

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2026

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, June 10, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Bobbi Trudel	Chair
Eric Parker	Vice Chair
Michael W. Stover	Secretary
Deanna Hitchcock	Member
John Rizzo	Member
Harry Brand	Manager
Nicole Benton	Administrative Aide
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Ian Colvin Marincic	WWTP Engineering Technician
Adrienne Slade	Principal Account Clerk

ABSENT

Christopher Vose	Member
------------------	--------

May 13, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the May 13, 2026 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. 1 & 6.

PLANT OPERATIONS

Vehicle Incident 06/03/2026

Manager Brand reported that a Freightliner truck rolled backward and was ultimately stopped by Jersey barriers while the operator was transitioning between trucks being loaded at the Sludge Building. The operator positioned the Freightliner to enter the sludge building to be loaded, and believed he engaged the parking brake (E-Brake), and proceeded to exit the vehicle and make his way to the dump truck which was full and needed to be moved to allow for the Freightliner to pull forward. While the operator was moving to the dump truck, the Freightliner rolled down the incline until stopped by the Jersey barriers, the force shifted two of the barriers approximately five (5) feet. No damage to the vehicle was reported. The operator was instructed that whenever the Freightliner is placed in neutral, the parking brake must be fully engaged and verified by listening for the audible click indicating the air brakes have been properly set, in addition to hearing the air pressure bleed off the brakes, engaging the brakes. As an additional preventative measure, the facility is evaluating the installation of permanent speed bumps in the area.

CAST Settling Tank Blanket Removal

Manager Brand reported that the CAST Settling Tank has developed a significant floating blanket consisting of fats, oils, grease (FOG), and sludge. Plant staff have utilized the tank aerators to break up and disperse the blanket; however, due to the size of the tank, these efforts have not resulted in sufficient surface movement or removal of the material. On June 15, 2026, Precision will be onsite to remove the floating blanket and clean material accumulated around the center columns. Plant staff previously attempted to remediate the condition by using a fire hose to break up the floating material; however, these efforts yielded mixed results. As a result, the decision was made to use a vacuum truck with the thought that it would be a more effective method for removing the accumulated blanket.

EPA Cybersecurity Assessment

Manager Brand reported that the Cybersecurity Assessment was completed on 6/3/26 and the Report and Risk Mitigation Plan was received 6/5/26. During the assessment, one of the more significant cyber exposure identified was the fact the Operational Technology (OT) network (SCADA) and Information Technology (IT) network are sharing the same fiber network and cybersecurity best practices are that these networks need to be air-gapped, no physical interconnection. Graybar has provided a proposal to upgrade our current fiber network and SCADA system to segregate the two networks, under our Omani Contract, estimated cost of the project is approximately \$75,000. This will require reallocation of funds from the Capital and Equipment Reserve Fund to the General Budget Computerized Instrument & Alarm Monitoring System, revising the 2026 General Fund Budget. Manager Brand stated that he would like to further refine the proposal prior to taking any action regarding the SCADA System and Network upgrade. But given the results of the assessment combined with the fact the SCADA has experienced communication errors in recent months, this project will not be able to be delayed until the 2027 budget year, for concerns of facility operational reliability. The cybersecurity assessment was completed at no cost to the facility through assistance provided by the EPA.

BUDGET/PURCHASE/AUDIT

Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Audit by BST & Co. CPAs

Manager Brand reported that the Fiscal Year 2025 audit process has commenced and is progressing smoothly. All requested documentation has been submitted to BST & Co. CPAs, including supporting records for both industrial and residential billing. During the audit process, a billing discrepancy was identified related to the City of Johnstown, involving the implementation of new water meter reading and billing software, where billed water use was incorrect, resulting in an incorrect charge invoiced to the industry. While the amount billed to the industry was corrected across three months, these revised invoiced amounts were not updated on the Johnstown Sewer Ledger Balance Sheet, which reconciles the money between the City of Johnstown and GJJWTF for sewer costs, resulting in approximately \$6,000 still owed to the GJJWTF. Will work with the City of Johnstown to reconcile this error and ensure appropriate funds due to GJJWTF will be received.

PERSONNEL

WWTP Operator Trainee Termination

Manager Brand reported that a WWTP Operator Trainee was separated from employment on May 26, 2026, under the employee's probationary period. Applications have been submitted to Civil Service and are currently under review to facilitate filling the vacancy as expeditiously as possible.

Onboarding Trainings

Manager Brand reported that three (3) newly hired employees have successfully completed all required onboarding training programs. Training topics included Sexual Harassment Prevention, Workplace Violence Prevention, and Drug and Alcohol Awareness.

ATTACHMENTS

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2026 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 1, 2, & 3.

Approve Abstract #6

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$235,657.29 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Whey Capacity Upgrade Project Feasibility Study Update

Manager Brand reported that a revised draft of the Whey Capacity Upgrade Project Feasibility Study will be completed by June 12, 2026. Comments on the revised draft are due by June 16, 2026. Following the comment period, the draft will be presented on June 23, 2026, to a committee consisting of Chair Trudel,

Board Member Vose, and Board Member Rizzo for review and discussion. A presentation of the feasibility study to FAGE is scheduled for June 24, 2026. Manager Brand will attend the meeting to address any facility-related questions. Manager Brand also reported that he met with Arcadis regarding the CalPrex phosphorus removal process. Arcadis requested authorization to proceed with testing and indicated that there would be no cost to the facility. Samples have been collected and submitted, and test results are currently pending. In addition, Arcadis has coordinated with BDP regarding a Screw Press PILOT study, which the facility is able to support. BDP was on site to evaluate the logistics to support the Screw Press PILOT study, during which they collected sludge samples to conduct polymer testing in support of the pilot study. BDP states that the data gathered from the screw press pilot is transferable for belt press sludge dewatering.

Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)

Manager Brand reported that everything has been provided to the EFC and is currently under review. At this time, there is not any outstanding action required by GJJWTF in support of the grant. Once the EFC completes their review of the information which has been submitted, they will schedule the Scoping Call. Will continue to work with EFC.

Fulton County Sewer District #5 (Mayfield) Update

Manager Brand reported that the billing meter for Sewer District #5 is operational and validated as of 05/08/2026. The methodology to be utilized to calculate the total usage given the flow meter issues for this first period from 3/23/26 through 7/28/26 has been agreed upon.

New Dump Truck Update

Manager Brand reported that he spoke with HL Gage regarding the status of the new dump truck. HL Gage had anticipated receiving the vehicle on June 8, 2026 to complete the final inspection; however, delivery has been delayed. Manager Brand stated that he has contacted Henderson for an updated delivery schedule but has not yet received a response.

NEW BUSINESS

Additional 2026 WET Testing (Five (5) Samples – June, August, September, and October)

Manager Brand reported that additional Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing will be conducted in 2026 due to a prior exceedance resulting in one (1) test failure in the previous year. Sampling has commenced this week, with samples collected on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Additional sampling will continue during the months of July, August, September, and October, for a total of five (5) required test events. The objective is to successfully complete all required sampling events without any additional test failures.

Hauler Request – MJ Drilling

Manager Brand reported that a non-standard septic hauler contacted the facility regarding potential use of the plant for disposal purposes. MJ Drilling indicated interest in disposing of “slurry discharge.” Manager Brand stated that additional information was requested regarding the source, composition, and treatment process generating the proposed discharge. It was also noted that a separate disposal rate may need to be established, as the facility does not currently have an approved rate structure for slurry-type waste. Since the initial inquiry, MJ Drilling has not provided sufficient supporting information to allow the facility to evaluate or proceed with the request.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M. until July 8, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michael W. Stover, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board