

**SANITARY BOARD  
WEIRTON, WV**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**

The Sanitary Board, City of Weirton, met in regular session Thursday, June 13th, 2024 in the Sanitary Board Conference Room, 5000 Freedom Way, Weirton, WV. Chairman, Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Those in attendance were:

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Mayor Harold Miller, Chairman:  
Robert Gribben, Vice Chairman:  
Joseph Barnabei, Board Member:

**SANITARY BOARD OFFICIALS**

A.D. Mastrantoni, Utilities Director  
Richard Ohalek, Secretary  
Dan Guida, Legal Counsel  
Jurosko, Chief Operator

Brian Kuntz, Treasurer  
Connie Wright, Executive Secretary

Brian

Others in Attendance: Ben Erste and Carlos - BHJ, Carl Wilson - Thrasher, Jasen Havens - Assistant Director Water

Board Member Joseph Barnabei; called the meeting to order. Mr. Mastrantoni stated as housekeeping matter since Rick has retired and he was our Secretary of the Sanitary Board, I consulted with our legal adviser and he said it would be appropriate before the meeting or as a part of the meeting to appoint Connie Wright as our Secretary, as acting.

Board Member Joseph Barnabei; made a motion to approve Connie Wright as the acting Secretary of the Sanitary Board as presented; seconded by Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; passed unanimously.

1) Board Member Joseph Barnabei; made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 16, 2024 as presented; seconded by Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; passed unanimously.

2) No comments from citizens:

3) Brian Kuntz presented and reviewed the financial report to the Board members. The Financial Report is as follows: Beginning bank balance as of June 1, 2024 is \$129,070.90; disbursements as of June 13, 2024 is \$163,356.14; bank deposits as of June 13, 2024 \$126,443.27; bank balance as of June 13, 2024 \$92,158.03; disbursements still to be paid for June, 2024 are in the amount of \$227,436.47; June 2024 revenue \$233,272.20; our total then will be \$97,993.76. Your R&R Account has a balance as of June 13, 2024 \$61,073.68 and your Working Capital Account has \$377,402.50 balance. Sanitary Surplus Account has \$705,836.11 and IJDC account \$1,015.12 as of June 13, 2024.

Board Member, Joseph Barnabei; made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented; seconded by Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben, passed unanimously.

4) Approval of unpaid bills; Mr. Barnabei asked about the Budget for 2024-25.

**5) OLD BUSINESS:**

**A) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion:** Butch stated that Jesse Alden could not attend the meeting do to a previous engagement but the did send a written update that he asked for me to read. This as of June 13, 2024, the contract was originally awarded on March 5, 2024, with a notice to proceed issued on March 26, 2024. Thrasher has received over 50 equipment and materials submittals fo the project, Triton has mobilized and completed miscellaneous demolition activities. Triton has begin to the excavation for the blower buildings and sequential back batch reactor basins. Thrashers inspector is on site full time as of June 3, 2024. Butch stated that Thrashers inspector is here this morning, Carl Wilson. The construction project meeting will be held the one coming up on July 11, 2024 at 8:30am. That will be our first actual job progress meeting here. It will be held here in the Conference Room. Mr. Barnabei stated he had a question to Carl, do you have an estimated date of completion? Butch stated that it is a 24 month contract so we are neither behind or ahead right on schedule.

**B) Draw #3:** Ben stated draw number Four is actually draw #3 last month we approved draw number three, but because how invoices have been processed and not to get behind on things with what the DEP wants to do, we are cancelling out last month's draw number three. We are gonna include all those invoices on this month and we're going to redo draw #3. So all the invoices from last month plus the new work from Triton and some more for Thrasher services. Mr. Guida asked Ben if draw three was approved last month and the payments they'll have to resend. Ben stated correct, we will need to resend the old draw three and replace it with the new draw three.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**

Mr. Guida stated its Draw four on the Agenda, Ben stated it is Draw #3 on the Resolution. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that we need to correct the Agenda item to draw three.

Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve to resend Draw #3 for last month as presented; seconded by Board Member Joseph Barnabei, passed unanimously.

Board Member, Joseph Barnabei; made a motion to approve to amend the Agenda Old Business item B we will make this the new Draw #3 not Draw #4as presented; seconded by Chairman, Mayor Harold Miller, passed unanimously.

**B) New Draw #3:** Ben stated that the total for Draw three is \$845,107.39 and it broken down Triton Construction \$769,567.50 and that is funded through the City's ARPA account, Butch has requested that we do the construction line item through the City's funds first so that we can expand those first and then we will move on to other funding sources. The last two items for Thrasher and BHJ are through the CWSRF loans and that is \$74,398.91 for Thrasher and \$1,140.98 for BHJ. Mr. Barnabei asked if any funds were tied to like a time period to spend. Butch stated unless Ben has anything to interject? I think we are good the way the funds are being set up and drawn. Ben stated the breakdown is all the ARPA funds had to be under contract by the end of 2024. Then they had to be expended by the end of 2026, so we are starting with the City's ARPA funds and I am going to move on to the WDA EEG funds because those are also ARPA funds and then there won't be any time lines left for us. Mr. Guida ask about how long will it take to go through those ARPA funds? Butch stated that there is four million and given the size of the project there will be million dollar plus draws. Ben stated we could have 2 million plus draws at the heart of the project so think by September, October and 17 million and the EEG. Mr. Guida stated so we are doing the City ARPA funds first just because of the deadline and also the finance director just wants it out of the budget. Butch state yes she sensitive to that deadline as well. Because it's imposed on the City as well as us. Brian Kuntz asked who should the finance director cut the check to? Ben stated she should but it to Sanitary Board and then pay Thrasher due to audit purposes. Ben stated as soon as she gets that to you pay Triton don't worry about the other funds for BHJ or Thrasher which will take longer from the SRF. Brian Kuntz asked Ben if he will get all the paperwork she needs, Ben stated he will send her a copy of the draw the request in email and include you on it.

Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve to Draw #3 as presented; seconded by Board Member Joseph Barnabei, passed unanimously.

**C) 2024-25 Budget:**

Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve to 2024-25 Budget as presented; seconded by Chairman Mayor Miller, passed unanimously.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**

**A) Resolution: To Purchase a Pump for Country Club Buffer Station:** Brian Jurosko stated that Willow Street Buffer Station Grinder Pump #2 has been in service approximately 2017. We had it sent to Precision Pump and Valve the quote is on the back, it is more cost effective to purchase a new one then to get it rebuilt. We are asking for \$8,932 to purchase a new pump replace the existing one and it is to come out of the R&R Account.

Vice Chairman, Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve to Purchase a Pump for Country Club Buffer Station as presented; seconded by Chairman Mayor Miller, passed unanimously.

**B) Resolution: To Purchase Polymer for Fournier Rotary Press:** Butch stated the next two expenditures are going to be for the yearly total what we anticipate over the next year spending , but we won't draw the entire funds they will be drawn periodically because we receive shipments a month or every two months. Brian Jurosko stated we do this every year. We put it out for bid but Polydyne was the only bidder this year. Once the Board approves it, we won't have to ask the Board every couple months. The approval gives Mr. Mastrantoni the right to sign the requisition and purchase order for the dry and liquid polymer. The first one is to purchase Polydyne in the amount of \$27,060 and to come out of the General Fund.

Vice Chairman Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve as presented; seconded by Chairman, Mayor Harold Miller, passed unanimously.

**C) Resolution: To Purchase Polymer for Rotary Drum Thickener:** Brian Jurosko stated it basically the same but a reduction in price from last year. We were supposed to have another bid, they came in and did jar testing. They never sent us the product to try because we like to actually do a field test on it they did not submit a bid. This is for the Rotary Drum Thickener for the price of \$21,114 to be purchased from Polydyne and funded out of the General Fund.

Vice Chairman Robert Gribben; made a motion to approve as presented; seconded by Chairman, Mayor Harold Miller, passed unanimously.

Mr. Barnabei asked if anyone had anything else, Brian Jurosko stated we have some pictures showing the progress of the construction job. Brian is explaining what each picture is that shown on the overhead projector. Mr. Barnabei asked Carl are we able to use any local labor? Ben stated that Triton is using local labor shifts for much of the work on the project. Carl stated that the iron workers and electricians are going to start Monday and they are out of the local hall. Ben stated that some of that is also statutorily required as part of the grants.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**

Mr. Guida stated I assume you have been in contact or somebody has with Form Energy because I know at some point we need to sync up with when we are done and when they're gonna go full capacity so that we can provide the services water and sanitary where are they at? And we still good with the time line. Ben state we should be and it is his understanding that they are using the old Weirton Steel water system. Butch stated that we extended a 12 in water line into the facility, providing fire protection and portable water service. Ben stated they also have something of their own running. I am not sure what it is though, I assumed it was Weirton. Mr. Guida asked if Weirton Steel is operational? Butch sated he not sure whether they've Cleveland Cliffs further operation of the plant. We have not seen any indication from the Bureau of Public Health that they decommissioned the plant yet. The Sanitary lines have all been tapped from the building into our Sanitary receiving system on the collection system up there and are coming through the Fifth Street pump station and I believe our 16 inch force main. Mr. Guida asked at what point are they projected to really ramp up the work and everything we're going to need the extra capacity? Butch stated from attending the meetings with Form. They haven't started full production but toward the middle to end of this month. They anticipate initializing a crew and doing the prototype battery construction on the site. They're looking at July 1 as being the first regular monthly production of batteries in this facility. So around the middle or end of this month. I think there's some employees on site now. They were doing an exercise what they called calibrating, and that was setting the machines in place in the mall up to operate and determining the best flow. So they're in that calibrating stage now. And from my discussions with Mr. Hammett it looked like on after the 15th they would get into the actual prototype building of a battery here at this facility. Mr. Guida stated I always thought when they hit peak production or capacity that we don't have the existence. Ben stated they're building another building starting in this fall, this is the first part but they're building a second building and I'm under the impression that they potentially may buy more land, so there's this specific building, I don't think would cause us any problems with what they're planning on doing. It's anything beyond that we start. Mr. Mastrantoni stated they're ramping up their production or their need for water and wastewater but it's not going to be on day one on July one when they start. They're not expecting 425,000 gallons of water and sending back 375,000 gallons. Ben stated yeah, they still have a significantly important workforce that's gonna be here I believe until for about another year at least a year and a half of like, all you're your former tech employees from Tesla and Microsoft and Google and whatever programming everything is there. They're going to be getting their prototype, but they're not going to be a full production for a little while. And they still I mean, there's that building of constructions that have never been in there recently, but it's no I mean, they've got a lot of work and they're going very fast, but they're behind schedule for where they want to be. They're moving quicker than we expected. They're more concerned about the industrial access road that has been causing problems but they've not complained about the water and sewer at all. To me at least to our agency.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024**

Mr. Barnabei asked if anybody have anything else?

**D) Next Board Meeting Date :** The next regular meeting of the Sanitary Board is Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 10:00 am in Conference Room at Waste Water Treatment Plant, 5000 Freedom Way Weirton, WV 26062.

The job progress meeting will be at 8:30am in the morning and then our regular meeting as scheduled

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. with no further business to discuss. Board Member, Joseph Barnabei made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Chairman, Mayor Miller passed unanimously.

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Sanitary Board, Secretary

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Chairman- Mayor Harold E. Miller