

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Portage was held on Thursday, March 5, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room at 606 Cambria Street.

Those in attendance were:

Ray Bowman, Chairman
John Gartland
Steve Koval
Mark Stancovich
Jerome Yetsko

Also present were: Attorney William Barbin, Solicitor; Mike Barton, Forester; Joe Beyer, The EADS Group; and residents, George Wozniak, Willy Saulsbury and Sharon McCarthy.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bowman, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

II. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Bowman recognized Mr. Wozniak, Mr. Saulsbury and Mrs. McCarthy.

Mr. Wozniak informed the Board that he resides at 605 Prospect Street and was present at the meeting as a resident, Borough Council member, and the EMA Director in Portage. Mr. Wozniak wanted to inform the Board of what transpired over the last month regarding a frozen water line at his residence. He explained that early February 21/22, at 4:00 a.m., he found that he did not have water due to a frozen line. He called the emergency number; and Mr. Moore was on call at that time. Mr. Wozniak explained the situation to Mr. Moore; and Mr. Moore informed Mr. Wozniak that this was basically the result of mother nature due to the weather and there was nothing that could be done. On the morning of February 22, Mr. Wozniak noted that he contacted Bruce Wirfel to assist in attempting to thaw the line. Throughout that day, Mr. Wozniak also contacted Mr. Cadwallader, who informed him there was nothing that the Authority could do and he gave Mr. Wozniak two telephone numbers he could call for assistance. Mr. Wozniak commented that Mr. Yetsko's line was also frozen at the same time; and the fire hydrant was used to address the problem.

Mr. Wozniak pointed out that, speaking from an EMA standpoint, there were a lot of customers in the Borough and Township at that time who were without water for several days due to frozen lines, which really results in a hygiene issue and the inability to have fresh water for use. Mr. Wozniak indicated that he made contact with the County EMA Director, who instructed Mr. Wozniak to contact the Water Authority; and when Mr. Wozniak replied that he had already made that contact and was told that there was nothing that could be done, the County EMA Director could not believe that this was the response Mr. Wozniak received. Mr. Wozniak stated that he is going to look into the possibility of obtaining fresh water buffalos in the event any resident is in need of water in this type of situation. He will work with the Fire Company and run it through the Borough and EMA.

Mr. Wozniak informed the Board that on February 23, he again contacted Mr. Cadwallader to see if there was anything that could be done. Mr. Cadwallader informed Mr. Wozniak again that there was nothing that could be done. Mr. Cadwallader told Mr. Wozniak that the Authority did have a welder in the past that was used to thaw lines; however, the welder has since been sold and the Authority has not provided this type of assistance in years. Mr. Wozniak explained to Mr. Cadwallader that when the line was replaced in front of his residence, he was assured that the line was going to be deep enough to prevent any freezing. Mr. Cadwallader then provided Mr. Wozniak with the numbers he previously had provided him and stated that he did not even have to do that; he merely had to inform Mr. Wozniak that there was nothing the Authority could do. Mr. Wozniak informed Mr. Cadwallader at

that time that he would be approaching the Board with his concerns. Mr. Wozniak stated that he did contact the Mayor as well as other Borough Council members and he talked with Mr. Bowman.

Mr. Wozniak indicated that some possible solution he would suggest would be for the Authority to purchase some type of equipment that could be used to thaw the lines or possibly have a company, such as Mr. Wirfel, on a retainer for situations like this during the winter months. Mr. Wozniak also suggested reinstating the call list for those residents whose lines freeze on a regular basis. Mr. Wozniak noted that Mr. Wirfel did respond and was on his curb box for 45 minutes at 200 amps and Mr. Wozniak still had no water. He called the Water Authority office and Mr. Brian Cadwallader responded. After using the neighboring resident's curb box into Mr. Wozniak's curb box, after 10 minutes Mr. Wozniak did have water. This shows, Mr. Wozniak pointed out, that this was the result of the main line coming into his residence was the concern.

