

NESHANNOCK CREEK WATERSHED JOINT MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2024
8:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Dale Bestwick; Pat Suhrie; Dave Swartz; Clifford Hughes; William Finley Jr.; Robert Gregory; Jim Riddle; Paul Vahaly; Dan Goncz; Karen Shipton; Ben McKinley.

The Meeting Opened with the Pledge to the U.S. Flag at 8:00 AM

*Karen Shipton stated that the meeting was being recorded.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**A motion was made by Clifford Hughes and seconded by Robert Gregory to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 10/09/2024 MEETING AS PRESENTED

**A motion was made by Dave Swartz and seconded by William Finley, Jr. to approve the minutes from the 10/09/2024 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Karen Shipton reported the following:

Short Lived Asset Reserve Account: Opening Balance: (10/01/24) Balance: \$218,517.26. One Transfer from the General Acct \$3582.25. Balance as of 10/31/24: \$222,099.51.

Short Lived Asset Reserve Account: Opening Balance: (11/01/24) Balance: \$222,099.51. One Transfer from the General Acct. \$3582.25. Balance as of 11/29/24: \$225,681.76.

Asset Reserve Restricted Account: Opening Balance: (10/01/24) Balance: \$99,849.69. One Transfer from the General Acct.: \$1636.88. Balance as of 10/31/24: \$101,486.57.

Asset Reserve Restricted Account: Opening Balance: (11/01/24) Balance: \$101,486.57. One Transfer from the General Acct.: \$1636.88. Balance as of 11/29/24: \$103,123.45.

General Account: Opening Balance: (10/01/24) Balance: \$189,805.97. (4) Deposits of \$27,353.24 and (14) Disbursements of \$30,706.87. Balance as of 10/31/24: \$186,452.34.

General Account: Opening Balance: (11/01/24) Balance: \$186,452.34. (8) Deposits of \$9925.88 and (11) Disbursements of \$21,747.00. Balance as of 11/29/24: \$174,631.22.

All accounts balance and were reconciled. Karen stated she had copies of all bank statements and invoices should anyone like to review them.

4:43 PM
12/09/24
Cash Basis

Neshannock Creek Watershed Joint Mun. Auth.
Expenses by Vendor Summary
November 2024

	Nov 24
Ace fix-it Hardware	19.94
Davidson, M. & Associates, Inc.	8,057.00
Gannett Fleming, Inc.	6,526.31
Jacobs, M.S. & Associates	1,734.22
Penn Power /57/Acct. 577	114.97
Penn Power/835A/Acct. 502	53.76
Penn Power/845/Acct. 628	2,530.04
Plantation Park Camper's Assoc.	206.25
Tri-County Industries, Inc./57	56.47
Tri-County Industries, Inc./845 Perry Hwy	115.93
USDA	90,446.00
TOTAL	109,860.89
TRANSFERS: Short Lived Asset Reserve Account:	3,582.25
Asset Reserve Restricted Account:	1,636.88
TOTAL INVOICES TO BE PAID AND TRANSFERS:	\$115,080.02

**A motion was made by Dave Swartz and seconded by Clifford Hughes to approve the treasurer's report and the payment of bills listed. Motion carried unanimously.*

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dan Goncz reported the following:

Plantation Park – They are now at 58 edu's.

PA State Police Barracks – The work is complete and the pump station is connected. It is being used. We can now start sending them an invoice. They will be billed for (1) edu and they will be considered a "commercial" establishment.

Iron Bridge Inn – Ben McKinley was present for the SR19 South Sanitary Sewer Project. We have met with Ben several times to discuss extending the sewers with a pumpstation at Iron Bridge Inn that picks up Iron Bridge and Rachels and conveys sewage under I-80 to the Authority sewer system. This will open up SR19 for future connections. Those connections will not be part of this project, that will be when they want to connect. Dan has spoken with PA DEP last week about this and to know what planning document is needed.

