans on attending the meeting on March 28, 2011. We ask that GeoServices pause.

Jack had made the first meeting with Chris on March 1, 2011 but if Shell is to pickup the tab on the Keck Well only, they need to be in on the decisions. They want to approve and look at the proposal to bring the Keck Well online and, in the end of the \$300,000.00, there is water. He has the report from GeoServices from March on their procedures for March. He would also like to have the procedures of what they are doing after March. If GeoServices could get them that, he will get the copies to Shell. He also asked that GeoServices attend the March 28, 2011 meeting so that Shell can have a clear

understanding of what the proposals are. We want to be in on the decision making process and watch the money. We are happy to fund that. We are aware of the water situation in the Borough.

JOE MCNALLY: He felt that they could have a conversation with them on the detail of information to bring water from the Keck Well. They agreed to exchange cards so that the management team from Shell could contact him if they wanted.

JACK SHOWERS: The end result in this \$300,000.00 investment is to bring water from the Keck Well. He is looking at these expenditures and doesn't know how far \$300,000.00 is going to go.

RUDY SCHARF: Are we going to stop now in developing the Keck Well?

TERRY BRYANT: No, we are going forward. That \$300,000.00 would help us to move forward. We realize that it will take more.

JACK SHOWERS: He was just asking to pause to bring Shell up to date on the progress. He has received copies of the bills from Sue and has forwarded them on and he will give GeoServices a name to forward the bills on and to bypass the Borough. He will try and get the Borough reimbursed as quickly as possible. They only get the bills related to bringing the Keck well on line. The location of other sources of water the Borough will receive the bills on. There may be other things that we can do. We have development in the area – have some discussion on pipeline right of ways and pipeline.

An executive session was called.

Meeting resumes.

BOB DECAMP: He asked for a motion to enter into a temporary easement agreement between the Wellsboro Municipal Authority and GROW. Ed Owlett made the motion and Grant Cavanaugh 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

There was a motion made by Tom Reindl to enter into an access agreement between the Wellsboro Municipal Authority and Carlton & Phyllis Keck for the access to the Keck well. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denny Young. Passed

A motion was made by Grant Cavanaugh to accept the pump bid from Modern Pump Equipment Inc for \$29,959.00 subject to the approval by the engineer and solicitor. Ed Owlett 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Passed

GRANT CAVANAUGH: Should someone contact Jack Showers? Do we want access to that well? Do we wait and include it on the SWIP test.

JOE MCNALLY: Sure, we can at least consider it. We could do it on a short term period. There is a meeting in a few weeks.

BOB DECAMP: Can anyone get to the well?

GRANT CAVANAUGH: You can drive to it but it is padlocked. Joe will follow up on it.

SCOTT BRAY: Can we move forward with electric for the well? We can't have a well without electricity.

BOB DECAMP: We should have a motion to request the engineer to work with the Wellsboro Electric Company to provide electric to the well. Scott said that their next step was to provide a cost. A motion is made to proceed with the electric to the Keck Well. Tom Reindl made the motion and Grant Cavanaugh 2<sup>nd</sup>.

JOHN STICKLIN: Tom and he have been researching finding a filter for the water. We have found a 600 gallon per minute filter but the cost to rent is \$35,000.00 a month with a 3 month rental commitment. So the cost is out of our realm. It would be nice to have it. If we could get it for two or three weeks it would be nice but they want a rental for three months. Tom commented that things are never cheap.

BOB DECAMP: He would like to have someone else sign the agreement between the Wellsboro Municipal Authority and GROW besides him due to the fact the Matt (his son) would be signing the agreement as President of GROW also. He would like to have Denny Young sign. It was agreed to.

Meeting adjourned.

These minutes were respectfully prepared by Teresa Marshall