

**North Wales Water Authority
Board of Directors Meeting**

Minutes of 03/20/2024

Call to order:

A regular business meeting of the NWWA Board of Directors was held at the NWWA business office on March 20, 2024, beginning at 5:00 p.m., and called to order by Board Chair Nagel.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Nagel led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Roll call was taken and recorded as follows.

<u>Attendee Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Status</u>
Joan H. Nagel	NWWA	Chair	Present
Albert S. Tenney	NWWA	Vice Chair	Present
Donna L. Mengel	NWWA	Secretary	Present
Neil J McDevitt	NWWA	Treasurer	Present
Sally Neiderhiser	NWWA	Asst./Sec Treasurer	Absent
Robert C. Bender	NWWA	Executive Director	Present
Joseph E Murphy	NWWA	Director of Operations	Present
Christine Lezoche	NWWA	Director of Finance	Present
Nicole Feight Esq.	Rudolph Clarke	Authority Solicitor	Present
Michael P Clarke Esq.	Rudolph Clarke	Authority Solicitor	Absent
Lane Bodley P.E.	Carroll Engineering	Authority Engineer	Absent
Allen Mason P.E.	Carroll Engineering	Authority Engineer	Present

Becca Suskin was present to provide ASL services for Mr. McDevitt. The Chair excused member Neiderhiser and Mr. Bodley from the meeting due to illness.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board next considered approval of the Minutes of 02/21/2024. Upon a motion of member Mengel, seconded by member McDevitt, the minutes were approved as presented.

<u>Vote Record</u>						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved					
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel	x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	x			
		Ms. Mengel	Initiator	x		
		Ms. Neiderhiser				X
		Mr. McDevitt	Seconded	x		

Public Comment: None present.

Resolutions:

Mr. Bender presented Resolution 2024-03 authorizing NWWA membership in a municipal Consortium of municipalities opposing the privatization of public water and sewer systems. He noted that nine municipalities and two other water Authorities are already participating in the program. There being no objections, all members present approved the Resolution.

Upon a motion by member Tenney, seconded by member Mengel, the resolution was approved.

Vote Record

			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved					
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel	x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	Initiated	x		
		Ms. Mengel	Seconded	x		
		Ms. Neiderhiser				x
		Mr. McDevitt		x		

Bids and Contracts: None this meeting

Solicitors Report:

Ms. Feight gave an update on projects underway, noting that the leak adjustment policy should be ready for Board review and approval next month, and that they continue work on the bulk water supply contract development.

Engineers Report:

Mr. Mason presented the following for approval:

Payment Application #34 to CBI Storage Solutions, LLC., in the amount of \$41,944.82 for Bid Contract 521-19-01A involving the Montgomery 3 Water Tank Project # E-1012. Upon a motion by member Tenney, seconded by member McDevitt, the payment was approved.

Vote Record

			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved					
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel	x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	Initiator	x		
		Ms. Mengel		x		
		Ms. Neiderhiser				x
		Mr. McDevitt	Seconded	x		

Change Order #4 from CBI Storage Solutions LLC in the amount \$26,935.31 for Bid Contract 521-19-01A the Montgomery 3 Water Tank Project E-1012.

Upon a motion by member Mengel, seconded by member Tenney, the change order was approved.

Vote Record

			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved					
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel	x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	Seconded	x		
		Ms. Mengel	Initiator	x		
		Ms. Neiderhiser				x
		Mr. McDevitt		x		

Change Order #2 for Joao & Bradley in the amount \$160,647.99 for Bid Contract 530-20-11 Park Avenue and Ferry Road water transmission line project E-1048.

Upon a motion by member Tenney, seconded by member Mengel, the change order was approved

☑ Vote Record				Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved						
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel		x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	Initiator	x			
		Ms. Mengel	Seconded	x			
		Ms. Neiderhiser					x
		Mr. McDevitt		x			

Operations Report:

Mr. Murphy reviewed the monthly operations report noting that while the crews have been busy, nothing was out of the ordinary as to water flow and system maintenance. He advised the Board of the hiring of vehicle and equipment mechanic, Leroy Harvey, who seems to be working out well. He reported that after several supply chain delays, the new Bucks County Operations office and garage should be completed and ready for occupancy by the end of April. He reported that construction has started on the 5 Points intersection project, involving aged 12-inch cast iron pipe being replaced with ductile iron pipe of the same size.

