

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MAY 6, 2025

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., Secretary S. Hall, Treasurer P. Bauman, and member F. Wasowicz. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Section 1: All reports to be accepted in one motion

A.) MINUTES

The minutes from the 4/1/25 meeting were brought up for discussion. There were no corrections.

B.) TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL PAYMENT

Treasurer P. Bauman read the treasurer's report and bill list. George said there will be an additional bill in the amount of \$650.00 for a wastewater biologist from Linden, PA. who was recommended by the new sewer plant contractors. He will be here this week at the plant, to teach a class to all our crew. This is to review microbiology for reducing N & P, testing, and math dealing with tests. George is thinking of doing a CBOD test, so we do not have to wait for BOD results. Xylem set a program for our ICEAS system. Currently we are using 25% caustic for alkalinity and pH, PAX for phosphorus, micro-seed to feed bugs and polymer: pollu-treat CL246 for the sludge press. S. Hall asked when Matt will test. George said he is still figuring out everything down there and when he does, will start taking classes toward getting his license. George took his test for the new plant and is working under Scott Sample from NTSWA who has his operator's license. George hopes Chad will take the test in the spring. Dan is going to take a test this fall.

Pat asked about the stp electric bills. Leesa said the bills now show them making credit adjustments, but an actual written reply has not been received. She has not received a written reply from Frontier either, on the water bills showing the correct payment postings.

A notice was received from Penelec, dated 4/13, regarding the electric bills for the stp. Customers whose electric meters register an excess of 1,500 kWh for 2 consecutive months are subject to demand billing. A review of our use indicates we meet this criteria. The account will be moving to the General Secondary Medium rate, GSM, which will result in a demand charge listed as kW on the bill. Mike said when it starts up there will be a surge. Start up and stopping is critical to this type of operation of the stp. He really thinks we need to look into grants for getting solar panels. We will be running the generators more often each month, so there is no problem when needed if there is a power outage, and we cannot let them just sit idle.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by S. Hall, "That the minutes, treasurer's report and bill payments be accepted." All in favor.

Section 2: Old Business

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

Nothing on the well. George said Dan will be flushing the hydrants starting in June. George said flushing should be done before any water heads north when starting to fill the line. No water will be going north until early fall probably. Valves will be installed, and water will be put in a little at a time since the water in the pipe has to be chlorinated. Our tank also has to be operating so our other projects there have to be completed. George said our town water pressure is around 90.

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B.) DELINQUENTS

The list was in the packets. Notes have been sent out.

C.) INFILTRATION

George checked with Matt about the levels from all the rain. We had 3.6" of rain since 5/1. The pump house has been taking care of it. When Insight was doing the slip lining, there is one problem on S. Wmsn. that will have to be fixed. When they checked the level in the manhole, they could not see the bottom of the pipe. The lining work will cut back on flows which will save on costs for treating the water at the plant. The flow was 800,000 gallons from the rain, and in the past could go over a million.

D.) WATER FUTURE I-99/BUSINESS 15 CORRIDOR

They have the funding and hope to start in the summer. They have their meeting Thursday and hope to have all the information from RUS to proceed. The contracts were awarded, and there are a few things their attorney, C. Lantz, has to prepare for RUS.

E.) CASSELBERRY

Nothing to report. M. Stoudt said before it was discussed if Arnot would want to connect to us. George has information in his office and can look for it.

F.) OLD HOSPITAL

Nothing to report but Leesa said the buzzards are back.

G.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/NEW CHLORINE BUILDING

George said it is working well, and Dan had no report other than it is being used more often. It is running 2 or 3 days a week and sometimes over the weekend.

