

West Hanover Township Authority Monthly Meeting Minutes

July 7th, 2021

20 Attendees including board, staff, solicitor and public

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Fowler called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
2. **ROLL CALL:** All board members present
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**
 - a. A motion to approve the monthly meeting minutes from June 2nd, 2021 was made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Geppert. Motion passed.

4. **CORRESPONDANCE:**

Mr. Fowler acknowledged an email from Sharon Swank regarding her concern of the warehouse project being considered on the north side of 39 and it would qualify for the non-urbanized credit as well as them having the same stormwater rate as residential.

5. **BOARD COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Fowler informed the PSATs stormwater conference September 21st & 22nd, \$125 pp includes materials and lunch if registered before August 1st, after \$150 pp. If any of the board members are interested in attending, let Alexis know.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Paul DeVincenzo

Commented as an EAC member, at their meetings, they are asked to comment on plans submitted for initial approval for the Planning Commission with regards to EAC issues, often, there is always an overlay for stormwater management. EAC members are not engineers, but still make comments that hopefully are helpful to the planning process of West Hanover's development. Should the Authority consider doing something similar? Mr. Fowler responded that in the past he has received plans to review but for the most part we rely on the Township to enforce the stormwater requirements so there is not much input the board has. Mr. Stinnett commented the Authority board is not required to review / sign off. Mr. DeVincenzo believes with the Authority being newer there would be value in it for training. Mr. Fowler thanked Mr. DeVincenzo for his comments agrees it would be a good idea for them to keep in communication to work together.

Mike Kreiser, 483 Hershey Road

Would like to be on the record regarding the email he sent to the board stating his disagreement with the partnership credit for 7439 Manor Drive.

7. **PRESENTATIONS, STAFF & BOARD REPORTS:**

- a. **Administration**
 - i. Alexis activity report for June
- b. **Projects**
 - i. Recommendation on Lakeside Project

Mr. Gossert stated they are still missing 3 O&M agreements and easements; another resident that already signed has since withdrawn their support of the project. The Board of Supervisors do not want to go the route of eminent domain. Mr. Gossert recommended at this time to move their focus to another project and keep Lakeside in mind for future projects. Mr. Stinnett stated the idea of the project originally was the property owners would maintain the areas of the easements. If we were to go

through eminent domain then the Township and the Authority would be responsible. The PRP will need reevaluated. The board, Mr. Gossert and Mr. Stinnett discussed future projects, finding willing partners, possibility of permit extensions and expirations, and the cost effectiveness of stream restoration projects. Mr. Stinnett informed the board they do have the authority of eminent domain however it is easier if the Township would undertake that. No action needed to be taken.

Mr. Gossert informed the board he had a Zoom call with HRG and the Army Core of Engineers to discuss evaluating our system with construction and replacement projects. It's a matching program at 50%. Our GIS data was sent to them to review for a new process. With the American Rescue Act funds the Township receives, these could be eligible projects. Mr. Fowler stated we do have money in the budget but if we are getting 50%, we might want to jump on that especially because they also provide the man power so we don't have to overrun the public works department. They have the technology to get video of all culverts and pipes, pole cameras, and have strategies for lowering fees.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Shradley stated the Mid Penn bank balance was \$1,004,562.57. Approval of invoices totaling \$111,024.41 for HRG (2), WHT to WHTA (3), DCCD. Mr. Fowler asked if the public works projects were on the township invoices? Mr. Gossert said we can invoice for those separately. A motion was made to approve the invoices as presented by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Steinmeier. Motion passed.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. 2020 Delinquency collections from May - \$638.50 (\$110.94 in penalties)
- b. C21-04 -7439 Manor Drive, recommendation of approval of partnership credit for 45% (30% automatic low impact for a total of 75%)

Mr. Fowler reminded we approved this subject to Mr. Stinnett's analysis of whether the property qualifies for the partnership credit. Mr. Stinnett confirmed, as stated under the rates, rules, and regulations; partnership credits are limited to nonresidential parcels, as defined so Mr. Bailey's parcel does not qualify for the partnership credit. The action we took last month is voided and needs re-voted on. Based upon the recommendation of Mr. Stinnett, we will have the HRG analysis revised and he can apply for additional credits to bring him to the 50% max.

The board had a discussion on scheduling workshops to review the budget, rates, and credits available, and commercial rate structures. They also discussed neighboring township's stormwater rates and rules, PSATs articles, using PennVest, and possibility of borrowing funds to lower rates. They understand the ramifications of another rate change.

- c. Engineering proposals for Pollution Reduction Plan BMP-1 and BMP-2

One project is on the Beaver creek and the other is a tributary of Beaver creek. Mr. Fowler stated we received proposals from Rettew and HRG. The board discussed giving one project to each considering both are well qualified. Ms. Zimmerman suggested going with Rettew for both based off price. Mr. Geppert agreed and stated it's the resident's money so we should spend it wisely. Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to give both projects to Rettew, nothing against HRG. Seconded by Mr. Steinmeier. Mr. Shradley abstained. Motion carries.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Approval of Credits

- i. C21-05 – 937 Sawmill Road. Recommendation: Approval of rain barrel credit (\$52)

Motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Geppert. Motion passed.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

The board discussed the new bill passed regarding agendas needing to be transparent and provided to the public 24 hours before the meeting, this is effective August 30th. Mr. Stinnett plans to discuss this with Mr. Gossert in further details. We will get the agenda out by Monday or Tuesday prior to meetings knowing we can't make any changes to it.

Mr. Geppert asked if we are earning interest and if we have a figure set for the amount we would like to keep as a balance in our account. Mr. Fowler replied it would be a good idea to pick an amount or a percentage of our balance that we would like to carry forward. Mr. Fowler would like this added to the agenda for one of the budget workshops.

The board discussed the possibility of turning our attention to flood control since we are not doing the Lakeside Project at this time. We've been informed by residents of problem areas and we should focus on meeting the need of residents. This would be a better balance with our projects. The board would like an estimate on the flooding project for Avondale by the next meeting. Mr. Gossert commented that typically the flood control projects are difficult because you fix the flooding in one area, it diverts to another so you have several areas to focus on and could take years to get the design.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT:

James Bailey – 7439 Manor Drive

Asked to clarify the partnership percentage on the agenda. 45% partnership, the parcel automatically qualifies for 30% low impact for a total 75% credit.

Richard Enck – 7112 Hillside Road

Commented on the bridge over the Beaver Creek that Lower Paxton just rebuilt and there not being pipes along the creek. Mr. Enck wanted to make sure the board was aware that the revised Keystone bills didn't go out yet, residents are waiting for new bills. He also mentioned different articles regarding agencies doing water shed cleanups.

Mike Kreiser- 483 Hershey Road

Discussed other townships are partnering together. Mr. Kreiser commented the stream, not the Beaver Creek, on Picketown Road is flooding the pumping station. Mr. Fowler responded that Dauphin County is working on their countywide stormwater program which provides grants for projects, we have indicated our willingness to participate in the program.

13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- a. Gloria Zimmerman - None
- b. Mike Geppert - None
- c. Max Shradley - None
- d. Don Steinmeier - None
- e. Robert Fowler - None

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Fowler entertained a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Shradley, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman. Motion passed. Meeting ended at 7:52 pm.

Next meeting August 4th, 2021