

WELLSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MEETING

AUGUST 16, 2011

MINUTES

Robert Decamp, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wellsboro Municipal Authority to order on August 16, 2011, in the Council Room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

ROLL CALL: Wellsboro Municipal Authority Members: Robert Decamp, Grant Cavanaugh, Ed Owlett, Dennison Young and Tom Reindl. Council Members: Joan Hart, Rudy Scharf, Terry Bryant. Superintendent of Public Works: Mark Dieffenbach. Borough Engineer: Scott Bray, Borough Secretary/Treasurer: Susan Keck. Solicitor: Chris Lantz, Wellsboro Gazette: Natalie Kennedy, Water & Sewer Clerk: Teresa Marshall and GeoServices: Joe McNally.

MINUTES: The minutes from July 19, 2011 were approved with one correction. The year should have been 2011 instead of 2001. Ed Owlett made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction and Grant Cavanaugh 2nd.

CHRIS LANTZ: He presented a right of way prepared by Hunt Engineers on the Miles Group on the relocation of the water line for the water towers. What he was looking for the last meeting was the map. He has talked with Scott Bray prior to the meeting and Scott approved it with one minor wording change. If it is all right, he will enter it in place of the old right of way and extinguish the old right of way.

ROBERT DECAMP: He asked about the wording change.

SCOTT BRAY: At the bottom of the page it states as center of water line shown above. We are taking out shown above and just saying the center of the water line.

ROBERT DECAMP: It seemed to go all right and the plant is happy. We can go ahead and accept this as an attachment to the right of way. Tom Reindl made the motion to accept and Grant Cavanaugh 2nd.

SCOTT BRAY: Request for proposals to perform a membrane pilot study has been sent out to the manufactures that we have been contacted and also advertised in the paper. RFP's will be in next Thursday. He requested a time line and price limit and that a committee be formed. Ed Owlett asked if this was a study only. He also asked if the Borough already had a committee set up.

JOAN HART: The Council has approved the pilot program.

Ed Owlett made the motion to create a committee and that the findings be approved by Borough Council also. Tom Reindl 2nd. Passed.

SCOTT BRAY: Scott had a report on the nitrogen and phosphorus required by the Chesapeake Bay. He had figures from March, April and May of 2010 and 2011. The wet weather that we had this spring was not kind to us. The nitrogen levels were 8,000 lbs. more this spring than last based on 800,000 gallons a day flow. The calculation is based on the concentration of nitrogen in the wastewater x's the flow. We should have the test results from June and July in a week or so. We may have to buy nitrogen credits but should have phosphorus credits to sell or swap. We had 10-14,000 credits at the end of last year but that didn't count and this year does. Hopefully we will have three good months and be ok.

SUE KECK: She asked if we would be buying nitrogen or phosphorus credits. Scott stated that it would be nitrogen. Sue has put in the packet a letter from Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority offering for sale both credits.

RUDY SCHARF: Rudy asked how does it work - we have to buy the credits? Bob Decamp asked Scott if anyone has tried to buy any or is there a market for it?

SCOTT BRAY: Penn Vest has a credit market.

ED OWLETT: Do the credits carry over from year to year?

SCOTT BRAY: He stated "no". They are only for one year. Nitrogen is only found in the wastewater and not the drinking water.

The relocation of the water line at the railroad water tank site has been completed, tested and tied into the system.

We have started draining the slow sand filter # 1 on Monday and will be scraping it, filling it and putting it back on line. We are trying to avoid any problems.

MARK DIEFFENBACH: If this works out, we will do Slow Sand Filter # 2. We will be cleaning the filters three times this year instead of 2 times.

SCOTT BRAY: DEP was here last Friday to do a filter performance test when we were having some problems with the filter. They were in here last Spring when we were on boil order and took pictures when we had the worst possible conditions that we had ever had.

He handed out the Filter Plant Performance Evaluation from April 12-13, 2011 and asked the Authority to look over and they would talk about it in the next meeting. We will follow up with a letter to DEP for them to file. Bob DeCamp asked if there was a deadline and Scott responded that there wasn't one but just a response to the report.

JOE MCNALLY: During the past month the work we did on the SWIP test was successful. We have a meeting scheduled DEP and the SRBC to go over the results on last pump test on August 30, 2011. It should be productive meeting. Other activities include looking at the information from the pumping test and the continued monitoring of the piezometers and we have met with Scott.

