

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2025**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Christopher Vose	Chairman
Bobbi Trudel	Vice Chair
Eric Parker	Secretary
Michael W. Stover	Member
John Rizzo	Member
Deanna Hitchcock	Member
Harry Brand	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Hilary Ruzicky	Administrative Aide

FEBRUARY 12, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the February 12, 2025, regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 5, 14, 18 & 19.

PLANT OPERATIONS

Award Bid: Surplus High Voltage Cable & Conduit

Manager Brand reported a bid opening was held on March 3, 2025, for the sale of new surplus High Voltage Cable and Conduit purchased for a contingency plan developed in the event of a duct bank failure during the Slope Stabilization Project. Bid Specifications were forwarded to twelve (12) potential bidders. A single bid was received from High Voltage Electric Service in the total amount of \$4,900.00 (\$4,000 for 2,500 Ft - 2-1C STR BC Cable and \$900 for 650 Ft - 4" Cantex Rigid Conduit). On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the bid proposal from High Voltage Electric Service in the total amount of \$4,900.00, for the purchase of new surplus High Voltage Cable and Conduit purchased for a contingency plan developed during the Slope Stabilization Project.

Award Contract Cogen Engine #2 Top End Overhaul

Manager Brand reported a contract proposal was received from Milton CAT through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing for OEM CAT parts and service needed to complete a top end overhaul on Cogen Engine #2, as part of the 2025 Capital Plan. The proposal of \$63,220.25 covers the cost of estimated time and materials, including a \$3,300.00 discount for accounts established through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to award a contract to Milton CAT, for OEM CAT parts and service for a top end overhaul of Cogen #2, at the total cost of \$63,220.25.

Award Contract: Dump Truck Chassis and Box

Manager Brand reported on two (2) contract proposals for the procurement of a new Dump Truck, as part of the 2025 Capital Plan. Truck chassis and box are available from separate vendors through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing and NPPGov.

1. A contract proposal was received from HL Gage Sales Inc. through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing for a 2024 International Dump Truck Chassis and Cab with related equipment, accessories and services. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the

Board authorized to award a contract to HL Gage Sales Inc. for the purchase of a 2024 International Dump Truck Chassis and Cab with related equipment, accessories and services, at the cost of \$161,635.00

2. A contract proposal was received from Henderson Truck Equipment through NPPGov a national cooperative procurement organization for a 16-foot Mark E Watertight Stainless Steel Dump Box. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to award a contract to Henderson Truck Equipment, for a 16-foot Mark E Watertight Stainless Steel Dump Box, at the cost of \$61,133.00.

Cross Auger Conveyor Installation

Manager Brand reported on the emergency purchase and installation of a new cross auger for the sludge conveyor in the Solids Handling Building as approved at the February Joint Sewer Board meeting. Installation of the cross auger was completed in-house by the maintenance staff. The sander unit was relocated closer to Belt Press #3 to push more sand to increase total % solids. Moving the sander provides extra mixing distance in the cross auger to potentially support replacement of the incline auger with a belt conveyor and still achieve proper % solids delivered to the landfill. The addition of sand results in the auger wears out every four to five years and the frequent liner replacement which is costly. Troy Belting inspected the site and took measurements to prepare a quote for a new belt conveyor.

Authorize Contract Renewal Term: Montgomery County Sanitary District No. 1

Manager Brand reported Montgomery County Sanitary District No. 1 requested to change the term of their Sludge Disposal Agreement to a start date effective May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027, with the disposal rate stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the request to renew the Montgomery County Sanitary District No. 1 Sludge Disposal Agreement, effective May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027, with the disposal rate stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal.

SPDES Permit Limits: Cyanide and Copper

Manager Brand reported the effluent composite samples for Cyanide are reaching maximum SPDES Permit limits. Increased sampling of Industrial Users and plant processes occurred in February to identify possible sources for the increasing parameters. Sampling also revealed increased amounts of trace Copper. To date no specific source is identified for detection of the increased metals. Additional efforts and sampling will continue.

