

LACKAWANNA RIVER BASIN SEWER AUTHORITY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority was held on Monday, April 14, 2025, 6:00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Authority, 145 Boulevard Avenue, Throop, Pennsylvania. Mr. Ruddy Chairman, presided.

1-2 Salute to the Flag was followed by Roll Call, indicating the presence of the following:

Mr. Paul Ruddy  
Mr. Joseph Brady  
Mr. Peter Larioni  
Mr. Alexander Chelik  
Mr. Robert Caljean  
Mr. Thomas Wascura  
Mr. Joseph Chowanec  
Mr. Eugene Prusinski  
Mr. Andrew Hegedus

The Chair declared a Quorum present.

Also in attendance were the following: Atty. Rocco Valvano, Solicitor; Atty. Paul Mazzoni, Solicitor; Michael Matechak, Executive Director; Robert Davis, Plant Superintendent; and Melissa Cravath, Billing Director.

3. The Chair called for the Report of the Secretary. Mr. Larioni, Secretary, gave the report stating that copies of the Minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting had been distributed to all Board Members and asked that the reading be dispensed with.

Mr. Hegedus made a motion to accept the March 10, 2025, Board Meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Ruddy informed the Board that there was a group in attendance that would like to speak to the Board. Mr. Jeff Smith of the Sierra Club spoke to the Board stating that based on the water testing that their organization has performed at the Sewer Authority discharge, the Authority has done a great job at catching the "forever chemicals". Mr. Smith discussed Keystone Landfill's proposal to discharge treated leachate to the Throop Borough sewer system. Some residents are concerned that this might "upset the apple cart". Mr. Smith presented a petition with 84 names encouraging the Authority to not accept the leachate from the

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landfill. Maybe at the end of the landfill's life it can be revisited, but not now if accepting the leachate means that the landfill is going to last and encourage it to get larger. The Authority does not have to accept the leachate. Let them continue to send it to the Scranton treatment plant and let them work it out. Mr. Smith stated that his group was here to encourage the Authority not to accept the leachate. A member of Friends of Lackawanna added that it is no benefit to anyone to accept the leachate at the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority.

Mr. Ruddy said that on behalf of the Board that the Authority will take the concerns expressed under consideration in making any decision.

4. The Chair called for the Report of the Treasurer. Mr. Caljean, Treasurer, presented the report as follows:

Schedules of Accounts Payable:

Operational Expenditures	\$399,377.91
Interim Expenditures	\$331,906.73
Capital Improvement Fund	\$206,032.86

Mr. Larioni made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Chelik seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

5. The Chair called for the Report of the Solicitor. Atty. Valvano reported that sixty-one (61) municipal liens were filed in Lackawanna County, fourteen (14) municipal liens were filed in Susquehanna County and two (2) municipal liens were filed in Wayne County. There were thirteen (13) municipal liens satisfied in Lackawanna County and one (1) municipal lien satisfied in Wayne County during the month of March.

Atty. Valvano has been working with Mr. Matechak filing executed permanent easements and reviewing drafts of proposed temporary easements for upcoming projects.

Mr. Caljean made a motion to accept the Solicitor's report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chowanec. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

6. The Chair called for the Report of the Executive Director. Ms. Cravath, Billing Director, gave the Billing Office Report dated March 31, 2025. The estimated Accounts Receivable for

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the first month of the first quarter are \$2,355,240.01. The amount collected through the first month of the first quarter was \$1,343,252.75. This amount is under the estimated collections by \$1,011,987.26. Ms. Cravath reported that there were seventy-seven (77) liens filed during the month of March. Year-to-date liens filed are two hundred one (201). There were fourteen (14) liens satisfied by Atty. Mazzoni's law office during the month of March. Year to date liens satisfied are thirty-seven (37). There are zero (0) averments filed year to date.

The Montage Sewer District collections for the March 15th billing totaled \$34,859.31.

Jefferson Township's January 15, 2025 bill in the amount of \$98,875.00.00 for 1318 EDUs was paid on January 27, 2025.

