### **FINAL COPY**

# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Plant Administration Building

Members Present:

George Kolba, Chairman

Chris Papastrat, Vice Chairman

**Edward Crumb** 

Stephen Andrew (Audio/Visual) Ronald Lake (Exited at 5:30PM)

Member Absent:

Bruce T. King

Also Present:

Elliott Wagner, Acting Superintendent Charles Pearsall, Business Manager Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel

Charles Robinson, Staff Accountant, City of Binghamton (Exited at 4:32PM)

Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer (Exited at 5:40PM)
Larry Travis, Acting Electrical Engineer - WWTP
Ron Warwick, Acting Assistant Superintendent

Adam Afify, Acting Senior Operator Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary

Janet Smith, Transcriptionist

Guests:

Clark Giblin, Village of Johnson City Trustee (Exited at 5:49PM)

Vaughn Golden, Reporter, WSKG

Angela Riley, Council Member 3rd District, City of Binghamton (Audio/Visual)

(Entered 3:59PM)

Aviva Friedman, Binghamton City Council, 4th District

Chairman George Kolba called the meeting to order at 03:29PM. Sign in sheet was passed and attendance was noted aloud by Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary. Five (5) Board Members were present. Absent was Board Member Bruce King. Chairman Kolba confirmed all present signed in. Fire exits were identified, and Chairman Kolba requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting.

#### Privilege of the Floor

No one wished to speak.

Chairman Kolba asked for Board approval of the October 12, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. At that time Confidential Secretary Michele Cuevas brought up a point of business for Board discussion; that attached to those minutes distributed in the Board folders was an additional copy of the draft with comments made by Co-Counsel Paniccia particularly as to the last four motions relating to Duperon Equipment and Hydro-Dyne Equipment.

Edward Crumb made a motion that, after reviewing Mr. Paniccia's comments notated on the October 12, 2021 draft Minutes regarding the last four motions made by Messrs. Andrew and Lake as recorded in the October 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting draft minutes relating to Duperon Compactor Equipment and Hydro-Dyne Engineering Equipment, that those four motions be rescinded and annulled.

Motion seconded by George Kolba

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

#### October 12, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion to approve the submitted October 12, 2021 Draft Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried- 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Chairman Kolba requested that a copy of the approved minutes be sent to Ken Kamlet, Esq.

#### Superintendent's Report

Elliott Wagner presented the Superintendent's Report along with the charts and graphs which were distributed in the Board folders.

Superintendent Wagner first overviewed the Weekly Plant Status stating that the Duperon Compactor is still down and they have a delivery date of November 16, 2021. Regarding the Headworks and Fine Screens, all three have been taken down, pressure washed and inspected. The Aerated Grit System was reinspected today and there are no deficiencies. With regard to the digesters, gas samples were sent out November 8, 2021, and Siloxane levels were sampled last week, and all looks to be in order. Workers area preparing to take the Scrubber System off-line for the winter, and cleaning and inspection will follow. GHD was on-site today modifying the PLC in the generator building to monitor the electric service from the Square D gear by accepting signals from the Square D power monitors for an Harmonic study. Solar production for October was 4,544 kWh. Micro turbine production was 38,763 kWh.

Ritec, a Siemens distributor, was on-site today performing TPS main pump magmeter verification. All passed.

Regarding safety, the mandatory mask requirement for all persons entering the facility is still in place, and all vendors and truck drivers will be required to wear masks if they exit their vehicles.

Superintendent Wagner reports that 135 PM are scheduled this week, and 54 PM were closed last week, with 33 open non-critical work orders.

Ten truckloads were taken to the landfill this week, and the Operators pressure washed the North effluent weirs right outside the UV channel. The Mechanics have been working on various projects around the grounds to secure buildings for winter on top of performing the regular preventative maintenance. Mechanics are also giving the fine screens a thorough take down and inspection. They are pressure washing the internals and screen belt. Superintendent Wagner recognized the efforts made by the Operators and Mechanics stating that it certainly shows on the Plant property.

The Industrial Hygienist has set up virtual training on Workplace Violence, Right to Know Chemical Safety and Blood-Borne Pathogens.