PERSONNEL

Adoption of Drug & Alcohol Policy

Manager Brand reported he drafted a Drug & Alcohol Free Workplace Policy for the facility. Copies of the newly created policy were provided to each Board member for review. The draft policy was previously approved by GJJSB Legal Counsel and Teamsters Local 294 Union. The policy is necessary to comply with federal grant eligibility requirements and to provide a Drug & Alcohol Free Workplace for all employees. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board adopted the new Drug & Alcohol Free Workplace Policy, as submitted and effective immediately. Manager Brand will provide training and a copy of the policy for each employee.

Healthcare Proposal: Teamsters Local 294 Union

Manager Brand reported the Teamsters Local 294 Union submitted a healthcare proposal as discussed during negotiations of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Insurance broker Brown & Brown confirmed a Qualifying Event for health insurance allowing employees to enroll in or change health insurance plans outside the annual open enrollment period. Interested employees have thirty (30) days to enroll in the new healthcare plan. Manager Brand also noted the new program is in place to provide employees with prescription safety glasses.

ATTACHMENTS

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

Approve Abstract #3

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$203,924.00 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

Capital disbursement sheet totaling \$38,422.85 was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Headworks Analysis: Request For Proposals

Manager Brand requested approval to seek Requests For Proposals (RFP) from engineering firms for a Plant Headworks Analysis to determine maximum level headworks loadings. Board members unanimously agreed RFPs should be sought for a Plant Headworks Analysis.

NYMIR Business Interruption Insurance Claim

Manager Brand reported receipt of a proposed settlement for the NYMIR Business Interruption Insurance Claim for excess energy costs and lost revenue from energy production during the High Yard Recovery Project. Board members were provided Schedule 1 – Summary of Claimed and Calculated Losses for the Period from March 2024 through October 2024. The settlement amount is \$328,797, less the \$100,000 advance issued in 2024, for a total calculation of \$228,797.00, for all Business Income/Extra Expense related items of the claim. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized Manager Brand to execute a Sworn Statement of Proof of Loss for settlement of the NYMIR Business Interruption Insurance Claim for excess energy costs and lost revenue from energy production during the High Yard Recovery Project.

Sludge Dryer: EFC Environmental Listing 2026

Manager Brand reported he contacted Arcadis New York and the Environmental Facility Corporation (EFC) to learn about current funding opportunities through the EFC State Revolving Fund for water and wastewater infrastructure specifically relating to the proposed Thermal Sludge Dryer Project. EFC prepares an Intended Use Plan annually to prioritize water and wastewater projects based on a scoring system and determines which projects can be funded. EFC representative indicated while the probability of the project being awarded grant fundings was not zero, it is likely low. Manager Brand has reviewed a Feasibility Study prepared by Arcadis for EFC grant applications submitted for the Thermal Sludge Dryer Project in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

To date the Thermal Sludge Dryer Project has not been selected for grant funding and is considered an adjacent project to clean water. Manager Brand estimates the current recovery of capital for a Sludge Dryer Project is between 22 and 32 years with 13 million in bonding needed from the cities. An updated Intermunicipal Agreement is also required. Manager Brand has scheduled further discussion with Arcadis regarding Engineering Program Grants. Staff are researching smaller scale sludge dryers to connect to the existing systems.

Based on all the available information and current fiscal environment Manager Brand recommended to the Board that the project be removed from the multiyear listing, as at this time establishing a project schedule for 2026 is extremely unlikely and is required to remain on the list. Board members unanimously agreed that the Sludge Dryer Project be removed from the EFC multiyear listing.

NEW BUSINESS

Sewer Rates

Manager Brand reported the proposed 2025-2026 Sewer Rates will be presented to the Board at the upcoming April Board meeting. The Board decided an extra committee meeting is not necessary. A Public Hearing will be scheduled in late April. If adopted, the rates will become effective on May 1, 2025.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried six (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board members and Manager Brand went into executive session at 7:58 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 (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 8:16 P.M. No action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried (6) in favor, and none (0) opposed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Parker, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board