

Minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the  
Board of The Wilkinsburg-Penn Joint Water  
Authority held on October 24, 2023, at 6:30  
o'clock p.m. at 2200 Robinson Boulevard  
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221

Present:	Fuller	Vahosky	Gilliland
	Vento (remote)	Czekaj	Broz
	Williams	Scolieri	Simon

Others Present: Komandt, Bianchi, Akam, Balewski, Alexander, Carroll, and Davis

Absent: Rawlins, Crombie-Collins

Although no formal action was taken, the following workshop minutes are presented for the record. The workshop meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. with Mr. Simon, chairman presiding. The Chairman then asked for the reports of the Consulting Engineer and Solicitor. Both reports, presented with questions asked and answered, are attached hereto, and made a part of these minutes. Next, Mr. Komandt, Executive Director, presented his management report with questions asked and answered. Said report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. He had nothing further to add.

There being no further business to discuss, the workshop session concluded at 6:55 pm.  
The regular board meeting commenced at 6:56 pm.

  
Secretary

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of The Wilksburg-Penn Joint  
Water Authority held on  
October 24, 2023, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. at  
2200 Robinson Boulevard, Wilksburg,  
PA. 15221.

Present:	Fuller	Vahosky	Gilliland
	Vento (remote)	Czekaj	Broz
	Williams	Scolieri	Simon

Others Present: Komandt, Bianchi, Akam, Balewski, Alexander, Carroll, and Davis

Absent: Rawlins, Crombie-Collins

The regular meeting commenced at 7:12 p.m. with Mr. Simon, chair presiding, and Ms. Davis recording the minutes. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Simon followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chairman then called for public comments upon which the following individuals addressed the Board: **Kimberly Robinson**, resident of Penn Hills, voiced concern regarding the amount of her bill and difficulty understanding the charges. **Cranston Boyd**, resident of Penn Hills, expressed concerns about rates, customer service, and the need for a public utility commission. **Tonya Todd**, rate payer of City of Pittsburgh, voiced dissatisfaction at how water line repairs are managed by both PWSA and WPJWA. **Ramona Cammack**, resident of Penn Hills, had questions concerning water rates vs sewage rates. **Nancy Morrison**, resident of Penn Hills, requested that a statement be placed on the new bills informing customers of the availability of our customer assistance program to help avoid shutoffs. **Kristee Cammack**, resident of Penn Hills, asked if the guidelines for the proposed customer assistance program were established and when would it begin. **Abigail Salisbury**, State Representative, and resident of Swissvale, addressed concerns of poor communication with the Authority making it difficult to assist her constituents. In regard, to the proposed Customer Advisory Committee, she suggested that representatives be added from areas that don't have representatives on the Board, and that consideration be given as to how diverse groups of people may be affected. **Reverend Shirley Long**, resident of Penn Hills, spoke of being given misinformation in the past by the Authority. **Cheryl Holt-Boyd**, resident of Penn Hills, asked questions pertaining to sewage rate charges. **Renee Hayes-Johnson**, resident of Wilksburg, expressed the need for better overall communication alternatives with emphasis on senior residents that may not have computer access. **Natisha Washington**, resident of Wilksburg, spoke concerning the need for better communication, better drinking water and the development of a Community Advisory Board. **Rico Delorean-Parker**, resident of Penn Hills, thanked the Authority for progress being made regarding the many concerns that have been brought before the Board. **Leslie Centola**, resident of Swissvale, commented about the water quality, supported the development of a Customer Advisory Board with community representation, a CAP program, and thanked the Authority for their efforts in working with her group. Upon conclusion of the public comment period Mr. Simon called for the approval of



the Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023, whereupon;

**APPROVAL OF THE  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023, WORKSHOP  
AND REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Vahosky, it was resolved by voice vote that the Workshop, and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023, be approved as written and the same are hereby approved as written.

**BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- ◆ As discussed in the earlier workshop meeting, authorization was requested to award Contract #21-014 "Sedimentation Tank Rehabilitation (rebid)" to *DN Tanks*, the lowest most responsible bidder at the amount of \$2,360,625.00. Bid opening was October 10, 2023, whereupon;

**APPROVAL TO AWARD CONTRACT  
#21-014 "SEDIMENTATION TANK  
REHABILITATION (REBID)" TO DN  
TANKS, THE LOWEST MOST  
RESPONSIBLE BIDDER AT THE  
AMOUNT OF \$2,360,625.00. BID  
OPENING WAS OCTOBER 10, 2023**

On a motion by Mr. Gilliland, seconded by Ms. Broz, with one (1) abstention, it was resolved by roll call vote to award Contract #23-014, at the amount of \$2,360,625. and the same are hereby authorized and approved.

