

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2024**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Christopher Vose	Chairman
Donald Schwartz	Vice Chairman
Eric Parker	Secretary
John Rizzo	Member
Bobbi Trudel	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Ian Colvin Marincic	WWTP Engineer Technician
Hilary Ruzycky	Administrative Aide
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Ronald Horton	Maintenance Supervisor

ABSENT

Michael Stover	Member
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GUEST

Gus Mininberg	High Voltage Electric Service, Inc. – Conference Call
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FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the February 21, 2024, regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 1.

PLANT OPERATIONS

Authorize High Yard Recovery

Plant Manager Arnold reported an accident occurred on February 29, 2024, when an unmanned 2010 Freightliner truck rolled backward down a hill destroying the facility’s main high voltage substation. Cogeneration power continued to feed the facility with the 52U circuit breaker open. The Main 69k V Substation and all equipment housed within are a total loss. The truck has visible damage to the roll off box.

On February 29th, High Voltage Electric Service, Inc (HVES) responded immediately to an emergency service call. HVES contacted National Grid to meet on site the following morning to assist with development of a plan to disconnect the Cogen power system and restore National Grid power to the facility. HVES and National Grid implemented the plan on March 3rd.

On March 1st & 7th, NYMIR insurance adjusters toured the accident site and took photos. Apollo Northeast then picked up the Freightliner truck for a full inspection. A claims adjuster from NYMIR met Maintenance Supervisor Horton at Apollo Northeast to examine the truck. On March 11th, Stephen Miller General Contractors and Amaha Electric cleared away the destroyed building and contents.

Gus Mininberg of High Voltage Electric Service, Inc. joined the Board meeting per conference call around 6:20 P.M. to discuss the accident and proposed plans for repair. Full repairs are estimated to take six to nine months.

On a motion made by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board gave approval for High Voltage Electrical Service, Inc. to repair damages to restore the Main 69K V Substation and electrical system back to full operation.

Approve RFQ: High Voltage Substation Maintenance & Emergency Generator Upgrade

Plant Manager Arnold reported he issued a Request for Qualification and Quotation (RFQ) for preventative maintenance services of the facility's main high voltage substation, including an emergency generator upgrade for the UV disinfection system. One (1) RFQ submittal was received from High Voltage Electric Service, Inc. Mr. Mininberg noted that due to the substation repair and necessary replacement of equipment, HVES will submit a revised Scope of Work for preventative maintenance services on the main high voltage substation.

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the RFQ submitted by High Voltage Electric Service, Inc. for preventative maintenance services of the facility's main high voltage substation and an emergency generator upgrade for the UV disinfection system.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing & PFAS

Laboratory Director Levendusky reported first quarter sampling started for the 2024 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing. WET testing refers to the collective toxic effect on aquatic organisms after being subjected to a specified concentration of the facility's effluent wastewater. This testing is required every five (5) years under the SPDES permit program. AquaTOX Research Inc. in Syracuse performs the sample analyses. First quarter test results are favorable. Director Levendusky noted that additional samples were collected from effluent wastewater and sludge bound for the landfill to test for PFAS forever compounds. The sludge contained higher concentrations of PFAS than the effluent wastewater.

Sewer Bill Protest: 23 W. Eighth Avenue, Gloversville

Engineer Technician Marincic reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 23 W. Eighth Avenue in Gloversville. Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$159.30 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 57 West Street, Gloversville

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 57 West Street in Gloversville. Plant Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$594.04 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 98 Lincoln Street, Gloversville

Plant Manager Arnold reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 98 Lincoln Street in Gloversville. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied a credit since the period usage is within the normal range for this address.

BUDGET/PURCHASE/AUDIT

Accept Bid: Small Pickup Truck, NYS OGS Vehicle Marketplace

Plant Manager Arnold reported a mini-bid was conducted via the New York State Office of General Services Vehicle Marketplace for the purchase of a small pickup truck. Four (4) bids were received. The lowest priced truck is a 2024 Ford Maverick at \$29,508.66 from Nye Automotive in Oneida, NY. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to accept the bid proposal from Nye Automotive for a 2024 Ford Maverick at the cost of \$29,508.66.

Utility / Telecommunications Audit – Troy & Banks

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler requested Board approval for consulting company Troy & Banks to provide a utility and telecommunications audit. Consultants analyze charges rendered by service providers to identify potential billing discrepancies. If overbilling occurs, Troy & Banks will negotiate a refund. The fee for this service is calculated from a percentage of the refund, and there is no charge if reductions are not found. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the proposal for consulting company Troy & Banks to provide a utility and telecommunications audit.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution No. 2024-06

On a motion made Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2024-06. *Transfer from the Capital & Equipment Reserve Account to the General Fund Account.*

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2024 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 2, 3, & 4.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$215,161.44 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Engineer Technician Marincic provided the Board with a process flow diagram to illustrate how wastewater flows throughout the plant.

Board Member Rizzo suggested a review for the protection of plant equipment and infrastructure.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, all Board members went into executive session at 7:10 P.M. to discuss NY Public Officers Law §105:1 – (f) the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 7:31 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 P.M. on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Parker, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board