

LACKAWANNA RIVER BASIN SEWER AUTHORITY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MAY 12, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority was held on Monday, May 12, 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; 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 April 14, 2025 meeting had been distributed to all Board Members and asked that the reading be dispensed with.

Mr. Chowanec made a motion to accept the April 14, 2025, Board Meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Caljean seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

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

Schedules of Accounts Payable:

Operational Expenditures	\$291,229.86
Interim Expenditures	\$349,125.69
Capital Improvement Fund	\$432,616.36

Mr. Matechak noted that the Linde Corporation invoice for Contract 25-1 listed in the Capital Improvements expense schedule includes a

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proposed change order in the amount of \$17,142.43. The change order was for the replacement of additional pipe that was found to be deteriorated once they started the work. There was also some additional pipe replacement that the Authority had planned to undertake for which we had already purchased the material. Since the contractor was on-site working in the same area, it was requested that they perform the installation. As a result of the additional work the pay request included the change order in the amount of \$17,142.43. Mr. Matechak requested a motion to approve the change order.

Mr. Wascura made a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$17,142.43 to Linde Corporation. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Larioni made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Prusinski 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 there were sixteen (16) municipal liens satisfied in Lackawanna County, three (3) municipal liens satisfied in Susquehanna County and two (2) municipal liens satisfied in Wayne County during the month of April.

Atty. Valvano reported that the Authority received drafts of the proposed Union Contracts for both the plant workers and clerical bargaining units from the union's business agent. Atty. Valvano advised that he and Mr. Matechak independently reviewed the contracts and compared them to the notes from the negotiation meetings. Mr. Matechak returned the proposed edits to the business agent to prepare final drafts of both contracts for formal execution.

Atty. Valvano informed the Board that he was notified by the Lackawanna County Land Bank that the Authority's request to purchase property adjacent to the Throop plant that was listed for Judicial Sale was approved. The courts must approve the sale and finalize the distribution of funds to creditors of record. After this process is completed, a deed can be issued to the Authority.

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

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6. The Chair called for the Report of the Executive Director. Ms. Cravath, Billing Director, gave the Billing Office Report dated April 30, 2025. The estimated Accounts Receivable for the second month of the first quarter are \$2,355,240.01. The amount collected through the second month of the first quarter was \$2,225,947.45. This amount is under the estimated collections by \$129,292.56. Ms. Cravath reported that there were no liens filed during the month of April. Year-to-date liens filed are two hundred and one (201). There were twenty-one (21) liens satisfied by Atty. Mazzone's law office during the month of April. Year to date liens satisfied are fifty-eight (58). There are zero (0) averments filed year to date.

The Montage Sewer District collections for the March 15th billing totaled \$127,863.95.

Jefferson Township's April 2025 bill in the amount of \$99,075.00 for 1321 EDUs has been sent out.

Scott Township's April 2025 bill in the amount of \$112,494.73 consisting of \$110,500.00 for 1,473 EDUs and \$1,994.73 for one (1) metered service has been sent out.

Credit card payments for the month of April were one thousand four hundred thirteen (1,413).

Mr. Matechak presented the Project Status Summary. Contract 24-3: Clinton WWTP Secondary Clarifier Replacement - Contract 24-3.1 General Construction - The concrete walls for the new return activated sludge pump station basement and the aeration tank distribution box have been poured. Excavation was completed for new Clarifier #1 and forming of the base slab was started. Heavy rains the week of May 5th flooded the excavation area and delayed progress on that work. The contractor is dewatering the work area and intends to resume work on the clarifier base the week of May 12th.

Contract 24-3.2: Electrical Construction - The contractor is coordinating conduit installation with the progress of the General Contractor.

Contract 24-3.3 HVAC Construction - The contractor is on hold pending progress on the new return activated sludge pump station. Once the building is erected the contractor will be able to install the HVAC equipment.

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Contract 25-1: Throop WWTP Grit Piping Replacement - Work on Grit Pump #2 piping was started. Work was temporarily delayed pending delivery of additional pipe needed to replace deteriorated sections that were discovered after the grit vortex tank was drained during construction. Work is expected to resume the week of May 12th.

