LOWER SAUCON AUTHORITY MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 19, 2022

1. Call to Order

Mr. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present were Mr. Anderson, Vice Chairman; Mr. Werner, Secretary; Mr. Corcoran, Treasurer; Mr. Davis, Member; Mr. Keich, Member; Mr. Ross, Administrator; Ms. Fetzer, Assistant Administrator; Mrs. Kerchner, Secretary; Mr. Backenstoe, Attorney; Mr. Youst, Engineer (Mr. Gress, Mr. Smith, Mr. Carocci and Mr. Reccek were not present).

3. Citizen Agenda Items

None.

4. Minutes

Motion by Mr. Davis, Second by Mr. Keich to approve the minutes dated March 29, 2022 as presented.

Roll Call 4-0-1 Motion Approved. (Mr. Gress and Mr. Smith were not present and Mr. Corcoran abstained).

5. Financial Report

Mr. Corcoran said the board packet included the treasurer's report for March as well as year to date. He said the spending for the capital projects was not too high last month but will pick up as the actual construction work begins on the projects.

6. Agenda

A. Applebutter Road Tank Repair Bid Award

Mr. Ross said there is a handout that summarizes the bid results. He also included the email from Mr. Youst that reviews the bids. Mr. Youst then reviewed the bids with the Board Members. Mr. Youst said we received two bids through the PennBid website. He said one of the bids we received was from Mid Atlantic Storage Systems Inc. The other bid we received was from Dynamic Sandblasting and Painting LLC. Mr. Youst noted that Dynamic Sandblasting has never worked with a glass coated steel tank. One of the requirements we had was for the bidders to have their certification for working on this type of tank. Mr. Youst said Mid Atlantic's certification expired in January. Mid Atlantic has communicated with Mr. Youst and said they are in the process of getting recertified which will be completed in the next week to 10 days. Their certification is out of date due to

COVID. Mr. Youst said Dynamic Sandblasting had nothing in their bid submission to indicate that they have their certification. The lower bid was received from Mid Atlantic.

We also had a bid requirement for each bidder to provide us with their earliest committable start date. The start date for Mid Atlantic would be August 14th and the start date for Dynamic Sandblasting would be June 7th. Mr. Youst said that Mr. Reccek did not have a problem with an August start date since the booster station that will be used when the tank is out of service needs the bladder preplaced. This replacement will take about 5 weeks to complete. We also need time to drain the tank. The August date will give time to prepare for the tank work and will work well with our scheduling. Mr. Youst would like to recommend awarding the bid to Mid Atlantic Storage System Inc. with the condition that they receive their certification. Mr. Youst then asked for Attorney Backenstoe to explain his feelings about including the condition of Mid Atlantic receiving certification when the bid is awarded.

Attorney Backenstoe said he reviewed Mr. Youst's documents and had a lengthy conversation with him regarding this matter. Attorney Backenstoe said that Mid Atlantic was certified and their certification expired, whereas Dynamic Sandblasting has never been certified. He said he does not like that Mid Atlantic is not currently certified but said it would be acceptable to have the certification condition attached when the bid is awarded.

Mr. Corcoran asked if the contingency should include a date, they must have their certification completed. There was some discussion regarding what the certification date should be, and the Board Members agreed on a date of May 17th.

Mr. Werner then asked if Mr. Youst had concerns about the foundation work. Mr. Youst then reviewed how the foundation repairs will be handled. This will be discussed in the preconstruction meeting. The bid does include the specified foundation work.

Mr. Keich asked if the bid amount for the cathodic protection system by Mid Atlantic seems reasonable. Mr. Youst said it seems reasonable. This was mentioned since Dynamic Sandblasting had a much higher amount for this item in their bid.

Mr. Davis said the bid asks for a qualified vender. He asked if there would be a way not to accept either bid since neither is certified. The Authority would then rebid the project hoping that Mid Atlantic Storage Systems would bid again and have obtained their certification. Mr. Youst said he would accept Mid Atlantic as certified, and said their certification lapsed due to COVID. The company we are going to award the bid to would need a good faith offer from Lower Saucon Authority so we can get on their schedule to start the work.

The Board Members then made a motion awarding the Applebutter Road tank bid.

Motion by Mr. Anderson, Second by Mr. Corcoran to approve the bid from Mid Atlantic Storage Systems Inc. in the amount of \$117,862.20 with the stipulation that their certifications will be provided to Lower Saucon Authority by May 17th.

