

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 10, 2020**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. The meeting was open to the public via teleconference due to circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rizzo at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

John Rizzo	Chairman
Bobbi Trudel	Vice Chairperson
Chris Vose	Secretary
Chris Perry	Member
Craig Talarico	Member – via teleconference
Wrandy Siarkowski	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Donna Renda	Fiscal Officer
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Hilary Ruzycky	Administrative Aide

Chairman Rizzo read aloud the following statement: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting is open to the public through teleconference connection information previously posted. This meeting shall be recorded and later transcribed.

MAY 13, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the May 13, 2020 meeting minutes on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Siarkowski, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) abstained – Perry, and none (0) opposed.

MAY 27, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the May 27, 2020 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried six (6) in favor and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 9, 14 & 21.

PLANT OPERATIONS

**Power Outage**

Plant Manager Arnold reported a 51-minute power outage of unknown cause occurred at 5:29 P.M on June 3, 2020. A report was filed with NY-Alert for partially treated wastewater without disinfection, as required under the NY Sewage Pollution Right to Know Act. NYS DEC Regional Water Engineer was also notified of the event.

**CAST Headworks Modifications**

Plant Manager Arnold reported the NYS DEC Regional Water Engineer submitted comments regarding Manager Arnold's report on CAST system modifications. Noted concerns pertained to the EQ tank bypass and overflow, CAST treatment efficiency, one (1) effluent violation in November 2019, and odor complaints in 2020. Manager Arnold will submit a monthly CAST process control report to DEC due on the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month. DEC extended the pilot study for the use of potassium permanganate to control odors of the CAST process until October 31, 2020. Within thirty (30) days of completion of the pilot study, a report is due to DEC detailing the effectiveness of the pilot study. Signatures will be obtained from both Mayors and GJJSB Chairman confirming agreement to the extension. Future modifications to the CAST system are not expected. Manager Arnold shall notify NYS DEC to obtain approval for any future modifications to the plant operations, as stated in the May 21, 2020 correspondence from the NYS DEC Regional Water Engineer.

## PLANT OPERATIONS

### **Sludge Dryer Report**

Plant Manager Arnold reviewed a report prepared for the City of Auburn on sludge dryers. The report is similar to the NYSERDA FlexTech Study provided by Arcadis. Manager Arnold added the pending sludge dryer project to the intended use plan maintained by the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) for grant funding opportunity within the state of NY. The project was listed under the Multi-Year List. Manager Arnold and Lead Operator Yaggle will visit facilities with operational sludge dryers when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Manager Arnold will tour the City of Schenectady Sewage Treatment Plant on June 19, 2020 to view a pyrolysis sludge drying process. Pyrolysis is the thermal decomposition of materials at elevated temperatures.

### **Request for Connection at Trunk Sewer Manhole: 339 & 341 W. Montgomery Street, Johnstown**

Plant Manager Arnold reported a property owner located at 339 W. Montgomery Street in the City of Johnstown is seeking to connect a new lateral sewer line at a trunk sewer manhole nearby. The residence currently shares a sewer connection with property located at 341 W. Montgomery Street. The owner at 339 W. Montgomery Street hired a contractor to repair the lateral line due to leaking. City Engineer Vose recommended the contractor install a new separate 4" lateral line for 339 W. Montgomery, as residences cannot share sewer lines under the current city ordinance. The contractor is responsible for keeping debris from entering the trunk sewer during the installation and for sealing the line. The city will inspect the installation work.

## INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 19 North Perry Street, Johnstown**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 19 North Perry Street in Johnstown. Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$349.79 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 414 South Main Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 414 South Main Street in Gloversville. Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the water entered the sewer system and had to be treated.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 357 South Main Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 357 South Main Street in Gloversville. Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a 50% credit of \$60.79 since a portion of the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

### **EPA Semiannual Report**

Lab Director Levendusky reported the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) submitted comments on the Semiannual Pretreatment Report for reporting period July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Six (6) issues were identified, including the need to authorize Lab Director Levendusky as the individual responsible for the pretreatment program. All members agreed Chairman Rizzo shall execute a letter to the EPA Water Compliance Branch to authorize Lab Director Levendusky as the individual responsible for the overall operation of the pretreatment program at the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility. Lab Director Levendusky noted all other findings have been addressed.

BUDGET/PURCHASE/AUDIT

**FY2019 Financial Audit**

Fiscal Officer Renda referred Board members to copies of an independent auditor's report from BST & Co. CPA's, LLP for the year ended December 31, 2019. The report disclosed no significant instances of noncompliance, and no corrective actions or alternative procedures were suggested.

ATTACHMENTS

**Resolution No. 2020-09**

On a motion made Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Siarkowski, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2020-09. *Transfer from Capital and Equipment Reserve Fund to General Fund.*

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2020 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 2, 3, & 4.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$399,094.66 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

**Contaminated Groundwater Discharge: Family Counseling Center, Gloversville**

Plant Manager Arnold reported CT Male contracted to discharge contaminated groundwater to the sewer system from a construction site located at the Family Counseling Center in Gloversville, as approved at April 29th Sewer Board meeting. The discharge amount was greater than expected due to hitting an underground stream during excavation. NYS DEC approved discharge to a storm drain as sampling results showed mostly pure water. Any water that showed a sheen was sent to frac tanks. Nearly 900,000 gallons of water have been discharged to date.

**COVID-19**

Chairman Rizzo inquired on the health of staff and suggested posting a sign regarding COVID-19 safety protocol at the front door.

NEW BUSINESS

**Initial Confined Space Training**

Plant Manager Arnold reported Precision Industrial Maintenance can provide initial confined space training at the facility for \$165.00 per employee, with a minimum of four (4) employees required. Both cities were invited to participate in the training.

**Shared Services**

Secretary Vose expressed appreciation for recent efforts by Maintenance Supervisor McMillan to help the City of Johnstown with their pump stations.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Vose, GJJSB Secretary