Abstention: Simon

- ◆ As discussed in the earlier workshop meeting, authorization was requested to award Contract #23-024 "Replacement of Two (2) Pumps at Reservoirs 5 and 7" to *Pumpman Pittsburgh*, the lowest most responsible bidder, at the amount of \$95,562.00. The bidder is a Co-Star Vendor, whereupon;

**APPROVAL AWARD CONTRACT  
#23-024 "REPLACEMENT OF TWO  
(2) PUMPS AT RESERVOIRS 5 AND  
7" TO PUMPMAN PITTSBURGH, THE  
LOWEST MOST RESPONSIBLE  
BIDDER, AT THE AMOUNT OF  
\$95,562.00. THE BIDDER IS A CO-  
STAR VENDOR**

On a motion by Ms. Broz, seconded by Mr. Czekaj, it was resolved by voice vote to award Contract# 23-024 for the amount of \$95,562.00, and the same are hereby authorized and approved.

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

Mr. Simon, Chair,  
No report

Mr. Fuller, Vice Chair,  
No report

Ms. Broz, Secretary,  
No report

Mr. Gilliland, Treasurer,

Mr. Gilliland, treasurer, asked the body if they had any questions of the voucher run that was mailed out this past week under separate cover. Hearing none, he made the following motion based on management's recommendation and his review of the bills that expenditures from September 16, 2023, through October 13, 2023, be ratified in the amount of \$2,312,836.40. Said amount does not include net payroll, payment of payroll taxes or the electronic transfer of some municipality's sewage collections. In addition, authorization of disbursements was requested through November 28, 2023, whereupon;

### **RATIFICATION OF EXPENDITURES FROM SEPTEMBER 16, 2023, THROUGH OCTOBER 13, 2023, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,312,836.40 AND AUTHORIZATION OF VOUCHER DISBURSEMENTS THROUGH NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

On a motion by Mr. Gilliland, seconded by Mr. Fuller, with two (2) abstentions, it was resolved by roll call vote that ratification of expenditures from September 16, 2023, through October 13, 2023, in the amount of \$2,312,836.40 be authorized. (Electronic transfers have been included but are not reflective in the total) Additionally, authorization of expenditures through November 28, 2023, are hereby ratified and authorized.

Abstentions: Simon from bills pertaining to *ms consultants, inc.*  
Vento not present during roll call vote  
Czekaj from bills pertaining Glenn Engineers

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

No report

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Mr. Fuller stated that a Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday October 26, 2023.

**LABOR COMMITTEE:**

No report

**POLICY COMMITTEE:**

No report

**ENGINEERING COMMITTEE:**

No report

**CONSULTANTS REPORTS:**

Consulting Engineer

Mr. Balewski discussed his report at the earlier workshop.  
He had nothing further to add.

Solicitor

Mr. Alexander discussed his report at the earlier workshop.  
He had nothing further to add.

**REPORT OF MANAGEMENT:**

The report of Management is made part of the workshop minutes, having been discussed and distributed to each Board member at the earlier workshop. In conjunction, Mr. Komandt submitted the following item for approval.

- ◆ As discussed in the earlier workshop meeting, authorization was requested for the purchase of employee Christmas Appreciation Gifts , whereupon;

**AUTHORIZATION WAS  
REQUESTED FOR THE PURCHASE  
OF EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS  
APPRECIATION GIFTS**

On a motion by Mr. Czekaj, seconded by Mr. Scolieri, it was resolved by voice vote to approve the purchase of employee Christmas Appreciation Gifts, and the same are hereby authorized and approved.



Unfinished Business

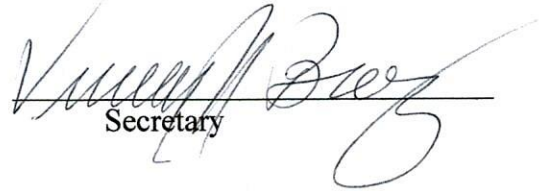
None

New Business

The recommendation was put forth that a PA System for the Board room be budgeted next year to provide better audio during meetings.

Next, the question was raised whether it's possible to differentiate Alcosan as the sewage service provider on the bill. Lastly, there was discussion regarding possible causes for reports of cloudy water in customers' homes.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by Mr. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Czekaj and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. and entered into an executive session.

  
Secretary