

MABE Meeting Minutes January 30, 2024

In Attendance:

Darrell Gibble
Steve Keech
Jim Freeze
Dan Engro
Floyd Jennelle
Keith Showalter, SDE
Stephen Kalis, Fox Rothschild
Charlotte Gehman

Absent:

Others in Attendance:

Dave Friedman, EEMA
John Dean, EEMA
Merle Stoltzfus, Borough Council

Meeting called to order at 7:00p.

Motion by Jim to approve the December 26, 2023, meeting minutes. Second by Darrell. Motion Approved.

Annual Reorganization

Motion by Darrell to adjourn the regular meeting and appoint temporary chairperson. Second by Dan. Motion approved.

Motion by Jim to nominate the current the current slate of candidates:

Steve Keech, Chair
Floyd Jennelle, Vice-Chair
Darrell Gibble, Secretary
Dan Engro, Treasurer
Jim Freeze, Board Member

Motion by Darrell to adjourn the regular meeting for the annual reorganization. Second by Jim. Motion approved.

Motion by Jim to nominate the current slate of candidates. Second by Darrell.

Motion by Jim to close the nominations. Second by Dan. Motion approved.

Motion by Darrell to appoint Systems Design Engineering and Fox Rothschild at their published rate schedules. Second by Jim. Motion approved.

Motion by Floyd to acknowledge EEMA as Plant Operator at their published rate schedule. Second by Dan. Motion approved.

Motion by Darrell to recommend Hamilton & Musser as auditor. Second by Dan. Motion approved.

Reorganization adjourned at 7:04p.

Public Comment

None.

Correspondence/Communication

2024 Bidding Thresholds - Review of the new bidding threshold amounts.

EEMA 2024 CPI Rate Adjustment - review of EEMA's letter rate adjustment.

SDE Letter Quote for Chapter 94 Report – Review of letter quote from Keith for preparing the Chapter 94 report.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of January payables per Check Register presented. **Motion by Jim to approve the January payables as presented. Second by Darrell. Motion approved.**

Finance Committee Report - Dan reported on the bank transfers for the month he prepared and gave to Charlotte.

Operator's Report

In December the plant processed 25,000 gallons more than the daily average. Plant ran well. No violations. 3,840,000 gallons treated for the month of December. New meters have been set up and they have been added to the equipment inventory. Influent sampler pump head rebuilt and calibrated. Material purchases will go through Charlotte to confirm the tax exemption. Steve asks EEMA to alert Charlotte and Steve when there are flood events at the plant. Steve asks about the process of replacing the base elbow as noted in the monthly report.

Sampler Process Follow-up - Discussion of the methods of sampling.

UV Intensity Sensor Backup device research - John is looking at another manufacturer. No quote yet.

Saddler Spare Pump Order - John and Keith visited the Saddler pump station. Review of spare pump quotes. Keith recommends having spare elbows as well. John is looking into cost for a new control panel Keith recommends adding flow meters. **Motion by Darrell to approve purchase of a spare pump from Deckman at a cost of \$10,400.00. Second by Jim. Motion approved.** Keith will prepare a budget for pump station improvements.

Pump Station Review Analysis - Dave presented a list of details on each pump station. Keith says there are plans to detail the discharge of each pump station for pump stations 4,5 and 6. Steve suggests purchasing repair clamps for emergencies. Dave suggests shallow digging to confirm the pipe sizes. EEMA will field verify the pipe types to determine what should be purchased.
Equipment Inventory Update - John has updated the inventory with the new meters.

Engineer's Report

Act 537 - Since the last meeting Keith has worked with SSM to update cost proposals for the Borough and Municipal Authority. Borough cost \$20,900.00 MABE is \$22,960.00. Total cost is estimated 43,860.00. DEP must approve the report which is a Borough report. It must be presented for public review. Keith estimates the goal would be to have the report completed by August 2024. Merle brings the proposal that Borough pay for SSM's costs and MABE pay for SDE's costs. **Motion by Darrell to approve Borough Council's proposal for each entity to pay for their own engineer's costs for the Act 537 Plan and to begin the work in preparation for grant projects. Second by Jim. Motion approved.**

Chapter 94 Report Quote for 2023 – Authorize Engineer to Prepare Report – **Motion by Floyd for Keith to prepare the 2023 Chapter report at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. Second by Dan. Motion approved.**

Treatment Plant Survey for Drainage Improvement - Keith presented plans to show the flow contributing to the plant flow. He reviewed the hydraulic profile. Keith believes he and Dave have identified the point at which the system backs up based on the flow meter. Keith feels this can be improved as part of the plant expansion and improvements.

New HVAC System Quote - Keith reviews the options to replace the HVAC system and reviewed budget numbers. EEMA does not support a new system that uses recycled water.

Local Share Grant Application - Submitted but no update at this time.

ARPA Small Water & Sewer Grant Application Award - **Motion by Dan to accept the \$1,000,000.00 grant award. MABE portion is estimated at \$500,000. Second by Floyd. Motion approved.**

ARPA H2O PA Grant Application Award - **Motion by Dan to accept the \$156,620.00 grant award. MABE portion would be estimated at 23,500.00. Second by Floyd. Motion approved.**

ARPA Small Water & Sewer Grant Bid Update and Extension Request - Keith will bring the bids in for the February meeting. He will be sending those to Stephen to review. Based on the time limit, Keith presented a letter requesting an extension. **Motion by Darrell to extend the grant period by letter of request. Second by Jim. Motion approved.**

Easement Plans/Right of Way Project - On hold currently.

Solicitor's Report

Stephen will review the Bid documents when Keith forwards and he will confirm EEMA indemnifies MABE in their contract.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Admin Update

Executive Session

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25p.

Next Scheduled MABE Board Meeting is February 27, 2024, at 7:00p.