Mr. Wozniak noted that something has to be done so that this does not recur. He indicated that Mr. Moore and Mr. Cadwallader informing him that it was his concern and that the Authority could not do anything is wrong. There were 15 residents that did not have water, Mr. Wozniak noted; and this is a major concern, especially if there is children involved. There are still some that do not have water currently. Mr. Wozniak commented that Mr. Bowman stated that in the past the Authority did help residents in these situations. Mr. Bowman talked to some Board members when he was contacted regarding Mr. Wozniak's concern and it was decided to try to thaw out the line. Mr. Wozniak indicated that if the Authority would purchase some type of equipment that could be used in these situations it would be helpful. Mr. Wozniak noted that when he talked to Mr. Bowman about his frustrations, Mr. Bowman told him to let the water run and take a meter reading. When he contacted Ms. Powers at the Authority office, she told him that she knew nothing about this and told Mr. Wozniak to approach the Board with this. Mr. Bowman noted that the Board would take it back to an average bill if Mr. Wozniak would have to leave the water run. Mr. Wozniak commented that he still does have his water running to be safe.

Mr. Wozniak indicated that his question to the Board is what they are going to do about the issue of water lines freezing in town and what the plan of action is going to be. Hopefully, Mr. Wozniak noted, the answer is not going to be that there is nothing that can be done about it and providing residents with telephone numbers to contact.

Mr. Koval noted that his concern is that Mr. Wozniak did not receive the letter, when the new water lines were installed and placed lower, that advised customers that they would have to lower their lines as well to prevent any potential freeze-up. Mr. Wozniak pointed out that, even if he had received a letter at the time, the current problem was on the Water Authority's side of the line. He commented that one easy fix would be for the Board to reinstitute the call list for freeze-ups that was done in the past. Mr. Bowman informed the Board that he had Ms. Powers look at the old call list for freeze-ups; and of the 49-50 residents that were included in the area that was done under the CDBG grant, there are only eight customers that are having current freeze-up problems. It was noted that the unusual winter has caused some of the problem with the temperature changes being that when it warms up, it pushes the thaw down further.

Mr. Yetsko questioned Mr. Wozniak if he had any recommendations on how to address the problem, to which Mr. Wozniak replied that he would suggest reinstating the call list and purchase equipment to assist customers in thawing the frozen lines. He commented that there is an agency in Johnstown (Laurel Management) that he contacted to attempt to thaw the line; and their charge was \$300 for the first hour and \$175 for each hour after that. At the time Mr. Wozniak called, he was number nine of the list. If after 4:00 p.m., it was \$500 for the first two hours and \$175 for every hour after that. Mr. Wozniak commented that, if the Water Authority had the appropriate equipment, this would be a service they could provide to the residents. If he was an elderly person, Mr. Wozniak stated, he would rather pay the Water Authority this amount rather than an out-of-town company. He pointed out that it is the Authority's job to provide water to residents, so it is the responsibility of the Authority if the water is freezing at the main. Mr. Bowman noted that the Board has discussed this matter briefly. He

indicated that he would rather not have the Water Authority be the first line of defense if the freeze-up concern is at a resident's foundation wall because it ties up the Authority staff from performing other work. He commented that the Authority staff did this for many years where the staff was the first line of defense before the policy was changed. Mr. Wozniak commented that, if the Authority offered this service, they could charge a fee to the residents rather than the residents having to pay a company like Laurel Management.

Mr. Koval indicated that, if the Board is going to change the current policy, it should be discussed at a workshop so that the Board can look at all of the options. Mr. Wozniak stated that the concern would need addressed before the next winter season. He commented that reinstating the call list where residents would be instructed to run the water would alleviate a lot of the concerns. Mr. Bowman noted that when the Authority staff monitored the frost level through the winter months in the past, there were two to three tiers that were involved. If the frost level was at a certain place, there would be a first page, then a second page, etc.

Mr. Bowman questioned if the Board should authorize residents prone to freeze-ups to run water and that the Authority charge those residents the average bill.

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. STANCOVICH, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO AUTHORIZE RESIDENTS WHO ARE PRONE TO FREEZE-UPS TO RUN WATER AND THAT THOSE RESIDENTS WOULD BE CHARGED THEIR AVERAGE BILL. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

Mr. Wozniak questioned if the Authority would then notify the residents when to stop running it as well, to which Mr. Stancovich replied affirmatively, stating that this is when the average bill would end as well.

Mr. Wozniak stated that he wanted to thank the Water Authority for allowing the EMA and Fire Department to use the one call system during the recent cold weather to alert residents of the availability of the Fire Hall in the event any resident needed housing. He pointed out he understands that the Authority is charged \$.05 per call for this system and that he and Ron McCall are investigating other avenues so that the Authority is not faced with this charge in the future. Mr. Bowman commented that the use of this one call system is worthwhile if it can help just one person.

