

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2023**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Bobbi Trudel	Chair
Christopher Vose	Vice Chair
Wrandy Siarkowski	Secretary
Donald Schwartz	Member
Eric Parker	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Hilary Ruzycy	Administrative Aide
Michele Rackmyre	Senior Account Clerk

ABSENT

John Rizzo	Member
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FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the February 8, 2023 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 1, 5, 8, and 18.

PLANT OPERATIONS

Annual Report Presentation

Plant Manager Arnold presented the 2022 Annual Report highlighting significant events and projects. COGEN electrical generation increased by 12.5% with excess power of 22.6% sold to National Grid. Industrial loadings to the plant decreased as follows: Total flow decreased 5.4%, total suspended solids decreased 0.5%, biological oxygen demand decreased by 2.7% and total kjeldahl nitrogen decreased by 2.4%. Projects included cleaning and refurbishment of the Solids Holding Tank and associated splitter box, installation of a new valve and hydrant at the RV discharge station, and installation of a new water line from the Thickener Building to the Whey Building. Copies of the report were distributed to those present. Additional copies will be sent to Gloversville and Johnstown city officials, state officials, and GJJSB legal counsel. The report will be posted on the facility's website.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Sewer Bill Protest: 9 N. Water Street, Gloversville

Senior Account Clerk Rackmyre reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 9 N. Water Street in Gloversville. Plant Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$513.51 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 256 Bleecker Street, Gloversville

Senior Account Clerk Rackmyre reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 256 Bleecker Street in Gloversville. Plant Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since there is not sufficient evidence to prove the excess water did not enter the sewer system to be treated during the billing period.

BUDGET/PURCHASE/AUDIT

Authorize Purchase: Small Truck for Operations Department

Plant Manager Arnold reported the Maintenance Department discovered a broken frame on the 2011 Chevrolet Colorado used for daily rounds by plant operators. The truck cannot be repaired and was taken out of service. Maintenance Supervisor Horton priced several small trucks through local auto dealers. The Board unanimously approved the purchase of a 2006 Nissan Frontier SE King Cab V6 Automatic 4WD at the cost of \$10,296.00 from Wally’s Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Amsterdam.

Authorize Bidding: Automatic Distillation Unit

Laboratory Director Levendusky requested Board approval to seek bids for the purchase of an Automatic Distillation Unit for the Laboratory as part of the 2023 Capital Plan. The equipment is used to analyze total kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) and ammonia. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized advertisement of bids for purchase, installation, and training for an Automatic Distillation Unit for the Laboratory as part of the 2023 Capital Plan.

PERSONNEL

Plant Manager Arnold reported that both Steven Freese and Gregory Morgan declined to accept the WWTP Attendant positions appointed at the February 2023 Joint Sewer Board meeting. Manager Arnold conducted two additional interviews; one for a WWTP Attendant and one for a WWTP Operator Trainee. Manager Arnold recommended the following appointments:

New Hire: WWTP Attendant

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved to offer a WWTP Attendant position to Cameron Clark with start date pending. Mr. Clark meets the minimum qualifications for Civil Service approval.

New Hire: WWTP Operator Trainee

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved to offer a provisional appointment for WWTP Operator Trainee to Anthony Mowrey, pending civil service approval, with start date pending.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution No. 2023-04

On a motion made Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2023-04. *Consolidation of Digester Phase II Account with Capital Rents Balancing Account.*

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2023 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 2, 3, & 4.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$194,002.66 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Fulton County Sewer District No. 5 – SEQR Lead Agency Coordination

Plant Manager Arnold reported the Fulton County Board of Supervisors requests to serve as SEQR Lead Agency for the proposed Fulton County Sewer District No. 5: NYS Route 30/30A. SEQR documents including maps were forwarded to Chair Trudel. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Chair Trudel to execute a letter confirming the Joint Sewer Board has no comments or concerns regarding the Fulton County Board of Supervisors acting as SEQR Lead Agency for proposed Fulton County Sewer District No. 5: NYS Route 30/30A.

CAT Cogen Overhaul Contracts

Plant Manager Arnold reported he discussed contract language with Milton CAT staff regarding CAT Cogen overhauls and liquidated damages. Milton CAT confirmed the standard Purchase Order contract is inclusive for all repairs and damages occurring during the overhaul. Additional damages and time loss reimbursement are a risk assessment to be covered by a 3rd party such as NYMIR. Manager Arnold received similar opinion from GJJSB legal counsel.

Healthcare Cost Comparison

Senior Account Clerk Rackmyre provided a breakdown of projected costs for 2023 healthcare versus the actual costs. Brown & Brown submitted a proposal near the end of 2022 that estimated a cost increase of 10.5% for 2023 healthcare. Billings to date show an actual cost increase of 7.9% including a change in enrollment numbers. Medicare Advantage for those over 65 had no change in premiums. Reimbursement of Medicare Part B lowered by 3%.

NEW BUSINESS

Plant Manager Arnold noted whey delivery and treatment agreements are due to expire December 31, 2023 with Euphrates Inc. and FAGE USA Dairy. Manager Arnold and Laboratory Director Levendusky will coordinate agreement renewal discussions with the dairy companies.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Wrandy L. Siarkowski, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board