H.) NEW STP

The final inspection was done on 5/1, and everything was good. George had mentioned a few things that were not part of the contract. The members were given a copy of the letter from RUS regarding remaining project funds. Their policy was described in the Letter of Conditions dated 7/18/18 and 7/30/22. Remaining funds after all costs incident to the basic project have been paid or provided for will not include applicant contributions. The remaining funds may be used for eligible loan or grant purposes, provided the use will not result in major changes to the facility and the purpose remains the same. Loan funds not needed will be applied as extra payment on indebtedness and grant funds not expended will be cancelled. Prior to actual cancellation the Authority, Attorney and Engineer will be notified of the intent to cancel the remaining funds. He is working with us to utilize the remaining funds for authorized purposes which he would like requisitioned no later than 5/30/25. We are pursuing use of remaining funds to cover agreed upon final collection system lining currently underway, the approved reimbursements, deposits to debt service reserve and remaining engineering fees. It is their intent to cancel any remaining grant funds after providing us with the appropriate appeal rights unless by our signature we concur with the decision to return or cancel the remaining funds. The members were given an estimate sheet which Cheryl had done: After Alternate A balance of grant was \$782,061.05. Alternate B \$245,000.00; reimbursement expenses \$164,000.00-things we paid for out our regular funds. Debt Reserve \$85,000.00, leaving a balance of \$285,000.00. She did not know if there would be a final HRG bill. There was also one more section of relining by Insight which George had gotten the cost for. We will see if we will have enough of our own funds to pay for lateral repair work needed on N. Wmsn. Rd. that was found after the Insight camera work. George would like to have Insight do the repair work in the future and Mike said to get some price quotes to put into our budget for next year.

I.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

George said he was here last week and be back again this week and will talk about the traveling bridge since the pall won't work unless there was a sewer line installed up there.

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J.) BR DAM

M. Stoudt said we have to look at stabilizing up there along the stream bed where we did the work and George said he sent the video to S. Bray.

K.) PAINT BR TANK

The crew will be coming this month since the warranty runs out. Mike called today and left a message. We paid the invoice from Penelec, and they are to come 5/12. Our side is ready for them. P. Bauman asked if we should have our attorney draft a letter to the tank crew as we do not want the warranty jeopardized. George will call his contact with the company first.

L.) CYBERSECURITY

Joe reported everyone has completed their second quarter training. On 5/13 is their next quarterly meeting.

M.) GENERATORS

The one for Bellman is ordered and Mikes hopes it will be delivered in the fall. The others are good to go. Hunter/Lomison checked the one at the stp. It has been scheduled to come on load the first Monday of each month. At Taylor they did a test report on the engine oil as they have to run since they are new and need to be broken in.

N.) METERS

O.) FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT

Mike has not seen the right Penelec crew to ask.

Section 3: New Business

A.) HRG REQUEST-No. 22 USDA FUNDING GRANT MONEY

The last request is for Insight slipline work as RUS would like it done no later than 5/30.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY

#88 was received 4/18 and deposited directly into the BWC Royalty account. The report was in the packets. The report is for 2/25. The Treasurer transferred all but \$2,000 to avoid a bank charge to BWC MMI #6018.

C.) C&N INTEREST STATEMENTS, CD'S, FCCB

The Treasurer reported the LPL CD matured 4/30. We can either transfer it to FCCB or open another account with LPL. FCCB interest rate is about 3.65 but the C&N LPL is closer to 4%. He suggests that we transfer the CD proceeds into the LPL money market, along with funds in the insured cash account, to open another LPL, earning the best interest. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we authorize the treasurer to do the transaction at C&N LPL." All in favor.

D.) TAPPING FEES

George has been busy with other projects and still has to do research in back files when we extended lines around town.

E.) WATER LINE STATE YARD

F.) NEW TRUCK

The new truck was ordered with delivery in the fall. The Boro will pay using Act 13 funds, so the cost will not be split with the Authority. It is a 2025 F350, getting a plow and other upfitting which will be done by Watson Diesel. All agree this can be taken off the agenda.

Section 4: Borough Manager's Report

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A.) HILLSIDE ROOF

George said the members were sent an email with a price quote for a new roof and insulation for the well house from Karl Miller. The total cost for the two is \$11,408.61. The shingles will match up with the R&G. P. Bowman asked about using cellulose. Mike said there is fiberglass there already. Cellulose has a higher setting rate than fiberglass which will diminish the R Value. It is also more prone to rodent infestation and moisture retention. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we accept the quote from Karl Miller for the well house." All in favor. Karl will be notified to put us on his schedule.

B.) S. Hall asked about the results from the new water source they are drilling in Arnot, since it was high in iron. They are going to move east toward Mine #5 across the road in the area of their sign. If they put a well in, Arnot would have to produce the funds because DEP will not pay for it. Two of their supervisors asked about the costs to connect to us and there is a formula S. Bray uses. P. Bauman asked if we have enough manpower to take on another and we do not and would have to hire more. There are some things we do for them now and they reimburse us.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM on motion of S. Hall seconded by J. Bubacz, with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN-----

SECRETARY-----