Mr. Bowman questioned Mr. Wozniak if he has received a bill from Mr. Wirfel as yet, to which Mr. Wozniak replied that he did not. Mr. Bowman commented that this would be the responsibility of the Authority since the freeze-up was in the main line. He stated that Mr. Wozniak should forward this bill to the Authority for payment. Mr. Bowman noted that we would need to have an Authority employee verify that it is the Authority's responsibility. Mr. Wozniak commented that if it is his responsibility, he will pay the bill.

Mr. Saulsbury informed the Board that his sister and brother-in-law (Dave and Deb Ream) still have frozen pipes and he was told it was underneath the street. Mr. Bowman commented that this was a replaced lateral and there has to be something that is insulating it. Mr. Stancovich mentioned that Mr. Brian Cadwallader and Mr. Moore did look into this; and they were going to run water from the neighbor's spigot to the Ream's outside spigot to try to address the problem. The Ream's would then be put on an average bill. Mr. Saulsbury commented that his sister did not like the idea of going through someone else's meter, to which Mr. Bowman replied that this would only be a temporary fix. Mr. Stancovich commented that the Authority would have to dig down to the main and put a welder on the pipe where it comes out of the main, which could possibly be addressed tomorrow.

Mr. Bowman noted that there were three residents that had frozen lines that were on the Authority's main lines. Mr. Yetzko questioned the resident on Caldwell Avenue. Mr. Bowman indicated that at

the Reams' residence, when attempting to thaw the line, the ground wire got burned off and tattooed itself to the joist. Mr. Stancovich emphasized that, if the resident had not been home, the house would have been a total loss; and every house in that vicinity would have been at risk as well. He noted that this is a large liability. Attorney Barbin emphasized that this is a substantial risk.

Mr. Yetsko questioned the possibility of having a couple of plumbers under contract to perform the services when needed, to which Attorney Barbin commented that plumbers are quite expensive, so it would have to be at a reasonable price. Mr. Yetsko commented that we could contract the plumber for \$75-\$100 for each service, to which Mr. Koval replied that he did not feel we could contract any plumber at that range. Mr. Bowman indicated that Mr. Wirfel may do it for that price, to which Attorney Barbin replied that Mr. Wirfel is quite busy. Mr. Bowman noted that Tom Cummings has tried several times but has not been successful with thawing lines being that he has too small of a welder. Mr. Stancovich indicated that Eric Gentile has equipment to do it as well. Mr. Bowman pointed out that there is a lot of documentation available when using electric welders which caused a fire; and some cities have prohibited their use.

Attorney Barbin pointed out that, if the Board wants good, solid advice, his recommendation would be to talk to the Authority's insurance carrier because they may flat out prohibit the use of the welder because of the liability. Mr. Bowman emphasized that one fire in 20 years would be one too many; and it would save the Authority the liability of the potential for a fire if a welder would be used. Attorney Barbin commented that the welding is very dangerous; and the potential for electrocution is bothersome as well. If a ground wire can burn the joist, it could electrocute a person as well. Mr. Bowman noted that there is information available that states that there are many smaller cities throughout the country that specifically prohibit electrical thawing. Some areas have purchased a thawing machine; and registered and licensed personnel can borrow the machine to thaw the lines. Attorney Barbin noted that the route of conveyance into another home could result in the Authority being liable; i.e., if a private contractor was using a welder and it electrocuted someone in another home, the Authority could be sued because it was the Authority's line.

Mr. Stancovich questioned if we could possibly dig the 15 lines that are the concern, to which Mr. Bowman replied that this certainly could be an option but the employees would have to do the work. Mr. Koval noted that he believes the various options should be considered and discussed at a workshop. Mr. Bowman noted that, if we are to have a meaningful policy on dealing with these situations, we would need to have input from the employees. Mr. Koval commented that the insurance carrier needs to provide input as well because of the liability. Mr. Bowman emphasized that the use of the welder should be a last resort. Attorney Barbin noted that he has a strong suspicion that the Authority's insurance carrier will tell them to never use the welder under any circumstance.