With regard to construction issues, Superintendent Wagner reports that he is still awaiting the Electrical Coordination Study, Arc-Flash-Hazard Analysis and third-party baseline test reports for equipment and breakers, and As-Built Drawings (electrical) for Contract 11. We've received As-Built Drawings from Dean at Matco for Contract 6, and Superintendent Wagner confirmed that the City of Binghamton has a copy as well.

Mr. Crumb noted that the As-Builts for Contract 5 are still pending. Superintendent Wagner stated that Howard Reeve has a full listing of the completed and pending as-built drawings.

Superintendent Wagner then moved on to continue overviewing his Superintendent Report.

## Superintendents Report for October 2021 11/9/2021

Plant continues to meet all parameters of the SPDES permit. We are coming into a busy season, preparing for all annual reports.

Evans Mechanical has completed the drain improvement project.

We await the arrival of the Duperon Compactor for the Bar Rack. The delivery date is 11/16/2021. The operators have been raking this area manually for a month now.

Mechanics have installed two new door bucks and doors, one on the Thickener #2 building and one on the Headhouse. They continue to repair all original building exteriors to prevent water and pest damage. Mechanics and operations have taken down the fine screens one at a time to power wash them and perform a thorough inspection.

Operations department has completed pressure washing both North and South Effluent weirs. They have also skimmed C/N cell influent and effluent channels. We have a plan to make this process easier and remove the bulk of the operation from Vestal rd side of the facility to the West side. This will keep workers out of harms way and keep the front of the facility clean.

Electrical department continues to remove abandoned conduit where practical and repair damages from contractors equipment and cranes.

The last two quarters have been pretty rough on the digester gas production, as the water plant has been under construction. We all look forward to the completion of this project so we can move ahead and go back to producing more gas and thus electricity.

We have re-started safety training as we now have an industrial hygienist to schedule and facilitate the classes. We have purchased 2 Defibrillators, as the facility is quite large and there are quite a few stairs to get to the remote areas of the facility. Training on the defibrillators is required. Scott plans on holding these as well as CPR and First-aid training.

We ask that the board would vote on the CMMS and Electrician helper job descriptions and New position duty statements. (NPDS).

We will then send these to civil service to be accepted.

We had an operator leave our service and need to replace him.

After speaking with Leanne at Civil service,

We would ask to get on the agendas at City council and village Board meetings to move funds from 1 Operator 3 position to an Operator 1/Trainee position and 2 Operator 2 positions to 2 Operator 1/Trainee positions.

