

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2022

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 7:28 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Bobbi Trudel	Chair
Christopher Vose	Vice Chair
Wrandy Siarkowski	Secretary
Donald Schwartz	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Hilary Ruzycky	Administrative Aide
Donna Renda	Consultant

ABSENT

John Rizzo	Member
Bradley Hayner	Member

JOINT SEWER BOARD – APPOINTMENTS

Chair Trudel noted Bradley Hayner was appointed by Johnstown for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2024.

JANUARY 2022 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the January 12, 2022 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 6 & 8.

PLANT OPERATIONS

NYS DEC Termination of Order On Consent

Plant Manager Arnold reported he received correspondence from NYS DEC dated February 7, 2022, stating the Order On Consent: R5-20180116-2275 is hereby terminated. DEC granted authorization for the use of potassium permanganate and sodium hypochlorite to control odors generated by the CAST process. DEC requires the continued implementation of the Community Action Plan (CAP) for at least one (1) year from the date of the letter. CAP became effective July 15, 2019, to allow the facility to receive odor complaints from the public and to report actions taken in response to odor complaints. Manager Arnold noted he submitted Water Treatment Chemical Notification Forms to DEC for other chemicals used within the facility.

Failure of Gravity Belt Thickeners

Plant Manager Arnold reported Gravity Belt Thickeners (GBT) No. 1 & No. 2 stopped working on January 14, 2022, after five (5) VFDs and two (2) progressive cavity pumps shutdown and alarmed due to a ground fault in the GBT control cabinet. A subcontractor for BDP Industries discovered the fault occurred after sludge infiltrated the newly installed Netzsch progressive cavity pumps. Factory installed plugs were missing from the water flush system allowing sludge to bypass pump seals and enter gear boxes and motors. New motors were ordered and received from KJ Electric of Syracuse. Plant maintenance staff cleaned gear boxes and installed the new motors. GBTs were successfully restarted on January 28, 2022. Excess backed up sludge was sent to the primary digester which caused a 4-degree temperature drop within the digester. Plant operators and lab staff continually monitored data until the digester temperature increased to normal operating level. All systems are currently operational after a downtime of two (2) weeks.

National Grid Power Purchase Agreement – Amendment No. 3

Plant Manager Arnold reported National Grid proposes one substantive change to Power Purchase Agreement No. 1824 between National Grid and Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility. The change is a deletion of the current term and substitution of a five (5) year term. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized Chair Trudel to execute Amendment No. 3 of Power Purchase Agreement No. 1824 between National Grid and Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility, including an amendment deleting the current term and substituting a five (5) year term through April 30, 2027.

COVID-19 Wastewater Testing Analytical Report

Plant Manager Arnold reported the facility is providing wastewater samples to Quadrant Viral Testing LLC laboratory in Syracuse for a COVID-19 tracing study through Quadrant Biosciences Inc. Once a week, for eight (8) weeks, a 24-hour composite sample of the plant's influent wastewater is provided for testing. Analytical reports from February 1 & February 8, 2022, both indicate active transmission of quantifiable COVID-19 in the plant's influent wastewater samples.

Annual Report Presentation

Plant Manager Arnold presented the 2021 Annual Report highlighting significant projects completed at the facility during 2021. Copies of the report were distributed to those present. Additional copies will be sent to Gloversville and Johnstown city officials, state officials, and GJJSB legal counsel. The report will also be posted on the facility's website.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Semiannual Pretreatment Report

Laboratory Director Levendusky reported the Semiannual Pretreatment Report was submitted to EPA listing industrial compliance program activities from July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. No industries were listed in significant non-compliance during this period.

Sewer Bill Protest – 167 Bleecker Street, Gloversville

Consultant Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 167 Bleecker Street in Gloversville. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied a credit since it is unclear what caused the excess water usage.

Sewer Bill Protest – 106 Grand Street, Gloversville

Consultant Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 106 Grand Street in Gloversville. Plant Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$64.90 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

ATTACHMENTS

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2022 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 1, 2, & 3.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$167,319.22 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Siarkowski, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board, Plant Manager Arnold and staff went into executive session at 8:01 P.M. to discuss matters regarding current litigation.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 8:09 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Wrandy Siarkowski, GJJSB Secretary