Mr. Bowman informed the Board that there are other electric options available such as pipe thawing machines that use low voltage to safely thaw the frozen pipes. He shared various examples with the Board. The manufacturers, Mr. Bowman stated, also absorb a certain amount of the liability themselves when they are selling the equipment. Attorney Barbin commented that it would certainly be much better to use something that was designed to thaw pipes. Mr. Bowman questioned, since a welder is not an acceptable practice in the short-term, does the Board wish to have the Authority staff dig the street for Mr. Ream so that Mr. Wirfel can get to the frozen pipe. Mr. Koval questioned why we would not do what we were going to do and run the hose from the neighboring property, to which Mr. Saulsbury replied that his sister did not want to do that and that there was a concern with the freezing of the hose as well. Attorney Barbin questioned if there would be a backflow issue with using the hose, to which Mr. Bowman replied negatively stating that the Ream's would have to let the water run as well. Mr. Stancovich indicated that the toilet is the only chance of a backflow issue from the tank itself. Mr. Barton pointed out as well that, when we have a slight warmup in the weather, it pushes the frost lower as well.

Mr. Bowman noted that perhaps we could have the company that sells the thawing equipment to demonstrate the equipment for the Board and staff, to which Mr. Stancovich replied that he would

contact the company tomorrow to get a meeting set up. Mr. Bowman informed Mr. Saulsbury that the Authority would address his sister's concern tomorrow, which may mean digging the road.

Mr. Bowman recognized Mrs. McCarthy. Mrs. McCarthy informed the Board that Mrs. Wilcox, who lives near the fire hall in Cassandra, still has a frozen water line as well. Mr. Cadwallader told Mrs. Wilcox that he would be there on Saturday; and Mrs. Wilcox waited two hours and no one showed up. Mrs. Wilcox is now staying with a neighbor. Mrs. McCarthy commented that this is an annual problem for Mrs. Wilcox and should be addressed as she has been out of water since last Friday. She further stated that our responsibility in this situation is to take care of the customers; and she is glad to hear that the Board is crediting customers for having to let their water run. Mrs. McCarthy noted that the employees also have to be more careful on how they are talking to customers. She further pointed out that she was glad to hear that the Authority would reimburse customers for things they have paid for where it is shown it is the responsibility of the Water Authority. Mr. Bowman commented that he did have a list of those customers who were still experiencing frozen lines; and he is not sure the status of some of them. Mr. Wozniak noted that Mr. Wirfel was at the Ream's today, to which Mr. Stancovich replied that Mr. Wirfel was not successful as he could not get continuity from the boxes. Mr. Bowman emphasized that the Authority will make as much progress on the issues as it can in the next couple days.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bowman noted that the following correspondence was received:

- PMAA Board member training, March 17, Pittsburgh Marriott North. Any Board member interested in attending should contact Mrs. Ringler regarding registration information.
- REA informational dinner meeting, New Germany Grove Hall, March 25, 5:30 p.m. (no cost to the Authority).
- UPMC Health Plan, two free tickets to May 1 performance of "December '63" at the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center. Any Board member interested should contact Mrs. Ringler.
- Government Finance Officers Association Annual Conference, May 31 – June 3, 2015, Philadelphia.
- PMAA 2015 Spring Management Workshop, April 16, Nemaquin Woodlands Resort (more oriented to employees).

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2015 MINUTES BEING THAT THEY WERE DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

V. AGENT'S EXPENDITURES

No Agent's expenditures to be presented.

VI. INVOICES

Cambria Mailing Services, Inc.	\$ 81.11
Capital Region Benefits, Inc.	91.15
CMPA	1,000.00
Copy Tech Office System Inc.	69.88
Cummins Bridgeway, LLC	364.18

Ebensburg Office Supply	84.58
Environmental Service Laboratories, Inc.	144.00
FWF Insurance Agency, Inc.	1,900.00
Hite Company	413.57
John Gartland	50.00
L/B Water Service, Inc.	426.40
Mark Stancovich	50.00
Mary L. Elchin	144.00
Michael Barton	372.72
National Road Utility Supply Inc.	75,456.31
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co, Inc.	160.69
Peoples Natural Gas Company	572.55
Portage Auto Parts	33.64
Portage Post Office	147.00
Portage Service Center	811.00
Ray Oil & Gas Co	5,125.15
Raymond G. Bowman	50.00
RDM-Johnstown LLC	276.00
Ronald J. Cadwallader, Jr	20.00
Sharon Squillario	50.00
Stager's Store	167.93
Stephen F. Koval	50.00
Verizon Wireless	177.14
Zee Medical, Inc.	91.27
	<hr/>
	\$88,380.27