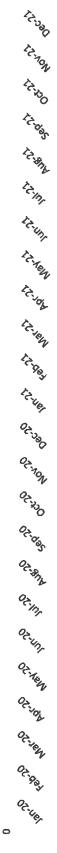
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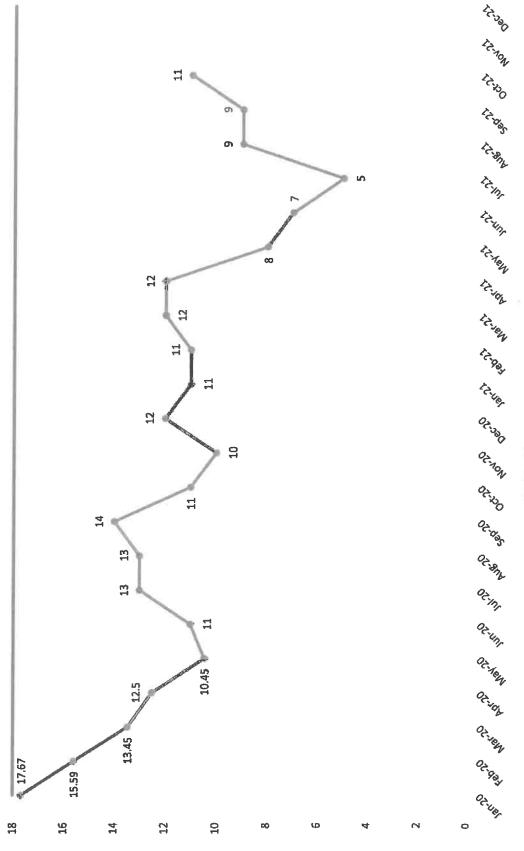
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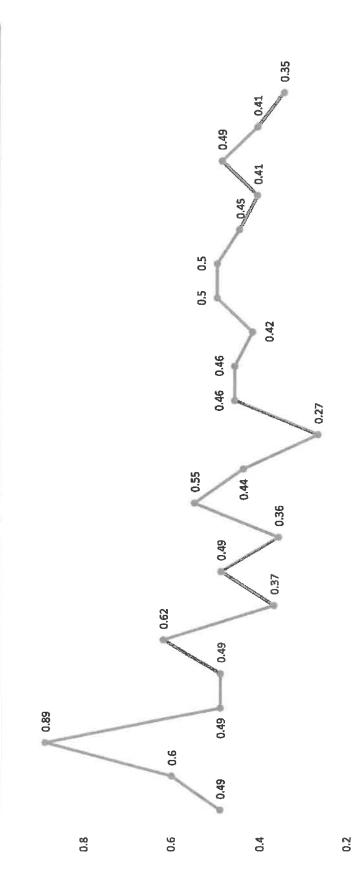
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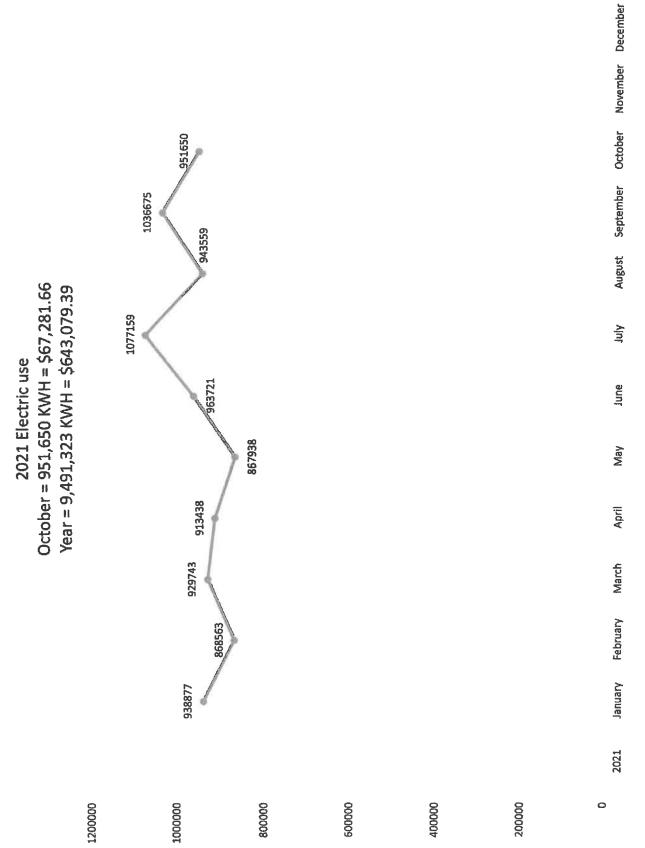
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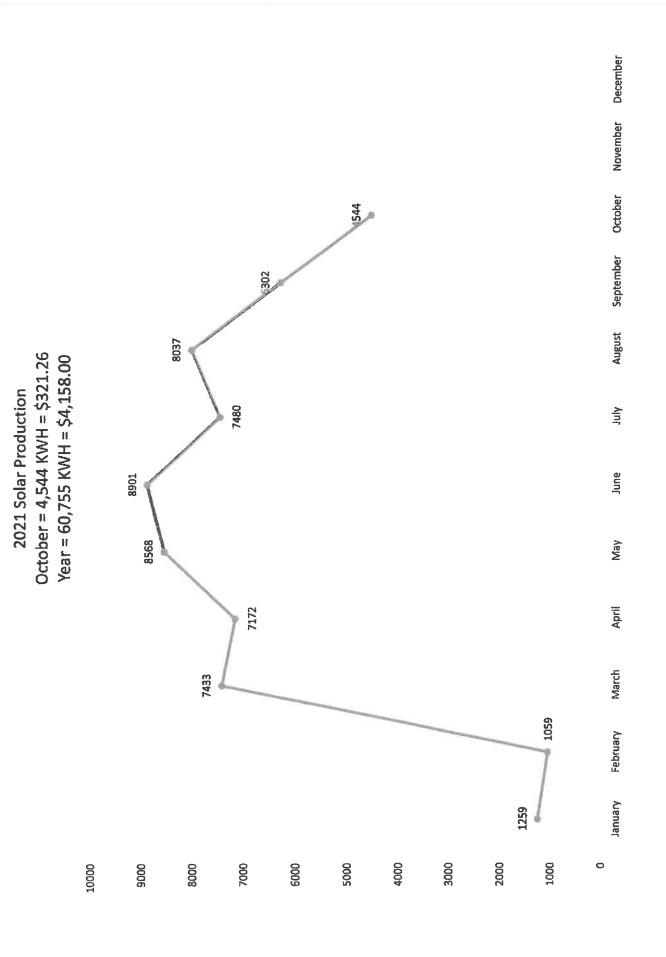


