



Water Pollution Control Authority

REGULAR MEETING

April 16, 2025

MINUTES

Members Present: Dan Parisi (Chairman), Shawn Koehler, Paul Gilbert, Tom Walker

Members Absent: Aaron Foster

Others Present: Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neill)

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

2. Citizen's Forum (non-agenda items)

None

3. Approval of March 19, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2025, REGULAR MEETING.

4. Old Business

1. Cider Mill – Single Family

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) went to the property today (4/16/2025) to camera the line to find the lateral. No lateral is present, however there is a tee-wye available for connection so the main will not need to be tapped. A sewer permit will need to be pulled to proceed with the connection.

2. Development of parcel 046-003-0002

No updates.

3. 7 Hilltop Dr. Extension Easement

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated that both property owners in this area were contacted and are interested in obtaining an easement. He will start working on the process to do so. The owner of # 7 did give permission for the WPCA to utilize their driveway to complete the I&I work that was unable to be done previously. At this time, it does not make sense financially to remobilize Savy & Sons for this repair, we will add this work to the next set of I&I repairs that will be scheduled at a later date.

4. Stafford Sewer Main & H₂S Concerns

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated that we will continue to work with Stafford to try to resolve this issue. Installing the gas meters in the manholes to collect data will be the first course of action. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) is currently working with the manufacturer of Ellington's meter as he currently cannot download any data.

Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority

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Regular Meeting Minutes

Shawn (Member) asked Marshall (F&O) what the cause of the H₂S could be. Marshall stated that it is usually from too much retention time in the forced main causing a chemical reaction to release the gas. It was mentioned that there is material built up in the pipes in Stafford restricting flow possibly leading to high H₂S levels. Some investigation on whether this is iron related or from illegally piped water softeners back washing into the sewer system will have to be done. Marshall recommended sampling the raw water coming into the plant for iron and salt content.

5. New Business

1. 6 Majus Circle Sewer Use Bill Credit Request

Ron Cheeseman, resident of 6 Majus Circle, submitted a letter explaining that the drought during the summer of 2024 caused significant damage and disease to his lawn. As a result, he hired Green Meadow Lawn Care to address the issues, which included the need for reseeding. To support the new growth, consistent watering was required from the summer through the fall due to the ongoing lack of rainfall. The excessive watering caused his water bill to be much higher than normal, which in turn caused his sewer bill to also be very high. Ron also sent in past water and sewer bills to show normal usage. He is asking for credit on his April sewer bill.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A CREDIT ON THE APRIL BILLING FOR 6 MAJUS CIRCLE IN THE AMOUNT OF 44,000 GALLONS, TOTALING \$370.00, PENDING APPROVAL OF THE CREDIT FROM VERNON TO ELLINGTON. THIS CREDIT IS BEING GRANTED ON THE BASIS THAT THE WATER USED DID NOT ENTER THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, DUE TO LAWN RESEEDING AND RESTORATION EFFORTS FOLLOWING THE 2024 SUMMER DROUGHT. THIS SHALL BE CONSIDERED A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION OF THIS NATURE GRANTED ONCE PER PROPERTY.

2. 214 Windsorville Rd. Sewer Use Bill Credit Request

Jim McBride, resident of 214 Windsorville Rd., submitted an email along with past and present water and sewer bills. In his email he explained that he had a new lawn and irrigation installed in October of 2024. The new lawn needed more water than anticipated. He is asking for a credit on the April sewer use bill.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A CREDIT ON THE APRIL BILLING FOR 214 WINDSORVILLE RD. IN THE AMOUNT OF 49,000 GALLONS, TOTALING \$412.00, PENDING APPROVAL OF THE CREDIT FROM VERNON TO ELLINGTON. THIS CREDIT IS BEING GRANTED ON THE BASIS THAT THE WATER USED DID NOT ENTER THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, DUE TO LAWN IRRIGATION. THIS SHALL BE CONSIDERED A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION OF THIS NATURE GRANTED ONCE PER PROPERTY.

Discussion was had to only allow one-time credits of this nature per property, as the WPCA does not have a deducted meter program. Also, Ellington is billed from Vernon based off of CT Water meter readings, therefore if credit is not extended from Vernon to Ellington, we are unable to extend credit back to the Resident. The Board has asked Tom M. (WPCA Admin) and Carolyn (DPW Administrative Assistant) to keep a record of the properties who these credits are extended to.

6. Administrative

1. Fuss & O'Neill project updates

- i. Vernon Pump Station**
 - a) Pay Requisition 17**

Kevin (F&O) reviewed the work that was completed. He stated that the punch list items are being completed but slowly. The doors still need to be replaced and there is quite a bit of exterior work as well as interior painting and cleaning to name some items. Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) stated that some of the items are weather sensitive.