Mr. Murphy presented the following Payment Applications for work at 1553 Easton Rd Ops Garage for approval:

- a) Payment Application #4 to A. N. Lynch Co Inc in the amount \$21,773.25 Bid Contract 573-22-01-E.
Upon a motion by member Tenney, seconded by McDevitt, all those present approved the payment.
- b) Payment Application #5 to Integrity Mechanical in the amount \$9,967.50 for Bid Contract 573-22-01-M.
Upon a motion by member McDevitt, seconded by Mengel, all those present approved the payment.
- c) Payment Application #9 to Walter A Brucker & Co Inc in the amount \$162,110.85 for Bid Contract 573-22-01-G.
Upon a motion by member McDevitt, seconded by Tenney, all those present approved the payment.

Bills & Requisitions Approval:

Mrs. Lezoche reported that the audit fieldwork has been completed and we are waiting for the final document. There being no payments or activities out of the ordinary on the bill listings, recommending and requesting approval to pay and process all invoices, refunds, transfers, and to requisition funds, as presented.

- a. **Ratification and processing of Bills, Refunds, Transfers and Requisitions List dated: 02/28/2024.**
- b. **Ratification and processing of Bills, Refunds, Transfers and Requisitions List dated: 03/07/2024.**
- c. **Ratification and processing of Bills, Refunds, Transfers and Requisitions List dated: 03/15/2024.**

Payment of the bills was then approved by the Board in accordance with the following roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote Record

			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
x	Approved					
	Tabled	Ms. Nagel	x			
	Failed	Mr. Tenney	x			
		Ms. Mengel Initiator	x			
		Ms. Neiderhiser				x
		Mr. McDevitt Seconded	x			

Executive Directors Report:

Mr. Bender requested Board authorization to prepare a Cyber Security Grant Application from FEMA/PEMA including both intrusion testing and employee training. He noted that he is also seeking other opportunities to enhance Cyber Securities through our entire operations and facilities. There being no objections and a consensus of support from the Board, the applications and process will proceed.

Mr. Bender advised the Board that he had requested our Auditors to provide guidance on preparing for Single Audits in the future, as we have several grants under review, which, if approved, involve Federal Funding. He advised that Federal funding regulations require a single audit if the Authority receives at least \$750,000.00 in grant funds, which is now projected. The Board congratulated Mr. Bender and staff on their aggressiveness and success in locating and obtaining approvals for grant funding over the years.

Mr. Bender reported that a recent MIRIA annual program review meeting went well. He noted that he has expressed concerns that while funding for the installation of PFAS filter systems was appreciated, there are few, if any, programs providing guaranteed long-term funding for ongoing operations and the proper disposal of contaminated filter media. He reported that both the Air National Guard and MIRIA staff have asked for a tour of our Forest Park facilities.

Mr. Bender advised the Board that the Finance Director will be completing the annual update of the long-term financing plan and will advise the Board of annual projections for both revenue and expenses, as well as the future outlook on financing and rates.

Bridge Financing – Mr. Bender reported that while the receipt of grants is very beneficial in financing the replacement and upgrading of various system assets, almost all of the grants approved to date require that the Authority completes and pays for the projects, followed by the filing of a request for reimbursement. He advised that many of the projects now underway and projected are multiyear efforts involving millions of dollars. He advised that as such, cash flow requirements pending grant reimbursement are becoming more burdensome and will increase over the next few years. He concluded by recommending and requesting authorization to pursue “bridge funding,” such as Lines of Credit from a Lending Institution or participating in a program such as offered by the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority (DVRFA). The Board members concurred. Mr. Bender stated that he will report on these options at a future meeting.

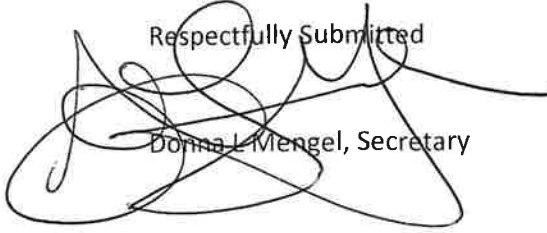
Mr. Bender stated that he had no other matters to report on at this time.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board; upon motion by member Mengel, seconded by member McDevitt, the business meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

All members present voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Donna L. Mengel, Secretary