

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2025

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility (GJJWTF) on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Christopher Vose	Chairman
Bobbi Trudel	Vice Chair
Eric Parker	Secretary
Michael W. Stover	Member
John Rizzo	Member
Harry Brand	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Hilary Ruzycky	Administrative Aide
Ian Colvin Marincic	WWTP Engineering Technician

ABSENT

Deanna Hitchcock	Member
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MAY 14, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the May 14, 2025 regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 15

PLANT OPERATIONS

Fire Alarm: Sunday 2 A.M. on 5/18/25

Manager Brand reported the Johnstown Fire Department was called to the facility by the automated alarm system at 2 A.M. on Sunday 5/18/25. The fire department fully inspected the site and confirmed a false alarm that originated from the DAFT Building zone. Facility staff disabled the Blower Building which was still in alarm and not resetting. Maintenance staff later replaced the heat detector in the DAFT Building. The alarm system is back to normal operation.

NY Alert Notification: Surcharged Manhole #100 on 6/9/25

Manager Brand reported he was notified around 7:45 A.M. on Monday 6/9/25 by Johnstown City DPW that a manhole was surging at the corner of Mason Street and North Market Street in Johnstown. Manager Brand and Chief Operator Yaggle responded to the site and found Manhole #100 of the trunkline surging sanitary sewer onto the street. The overflow occurred during a wet weather event with excessive rainfall causing flows to the facility greater than 22 MGD. Johnstown City DPW coned off the area to restrict access. Manholes upstream and downstream from Manhole #100 were checked for surging, no additional issues identified. The site was monitored until heavy rain and overflow subsided around 3:30 P.M. Engineering Technician Marincic submitted a NY-Alert incident report on 6/9/25. Manager Brand notified NYSDEC of the event by email on 6/9/25. Manager Brand suggested a camera inspection of the trunkline near Manhole #100 to check for potential blockage restricting flow during wet weather events. (Manager Brand submitted a Report of Noncompliance Event to the NYSDEC on 6/16/25).

FAGE Acid Whey Anaerobic Digestion & Biogas Project

Manager Brand reported an on-site informational meeting was held on 6/3/2025 with FAGE USA Dairy and HDR to discuss modifications proposed by FAGE for their wastewater discharge system. FAGE intends to construct an acid whey anaerobic digestion facility adjacent to their existing facility located at 1 Opportunity Drive in Johnstown.

FAGE has experienced increased sales/production causing a need to reduce the number of daily trucks hauling acid whey waste offsite, and desires to generate biogas for use in their boiler system. FAGE agrees to continue supplying the minimum whey quantity of 15 MG per year to GJJWTF through the whey delivery pipeline, per the Whey Delivery and Treatment Agreement, effective until 12/31/2033. Manager Brand will participate in further discussions with engineers from HDR regarding the project. Project completion date is expected in 2027.

Request to Use Facility: Rentals to Go

Manager Brand reported septic hauler Rentals to Go from Norwich requested permission to use the facility to dispose of waste generated through portable toilets. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board granted permission for Rentals to Go to use the facility for disposal of waste generated through portable toilets, in accordance with Trucked Waste Hauler Guidelines.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Sewer Bill Protest: 211 Prindle Avenue, Johnstown

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 211 Prindle Avenue in Johnstown. Engineer Technician Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) abstained (Rizzo), and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$112.47 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Request for Transfer of Permit: Androme Leather Company, Inc.

Manager Brand reported Androme Leather Company, Inc. submitted a Request for Transfer of Permit for their business located at 21 Foster Street in Gloversville. Androme Leather proposes a transfer of ownership only with changes to contact personnel and the financially responsible party. The current business name, manufacturing processes, and products will remain unchanged. The new responsible party has submitted an Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Application to Lab Director Levendusky. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved amending Androme Leather Company, Inc. - Permit No. 110 to incorporate a transfer of ownership including new contact personnel and financially responsible party.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, all Board members present and Manager Brand went into executive session at 7:03 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. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 7:37 P.M. No action was taken.

PERSONNEL

Promote WWTP Operator Trainee: Ty Leonard

Manager Brand reported he interviewed WWTP Attendant Ty Leonard for a vacant WWTP Operator Trainee position. Mr. Leonard meets the minimum qualifications required by Civil Service. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the provisional promotion of WWTP Attendant Ty Leonard to WWTP Operator Trainee, effective 6/12/2025.

Accept Resignation: WWTP Operator Trainee Aaron Tubbs

Manager Brand requested Board approval to accept the resignation of WWTP Operator Trainee Aaron Tubbs. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the resignation of WWTP Operator Trainee Aaron Tubbs, after almost two (2) years of service, effective 6/5/2025.

Deferred Compensation Program

Manager Brand reported the deferred compensation program currently available to GJJWTF employees is administered by Empower and not part of the 457(b) retirement savings plan administered by the NYS Deferred Compensation Plan. Manager Brand seeks to investigate alternative retirement savings plans for GJJWTF employees, specifically the plan administered by NYS. Board member Stover offered to discuss deferred compensation program options with finance staff at the City of Gloversville.

ATTACHMENTS

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2025 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 1, 2, & 3.

Approve Abstract #6

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$271,600.65 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

Capital disbursement sheet totaling \$4,230.00 was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Will Service/Capacity Letter Update

Manager Brand reported a Will Service Capacity/Letter was provided to the bottled beverage industry potentially building in the Tryon Industrial Park. The new industry will be a City of Gloversville water customer. Water samples were requested from the City of Gloversville for copper analysis. The copper results were within the expected reasonable range of 4.1 micrograms per liter.

City of Johnstown Site Evaluation

Manager Brand reported that Johnstown DPW Director Vose and Deputy Engineer Putnam toured the facility's grounds to assess the condition of the storm drains and asphalt damage. Several drains were plugged with sand and debris causing standing water, and some of the basins have sunk. On 6/10/25, four (4) Johnstown DPW workers vacuumed out the blocked storm drains and jetted the connection pipes. DPW will return to clearing drains as their schedule permits. Asphalt repairs will begin after standing water issues are addressed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M. on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Parker, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board