Kevin provided an update on the MAU on the roof. Modern Mechanical has come to the conclusion that the equipment is functioning and rated correctly but some programming needs to be done with the electric heat to prevent the generator from sending inconsistent voltage to the station during use. Kevin has been asked to have Associated look into the repair.

Stephen from The Associated Construction Company reached out to Kevin (F&O) about the exhaust fan switch that came with the explosion proof motor for the exhaust fan, informing it was not installed. The switch needs to be installed, and the contracted electrician does not want to install it, as they installed the fan, but not the motor. The Board has requested Kevin go back to The Associated Construction Company to inform them that this switch needs to be installed as it is a component of this item.

Paul (Member) has asked Kevin to request that The Associated Construction Company hold any further billing until the site/inspection visit that will take place on May 13th.

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT FOR THE VERNON PUMP STATION UPGRADE TO THE ASSOCIATED CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR APPLICATION #17, INVOICE 23105-13 FOR WORK COMPLETED THROUGH MARCH 31, 2025, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,535.35.

b) Schedule

Discussed under pay req. 17.

c) 4/9/2025 VPS Progress Meeting

Discussed under pay req. 17.

d) 5/6/2025 Site Visit

The site visit will be held on 5/13/2025 at 9:00 am

e) Change Orders

Nothing pending.

f) Channel Monster Removal

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) updated the Board that he is working towards removal of the channel monster. The unit currently does not sound good and does not appear to have much life left in it. He does have a spare, should it ever need to be reimplemented.

g.) Wet Well Wizard

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated that this item has been received, and payment has been remitted.

ii. Task 4D I&I Phase 4

Marshall (F&O) reported that there are still some small I&I repairs listed on the report that can be completed, as well as completing the area remaining on Hilltop.

iii. Task 4E I&I Phase 5

This is on hold until the water table rises. Marshall (F&O) mentioned that the current flow is 450K and 650K was normal indicating that the water table is too low and not accurately reporting I&I.

iv. Task 15 Windermere Ave. Sewer Extension

Marshall (F&O) provided an update that they are in the process of getting J.R. Russo a subcontract agreement. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) asked how long the design will take, Marshall replied approximately 60 days.

7. Fuss & O'Neill Billing

The billing for March was reviewed.

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 0270576 FOR WORK FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2025, THROUGH MARCH 28, 2025, FOR TASK 3C FOR A TOTAL OF \$27,498.65.

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 0270728 FOR WORK FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2025, THROUGH MARCH 28, 2025, FOR TASK 4E FOR A TOTAL OF \$7,386.15.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 0270575 FOR WORK FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2025, THROUGH MARCH 28, 2025, FOR TASK 12 FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,439.25.

8. Other Administrative Topics

1. Budget

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the end of month collections. He also presented a draft of the 2025-26 budget. The budget was reviewed line by line and Tom was asked to make a slight adjustment to the Hockanum District to hold the sewer user fees. This will be further discussed in the May meeting.

2. Code Revision

A red-lined version of the code was presented and briefly discussed. It will be sent out again with the minutes for further review. A finalized version should be ready for the May meeting.

3. User Insurance

No update.

4. Generator Quotes/Valve Pit Repairs

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated the new generator for the Ketchbrook pump station is expected in May. He also noted that he added a line item in the Capital budget for generator replacement for the Highschool Pump Station for this coming fiscal year.

Tom M. also discussed that he is working with Towner Generator to have the remaining pump stations fitted with a transfer switch for the ease of being able to connect the mobile unit.

5. Rigid Camera Locator

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided an update that a camera was ordered via amazon for approximately \$1,500.00.

6. Vernon April Sewer Bill

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the April bill and notified the Board that it had been paid.

7. Asset Management Proposal

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) stated that this will be used as a place holder on the agenda as he collects more proposals for all to review.

9. Design, Construction & Maintenance Reports

1. Pump Station Updates

i. MBPS Pump Quote

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) presented a quote from Carlsen Systems for 2 new pumps for the Meadowbrook Pump Station. Currently One pump is new and the other that is running is an old rebuilt pump. He is requesting 2 new pumps so the station will be operating with 2 good pumps, and he will have a new one on hand for a spare.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO SULZER SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS FOR THE MEADOWBROOK PUMP STATION FROM CARLSEN SYSTEMS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,400.00, AS PER QUOTE #2503-5797.

2. Overtime Report

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) updated that he has 6.5 hours for replacing the pump at Meadowbrook Pump Station and Sam has 3 for the same call. Phil also noted he had 1 hour of overtime for the Vernon Pump Station.

3. Other

None

10. Misc. Communications

None

Adjournment

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AT 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant II, DPW