

NESHANNOCK CREEK WATERSHED JOINT MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2025

8:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Robert Gregory; Pat Suhrie; Clifford Hughes; William Finley, Jr.; Karen Shipton; Jim Riddle; PJ Vahaly; Dan Goncz. **Public:** Ernie Weaver

****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 MINUTES FROM THE 01/14/2025 MEETING AS PRESENTED

****A motion was made by William Finley, Jr. and seconded by Robert Gregory to approve the minutes from the 01/14/2025 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ernie Weaver – 511 Mercer-New Wilmington Rd.; Mercer, PA 16137 – Ernie was here to express his concern over the PA One Call that was made by him in order to hand dig and install a propane tank underground and he hit the sewer line and there was damage to the line. He dug 39.5" away from where the line was marked. He was told there was a 3 foot lee-way either way. He felt he was safe digging at 39.5" away. He is disputing the invoice to pay for the damage. The board will consider his request and make a decision at a later date.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Karen Shipton reported the following:

The bank statements for January have not arrived at this time. The following invoices are being considered for payment:

1:02 PM	Neshannock Creek Watershed Joint Mun. Auth.	
2/10/25	Expenses by Vendor Summary	
cash Basis	January 2025	
		Jan 25
	Ace fix-It Hardware	51.94
	Advanced Contracting, Inc.	4,313.00
	Davidson, M. & Associates, Inc.	7,451.00
	Gannett Fleming, Inc.	21,009.57
	Mercer County Prothonotary	475.00
	Penn Power /57/Acct. 577	196.26
	Penn Power/835A/Acct. 502	133.83
	Penn Power/845/Acct. 628	3,892.49
	Plantation Park Camper's Assoc.	182.31
	Record Argus, The	88.50
	Tepco Trombold Equipment Co., Inc.	2,744.53
	Tri-County Industries, Inc./57	56.47
	Tri-County Industries, Inc./845 Perry Hwy	105.93
	USA Blue Book	50.45
	TOTAL	40,749.08
	TRANSFERS: Short Lived Asset Reserve Restr. Acct.:	3,582.25
	Asset Reserve Restricted Acct.:	1,636.88
	TOTAL TRANSFERS AND INVOICES:	\$45,968.21

****A motion was made by Roberet Gregory and seconded by Clifford Hughes to approve the payment of bills submitted for February/2025 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.***

****A motion was made by William Finley, Jr. and seconded by Clifford Hughes to inquire about the ability to download the bank statements from FNB for all (3) accounts. Motion carried unanimously.***

Karen will inquire about getting the invoices from Tri-County Industries, Inc. emailed to us in lieu of the mail in order to avoid paying a \$3.00/invoice monthly fee.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The flows for the month YTD for January are on the Engineers Report.

Plantation Park – The flow was a little low so far but we have not entered into the rainy season yet.

SR19 Project – The (30) day public comment period was advertised and Dan will go to Springfield and East Lackawannock Townships and have them adopt the plan by resolution after the comment period closes and submit it to PA DEP. Dan will also need proof of publication of the public comment period. Once we have the planning approval we can submit the permit application, which they are in the process of working on the design now. The weather has been holding them up for a bit. The Authority received the grant funds from Mercer County and that check was \$37,500 and was given back to Benn McKinley (Rachel's and Iron Bridge Inn, LLC).

The Wasteload Management Report was submitted to PA DEP on 1/24/2025.

OPERATOR'S REPORT

Everything operated within the permit limits for the month of December/2025.

There was (1) grinder pump pulled/replaced.

OLD BUSINESS

Re: PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority – Periodically they offer a grant program with a short time frame of getting the applications in and are due at the end of April. This round ranges from \$30,000 to a half million dollars. Dan wants to break out the cost of just the pump station that would be down at Iron Bridge Inn. The cost of this will be approximately \$371,000. Dan is recommending we apply for this funding and see what we get. If we are granted the funds, there is a 15% local share match so the Authority would match \$.15/dollar. It would be the Springfield Group that would provide that match. On the application, we need a letter from the Authority saying that they are willing to do that and another letter saying we will own and operate the pump station once it's completed. A resolution also is needed authorizing the grant application to be made. It's very competitive. Dan will get letters of support from the local politicians to support the project.

SR19 Sewer Project – PA DCED Pump System Maintenance Letter
PA DCED Funds Utilization Letter
Resolution 02-2025 – PA Small Water & Sewer Program Grant

**A motion was made by William Finley, Jr. and seconded by Clifford Hughes to approve Resolution No. 02-2025 and authorize the application made and designate Patrick J. Suhrie and Karen B. Shipton as the (2) officials that are permitted to execute the documents between the Authority and the PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority should we receive the grant. Motion carried unanimously.*

NEW BUSINESS

Grinder Pumps – We have roughly (30) grinder pumps we have pulled due to lack of payment and the serial numbers are matched with property owners and they have been sitting for a long period of time. They are pumps that have never been in operation. We are down to (2) pumps that are designated for replacements and it was suggested by Jim Riddle to start using the (30) in stock when a pump needs replaced. The serial numbers would just be transferred over to the new homeowner.

Grinder Pumps in Holding - **A motion was made by William Finley, Jr. and seconded by Clifford Hughes to start using the stock of (30) we have in storage as replacement pumps as needed. Motion carried unanimously.*

ADJOURNMENT

****A motion was made by Clifford Hughes and seconded by William Finley, Jr. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:44AM.***

Respectfully Submitted;

Karen B. Shipton
Administrator