B. Creekside Update

Mr. Youst said the meetings with Lower Saucon Township were successfully completed. He said that Mr. Ross will be attending the township council meeting tomorrow. Mr. Youst said he and Mr. Ross attended the meeting with PennDOT regarding the Meadows Road bridge. Mr. Youst said we will need to coordinate with PPL regarding the temporary lines they will have. The bridge demolition timeframe is set for June and the construction for the new bridge is anticipated to start in the first or second month of 2024. Mr. Youst said we will have to relocate our sewer main. This will be a reimbursable expense. Mr. Youst noted that we must follow the timeline of PennDOT. Mr. Youst said we are likely going to have to acquire an easement on the south side of the bridge and Meadows Road on the frontage of the Meadows catering property. This is near the parking lot area. We will also need an easement from a nearby property owner. In addition, we will have a creek crossing. Mr. Ross indicated that there is a separate line item for the reimbursable expenses. Mr. Youst said his office is keeping this billing separate as well. Mr. Ross said we are anticipating having our construction of the pump station completed by the end of 2023 before the bridge construction begins in 2024. The end of 2023 is when our agreement with Hellertown expires.

Attorney Backenstoe said we may now be in a position to look into getting the process started for closing on the billboard property. We received approval from Lower Saucon Township and now we need to make sure we receive our approval from both DEP and PennDOT. Mr. Youst is confident we will receive approval from both the DEP and PennDOT. Mr. Ross noted that once we purchase the property the 15-year clock begins on the agreement that the billboard remains on the property. Attorney Backenstoe said we can discuss and reevaluate when the best time would be to begin the closing process for the property at the next meeting once we have another progress update.

7. Citizen Non- Agenda Items

None.

8. Reports

A. Attorney

Attorney Backenstoe had nothing further to report than his input regarding the Applebutter Road bid and the update regarding the Creekside pump station.

B. Engineer

Mr. Youst had nothing further to report than his update regarding the Applebutter Road tank bid and the Creekside update.

C. Administrator

Mr. Ross said we posted a help wanted advertisement on our website and our social media. We received one response so far who is a high school student with a good background. This would be for permanent employment and not summer help. This person came in from a referral from one of our current employees. He would be available to start the beginning of June. We are now waiting to see if we receive any additional applications. Mr. Ross said we would like to hire someone local as we have done in the past, so we have not put an advertisement in the Express Times or the Morning Call.

Also, Mr. Ross said we are in the middle of our annual hydrant flushing which will wrap up next Tuesday. The hydrant flushing is going well. We send out automated phone calls to alert our customers that we will be flushing in their area.

After the hydrant flushing, we will begin the water main replacement project at Sunderland Drive and Quarter Mile Road along with Woodland Drive.

Also Mr. Ross said he received a letter from the Cobble Creek Condominium Association requesting Lower Saucon Authority fix the cracks in the sidewalk in front of our Skibo Road pump station which is located right next to their complex. Mr. Ross said the cracks have been there for quite some time. When the concrete pad was poured the damage occurred from a construction vehicle. The cracks have gotten worse over time. Mr. Ross said it would be good for the Authority to repair the sidewalk. Mr. Ross would like approval from the Board Members to have the sidewalk repaired by an outside contractor. Mr. Anderson suggested using a thicker concrete. The thicker concrete would hold up better if any trucks would drive on it. The board members and Mr. Youst agreed on using a 6-inch-thick concrete slab and wire mesh. The Board Members then made a motion.

Upon motion by Mr. Anderson, Second by Mr. Davis to repair the two sections of sidewalk at Cobble Creek with 6-inch thickness concrete and wire mesh.

Roll Call 5-0 Motion Approved. (Mr. Gress and Mr. Smith were not present).

Mr. Ross then went over the MRM Trust rebate checks with the Board Members and said we received an excellent refund.

Mr. Ross said he would like to switch our water testing laboratory from ABE to Suburban Testing Labs. Mr. Reccek and Ms. Fetzer talked with a representative from Suburban Testing Labs at the conference in State College. Mr. Ross said he had meeting with Suburban Testing Labs and was happy with the services they can provide the Authority. The lab can come and pick up our samples sine they are located further away. Their prices are similar to what ABE charges if not lower. Mr. Ross noted that Upper Saucon uses them as their lab. In the past we have had violations from the DEP based on occurrences from ABE Labs, which is a reason for the switch.

Lastly Mr. Ross said the interest rates are on the rise. He is looking to stager CD's again with PLGIT. This way a CD will mature each quarter on a rotating schedule, and we will

receive the new increased interest rates. The Board Members agreed to have Mr. Ross purchase CD's with PLGIT.

D. Chairman

Mr. Gress was not present.

E. Members

No members had anything to report.

9. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Corcoran, Second by Mr. Davis the April 19, 2022 Board Meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Kerchner