

**Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority Meeting Minutes**  
**April 3, 2023**

The Millcreek-Richland Joint Authority Meeting of March 6, 2023 was called to order by John Wolgemuth, Authority Chairman, at 7:04 P.M.

Present: John Wolgemuth; Jan Klaus; James Bottomley; Arthur Wealand; Rebecca Schnoke; Jessica Weaver. Absent: None

Secretary's Report: The Minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting were read by Mr. Wolgemuth. No corrections were noted. Mr. Wolgemuth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klaus, to approve the March 2023 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report and bills to be paid were reviewed for February 2023 and March 2023. Mr. Wolgemuth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klaus, to pay all bills marked with asterisks as presented on the February Treasurer's report. All voted in favor. Mr. Wolgemuth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bottomley, to pay all bills marked with asterisks as presented on the March Treasurer's report. All voted in favor.

Justin LaTourette of Purified Operations, LLC provided a report on the pump stations and discussed operations and maintenance updates. Pump Stations #1 and #2 had an alarm due to power glitch/power outage. A battery backup is being considered and will be priced. Pump Station #4 is waiting for parts ordered by Joe to be installed once received. Joe will order a spare controller which can be used at multiple pump stations. Price is \$1,500. Pump hours are good. There have been a fair number of PA One Calls.

Dan Hershey, Engineer:

Mervin Hoover with Creekview Construction was present to discuss Rigidply issues. The proposed new construction encroaches on a 10 foot utility easement. They were looking for permission to reroute water/sewer lines so they can complete a building extension, and trying to figure out who owns them. There was discussion about whether the lines were private rather than owned by MRJA, and where the lines connect to the main lines. Chrisland Engineering prepared the sketch plan. It was discussed that MRJA staff/consultants would meet with the property owner and/or contractor on site to review the situation. It was recommended that an escrow be established for reimbursement of MRJA fees.

Mr. Hershey related that the Myerstown Wastewater Treatment Facility recently communicated regarding staffing issues and the need to increase the hourly rates for employees to enable them to hire.

Mr. Hershey discussed a sewer easement between 16 and 18 East Bethany Road. A proposed new garage encroaches on the MRJA sewer line. The corner of the garage is approximately a foot into the easement. There was a discussion about how MRJA could maintain an easement and what assurances for access would be needed from the property owner.

Mr. Hershey discussed the plan to CCTV the existing sewer mains. The thought was to divide the mains into 5 areas and tackle them one at a time. Mr. Hershey reported estimated costs of televising at 40 cents to \$1.00 per linear foot, and \$1.00 to \$1.50 per linear foot for flushing

services. Mr. Hershey will obtain multiple quotes and see if they are under the bidding threshold. He proposed starting with Zone 1, as there is a plan to pave West Main Street in late summer. Funds have been budgeted for this project.

Amy Leonard, Solicitor: No report.

Board Member Reports: Mr. Wolgemuth reported that he contacted another cleaning company, and they wanted to clean the building first and then give a price for regular cleaning. It was determined to try this company, with a price for the first cleaning not to exceed \$150. There were questions as to whether the company was insured and whether a waiver/release and indemnification would be required if long-term hiring is considered.

Delinquency Report: Reviewed and discussed.

Correspondence: Correspondence was received from Wolmesdorf-Robeson Joint Authority requesting payment of \$1.00 per meter for meter reading services. The MRJA does not get any residential meter reading services from Womelsdorf-Robeson, and it was unclear whether they read any commercial meters. A list of meters will be requested from Womelsdorf-Robeson.

New Business:

The fence at Pump Station #3 needs to be fixed. A recent windstorm blew off gates and privacy panels. The cost to install new fencing with gates is \$1,279.50. Zinn's will be contacted to see if there is insurance coverage. Mr. Klaus made a motion to add this item to the agenda as an action item, as the repair needs to be made as soon as possible. Mr. Wolgemuth seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Ms. Schnoke made a motion to pay the cost to install the new fencing/gates, and Mr. Klaus seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Old Business:

The Authority discussed outsourcing treasurer duties, particularly the monthly reporting and billpaying responsibilities. Good, Firestone & Remlinger provided a price of \$400 per quarter to prepare checks, complete bookkeeping and monthly reporting, and work with the auditor. They currently provide other services to the Authority for \$190 per quarter. Ms. Schnoke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bottomley to add this action item to the agenda. All voted in favor. Mr. Wolgemuth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bottomley, to hire Good, Firestone & Remlinger to perform certain treasurer's duties.

The Authority discussed the insurance appraisal for the property, noting that an in-person review is conducted every 5 years, with incremental increases in value every year.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, Mr. Klaus made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schnoke, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Secretary, Jessica Weaver