TERRY BRYANT: He asked if they had made any headway with new sites or landowners contracts. He thought Scott was going to talk with someone. Scott responded that they were going to have an executive session to discuss real estate matters.

ROBERT DECAMP: He asked Joe about the meeting with DEP and SRBC if there were any balance issues he wanted to talk about.

JOE MCNALLY: We want to use this meeting to bring issues that we have up and not just talk about the well test results. How do we go forward with using this well and not having to keep coming back, writing letters or water reports not that there will be some follow up involved.

BOB DECAMP: Do you think the balance thing will be an issue?

JOE MCNALLY: I think how it all connects will be the issue because part of it is a site specific evaluation. It's an evaluation of what pumping might do to the surrounding areas.

CHRIS LANTZ: Do you see any pattern with what is happening right now or you can't tell at this point.

JOE MCNALLY: Part of it is that because of the ongoing monitoring on the wetlands, there are daily changes and fluctuations that have occurred, we are getting a better handle on information on what the ranges are. We need to look at the influence from pumping and what changes would occur naturally.

CHRIS LANTZ: Will DEP be looking at causation or correlation or how are they going to be evaluating that or you just don't know yet?

JOE MCNALLY: Sometimes there may be longer time monitoring and that would be correlation and that is what we are hoping to avoid. If there is a connection then there is. There are two culprits on either side of the Keck Well that have been there since the railroad was constructed. We recently had those surveyed both water elevation and locations in that area and they are very similar to the wetlands and the Muck. They (culverts) are not completely open, the ends are opened up but not opened up all the way through. If they were, they may provide a natural balance in water levels that would help to maintain the balance and minimize the impact. That is something else we could talk about it. Our goal is to use the well to it's fullest potential and we are working to get there. Wetlands are an issue all the time.

ROBERT DECAMP: The culverts do not do more than drain.

JOE MCNALLY: The water levels are very close now. On the North side you can see a little flow and on the South side is clogged and not open. In wetland issues, culverts are installed sometimes to keep water levels the same but you don't want to see drops in water levels and that is part of the interpretation of the information received.

CRIS LANTZ: Will the dry weather going to work against us or is everything factored in considering the little amount of rainfall we have had this summer.

JOE MCNALLY: There was a good storm about three or four weeks ago. He needed to go down and see what some of the bar responses were. What they would do is make projections that would show what it might do. The wetlands could change from one type to another. It could go from grassy to shrubs. That wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing. The wetlands to the North is classified both right now. What changes might occur and do occur – those have to be in a range of acceptance so someone can't come back years from now and this change is occurring and there needs to be restriction of use.

RUDY SCHARF: He asked that Joe that he was having a meeting with DEP and SRBC – who made the ultimate decision on the Keck Well?

JOE MCNALLY: The both do. DEP will issue the permit for its operation and they deal a lot with the construction, they are taking the lead on the wetland issues. The SRBC is looking at the water availability. There is a hydrogeological report submitted to both agencies. The timing in moving forward as quickly as possible is important. The report was submitted to the SRBC many months before the meeting was set. The other part is the SWIP test – it is still ongoing. He hasn't seen anything unusual on the SWIP test yet but that will have to pass as well along with the wetlands issue.

CHRIS LANTZ: The wetlands issue may be a judgment call. Joe responded more so and that is where the correlation comes in. How is this going to be presented and that is why. Scott and Joe have already met to discuss how they were going to present it to DEP. Joe stated that it wouldn't be unusual to have a longer monitoring time. Chris stated that if they are looking at correlation – ouch, if they are looking for causation – that is a little more difficult. The meeting coming up will be a very important meeting.

Terry Bryant asked who would be going to the meeting and Joe stated that he would be going along with Mike Applebee, Scott Bray. Chris thought someone from the Municipal Authority should be there also. Joe stated that it would be a technical meeting. Other members would be from DEP. Bob DeCamp asked when the meeting was and the response was 9 AM in the 30th of August.

BILLS: Water Revenue: Cox, Stokes and Lantz	\$662.82
William Bray	\$845.00

Ed Owlett made the motion to pay the bills and Denny Young 2nd.



The meeting was adjourned and the Authority went into an executive session.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Teresa Marshall.

