

NESHANNOCK CREEK WATERSHED JOINT MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
Phone: (724)748-4808 Fax: (724)748-5668
369 McClelland Road
Mercer, PA 16137

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2013

8:15 AM

Officers:

Chairman:

Paul Minner

Vice

Chairman:

Patrick J. Suhrie

Treasurer:

Jerry Johnson

Secretary:

Brian Beader

Rec Sec'y:

Karen Shipton

Board

Members:

Mercer

County:

Brian Beader

Coolspring

Twp:

Paul Minner

East Lack

Twp:

Robert Gregory

Findley Twp:

Patrick J. Suhrie

Mercer Boro:

Jerry Johnson

The Authority meets the second Wednesday of each month at 8:15 AM in the County Commissioner's Conference Room at the Mercer County Courthouse, Mercer, PA.

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 AT 8:15 AM

ATTENDANCE

Dick Potter, Bob Gregory, Jerry Johnson, John Lechner, Pat Suhrie, Dan Gancz, Matt McConnell, Roger Shaffer, Walt Darraugh, Frank Curl, Terri Ligo

***The Meeting Opened with the Pledge to the U.S. Flag at 8:15 AM.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 7/10/13 MEETING AS PRESENTED

A motion was made by Bob Gregory and seconded by Jerry Johnson to approve the minutes from the 7/10/13 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jerry Johnson stated that the balance as of July 31, 2013 was \$6,037.52. This balance is after the payment of the invoice from Ganett Flemming for Wetlands Investigation of STP and Pump Station Sites -\$2,310.00. Two invoices were presented, one from The Record-Argus for Proof of Publication for 537 Plan -\$144.70 and from The Herald for Proof of Publication for Preliminary Notice and Notice of Availability of and Environmental Assessment -\$571.40. Jerry Johnson stated the current balance is now \$3,011.14. A motion was made by Jerry Johnson and seconded by John Lechner to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Jerry Johnson stated that he is the treasurer not accountant. He stated that a better accounting system needs to be put into place and he recommended an accountant be hired.

ENGINEER'S COMMENTS

Dan handed out copies of his engineer's report. OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN UPDATE: A draft copy of the Plan was submitted to PaDEP on July 11, 2013. PaDEP confirmed receipt on July 26, 2013. The 30-day advertised public comment period was over August 12, 2013 with no written public comments submitted. Dan mentioned that he did meet with a couple from East Lackawannock Township to answer some questions but a formal letter was not submitted. On August 2, 2013 comments were received from the USDA RUS State Engineer. Dan stated that this review will act as a 2nd party review to the engineers plan. This review resulted in a reduction in the size of the proposed wastewater treatment plant from 175,000 GPD to 150,000 GPD. This change was a result of RUS policy to only fund the initial sewage disposal need of the project area plus 20% growth. From this funding process the estimated project costs were reduced bringing the total project cost estimate down to \$9,071,400. Additional items

addressed include documentation of 461 EDU's and pump station location. The Plan will be revised to reflect the changes required by RUS, as will the Resolution of Adoption. It is anticipated that the Townships will adopt the Official Sewage Facilities Plan at their September meetings, afterward on September 11, 2013, the final adoptive plan will be sent to PaDEP for final review and comment.

USDA RUS FUNDING APPLICATION: Based on the July 8, 2013 request made by USDA Rural Development for some additional information stated at the previous meeting. As a result of providing all the information Rural Development needed for their environmental report a public notice appeared in the August 10, 2013 Sharon Herald. This was a combined preliminary notice of availability of and environmental assessment. This provides another 30-day public comment period to Rural Development. This public comment period ends September 10, 2013 and the authority meets September 11, 2013. Dan made comment on the timing of this application and grant funding. A lot of work was put through in a very short period of time. Things came together quick and Dan feels that the things Rural Development is asking for indicates a step in the right direction for funding.

CDBG APPLICATION: On August 1, 2013 Dan, Bob and Pat made a presentation to the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission to apply for \$135,000 in grant money to help Findley and East Lackawannock Township residents who qualify under the low/moderate income program for help with tap-in fees. The Mercer County Regional Planning Commission has made the recommendation of awarding approximately \$50,000. This application was worded in such a way that the Mercer County Board of Commissioners could award the application in multiple years because the money will not be needed until 2015. An additional grant application could be filed in 2014 for the difference needed above the amount anticipated to be awarded later this year. Dan explained how the amount of \$135,000 was figured... 15% of approximately 300 EDU's should qualify (45) times 3,000 tap-ins = \$135,000. As time goes on and more incomes can be documented we can have an exact number of qualifying residents. An August 21, 2013 presentation is scheduled before the Mercer County Board of Commissioners at 9:00 AM, at the Mercer Courthouse Assembly Room.

No actions needed to be taken on the engineer's report.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS:

Authority is in need of a filing cabinet. After some discussion it was decided to wait and see if someone has a legal size 4 drawer cabinet that the authority could have.

Need of accountant was mentioned by Jerry. Dan stated that Rural Development will have recommendations on accounting and auditing at time of offering funds. Rural Development puts together a spreadsheet for the project. No motion made at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no other comments Pat Suhrie asked for a motion to adjourn, motion was made by John Lechner and seconded by Bob Gregory. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted;

Terri E. Ligo
Acting Recording Secretary