



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

READING AREA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
4:00 PM
Tuesday May 17, 2022

In attendance were Chairman Rev. Steven McCracken, Vice Chairman Richard Carpenter, Mr. Earl Lucas, Mrs. Cecile Grimshaw, Mr. Jamal Abodalo, Mr. Daniel Luckey, RAWA Solicitor Attorney Edwin Stock, Executive Director Mr. Bill Murray, Director of Maintenance and Operations Mr. Gary Phillips, Distribution Superintendent Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Engineering Manager Mr. Yuri Evans, Administrator Mrs. Sue Ruotolo, Human Resources Manager Mrs. Wendalin Marrero, Plant Superintendent Mr. Patrick Bauer, Customer Service Manager Ms. Tracey Karish, Mr. Brian Hassinger from SSM Engineering. Absent was Dr. Phillip Dougherty.

Meeting was brought to order at 4:02 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve the April 19, 2022 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Abodalo. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman McCracken asked for a motion to approve payment of the May 2022 invoices, for General Fund in the amount of \$501,692.46 Capital Fund in the amount of \$58,314.00 and the Escrow Fund in the amount of \$5,172.75. A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mr. Abodalo. All in favor. Motion passed.

Board Member comments were made by Mrs. Grimshaw who had a question on the RAWA bill, and Mr. Abodalo complimented Mr. Murray on his continued quest on finding available funding for the Ontelaunee Dam project.

Mr. Murray mentioned that the monthly department reports were included in the information given to each Board Member. There were no questions. Mr. Murray had a video he shared with the Board on the recent valve replacement on Lancaster Ave. Mr. Murray gave an update on the Centrifuge repairs that are being worked on, recent discussions with Muhlenberg Township Intergovernmental Cooperation opportunities, Union negotiations for rank-and-file personnel, an update on delinquent commercial properties and moving forward with possible water termination after being properly tagged and a video of Bring Your Child To Work Day.

Mr. Luckey asked for a list of the requests from the Union for the negotiations that are taking place. Mr. Murray told him he would forward that information to him. He asked that a possible Board member be involved in future meetings for contracts and Chairman McCracken said it will be discussed but the current process works as the contract must be approved by the Board and he feels the Executive Director works in the best direction for the Authority as well as the employees.

Attorney Stock gave an update on the Rt 61 Railroad proposal to open a track that has been closed for many years and the impact it could have on the RAWA infrastructure below the road. A petition has been filed with the PUC in regards not being notified of this prior to it being approved, and RAWA is concerned of a potential hazard that could happen if a main break would happen.

Attorney Stock reviewed the Ontelaunee agreement because RAWA has been asked to supply water to an area that would be in the Ontelaunee Township area. The agreement will call for tapping fees and a water line extension. The agreement should be ready for signature at the June Board Meeting.

An Executive Session was called at 5:25 PM. Regular meeting resumed at 5:55 PM
A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Abodalo at 5:58 PM