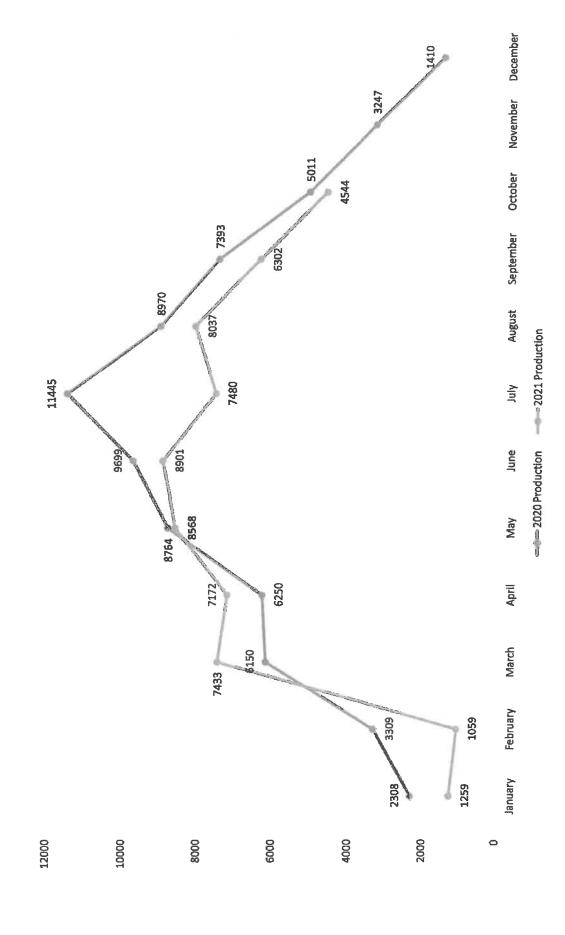
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2020-2021 Micro-turbine production

Total Production = 1,628470 KWH

Superintendent Wagner noted the Sole Sourcing and Standardization process for the products needed from Duperon and Hydro-Dyne has been presented for Mr. Paniccia's review. Mr. Paniccia commented at that time that he has received and reviewed the sole sourcing and standardization resolutions and supporting documentation for the two different products from Superintendent Wagner and has determined that everything is now in order to be able to proceed with new motions if so desired.

Superintendent Wagner is asking the Board to approve the job description for the Waste-water Treatment Plant Electrician's Helper and CMMS Clerk positions; that the new position duty statements were e-mailed to the Board members for review.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the job description for the Electricians' Helper-WWTP and the new position duty statement for the same be adopted by the Board and authority granted to submit the same to the Binghamton Civil Service Commission for their consideration and approval. Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the job description for the CMMS Clerk and the new position duty statement for the same with a correction at the top of page two, the first bullet, after the words "down time" to strike the word "utility", be adopted by the Board and authority be granted to submit same to the Binghamton Civil Service Commission for their consideration and approval.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew. Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Superintendent Wagner wanted to bring up the issue with the Terminal Pumping Station and rags and wipes coming from the lines clogging up the machinery which started a conversation between the Board members discussing direction/solutions for this problem and whether to involve GHD as well as confirming grant deadline dates.

Superintendent Wagner then confirmed that he had for distribution to the Board members only, a confidential listing of updated filled and unfilled positions.

#### **Fiscal Officer's Report**

Chuck Robinson reported on behalf of Fiscal Officer Chuck Shager regarding the Fiscal Officer's report which was distributed in the Board folders. Mr. Robinson pointed out the outstanding Purchase Order of PC Construction from 2017. Mr. Crumb advised that PO is to remain open as there is a possibility of litigation.