Paid Bills

Ewa Kulik	\$ 100.00
Water System Solutions, Inc.	126.00
Cambria Systems, Inc.	3,999.11
Comcast	261.62
Justin and Carly Jo Cooney	100.00
Michael J Pcola	100.00
PA One Call System, Inc.	13.97
Penelec	1,264.86
Peoples Natural Gas Company	452.38
REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.	1,072.37
Aflac	226.22
Ben Meadows	44.78
CBIZ Insurance Service, Inc.	250.00
Jane Miller	100.00
Jessica Dobson	100.00
Pro Disposal, Inc.	142.00
Staples	229.98
UPMC Health Plan	5,522.58
Verizon	352.44
56 Various Consumer Deposits Returned	5,007.18
Commonwealth of PA – Unclaimed Property	774.48
Portage Area Sewer Authority	59.90
Sheetz Fleet Service	312.97
1 st Summit Bank	391.34
	<hr/>
	\$21,004.18

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. STANCOVICH, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO ACCEPT AND PAY INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$118,789.36 (REGULAR BILLS, \$88,380.27; PAID BILLS, \$21,004.18; PennVEST, \$3,896.36 AND \$5,508.55; USDA, \$0.00. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. GARTLAND, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE FEBRUARY 2015 TREASURER'S REPORT AS IT WAS PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED IN WRITTEN FORM AND UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE REPORT WITH A BALANCE OF: BEGINNING CASH, \$1,561,863.13; CASH IN, \$223,369.94; CASH OUT, (\$285,990.91); ADJUSTMENT (INTEREST), \$0; ENDING CASH, \$1,499,242.16. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In the absence of Mr. Cadwallader, Mr. Bowman noted that Mr. Cadwallader's report was distributed to the Board members prior to the meeting; and he asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the report.

Mr. Bowman noted that Mr. Cadwallader stated in his report that he worked the weekend of February 9-13, 2015 on freeze-ups, so this was probably the beginning of the freeze-up concerns. Therefore, the Authority has three weeks of issues that have to be addressed relative to freeze-ups.

IX. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Beyer commented that a copy of the Engineer's Report was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Mr. Beyer reported that he did receive the as builts from Lumadue. Mr. Beyer commented on them today and sent them back to Lumadue. Lumadue still needs to provide information to close out contracts 2013-1 (Martindale) and 2013-3 (freeze-ups).

As it relates to the Mountain Avenue project, Mr. Beyer commented that the PennDot permit is slated to expire in April, so he did extend it for one year.

As it relates to the Cemetery Road project, Mr. Beyer questioned the Board as to whether a decision was made on the project being done in-house or by a contractor. Mr. Bowman indicated that this matter would be discussed under New Business.

Mr. Beyer informed the Board that he met with the Building Codes representatives who wanted to inspect the ceiling in the plant and to look at the new tank so that these two permits could be closed out.

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Barbin noted that he had submitted a copy of his report prior to the meeting.

Attorney Barbin noted that he incorrectly stated in his report that the EDU policy was pending. He will be meeting with Mr. Cadwallader and Mrs. Ringler to have the policy implemented. This will require

an inventory of buildings, etc. Mr. Bowman indicated that letters have been prepared to property owners in this regard.

Mr. Stancovich questioned if Attorney Barbin had any further information on the Chappell property on Caldwell Avenue, to which Attorney Barbin replied that he did send the mortgage company a letter and has not received a response.

As it relates to the Rules, Rates and Regulations and Conditions of Service, Attorney Barbin indicated that Mrs. Ringler contacted him regarding some other items that need clarification. He stated that at the last meeting the Board approved the Rules, Rates and Regulations and Conditions of Service; however, following the adoption, Mrs. Ringler found some additional items that she was questioning. When Mr. Cadwallader returns, Attorney Barbin stated that he will meet with Mr. Cadwallader and Mrs. Ringler to finalize this matter. Mr. Yetsko questioned if Attorney Barbin will then bring the information back to the Board for review, to which Attorney Barbin replied affirmatively. Mr. Bowman noted that we need to have a final complete copy to submit to USDA.

XI. FORESTER'S REPORT

Mr. Barton apprised the Board that, as it relates to the topographical map of the Authority's property as discussed at the last meeting, there was a small glitch in the title to one of the properties. He is working with Attorney Barbin and Mr. Cadwallader relative to this matter. He will have the report completed for the next meeting.

