



1801 Kutztown Road
Reading, Pennsylvania 19604
Phone: 610-406-6300
Fax: 610-406-6307
TDD: 610-655-6442

**Reading Area Water Authority
Board Meeting
Tuesday October 22, 2019**

The Board Meeting of the Reading Area Water Authority was held on Tuesday October 22, 2019 at 4:00 PM in the Board room of the RAWA Administration office, 1801 Kutztown Road, Reading PA 19604. Present were: Board Members: Chairman Ralph E. Johnson, Vice Chairman Steve Symons, Dr. Phillip Dougherty, Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw Reverend Steven McCracken, Executive Director Bill Murray, Attorney Ed Stock, Solicitor.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

No Public Comment

Executive session called at 4:02pm for litigation and legal matters

Meeting resumed at 4:15pm

Attorney Stock confirmed that he had reached out to references for NW Financial. His responses were all positive and recommends that, as approved at the September 2019 Board meeting, RAWA retain NW Financial as its Financial Advisors.

Mr. Becket introduced himself and said he looks forward to working with RAWA on its financial needs.

Attorney Stock asked for a motion from the Board of Directors to allow NW Financial to proceed on behalf of RAWA to advertise for Bond Counsel and an Underwriter, in connection with possible refinancing of some of RAWA's bond indebtedness. A motion was made by Reverend McCracken and seconded by Dr. Dougherty. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for a motion to sign an agreement between the County of Berks and RAWA to allow sharing GIS information. Chairman Johnson asked if there was a cost involved. Mr. Murray explained there is no cost involved it is simply sharing the information and that all municipalities will be signing the agreement. A motion was made by Reverend McCracken and seconded by Ms. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to approve the board minutes from September 24, 2019. Dr. Dougherty made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Reverend McCracken seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman Johnson asked that the invoices for October 2019 be approved as follows: General Fund Payments for \$701,380.54, Capital Fund Payments for \$164,374.69, Approve Escrow Fund Payment for \$20,640.03 and the Birdsboro Escrow Payment for \$558,744.50. a motion was made by Reverend McCracken and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked the Board of Directors to make a motion to proceed with the second phase of the engagement with Klehr Harrison Harvey and Branzburg LLP at an hourly rate and a \$50,000 retainer. Motion was made by Mr. Symons and seconded by Reverend McCracken. All in favor. Motion passed.

Attorney Stock asked for a second motion to authorize Klehr Harrison Harvey and Branzburg LLP to institute litigation on the matter that had been discussed. Reverend McCracken made the motion to allow Klehr Harrison Harvey and Branzburg LLP to institute the litigation that was discussed and Mrs. Grimshaw seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Symons and Attorney Stock were excused from the remaining portion of the meeting.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Mr. Scott Carl from SSM Engineering gave his monthly update on current projects.

Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve a previously approved capital improvement project of the 18" valve at the sed basin be awarded to Blooming Grove at a cost of \$37,750, which came in under budget. Reverend McCracken made the motion and Dr. Dougherty seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to approve the Maiden Creek Siphon Chamber payment of \$240,271.99 based on the recommendation of the Engineer. Reverend McCracken made the motion and Dr. Dougherty seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Scott presented a proposal of Engineering services for the completion of the EPA required Risk and Resiliency Plan due in March of 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$36,400. Chairman Johnson asked for a motion, pending the review and approval from the solicitor and Executive Director to award the work to be done for the EPA Risk and Resiliency Plan due March 2020 to SSM at a cost not to exceed \$36,400.00. Dr Dougherty made the motion and Reverend McCracken seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

A motion was made to adjourn by Rev. McCracken and seconded by Mrs. Grimshaw. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 4:50 pm