

West Hanover Township Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 4th, 2021

17 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 motion was made to approve the 7/7 monthly meeting minutes as presented, which do indicate the correspondence from Mr. Kreiser. Moved by Mr. Steinmeier, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman. Motion passed.

4. **CORRESPONDANCE:**

Mr. Fowler advised the Authority received an email with photos from Amber Albright on 7/1 regarding ongoing flooding at Avondale Terrace.

5. **BOARD COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Steinmeier commented on the red tide and pollution in Florida, which killed millions of fish.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Richard Enck – 7112 Hillside Road

Commented on heavy rain events and the construction / permits with DEP in the Winslett development. HRG confirmed to Mr. Enck, it's not an MS4 problem currently because it's under the DEP permits. The board, Ms. Schnall and Mr. Gossert discussed builders' projects and their requirements with ordinances, enforcement and what actions does the Authority have to enforce the requirements. Ms. Schnall will investigate what the legal process would be for the Authority.

John Meehan – Agape Fellowship Church

Mr. Meehan has been retired from DEP for 10 years. Commented on DEP's permits and cost of fines with violating the permits. Recommended the dirt and gravel road training and other courses by Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation Districts, and DEP for the public works department or township manager. The church is attending a fertilizer management course for credits, wants to know if that course is acceptable for the credit? Mr. Fowler asked for them to provide a copy of the syllabus and we will send to HRG to review.

Dave Reckner – 1352 Appleby Court

Asked questions regarding various credits available in the Authority's Rates, Rules and Regulations.

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

a. **Administration**

i. Alexis' activity report for July

b. **Public Works**

i. Cost Estimate – Avondale flood control project: Mr. Gossert reported the work is close to being done, cost estimate is still pending.

ii. Update on COE matching program

Mr. Gossert informed the board the inlet and stormwater management data has been sent, they are working on a price and will get back to us. This is a 50% matching program to assess our mapping system and prioritize projects.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT:

- a. Mr. Shradley stated the Mid Penn bank balance as of 8/2/21 is \$914,127.54
- b. Approval of invoices totaling \$10,924.59 (Salzmann Hughes, Light Heigel (2), HRG (2), PA DEP). Mr. Fowler entertained a motion to approve the invoices as presented. Moved by Mr. Shradley, seconded by Mr. Geppert. Motion passed.
- c. Approval of refunds for revised bills due to appeals, payments made and Dauphin County re-assessments totaling \$566.39. Mr. Fowler entertained a motion to approve the refunds. Moved by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Shradley. Motion passed.
- d. June Keystone Collections statement
 - i. 2020: \$6,164.71 (\$488.80 in penalties)
 - ii. June 2021: \$13,504.92

Alexis confirmed the July statement from Keystone Collections was not yet available.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. C21-04 ,7439 Manor Drive: 45% partnership credit (30% automatic low impact for a total of 75%). Tentatively approved at 6/2 meeting, recommended by Mr. Stinnett for denial at 7/7 meeting, not qualified for partnership credit due to being a residential parcel. New recommendation: approval of underground detention \$52. A motion was made to deny the partnership credit. Moved by Mr. Shradley, seconded by Mr. Geppert. Motion passed. A motion was made to approve the underground detention provided Mr. Bailey pay the \$25 application fee to move forward. Moved by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Shradley. Motion passed. Alexis confirmed Mr. Bailey has paid the application fee.

The board then discussed the possibility of amending sections of the Rates, Rules and Regulations and being able to approve partnership credits on a case-by-case basis.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. PennVest borrowing discussion

Mr. Fowler informed the Penn Vest borrowing has been discussed by this board since 2019. Their original hesitancy was not knowing the future of the MS4 program and leaving stranded debt. It's now clear the MS4 program is not going away. The board discussed the option of funding debt service in lieu of pay as you go, helping fund projects and repairs and spreading the cost of the required projects over 20 years which can help lower rates and if the public is aware of the cost of the projects that have been mandated. Mr. Gossert clarified that this is not to fund the stormwater Authority, it is to fund stormwater projects. The board confirmed their interest in PennVest to Mr. Gossert.

- b. Possible workshop dates:

The board agreed 6 pm on Wednesday September 22nd for the expenditure side, Wednesday October 13th for the revenue side.

For future meeting agendas, the board would like MS4 projects added to the presentations, staff, and board reports section. An end of the month report from Rettew should be indicated.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Richard Enck – 7112 Hillside Road

Commented on Lower Paxton Township receiving a grant for their bridge, inlet, and stream restoration projects.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- a. Gloria Zimmerman – Looking forward to the workshops. Will be a good opportunity to review our Rates, Rules and Regulations
- b. Mike Geppert – Asked if nonprofits pay sales tax? Ms. Schnall confirmed if they qualify for a public charity under Pennsylvania law they do not.
- c. Max Shradley – Commented on the great job the public works department is doing on Avondale.
- d. Don Steinmeier – Believes the board is moving in the right direction and hoping to find a way to lower fees.
- e. Robert Fowler – Discussed a separate credit manual. The board asked Alexis to pull the credits so they can review credits they may want to make updates to. This will make it easier for residents.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Fowler entertained a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Shradley, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman. The meeting ended at 8:02 pm.

Next meeting September 1st, 2021