Mr. Barton noted that he is working on the next timber sale (area of Ciokota's Curve).

Attorney Barbin noted that discussion had taken place at the last meeting regarding the possibility of the purchase of a piece of land from Cooney. He questioned Mr. Barton what the next steps would be for the Board. Mr. Barton commented that this was a piece of land that Mr. Blaisdell had discussed with the Board several years ago; and he thought it was taken care of. Attorney Barbin indicated that no purchase was made by the Authority. Mr. Barton commented that he knew there was an offer made and interest expressed by the Authority for this piece of property, which was on the northern side of the watershed. Attorney Barbin indicated that, if the purchase was made by the Authority, he is sure there are community groups that would help with the re-plant of the property. Mr. Barton noted that he would contact Mr. Blaisdell and find out the status.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 2014 CDBG Grant

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

- Employee Issues

Mr. Bowman noted that he met with the employees; and there were no issues to be addressed.

- Tax Sale – Caldwell Avenue

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Cemetery Road Project

Mr. Bowman apprised the Board that the employees feel that this project can be completed in-house. Mr. Bowman questioned the total project costs, to which Mr. Beyer replied that, if the project is placed

out to bid, with engineering and attorney fees, the estimate would be \$116,000. Mr. Bowman noted that some estimates were gathered to do the project in-house. There would be approximately \$45,000 for materials. He also received a rental quote from United Rental for rental of a midsize excavator and dump truck that would be needed to complete the project. However, Mr. Bowman pointed out, there is a dump truck that could be purchased for \$55,000. Mr. Bowman pointed out that if we did the project in-house, and purchased the excavator and dump truck, the project cost would be less than the cost if we placed the project out to bid; and we would also have two pieces of equipment that we did not have previously. The rental rates for the two pieces of equipment would be \$20,000. Mr. Bowman commented that the question for the Board to address would be whether we wanted to move forward with doing the project in-house and pursuing the purchase of the midsize excavator and dump truck.

Mr. Koval questioned if anyone has looked at the equipment to see their condition, to which Mr. Bowman replied that the dump truck was a State highway truck; and the excavator was from a dealer, which included five buckets of various sizes. The excavator is a used machine; and it is less than one-half of its useful life. Mr. Koval questioned if there would be any type of limited warranty, to which Mr. Bowman replied that he would think the purchase would be as is.

Mr. Bowman questioned the feelings of the Board in this regard. He commented that his feeling would be to purchase the excavator, which we could use for other projects, as well as the dump truck. Attorney Barbin noted that we would need to advertise for bids for the purchase.

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. STANCOVICH, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS ON A MIDSIZE EXCAVATOR AND A NINE TON DUMP TRUCK, BASED ON THE AUTHORITY'S SPECIFICATIONS. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

Mr. Koval questioned if we will be able to haul the excavator, to which Mr. Bowman replied that we would be able to tow the excavator with the dump truck. Mr. Stancovich questioned if the individual utilizing the excavator would need a CDL, to which Mr. Bowman replied affirmatively, indicating that to haul the excavator, the individual would need a Class A license, which Mr. Moore and Mr. Brian Cadwallader already have.

- Physician Panel for Worker's Compensation

Mr. Bowman noted that EMC encourages the use of a panel of physicians for worker's compensation claims. This is not mandatory, but it is strongly encouraged. Using a PPO panel provider, a cost savings can be realized by lowering the claims costs and the modifier factor. The panel of physicians can provide consistent quality of care because they understand employee injuries and are able to get the employee back to work as quickly as possible. Mr. Bowman noted that, depending on the type of claim, the lists provides the physician's name and available office hours. Mr. Koval questioned where we could obtain the list to review, to which Mr. Bowman replied that EMC will provide the information. Mr. Yetzko questioned if all of the employees would then be required to go to the panel providers, to which Attorney Barbin replied affirmatively. Mr. Bowman noted that, if an employee chooses a certain physician on the panel for a workplace injury, they would have to be under that physician's care for 30 days. They could then decide to choose another physician on the panel. Mr. Stancovich questioned if the Board could obtain a copy of the panel to review prior to making a decision, to which Mr. Yetzko agreed. Mr. Bowman commented that he would request Mrs. Ringler to obtain additional information. Mr. Yetzko questioned if there would be additional cost involved, to which Mr. Bowman replied that it would actually save the Authority money. Attorney Barbin commented that the physicians on the panel have already negotiated appropriate pricing with the insurance carrier. Mr. Koval indicated that the savings will ultimately be reflected in the premium paid.