Mr. Crumb then presented the Lead Agency Capital Project Chart Report and Graph Report

which were distributed in the Board folders. He explained how to review the Chart Report, as well as the color-coding system and the scaling of the graphs in the Graph Report detailing the various lines in the financials.

Mr. Crumb also wanted to thank Superintendent Wagner and the Plant staff for providing the photos used in the graph report one of which shows the restorative maintenance performed by Plant employees on the Head House loading dock area and the other of an Evans Mechanical contractor employee core-drilling and preparing the regulator vault for drainage piping installation.

The next order of business are the motions for Standardization and Sole Sourcing copies of which Facility Engineer Howard Reeve distributed to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Paniccia reiterated that there were two items, the two coarse screening bar racks and the fine screening compactor. Mr. Paniccia stated he is satisfied with the language and approves the written resolutions' use as provided; however, he cannot attest to the information noted under 1, 2 and 3 in the resolution document which is 1. Interchangeability, 2. Interoperability, and 3. Lower Overall Cost. Mr. Paniccia stated that all he could say that it all is in proper order and any justification for the information under those three particular items will have to be made by Superintendent Wagner or Plant staff.

Mr. Paniccia further clarified that, with respect to the sole source for Duperon coarse screening equipment, there is a letter from Koester Associates stating that Koester is the sole source for Duperon service parts which means the only option the Board has is to purchase the parts from Koester Associates.

Edward Crumb made a motion in the form provided as to the resolution for standardization of coarse screening equipment, adopting the wording that has been distributed to the Board.

Motion seconded by Ron Lake.

Motion carried 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Edward Crumb made a motion with respect to the procurement of Duperon coarse screening service parts and all associated accessories: that in accordance with the October 29, 2021 letter from Ron Clor, Service Manager for Duperon Adaptive Technology, the Board declares Koester Associates as the sole source provider for parts for repairs to Duperon coarse screening Compactor equipment and that this designation be in effect for one year from the previous month's meeting of October 12, 2021 when the original motion on this subject was made.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Mr. Paniccia stated that there are two more motions to be made: One for standardization for fine screening compactors and one for sole source with Hydro-Dyne Engineering for fine screening compactors. The justification is set forth in the proposed resolution in terms of

interchangeability, interoperability, and lower overall costs: that is the standardization resolution. Once the Board votes on the resolution to standardize, the Board has to do the same to sole source motion for this equipment which would state that Hydro-Dyne is the only supplier of this equipment; that you don't have other sources to purchase from, making Hydro-Dyne the sole source supplier for this equipment.

Edward Crumb made a motion in the form provided as to the resolution for standardization of fine screening equipment adopting the wording that has been distributed to the Board.

Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Edward Crumb made a motion with respect to the procurement of Hydro-Dyne fine screening compactors: that in accordance with the November 3, 2021 letter from Jay R. Conroy, President, Hydro-Dyne Engineering, Inc., the Board declares Hydro-Dyne as the sole source provider for Hydro-Dyne fine screening compactors and that this designation be in effect for one year from the previous month's meeting of October 12, 2021 when the original motion on this subject was made.

Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

#### **Business Manager's Report**

Overviewing his Business Manager's Report, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders, Mr. Pearsall stated that, due to the available capacity of the Digesters, the Hydrated Lime supply requirements have dropped well below the threshold for competitive bids and will be purchased as needed following Commodities section of the Procurement Policy.

Mr. Pearsall is requesting permission to advertise for refuse collection and payroll services.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorizes the Business Manager or his designee to advertise for bids for refuse collection and disposal services with the same bid specifications as previously advertised. Motion seconded by George Kolba.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Mr. Pearsall is requesting the Board to rescind the previous month's motion of acceptance of the bid for Phosphoric Acid supply, as the delivery does not work with Plant procedures.

Edward Crumb made a motion to rescind the approval for the award of a contract to Coyne Chemical Company for supply of Phosphoric Acid due to

unacceptable delivery time and direct the Chairman to not sign the agreement and that it be returned unsigned with a cancelation notice to Coyne.

