

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
JUNE 3, 2025

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, June 3, 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 Recording Secretary L. Lazouras.

**GUESTS:**

Bloss Twp. Supervisors Todd Berguson, Mark Strange and Bob Harzinski.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He noted we lost two upstanding citizens, Tom McNamara and Joann Ogden, and asked for a moment of silence.

The guests were in attendance to discuss their water situation in Arnot. They had drilled a test well and Jim Casselberry hoped it would be an additional source for them, but it was too high in iron, so that was capped off. They discussed looking for another source, but were concerned about additional funding, or looking into coming onto our line and the costs associated with that. They would have to tap on by B&D, which would require them to run a line and what that would cost them. S. Hall said without connecting to us there is nothing we can do but if they were to connect there would be more possibilities in that area. We just finished putting a tank in which was to help with water going north for the UTRRA project. It was suggested having their engineers look for grant funding available and be able to check with the County Commissioners who give out grants in the County from Act 13 funds. Arnot has been lucky for 80 years that they are still getting water out of the mine drift. There would have to be a feasibility study done. Arnot just raised their rates after about 30 years, a few dollars, and if on with us that would increase the price to their customers again and are concerned what their customers could afford. They have about 180 customers and summer camps to service. They read their own meters and are halfway through upgrading them. Their tank is 50+ years old and has bullet holes in it. A new tank could cost about \$700,000 so you have to look for funding sources. They would also have to look at a pump house. S. Hall said their tank is 60,000 gallons and if needed for a fire, in an hour it could be drained. A tank is designed for normal use and how much water would be needed to keep it full. M. Stoudt said Morris Run had gotten Penn Vest funding for their water line to hook on to us. They maintain their system. Any leaks we have repaired or George calls Stuart Lisowski to fix. They pay us monthly for water consumption, and when our rate goes up, so do theirs. Any repair work done by us is repaid by them.

They were told for our new sewer plant we got a grant and loan through USDA/RUS, and our loan repay is about \$315,000 a year for 40 years. USDA/RUS also told us what our sewer rates had to be to our customers to be able to repay the loan.

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If there is a leak that occurs, if we cannot locate it, PA. Rural Water comes to help.

If Arnot got another source, they should keep their current source and use it at least once a month so the water does not get stagnant and keep their permit with DEP active because it would be extremely expensive if they had to get it re-permitted.

We were fortunate to be able to put in another tank and it is one of the cleanest aquifers in the state. Todd questioned if something were to happen on the new highway and affected the water. Before the highway was put in, we always tested our water, so we have documented proof of its condition. Since the road was put in, we continue to take samples of the water and keep records should anything happen, such as a spill, to know when it occurred and what is in it. There is also zoning that our watersheds are protected, with a safety area around them, which is part of our required DEP permits. We also have to work with DCNR, the Forestry Dept., and the Fish Commission. The boys thanked the members for all their input and left the meeting at 7:45 PM.

PennDOT has been in contact with George about getting water to their state yard on the other side of the new Route 15 ramp.

Section 1: All reports to be accepted in one motion

A.) MINUTES

The minutes from the 5/6/25 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. He asked George about the chemical bills for the STP from Amrex which seem high. There are two bills for May. The caustic soda is \$10.55/gal.; the pax is \$6.62/gal. to treat the Phosphorus; and the bio-carb is \$5.00/gal. to feed the bugs. We are really doing good on our nitrogen and phosphorus readings. The polymer is \$19.31/gal. We have 2-20-yard containers for the sludge removal which goes to the landfill. The last one was taken in April and just took the other one today. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "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 to report.

B.) DELINQUENTS

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Notices were sent out. One person that needs to pay on Ruah St. called and complained about his bills. Since 2013 it was a duplex and has been billed for 2 units and now is saying it is just one house not two. They are way behind and only send a payment occasionally. He has asked for the bill to be adjusted. They looked at past billings sent, so George offered him a deal if we make an adjustment by taking a dollar amount off the balance, and he did not think it was enough and did not accept it. That being the case if he does not pay anything we will shut him off. It was noted that they never notified us in writing, or by phone that it was no longer two units.

