

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 10, 2021**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, March 10, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rizzo at 7:00 P.M. and open to the public via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

John Rizzo	Chairman
Christopher Vose	Secretary
Christopher Perry	Member
Craig Talarico	Member
Wrandy Siarkowski	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Donna Renda	Fiscal Officer
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Hilary Ruzicky	Administrative Aide

ABSENT

Bobbi Trudel	Vice Chairperson
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Chairman Rizzo read aloud the following statement: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting is open to the public through teleconference connection. This meeting shall be recorded and later transcribed.

FEBRUARY 10, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the February 10, 2021 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 2

PLANT OPERTIONS

NYS DEC Consent Order Modification/Extension

Plant Manager Arnold reported NYS DEC extended the pilot study of the CAST chemical treatment process until September 30, 2021. The extension allows for the evaluation of adding sodium hypochlorite to the CAST Settling Tank as a cleaning and disinfecting agent. Within thirty (30) days of completion of the extension, a report is due to DEC detailing the effectiveness of the pilot project, including discussion of any odor complaints received since November 2020. The last odor complaint was received in December 2020. The letter requires signature from Manager Arnold and both city mayors.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized Chairman Rizzo to execute the extension letter submitted by NYS DEC modifying Order on Consent R5-20180116-2275 to extend the CAST system chemical pilot study until September 30, 2021.

UV Disinfection Repairs

CFI Contracting, Inc. completed punch list repairs at the UV Disinfection site. UV Banks A & B were removed, realigned, and grouted. Finger weirs controlling the water level over the UV bulbs were resealed. A 60-foot section of the building's wooden base was replaced with concrete to prevent water from leaking back into the building. Kinahan Assoc. or Trojan will test UV Banks A & B before spring startup.

Award Bid – Sodium Hypochlorite

Plant Manager Arnold reported a bid opening was held on March 4, 2021 for the supply and delivery of sodium hypochlorite to be used for CAST odor control. Two (2) bids were received and the low bid was Slack Chemical Co., Inc. at \$1.298/gallon. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board awarded the contract for the supply and delivery of sodium hypochlorite to Slack Chemical Co., Inc. at \$1.298/gallon (300-gallon tote size), with a term of contract from March 11, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

Award Bid – Progressive Cavity Pumps

Plant Manager Arnold reported a bid opening was held on March 8, 2021 for the supply and delivery of two (2) Progressive Cavity Pumps to be utilized at the gravity belt thickeners in the Sludge Building, per the 2021 Capital Plan. Three (3) bids were received and the low bid was NETZSCH Pumps North America, LLC at \$26,637.00. Manager Arnold reviewed the bid package with the maintenance supervisor to confirm specifications were met for size and stainless-steel requirements.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board awarded the contract for the supply and delivery of two (2) Progressive Cavity Pumps to NETZSCH Pumps North America, LLC at \$26,637.00.

National Grid Power Purchase Agreement – Amendment No. 2

Plant Manager Arnold reported National Grid submitted a proposed amendment to Power Purchase Agreement No. 1824 between National Grid and Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility. The amendment extends the term through April 30, 2022. On a motion made by Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized Chairman Rizzo to execute Amendment No. 2 of Power Purchase Agreement No. 1824 between National Grid and Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility, contingent upon review and approval from GJJSB legal counsel.

Sludge Drying Options Update – Sludge Dryer or Pyrolysis

Plant Manager Arnold reviewed prospective sludge drying options including thermal dryers and the pyrolysis drying process. In February 2020, Arcadis staff presented three (3) scenarios on the installation of a belt dryer or paddle dryer, building modifications, repurposing of biogas, energy consumption, and payback periods. The pyrolysis method is a unique technology to the local area. Due to COVID-19 setbacks, installation of a pyrolysis unit is delayed at the City of Schenectady Sewage Treatment Plant. Therefore, Manager Arnold plans to revisit Schenectady when the machine is fully operational. An application for NYS economic development grant funding cannot be submitted until a specific sludge drying process is selected, a budget is drafted, and the proposed project is announced via public hearing.

Annual Report Presentation

Plant Manager Arnold presented the 2020 Annual Report highlighting significant projects completed at the Facility during 2020. Copies of the report were distributed to those present. Additional copies will be sent to Gloversville and Johnstown city officials, state officials, the media, etc. The report will also be posted on the Facility’s website.

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Sewer Bill Protest – 13 East Clinton Street, Johnstown

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 13 East Clinton Street in Johnstown. Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the excess water entered the sewer system to be treated.

BUDGET/PURCHASE/AUDIT

Communicable Disease Disaster Emergency Plan

Plant Manager Arnold reported due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Cuomo passed legislation requiring all public employers to create a Communicable Disease Disaster Emergency Plan by April 1, 2021. A draft plan was submitted to the Union and Board members for review. The Union granted approval of the new policy. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board adopted the Communicable Disease Disaster Emergency Plan. Chairman Rizzo requested the policy also be reviewed by GJSB legal counsel, specifically employee sick time use during communicable disease emergencies. Any recommended revisions to the policy will be discussed at the April Board meeting.

PERSONNEL

Retirement: Maintenance Supervisor James McMillan

Chairman Rizzo read aloud a notice of retirement received from Maintenance Supervisor James McMillan. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the retirement of Maintenance Supervisor James McMillan, effective April 2, 2021, after thirteen (13) years of service.

WWTP Operator Trainee Position

Plant Manager Arnold reported the vacant WWTP Operator Trainee position was offered to candidate Katie Luke as discussed at the February Board meeting. Ms. Luke did not return correspondence to confirm acceptance of the position or report to work on March 1, 2021. Manager Arnold will request Civil Service offer an exam for WWTP Operator Trainee.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution No. 2021-05

On a motion made Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2021-05. *Transfer within the General Fund.*

Resolution No. 2021-06

On a motion made Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2021-06. *Transfer from Capital and Equipment Reserve Fund to General Fund.*

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2021 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 3, 4, & 5.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$161,171.12 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board went into executive session at 7:57 P.M. to discuss matters leading to the employment of a particular person (maintenance supervisor position).

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Perry, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 8:17 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried five (5) in favor, one (1) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Vose, GJJSB Secretary