Motion seconded by George Kolba.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accepts the bid from AMREX Chemical for Phosphoric Acid (75% solution) at \$14.41 per gallon delivered for an 18 month supply period in accordance with their bid and that the Board direct the Chairman to sign the agreement, to be paid for from the Chemical budget line (J8130.54150).

Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approve a transfer of funds in the 2021 Joint Sewage Board budget as follows:

Increase budget line J8130.54150 (Chemicals) by \$150,000.00. Increase budget line J8130.54804 (Sludge and Waste Removal) by \$75,000.00.

Decrease budget line J8130.51000 (Personal Services) by \$225,000.00. and that this transfer and request for budget modification legislation be submitted to the Owner2s' legislative bodies as soon as practicable. Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.

Motion carried. 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Mr. Pearsall is asking to release the hold on payment to Caricchio's Welding. There are no grounds for withholding payment for failing to provide a Certificate of Insurance at this time. The work was performed and accepted.

Discussion by the Board took place with regard to liabilities, on-site work, vendors and Certificates of Insurance. Johnson City Trustee Clark Giblin suggested the Board consider site-entry and vendor agreements at all times going forward. Trustee Giblin offered to provide a copy of the agreement for review.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves payment of Claim J-495 on the November 1, 2021 Superintendent listing in the amount of \$1,200.00 to Caricchio's Welding and Metal Fabrication and that the Board waives any irregularities found in the review process because the omissions and irregularities weren't part of the contract.

Seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 4/1/1 (Nay George Kolba) (Absent Bruce King)

Mr. Pearsall wanted to discuss the Longevity Pay for non-union staff.

Steve Andrew made and withdrew a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting.

There was a discussion amongst the Board for this topic, and it was determined that the Board increase the longevity payment to the same scale as in the recent agreement with CSEA.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board amends its Policies and Benefits for Management Staff effective immediately to increase the longevity payment to the same scale is in the 2021-2025 collective bargaining agreement with CSEA.

Motion seconded by George Kolba.

Motion carried, 5/0/1 (Absent Bruce King)

Howard Reeve distributed to the Board a list of parts to purchase from Hydro-Dyne Engineering which are necessary to rebuild two of the Hydro-Dyne compactors, thus creating one for current use as well as a spare for use as the need arises. Plant staff will perform the work for the rebuild. The cost for the parts is \$39,288.14 plus freight.

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Board to authorize the Facility Engineer to procure equipment and parts as per quote number 14103 dated October 1, 2021 from Hydro-Dyne Engineering, Inc. at a cost of \$39,288.14 plus freight to be encumbered against and paid from Capital Fund budget line JH8130.554075 (Primary Grit Catching System). Seconded by Chris Papastrat Motion carried, 5/0/1

#### **Committee Reports**

<u>Construction</u>: George Kolba and Steve Andrew – Mr. Andrew had nothing to report. Chairman Kolba wanted to report that the leachate disposal inquiry from Broome County Landfill will be withdrawn. Mr. Kolba stated that he has received what he considers to be positive information which he has reviewed for the telescopic loader lift that would fit the needs of the Plant, but would not recommend or consider purchasing it until there are trained Plant employees.

<u>Finance</u>: Edward Crumb – the 2022 Health Benefits Program will be covered later during the meeting. Quotes for 2022 property/casualty insurances will be forthcoming from the Broker.

Flow Management: Edward Crumb – nothing new to report.

<u>Personnel</u>: Steve Andrew – Mr. Andrew stated the drug testing topic needs to be discussed with the Union. The Board Members had a brief discussion in that the JSTP not only has state laws but federal laws with regard to FEMA that relate to drug testing. Also mentioned was that the five-year agreement with the Union is still binding. It will be an important and current topic of interest in which Mr. Andrew along with the other Board members will continue to pursue with guidance of Co-Counsel Paniccia.

(Ron Lake exited the meeting; a quorum of four Board Members remains)

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – (Absent). Edward Crumb wanted to mention in relation to the proposed By-Laws update, that the committee had a meeting and discussion. Mr. Crumb stated that Mr. King now understands that a great number of the proposed amendments are contrary to the provisions in the NYS Constitution and Article 5G of the NYS General Municipal Law, and that some of the changes that he was proposing to the By-Laws could not take place in the By-Laws: rather, they were topics for other governing documents, such as the IMA. Another item of importance is that the Owners are more than two years delinquent in appointing and convening a Joint Sewage Task Force in accordance with Section 30 of the IMA.

