

Northern Lancaster County Authority
Minutes of Meeting Held
February 14, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Lancaster County Authority took place on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM. In attendance were board members Mike McHenry, Roger Sauder, Jesse Martin, Grant Wise and Steve Tomasko. Also, in attendance was Matt Ross, Superintendent; Kathy Homan, Administration; Blake Romanowski, Authority Consulting Engineer; Anthony Schimaneck, Authority Solicitor and NLCA staff Rodney McCowan.

1) Community Open Session

- a) No one from the community attended the meeting.

2) Minutes

- a) Motion to approve the minutes from the January 2022 meeting was approved.

3) Check Record and Approval of Bills

- a) H R Rogers contracted with NLCA to cut the reed beds and remove the cuttings. They worked one day and then informed Matt that they were unable to complete the job as they didn't have the manpower. The work performed was donated to NLCA. The Board accepted the donation and unanimously approved payment of bills omitting HR Rogers contracted payment.

4) Plant Operator's Report

- a) Plant Operator's Report on Flows, EDUs and Plant Performance.

- January's monthly average daily flows were .401 MGD with 3.65" of rain. A total of 12.427 total million gallons were treated last month.
- Two new EDUs were added in January.

- b) Sag Project Replacement and Lining Update

- Matt reviewed the video Mr. Rehab provided. Per Steve's recommendation to follow up on the lining wrinkle with another vendor, Matt contacted US Pipelining from Bucks County. Herb from US Pipelining indicated that Mr. Rehab is a local bidder with aggressive pricing and has not heard anything negative about Mr. Rehab and believes them to be a good contractor.
- US Pipelining told Matt that the wrinkle is caused by too much material, or the liner wasn't absorbed correctly with heat or steam. There is no repair for the wrinkle and depending on the size would be ok.
- Matt would like to film the area with the Authority camera to see what he can ascertain from the footage.
- The Board requested to have this area filmed again next year to see if the wrinkle has created any issues.

- c) New Water Truck Update

- The new water truck was originally projected to be ready by the end of April. Now that completion date has been postponed to June.
- The build date has been scheduled for March 8 if they receive the chassis from Ford.

d) Kramer Mill Generator

- The generator was routinely tested and the following day there was antifreeze on the floor. Staff removed the radiator. Matt was previously told the radiator would not be able to be replaced if there was another breakdown and he verified that with John Deere.
- Musser's Radiator Service custom-built a new radiator. Matt pointed out that Musser's custom-built a radiator and the Authority rented a generator during the radiator build for approximately \$2500 which is about \$1200 less than when Cleveland Brothers repaired the radiator about 4 years ago at \$3700.
- NLCA scheduled service to replace leaking freeze plugs. Seven leaking plugs were replaced.
- Mike recommended checking the water quality in the generator radiator to ensure there isn't any corrosion or calcium build up issues.

e) Reed Bed Cutting

- All beds have been cut by NLCA staff and others. Matt received a few quotes to have the work performed. One quote was \$17,500. The decision was made to bring in some extra people to assist with cutting the beds. Other than staff, Stephanie Ross, Ammon Martin, Andrew Martin and Tim Martin cut the reeds.
- Matt had a lengthy discussion with DEP on disposal of the reeds. DEP informed Matt to take them to a landfill. The landfills will not accept the reeds. DEP then recommended composting as you cannot burn them. Golden Oaks Landscaping will remove the reeds and Mr. Martin who helped cut the reeds will use them to compost.
- Mike requested to have some of the reeds sent to a lab to see if it contains any biohazard. If an independent lab certifies there is no biohazard, then the landfill should not refuse them.

f) Commercial EDU Discussion

- Matt and Kathy presented documentation regarding commercial EDUs in relation to the average amount of wastewater treated based off their meter readings. There are several commercial users who have not purchased additional EDUs based on their usage. It was noted that the businesses are correctly paying the amount of their wastewater treated. They have not purchased the additional EDUs for the extra usage.
- More information will be gathered to determine when these businesses connected to the sewer to establish the tapping fee rate at that time. This information will be provided to Tony who will prepare letters informing the businesses of the necessity to purchase enough EDUs according to the average use.

g) 2007 Chevy Truck Employee Accident

- An employee backed the Chevy truck into a vehicle. The bumper on the Authority truck and back of the bed and taillight is damaged with a repair estimate of \$2600. The vehicle that was struck is a 2004 Chevy Trailblazer driven by a 17-year-old female. Damage to the Trailblazer was on both passenger doors. Matt noted that trying to gather information from the female was somewhat difficult in that she was not providing information in a timely fashion. The incident will be handled through our insurance provider.

5) Administrative Report

a) Delinquent Account List

- Delinquent accounts report was emailed to the Board for review.

b) Monthly/Quarterly QuickBooks Reports

- Current QuickBooks board reports were emailed for review.

c) State Assistance Program

- Kathy was contacted by Sandra Herman from the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) through the Department of Human Services. Two of our customers are seeking assistance for sewer charges (accounts 11155.01 and 11422.01).
- Information regarding the program was previously emailed to the Board. The program basically provides a one-time payment up to \$2500 to assist approved residents who have fallen behind on their water/wastewater bills due to COVID. The Authority would need to apply to LIHWAP for any residents to be considered for approval. Kathy noted that account 11155.01 is in the process of Sheriff Sale by the mortgage company and scheduled for auction in May.
- After discussion and further consideration of what applying for the program entails on the Authority's side, the Board decided to not enter into an agreement with LIHWAP. It was also pointed out that most rate payers with low/fixed incomes make the effort to keep up with their sewer charges and those who are seeking assistance have made no effort to make regular payments.

6) Engineer's Items

a) Chapter 94 Report Update

- Blake included charts in his Engineer's Report and indicated there is nothing to be concerned about. We are below our hydraulic capacity, and below our organic loading.

b) Hawk Valley Phase II Update

- No update

c) Interceptor Upgrade Update

- No update

d) Gehman School Connection

- Fred was contacted by Gehman School. The school mentioned that they may want to connect to the system. The Gehman School package plant can treat about 5000 gpd and is averaging approximately 2000 gpd now.

e) West Maple Grove Road Development

- Blake received preliminary information regarding a new development at 128 West Maple Grove Road. The existing home was removed and property owners anticipate building an 8-unit townhome.

7) Attorney's Items

a) No Update

8) Old Business

a) No update

9) Sign Checks

a) All checks were signed as per the approved check record

10) Executive Session

a) Personnel

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM.