

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2025

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, May 14, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 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
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Hilary Ruzicky	Administrative Aide
Ian Colvin Marincic	WWTP Engineering Technician
Scott Henze	Director - Fulton County Planning Department

ABSENT

Deanna Hitchcock	Member
------------------	--------

TRYON TECHNOLOGY PARK – Fulton County Sewer District #4

Manager Brand reported the new industry potentially coming to the Tryon Industrial Park has requested a Sewer Will Service/Capacity Letter, to support a proposed bottled beverage manufacturing facility. Manager Brand and Lab Director Levendusky attended an in-person meeting held in Albany on May 7th with representatives from the new industry, Fulton County Planning Department, City of Gloversville Water Department, and Electric & Gas utilities.

The projected wastewater discharge would be 350,000 gallons per day upon completion of Phase 2 of the project. The majority (80%) of the industrial process waste discharge stream will be Reverse Osmosis System (RO) reject (concentrate) wastewater. The water supply to the RO will be City of Gloversville municipal water supply. The remainder of the industrial process waste stream will be from clean-in-place procedures. The industrial process waste will undergo pH neutralization prior to discharge from the facility, and all the industrial waste stream will be metered prior to entering the Fulton County Sewer District #4 sewer collection system. The facility will have a segregated sanitary domestic discharge point that is not metered. The industry shall be billed at the outside user rate (twice the in-city rate). Startup is projected for the 3rd quarter in 2026. Manager Brand stated the GJJWTF has adequate capacity to accept the potential flow and recommended providing the Sewer Will Service/Capacity Letter.

On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized Manager Brand to execute a Sewer Will Service/Capacity Letter supporting there is adequate permitted capacity at the GJJWTF to treat the requested capacity of 350, 000 gallons per day for a new bottled beverage manufacturing facility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 members and Manager Brand went into executive session at 6:22 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), and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 6:38 P.M. No action was taken.

APRIL 9, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the April 9, 2025 regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

APRIL 23, 2025 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

The Board approved the April 23, 2025 Public Hearing minutes for the proposed 2025-2026 sewer rates 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. 10 & 11

PLANT OPERATIONS

Report of Noncompliance Event

Manager Brand reported the effluent composite sample taken on 4/9/25 for Copper, Total exceeded the permit limit for Concentration, the Pounds limit was not exceeded. The lab report received on 4/30/25 contained the following sample results: Concentration at 18 micro-grams/liter (permit limit of 17 micro-grams/liter), and Pounds Calculated at 1.27 lbs/day (permit limit of 1.4 lbs/day). Manager Brand submitted a Report of Noncompliance Event to NYSDEC on 4/30/25. Increased sampling will continue in an effort to identify copper sources and investigation of potential additional copper removal methods.

Odor Complaint

Manager Brand reported a resident from Route 67 Johnstown filed an odor complaint by voice mail on April 28, 2025. Plant operators working the 2nd shift detected a putrid odor and spent 2 hours checking the facility's grounds, tanks, and pits but were unable to determine the odor's source. On April 29th the day shift operators opened Whey Tank #2 and discovered a scum layer in the bottom of the tank emitting foul odors. The tank was immediately flushed and cleaned eliminating all odors. Manager Brand spoke to the resident by phone and reported the complaint to NYSDEC. The complaint was posted to the Odor Complaint Log on the GJJWTF website.

Authorize Bidding: Hydrogen Sulfide Scrubber Media

Manager Brand requested Board approval to seek bids for a 2-year contract for the supply and delivery of media designed to remove hydrogen sulfide gas from biogas. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to advertise bids for the supply and delivery of hydrogen sulfide scrubber media.

Authorize Bidding: Sludge Building Roof Repair

Manager Brand requested Board approval to seek bids for a Sludge Building Roof Repair Project, as part of the 2025 Capital Plan. The roof is leaking in several areas, mainly over the garage. Discussion was held on gathering additional information to develop the bid specifications. 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 authorized to go out to bid for a Roof Repair Project for Sludge Building.

Roadway Safety

Manager Brand reported traffic is traveling at high rates of speed while descending the Union Avenue hill in front of the facility's Administration Building. The traffic includes many large trucks heading to the adjacent Industrial Park and State Highway Route 30A. Plant employees walk and drive across this area several times a day as the facility is located on both sides of Union Avenue. Manager Brand requested the City of Johnstown evaluate the area for installation of safety signage and roadway markings for pedestrian crossing and truck entering/exiting. DPW Director Vose will discuss the specific guidelines and permissions with the City of Johnstown Attorney.

Manager Brand reported he reviewed a bid package available through Fulton County containing roadway repair materials. Asphalt repairs are needed throughout the plant, including around the wet weather tanks, primaries, CAST Headworks, Recirculation Building and Administration Building. DPW Director Vose offered to tour the plant with his pavement foreman to view asphalt damage and discuss assistance from the cities for labor or equipment.

Manager Brand reported a vacuum truck is needed to clear two storm drains clogged full of dirt and debris from the spring runoff in addition to miscellaneous site paving repairs. Vose will also evaluate the drains needing jetting and vacuuming and paving repairs during their tour of the facility scheduled to occur the last week of May.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Sewer Bill Protest: 103 Glebe Street, Johnstown

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 103 Glebe Street in Johnstown. Engineer Technician Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. 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 denied a credit since the water entered the sewer system and had to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 105 N. Main Street, Gloversville

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 105 N. Main Street in Gloversville. Engineer Technician Marincic attempted an inspection of the premises, the property owner never returned his request. 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 permission to inspect the premises was not granted.

ATTACHMENTS

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

Manager Brand noted receipt of a final invoice totaling \$14,934.00 from Carver Construction for the completion of road repairs and final spring cleanup relating to the Cayadutta Creek Slope Stabilization Project. The final Carver and latest GPI invoices were included for payment under Capital Project Disbursements in Abstract #5.

Approve Abstract #5

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$244,832.69 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

Capital disbursement sheet totaling \$14,934.00 was approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Cogen #2 Top End Rebuild

Manager Brand reported Milton CAT completed the Top End Overhaul of Cogen #2, as part of the 2025 Capital Plan. Cogen #2 is back in service.

Manager Brand reported Milton CAT completed Megger testing (polarization index) to assess the condition of insulation of Cogen #1 & Cogen #2, while the tests were within acceptable tolerance it was noted dirty stators and windings on Cogen #1 resulted in lower readings. Cogen #3 went down on Sunday, May 11th with either a bad cylinder or head. Milton CAT will be on site May 15th to diagnose failure of Cogen #3.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Brand requested Board approval to permit employees to take aluminum cages leftover from emulsion tote deliveries. The cages are piling up as refuse and have no use or value to the facility. Board members agreed unanimously to allow employees to take the aluminum cages leftover from emulsion tote deliveries, for personal use only and not to be sold.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 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, June 11, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Parker, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board