<u>Correspondence</u>: Michele Cuevas – An e-mail thread regarding The Charleston Wipes Settlement was presented and discussed. There is no provision for monetary recovery or costs to the Board although, if the settlement is approved, defendant Kimberly-Clark Corporation agrees to modify its business practices as to certain flushable wipe products manufactured in the United States. The sense of the Board is that it does not wish to object to or, otherwise, directly participate in the class action lawsuit.

Co-Counsel Paniccia explained the Consent to Change Attorneys Stipulation which was submitted to the Board in relation to the retirement of James L. Chivers, Esq., who had been defending the Board in this subrogation lawsuit brought by State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company in relation to damages alleged to have been sustained in relation to the May 16, 2011 collapse of the West C-Cell Wall at the JSTP.

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves execution of the Consent to Change Attorneys Stipulation for the Smith, Sovik, Kendrick & Sugnet law firm by Steven Williams, Esq. to be substituted as attorneys of record on behalf of the Board in the State Farm Mutual Subrogation Case as Subrogee of Amanda Dorrell and that, when signed, the Stipulation be returned to James Chivers, Esq.

Motion seconded by George Kolba

Motion carried 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Old Business: None

New Business: Edward Crumb presented the proposed 2022 Health Benefits Plan Notices cover pages and made the following motions to the Health Benefit Plan:

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accept the Lifetime Benefit Solutions 2022 Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) and Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Administration Services fee proposal of \$2.95/Participant/month, and authorize the Chairman to sign an extension/modification agreement in a form approved by counsel.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew

Motion carried. 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorize extension of the Professional Services Agreement with NFP Corporate Services (NY), LLC for one year upon the same terms and conditions as presently in force, including the not-to-exceed \$13,500.00 annual fee, and authorize the Chairman to sign an extension agreement in a form approved by counsel. Motion seconded by Steve Andrew

Motion carried, 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board authorize extension of the Professional Services Agreement with Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc. (HFC) for one year upon the same terms and conditions as presently in force, and authorize the Chairman to sign an extension agreement in a form approved by counsel.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew Motion carried: 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accept the Excellus 2022 quote dated 10/28/21 for SimplyBlue Plus Bronze 4 Health Insurance coverage, as contained in the Board Folders and presented on page three of HFC's October 2021 Confidential Proposal, and authorize the Chairman to sign the quote sheet.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew Motion carried- 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accept Excellus 2022 quote for Dental Blue Options (DBOV-1E-26/26) Dental Insurance coverage, as presented on page four of HFC's October 2021 Confidential Proposal, and authorize the Chairman to sign the requisite documentation for the same in a form approved by counsel.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew
Motion carried. 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accept Guardian's 2022 proposal to extend Vision Insurance coverage, on the same financial terms as presently in force, as presented on page five of HFC's October 2021 Confidential Proposal, and authorize the Chairman to sign the requisite documentation for the same in a form approved by counsel.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew

Motion carried. 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board accept the Aetna 2022 financial terms and conditions via the City of Binghamton Medicare (P01) ESA PPO with \$10/\$25/\$40 prescription copay, and authorize the Chairman

to sign the requisite documentation for the same in a form approved by counsel.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew Motion carried, 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratify the 2022 front pages for the Health Benefits Program Notice Packets in the form contained in the Board Folders, and authorize distribution of the 2022 Joint Sewage Board Health Benefits Packets, so as to open the 2022 enrollment period. Motion seconded by Steve Andrew Motion carried- 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Next on the agenda was consideration for reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each monthly meeting. There was no opposition, therefore, it will be on the agenda for each meeting

A motion to adjourn was made by Edward Crumb. Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat. Motion carried, 4/0/2 (Absent Bruce King and Ron Lake)

Meeting adjourned at 5:52PM

The next meeting is December 14, 2021 at 3:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Smith Transcriptionist

cc: Board Members
Mayor Rich Davi

Mayor Rich David, City of Binghamton
Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Acting Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, P.E., Village of Johnson City Engineer
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Acting Engineer
File