MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. in the office of the Authority, 3300 Preble Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Those present were Board Members Ms. Sylvia Wilson, Ms. Brenda Smith, Dr. Shannah Tharp-Gilliam, Messrs. Harry Readshaw, and Corey O’Connor; Mr. Jack Shea participated by telephone; and Mr. John Weinstein did not attend the meeting. Also in attendance were Messrs. Chip Babst (Babst Calland), Mike Ryder (Hatch), Ed Kluitenberg (CDM Smith), Ms. Williams, Ms. Oliver, Ms. Clark, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Tamilia, Inks, Jackson, and Vallarian, Ms. Croom, Ms. Cortazzo, Ms. DeMasi, Ms. Sanchioli, Ms. McCarthy, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Mellinger, Messrs. Shamsi, Prevost, Martire, and Laird (Authority staff).

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

An Executive Session was held this afternoon at approximately 3:30 p.m. to discuss pending legal issues (Note: votes are never taken during the Executive Session).

Several visitors requested to speak during the public comment period.

- Ms. Claudia Kirkpatrick discussed Four Mile Run and the importance of green infrastructure. Construction of the project is scheduled to begin soon and it is hoped that ALCOSAN will be involved in the project as well as PWSA. It will help solve flooding and make Panther Hollow an excellent place to hike and walk. Particularly, there are children’s ball games in Panther Hollow and it is important that those softball games continue. Ms. Kirkpatrick lives directly above Panther Hollow and is asking ALCOSAN to “step up” and invest in green solutions so that the water works really well for all the members of the community.

- Ms. Renee Dolney, a resident of Wilkinsburg attended a great presentation by PWSA about Saw Mill Run and the plans for stormwater abatement via green infrastructure on Monday. She was “absolutely wowed” on Tuesday by another PWSA meeting about all the great things planned for Riverview Park. The problem she faces is she does not live in the City of Pittsburgh. Ms. Dolney lives in Wilkinsburg and also owns property in Penn Hills. As a rate payer of ALCOSAN that lives outside of the City, she wants to see her money spent on green solutions across the entire region and not only the City. Water and stormwater management dominate the focus and resources of small boroughs in the region. She further states there is a historic opportunity to profoundly impact smaller boroughs and communities with green infrastructure investments and ALCOSAN has the power to change the way the region manages stormwater in a manner that will be fundamentally transformative. Ms. Dolney implores ALCOSAN to implement these changes and in so doing making it a model for the entire country. Boroughs and communities outside of the City need, want, and deserve the same careful strategic green infrastructure development that residents of the City of Pittsburgh are receiving.
Mr. Malik Bankston serves as Executive Director of the Kingsley Association which is located in the Larimer community. He thanked and acknowledged ALCOSAN for supporting an important initiative (the Liberty Green Park project) that is part of a broader vision to revitalize Larimer and surrounding neighborhoods. This project lies within what is now known as Little Negley Run. While conducting research, Mr. Bankston discovered a photograph of a flood on Washington Boulevard in the 50's. Surprisingly, it bared a remarkable resemblance to the flooding that occurred in recent years. Unfortunately, losses of life resulted in both floods. All communities benefit from green infrastructure. Please continue to invest in the Little Negley Run project. This project addresses stormwater runoff and flooding into residents’ basements. Watch for invitations to next year’s ribbon cutting ceremonies and dedications of Liberty Green Park and River Roots.

Ms. Julia Mirek and Mr. Matt Meehan, residents of Brookline, thanked Councilman O’Connor for signing the “Our Waters Our Rivers” pledge. There is an opportunity in Saw Mill Run to have multiple municipalities work together. Dormont recently enacted an authority to address issues pertaining to stormwater runoff and water pollution. Working collaboratively with adjacent communities and the City of Pittsburgh to increase green space and identify methods to prevent sewers from combining with stormwater runoff are good ways to assist with efforts to make our rivers better. Mr. Meehan stated he sees a lot of ALCOSAN signs in the community that say don’t touch the water. He also sees a lot of billboards stating ALCOSAN is interested in making the rivers better; and he thinks this would be a good way to do so and really get all the adjacent communities to the City of Pittsburgh to work together on a regional project.