- Redrock Fence Company Quote / Check from Insurance Company

Mr. Bowman informed the Board that we received a quote from Redrock Fence Company to repair the fence around the tank on Munster Road in the amount of \$3,827. We have already received a check from the insurance company in the amount of \$2,285.27. Mr. Bowman noted that the check from the insurance company was less than expected because it was felt that there was a previous accident that damaged the fence which was not reported at the time. Mr. Koval noted that we know that we will not be able to repair the fence now, so perhaps we may be able to get a better bid for repairs in the spring. Mr. Stancovich questioned the amount of damage to the fence, to which Mr. Koval replied that the fence is intact but the poles are damaged.

Mr. Bowman questioned if the Board wanted to take no action on this matter until the spring, to which the Board agreed.

- Audit

Mr. Bowman requested a motion to approve the audit as presented to the Board.

ON MOTION OF MR. STANCOVICH, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE AUDIT AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

- Purchase of 55-Gallon Drum

Mr. Bowman indicated that a request was received from Mr. Morgan on the purchase of a 55-gallon drum for use at the Martindale Plant at a cost of \$297.60 plus freight. Mr. Koval commented that there are funds available under Plant Expenses for this purchase; therefore, no approval by the Board would be needed. The Board, therefore, agreed to allow this purchase.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Requests for Adjustments

Mr. Bowman presented the following adjustments for the Board's consideration:

1. 1095 Oak Street – pipe broke in garage; being replaced. Consumption, 88,700 gallons; average consumption, 2,000 gallons. Amount billed, \$548.63; average bill, \$18.98; subtotal, \$529.65; 20%, \$105.93; total adjusted bill, \$124.91.
2. Vine Street – pipe under sink broke; was replaced. Consumption, 15,300 gallons; average consumption, 1,100 gallons. Amount billed, \$127.45; average bill, \$18.98; subtotal, \$108.47; 20%, \$21.69; total adjusted bill, \$40.67.
3. 917 Conemaugh Avenue – pipe broke in house; was replaced. Consumption, 49,000 gallons; average consumption, 1,000 gallons. Amount billed, \$354.25; average bill, \$18.98; subtotal, \$335.27; 20%, \$67.05; total adjusted bill, \$86.03.
4. 1800 Spring Hill Road – pipe broke in house; was replaced. Consumption, 22,600 gallons; average consumption, 4,200 gallons. Amount billed, \$176.58; average bill, \$39.00; subtotal, \$137.58; 20%, \$27.52; total adjusted bill, \$66.52.
5. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Mountain Avenue – water line froze in Usher's Room. Consumption, 24,000 gallons; average consumption, 3,400 gallons. Amount billed, \$189.28; average bill, \$31.68; subtotal, \$157.60; 20%, \$31.52; total adjusted bill, \$63.20.
6. 203 Caldwell Avenue - pipe broke in basement; was replaced. Consumption, 31,900 gallons; average consumption, 200 gallons. Amount billed, \$238.99; average bill, \$18.98; subtotal, \$220.01; 20%, \$44.00; total adjusted bill, \$62.98.

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE ABOVE REQUESTS FOR ADJUSTMENTS AS PRESENTED. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

- Dividend Check from EMC Insurance

ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE DIVIDEND CHECK RECEIVED FROM EMC INSURANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,581.54 BE DEPOSTED INTO SAVINGS ACCOUNT 106.5. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

- Checks Returned to Consumers and Unclaimed Property

Mr. Bowman presented a list of checks to be returned to consumers as well as unclaimed property to be sent to the State.

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. KOVAL, THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE SUBMISSION OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY AMOUNTING TO \$774.48 TO BE SENT TO THE STATE. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE BOARD AGREED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:10 P.M.

THE BOARD RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION AT 8:45 P.M.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON MOTION OF MR. KOVAL, SECONDED BY MR. BOWMAN, THE BOARD ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:46 P.M. BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. BOWMAN, MR. GARTLAND, MR. KOVAL, MR. STANCOVICH AND MR. YETSKO.

XVII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Squillario
Sharon Squillario
Recording Secretary