Agreement for Engineering Services for the Planning, Permitting and Design of the Sewage Facilities and the PennVest Application for Funding for the SR19 South Sanitary Sewer Project. – They would be making application to PennVest for funding around Oct/2025. The proposals for \$112,000, the \$114,500 listed in the Engineers Report is because Dan included an estimate of \$2500 in permit fees. This is something that Iron Bridge Inn and Rachels Roadhouse LLC would pay the Authority the escrow to proceed with these services. They are hoping to secure a grant through the County also to help with this project. Ben inquired on whether there were any other grants out there since their expansion will benefit the community with other connections. Dan stated that there were a couple other options available for this.

**A motion was made by Dale Bestwick and seconded by William Finley, Jr. to have the board proceed with the south extension of the sewer authority. Motion carried unanimously.*

Dan stated that when they are ready to close on funding with PennVest, they will need to have bond counsel services. Legal counsel does the bank loans but when using PennVest loans they need a legal

opinion, a bond counsel opinion. The board solicitor Roger Shaffer recommended Anthony Ditka of Dinsmore & Shohl be appointed as bond counsel for the authority but Dan stated we can wait until the Jan/2025 meeting to appoint this. He is most likely to be the one writing the agreement between Iron Bridge Inn and the Authority relative to the debt service and Anthony Ditka would be the special counsel for the Authority. Ben stated that they are looking for an attorney to handle this. Springfield Township would give the municipal guarantee of the loan.

Budget 2025 – Dan went over the highlights of the proposed budget for 2025.

****A motion was made by Dale Bestwick and seconded by Clifford Hughes to approve the Budget for 2025 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

Gannett Fleming, Inc. Agreement for Consulting Services for Engineering for 2025 - **A motion was made by Dave Swartz and seconded by Dale Bestwick to approve the Agreement for Consulting Services for Engineering for 2025 from Gannett Fleming Inc. for a total of \$11,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.*

There is a written report available.

OPERATOR'S REPORT

Dan reported the following:

The October 2024 performance was within the required DEP permit limits.

Sludge bed #2 was poured and cleaned. There was no sludge hauled in October/2024.

No grinder pump call outs in October/2024.

There is a written report available.

OLD BUSINESS

Electricity Rates – ****A motion was made by Robert Gregory and seconded by Clifford Hughes to accept the bid from AEP Electric for a period of 18 months at a rate of .08282 w/o grt and .08801 w/grt. Motion carried unanimously.***

Cell Phone/Internet Through Verizon Business – No action taken. Karen will get more precise information for the Jan/2025 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of 2025 Budget – Completed under Engineer's Report.

Gannett Fleming, Inc. Contract for Engineering/2025 – Completed under Engineer's Report.

M. Davidson Contract – The contract is a renewal. It is a 5 year contract broken down as follows: 2025 - \$89,412.00 (Annual); 2026 - \$93,888.00 (Annual); 2027 - \$98,592.00 (Annual); 2028 - \$103,512.00 (Annual); 2029 - \$108,684.00 (Annual). Retainer for Emergency Grinder Pump Maintenance is included for all years. There is no extra fee for Minimum Emergency Call-out Charge for Grinder Pump and Charge to Replace eGrinder Pump with Spare Core Unit. M. Davidson & Associates will supply the Laboratory Analysis required in the NPDES Permit for \$9000.00/year

(\$850.00/Month) (Included in the annual fees).

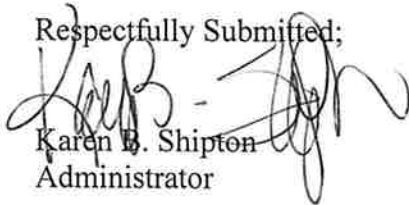
M. Davidson & Associates will supply the truck and plow for \$600.00/month (included in the above price).

**A motion was made by Dale Bestwick and seconded by William Finley, Jr. to approve the 5 year contract with M. Davidson & Associates as presented above. Motion carried unanimously.*

ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Clifford Hughes and seconded by Dale Bestwick to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:04AM.*

Respectfully Submitted;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen B. Shipton', is written over the typed name and title.

Karen B. Shipton
Administrator