Ms. Vivienne Sheffer is from North Point Breeze which is part of the Negley Run Watershed. Water in North Point Breeze flows to Negley Run and Nine Mile Run. This neighborhood is on the edge of two very important watersheds. Residents have seen increases in their water bills due to fixing combined sewer overflow problems and they are supportive of green infrastructure. However, there are other problems in the neighborhood that only green infrastructure can solve, such as stabilization of hillsides and neighborhood beautification projects. The Homewood Rosedale Rain Garden, Larimer EECO Center Rain Garden, Nine Mile Run StormWorks, and various community gardens, etc. are examples of green infrastructure projects in area neighborhoods. Ms. Sheffer would like to see more green projects planned for North Point Breeze. While each of these projects is important to the Negley Run Watershed, they need to be a coordinated effort. The GROW program can help coordinate projects and have a much larger impact if the program is expanded. One of the benefits not so apparent is green infrastructure builds relationships between neighborhoods. All are invited to Construction Junction on May 23, 2019 for a discussion with PWSA on exploring stormwater solutions in North Point Breeze.

The Chair thanked the speakers for their remarks.
Mr. Bill Inks, Director of Finance & Administration, reported on the 2019 Operating Costs and Revenues. The Authority is one-third of the way through the budget year. Just under 32.5% of the revenues has been collected and budgeted expenditures are slightly less than 30%. The Authority is operating in a sound financial condition and in great shape at this point of the year. Mr. Inks pointed out again, as he did during last month’s Board meeting, while the line item for the Customer Service & Billing appears to be over expensed ($3,833,900), it is only because of the lump sum reimbursements processed at the beginning of the year to the municipalities for the entire year. The Board had no questions or comments.

Ms. Kim Kennedy (Director of Engineering and Construction) provided a status report on the 2019 Capital Budget. She compared the Status Report prepared for this meeting with the report submitted in March 2019 and noted that not much has changed relative to spending. The Authority continues to move forward on the 2019 capital program in a consistent manner.

Ms. Jan Oliver (Director of Regional Conveyance) gave an update on the Annual Interceptor Cleaning Contract: M44 Emergency Repair. Back on August 17, 2018 bubbling was noticed in the Monongahela River near the location of the Subaqueous Interceptor. This Interceptor is 5700 feet of 24 and 30 inch pipe located in the Monongahela River near the Waterfront and Sandcastle. This is unusual because there are no other locations where the sewers run adjacent in the rivers. A good and interesting fact to know is whenever there is a discharge, ALCOSAN quickly puts into place bypass pumping to stop the discharge of sewage. This was a huge undertaking. Follow-up steps included televising the pipe. However, the attempts to televise the pipe were unsuccessful. Quotes were then obtained from qualified river access contractors to install two additional access ports (included in change order #1), plug the pipe, inspect and clean the Interceptor (not included in change order #1), and CIPP Line the interceptor once completed (included in change order #1). Ms. Oliver provided a comprehensive overview and challenges faced with the Interceptor repair work which spanned a period of approximately seven months and totaled roughly $1.2 million. A second change order for $404,512.00 was submitted requesting a contract extension of 150 calendar days to address emergency repairs to the subaqueous interceptor between Manhole M-44-02 and the downstream junction manhole. Mr. Readshaw and the Board thanked Ms. Oliver for such an in-depth presentation.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the report of actions by the Executive Director in approval of a construction change order less than $30,000.00 and a cumulative total change order value to date of less than five percent of the original contract amount as follows:

1. No. 1, under Contract 1703, “Furnish and Deliver a new Polar Crane for Main Pump Station,” from J. Poli, Inc., for the amount of $10,639.80. The original amount of the contract was $549,000.00. The current value of the contract including this change order is $559,639.80.

Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 25, 2019.
Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Mr. Readshaw, the Board authorized payment of invoices in excess of $20,100.00 processed during the period of April 16, 2019 through May 7, 2019 and reviewed the summary report of expenses in excess of $10,900.00 processed during the same period, a copy of which will be made part of these minutes.

Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Mr. Readshaw, the Board authorized the preparation of specifications and advertisement for bids for the following contracts:


2. Contract No. 1715, “Temporary Sodium Hypochlorite Storage and Feed System”

Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Mr. Readshaw, the Board approved the following change orders that exceed $30,000.00 in value or whose cumulative total value with previously approved change orders is greater than five percent of the original contract amount:

1. No. 2, under Contract 1680, “Chimney Rehabilitation,” from Pullman Power, for the amount of $6,173.29 and an additional 8 days. The original amount of the contract was $728,987.43. The current value of the contract including this change order is $982,240.72.

2. No. 3, under Contract 1680, “Chimney Rehabilitation,” from Pullman Power, for a credit in the amount of ($2,186.00) and an additional 3 days. The original amount of the contract was $728,987.43. The current value of the contract including this change order is $980,054.72.

3. No. 4, under Contract 1680, “Chimney Rehabilitation,” from Pullman Power, for a credit in the amount of ($846.30) and an additional 7 days. The original amount of the contract was $728,987.43. The current value of the contract including this change order is $979,208.42.

4. No. 1, under Contract 1635A, “Tassey Hollow Grit Chamber”, from Independent Enterprises, Inc., for the amount of $32,918.45 for unforeseen conditions of a municipal sewer line alignment and a bank of fiber optic cables. The original amount of the contract was $569,570.00. The current value of the contract including this change order is $602,488.45.

5. No. 2, under Contract 1659A, “Annual Interceptor Cleaning”, from Independent Enterprises, Inc., for the amount not to exceed $404,512.00 and 150 calendar days for unknown condition to make the emergency repair to the subaqueous interceptor between MH M-44-02 and the downstream junction MH. The original amount of the contract was $2,592,965. The current value of the contract including this change order is $3,841,932.
The items denoted with an asterisk (*) were reviewed by the Professional Services Committee at a publicly advertised meeting on May 2, 2019. The Committee unanimously approved and recommended that these items be submitted to the Board.

*Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board awarded Engineering Design Services under Capital Program S-461 for the RAS Pipe and Pump Replacement to HDR Engineering, Inc., for an amount not to exceed $698,861.40.

*Upon motion of Dr. Gilliam, seconded by Mr. O’Connor, the Board approved modification of Service Authorization 289 for CDM Smith, under the agreement for Engineering Consultant Services for an additional one (1) year no cost extension of services, to continue to provide services as Program Director for the Clean Water Program. This modification is simply for an extension of time; CDM Smith has necessary funds available within their budget as funds previously allocated have not been fully expended.

The items denoted with an asterisk (**) were reviewed by the Green Committee at a publicly advertised meeting on May 15, 2019. The Committee unanimously approved and recommended that these items be submitted to the Board.

**Upon motion of Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. O’Connor, the Board agreed to the following:

Modify the Grant Agreements for the Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) Program by extending the Term of the Contract.

Reauthorize the Grant Agreement with the City of Pittsburgh for the I-579 Cap Urban Connector Project.

Approve the Grant Agreement Addendum between the City of Pittsburgh and ALCOSAN for the I-579 Cap Urban Connector Project.

Upon motion of Mr. O’Connor, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the Board adopted Resolution 2019-5-1 authorizing the Executive Director as the official to execute all documents and agreements between the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in securing a Sewage Facilities grant for reimbursement of costs related to development of the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan. This Board action authorizes the Executive Director to apply for a grant for monies already expended for the Act 537 Plan; potentially, $100,000.00.

The Chair recognized Mr. Art Tamilia, who is retiring from ALCOSAN at the end of the month after 40 years of service. Yesterday marked the 40th anniversary at ALCOSAN for Mr. Tamilia. He thanked the Board for allowing him to work at the Authority for 40 years. Mr. Tamilia tells how he was born and raised in the City and is a product of the Pittsburgh Public Schools and later attended Pitt and Duquesne. He has lived and worked here all of his life and has a vested interest in what’s happening in this region and with the Authority. There have been experiences here that he could not have had anywhere else. He has had the privilege of working with some of the finest people he could ever dream of working with during his tenure. All of this together has led to a wonderfully diverse and interesting career. Mr. Tamilia expressed his sincere gratitude and wished everyone the best.
The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on June 27, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Harry Readshaw  Camille Smith
Secretary  Secretary to the Board