Mr. Matechak informed the Board that there are two projects that are currently under design. One is for replacement of the force main at Moosic Pump Station #2 and the other is replacement of the force main at the Richmondale Pump Station. Both of these projects are nearing design completion. We have obtained the necessary permits for both projects. The consulting engineer is finalizing the plans and specifications for the bidding process. Mr. Matechak requested authorization from the Board to advertise both projects for bids once they are complete and ready to proceed.

Mr. Caljean made a motion to advertise for bids for replacement of the force mains at Moosic Pump Station #2 and the Richmondale Pump Station. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chelik. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Davis reported that a restriction of the air flow to one of the aerobic digesters at the Archbald plant was occurring. The operations staff has been removing the sludge from the tank to investigate the cause. Draining the tank will present an opportunity to inspect the diffusers. The diffusers have been in operation for approximately eight years and their useful life expectancy is typically ten years. Once the tank is sufficiently drained, in addition to determining the cause of the air flow restriction, the condition of the existing diffusers will be assessed.

Mr. Davis informed the Board that there is additional maintenance work underway at the Archbald plant in which the two (2) raw sewage pumps are being rebuilt. A future project is proposed to replace these pumps. However, a bearing failure on one of the pumps made it necessary to undertake repairs at this time. The first pump is currently being rebuilt and is expected to be re-installed and placed back in operation within several weeks.

Mr. Davis reported on a proposal received to perform body repairs on the Authority's 2008 sewer jet truck. The rear bed of the truck is severely rusted. A quote of \$24,900.00 was received from Powells's Rental to install a new bed. Powell's is a Costars participating service center. In addition, the Authority requested a quote for additional strobe lights and spotlights to be installed

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on the vehicle to improve operating safety. Powell's supplied a quote of \$1,770.00 for this additional lighting. Mr. Davis requested authorization to accept the quotes to repair the 2008 sewer jet truck.

Mr. Ruddy inquired if it was worth investing this money into a 2008 vehicle. Mr. Davis noted that the truck overall is in good shape and operates fine. The truck is locally driven and only has about 40,000 miles on it. Mr. Matechak added that the estimated cost of a new jet truck is over \$300,000.00.

Mr. Prusinski made a motion to approve the repairs to the jet truck. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hegedus. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried

Mr. Davis updated the Board on the new Ford F350 stating that Powell's Rental is making progress completing the upfitting. They are finishing up the modifications to the body and the crane has been mounted. They hope to have everything complete by the end of the week of May 12th. After Powell's completes their work, the truck has to be returned to the dealership for titling.

Mr. Matechak presented for approval an engagement letter from Barbetti McHale LLC that formally authorizes them to undertake the 2024 audit. The cost of the audit preparation will be \$17,500.00. This amount is the same as for the 2023 audit preparation.

Mr. Larioni made a motion to approve the engagement letter from Barbetti McHale LLC to conduct the 2024 Audit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chelik. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Matechak presented for approval a temporary easement with Davlisa Enterprises for the proposed Richmondale Pump Station Force Main Replacement project. The new sewer line will be installed off the shoulder of road within PennDOT right-of-way. Because of the contours of the ground in that area some of our grading will extend outside of the PennDOT right-of-way onto adjacent private property. The Authority is obtaining a temporary grading easement. Two (2) additional easements are in the process of being obtained. The property owner will be compensated \$100.00 in consideration.

Mr. Caljean made a motion to approve the temporary grading easement with Davlisa Enterprises for the Richmondale Pump Station Force Main replacement project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wascura. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

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Mr. Matechak presented a proposed resolution establishing a policy for issuing sewer connection permits to properties where the previous building has been demolished and the property was left vacant. If the property is left vacant for five (5) years or longer, the developer will need to obtain a new sewer connection permit for the new construction. If new construction takes place on the property within five (5) years of demolition, the Authority will not require a new permit if the prior structure had been legally connected to the sewer system, unless the new development increases the sewage flow. In those cases, the developer will need to apply for a supplemental permit for the additional capacity. Mr. Matechak requested approval of the proposed policy.

Mr. Hegedus made a motion to approve the new sewer permit policy for vacant properties as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brady. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Matechak reviewed the Summary of Accounts.

Mr. Larioni made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Chelik 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. Wascura. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.


Peter Larioni, Secretary