C.) INFILTRATION

There is a sewer clean out on N. Wmsn. Rd. between the VFW and Costy's house that is leaking. We ran the camera and found it, so the water was shut off until we fix it.

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

There is a list of things for RUS that Cheryl has to do. Possibly work will start next month. They will start by the pump house to put the line in and will start to fill the line doing a section at a time since the pressure will be reducing going north. There will be a meter put on that for them to repay us for the gallons that go through it.

E.) CASSELBERRY

He is working on the well on DCNR by House's and George called the Repsol man to have him contact Jim. The man from DEP retired so Jim has to start with a new person. It could take about two years to have it up and running.

F.) OLD HOSPITAL

S. Hall heard they caught four kids trespassing inside the building last night as someone saw flashlights in there.

G.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/NEW CHLORINE BUILDING

Everything is working fine. Mike talked with Martz as the phone system is working correctly for us to see what is occurring all the time and for them to see also.

H.) NEW STP

An email was in the packets from RUS about the remaining funds not used for the WWTP. This will be Requisition #22: \$167, 709.11 project eligible reimbursable items purchased by BMA. \$207,017.82 establish another restricted Debt Service Reserve account toward our annual loan repayment. \$247,429.50 to Insight Pipe for Alternate B CIPP work. \$11,643.13 represents \$603.13 to HRG, \$3,040.00 reimburse to BMA for S. Bray engineering for Insight work, \$8,000.00 cost of 2024 single audit for project. When the first CD we opened for Debt Service Reserve matures in 2028, we will combine the two accounts into one.

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I.) BRAY WWTP EVALUATION

S. Bray will be working on the paperwork with help from his DEP contact.

J.) BR DAM

S. Bray was sent the video to look at stabilizing along the stream bed.

K.) PAINT BR TANK

The crew was here to inspect and made a video of the inside. The cathodic protection is on now. Mike said the wiring is in place and it is a simple system with one red and one green light. They should inspect every five years. All in agreement this can be taken off the agenda.

L.) CYBERSECURITY

Joe said they had their quarterly meeting. Dan's laptop will have to be replaced. It could be around \$2,000 for everything but will get prices.

M.) GENERATORS

N.) METERS

O.) FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT

Section 3: New Business

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

The total request is \$633,799.56, which was discussed. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Debt Service Reserve, which we will also open at FCCB, there is no restriction on the type of account we open but we have to provide them with a bank statement on this also. One loan repayment has to be made in February and the other in August. The two repayments per year total about \$315,000.00 for 40 years. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "That we approve Request No. 22," with all in favor. S. Hall and J. Bubacz signed the request.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY

#89 was received 5/22 and deposited directly into the BWC Royalty account. The report was in the packets. It is from 1/23 to 3/25. The Treasurer transferred all but \$2,000 to avoid a bank charge to BWC MMI #6018.

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

D.) TAPPING FEES-George still doing research.

E.) WATER LINE STATE YARD-George will return a call to his contact.

F.) R&G PROPOSAL SEAMLESS GUTTERS

This is from BSSeamless Gutters from Monroeton. The amount is \$1,380.00 for a 6" gutter and downspouts. It was in the packets. When the roof work was discussed with Karl Miller, he noted the old ones were really bad and not seamless. The old ones have been there for about 30 years. The old ones were 5" but Mike said 6" would be better now. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we accept this proposal." All in favor. Karl did a good job, and the approved insulation will save on heating costs. Mike said it still has to be power washed, which Chad can do, and the doors and windows painted.

G.) The PMAA Act book for 2025-2026 was received. It was decided not to order extra copies but keep the book in the office should anyone want to look at it.

Section 4: Borough Manager's Report

A.) George asked if Cheryl could be put on the bank account with FCCB, online, to be able to log in to view and print the RUS bank account statements that have to be sent to them for our WWTP project. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, "That Cheryl can be added to access, online, the RUS accounts." All in favor. The Treasurer will need her email and password to set it up.

B.) George said he has been talking with Chad, and he seems interested in taking the operator's classes for the new plant. They would be twice a week and then there is a final test.

C.) In the packets was a picture of a lot of stones and gravel pumped out from when the sewer relining was done.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM on motion of S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, with all in favor.

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CHAIRMAN

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TREASURER