Scott Township's January 2025 bill in the amount of \$113,451.11 consisting of \$110,400.00 for 1,472 EDUs and \$3,051.11 for one (1) metered service was paid on February 11, 2025.

The first quarter billings for both Jefferson Township and Scott Township will be going out the week of April 14, 2025.

Credit card payments for the month of March were on thousand four hundred thirty-eight (1,438).

Mr. Davis presented the Project Status Summary. Contract 24-3: Clinton WWTP Secondary Clarifier Replacement - Contract 24-3.1 General Construction - The basement slabs for the new return activated sludge pump station and aeration tank distribution box have been formed and poured. Wall forming for both structures is underway with concrete pours scheduled for the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>. Excavation has started for Clarifier #1.

Contract 24-3.2: Electrical Construction - The contractor has installed conduits in the interior of the existing control building for the new return activated sludge pump station power feed. About 50% of the new concrete encased underground duct bank has been installed.

Contract 24-3.3 HVAC Construction - The contractor has submitted shop drawings of proposed heating and ventilation equipment.

Contract 25-1: Throop WWTP Grit Piping Replacement - Replacement piping for Grit Pump #1 has been installed and is in operation. Work on Grit Pump #2 piping replacement is underway.

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Mr. Davis noted that in December 2024 he had reported on a proposed DEP program for testing biosolids for PFAS, which the LRBSA had expressed interest in participating in. LRBSA would provide biosolids samples for testing, which would be paid for by DEP. The Authority has been performing similar testing voluntarily prior to being approached by DEP.

An update was received on March 17, 2025 announcing that DEP has partnered with the Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Foundation (MABF) to conduct the testing program. The Foundation is going to collect and compile the data and provide feedback to DEP. Mr. Davis spoke with a representative from MABF who provided an update on the program status. The Authority is still interested in participating, including sludge testing at both the Throop and Archbald plants. The LRBSA has performed voluntarily sampling in both the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2024 and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2025.

Mr. Matechak added that the testing program is attempting to compile background data on PFAS concentrations in biosolids across the state. They are requesting a \$2,000.00 contribution from the participating Authorities. Mr. Matechak noted that the program will provide valuable data that may be useful if DEP decides to impose future restrictions on sludge for land applications. The more data that is available statewide, the more intelligently the sewer authorities can speak if any new regulations come forth.

Mr. Davis updated the Board on the service truck that was ordered for the Throop plant stating that the truck is at the upfitter's shop being assembled.

Mr. Matechak presented a draft resolution establishing a policy for issuing sewer permits to properties that previously contained a structure that was connected to the sewer system, but which was subsequently demolished. Historically the Authority would waive the permit fee if a new structure was constructed on a property upon which a previous sewer structure was demolished. Uncertainty was created in the case of some properties that have remained vacant for an extended number of years. The proposed resolution will establish a policy that if a structure connected to the sewer system is demolished and the property remains vacant for more than five (5) years, a new sewer connection permit will be required. The draft resolution is presented for the Board's review for possible adoption at the May 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Matechak reviewed the Summary of Accounts.

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Mr. Matechak thanked the residents for attending the meeting and representing their interests. Mr. Matechak clarified the status of Keystone Landfill's proposed discharge of treated leachate to the Throop Borough sewer system. The Authority can take no official action until Throop Borough makes a decision. The Authority would then become involved as part of the Municipal Sewage Planning process during which Keystone Landfill would need to obtain confirmation of capacity in the collection system from Throop Borough and in the conveyance and treatment systems from the LRBSA. The Authority has not and cannot take any official action until an official request is made as part of the Sewage Planning process.

Mr. Hegedus made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Chowanec seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

7. Reports from Committees: Nothing to report.

8. Old Business: Nothing to report.

9. New Business: Nothing to report.

10. Remarks from Citizens: Nothing to Report.

11. A Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Larioni seconded by Mr. Hegedus. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

  
Peter Larioni, Secretary