

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Those assembled saluted the flag and the chairperson read the open public meeting statement in accordance with the law.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Bannan (by phone), Crane, Fields, Orr  
**Absent:** McNally  
**Also Present:** Director Timko, Attorney Belardo (by phone), Superintendent Raymond

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Fields, second Crane to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2021.

**All in favor; motion carried.**

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve the Closed Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2021.

**All in favor; motion carried.**

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jill Ann Hamilton-41 Harrison Brook Dr.-had comments on Resolution #2162, the Harrison Brook inflow and infiltration project. Orr stated that will be addressed during the vote.

**6. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**a. Resolution #2155-2022 Budget Adoption**

Motion by Crane, second Bannan to approve Resolution #2155.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**b. Resolution #2156 Mott MacDonald CO #1 General Consulting (\$10,000.00)**

Motion by Fields, second Crane to approve Resolution #2156.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**c. Resolution #2157 PSC Buchart Horn General Consulting \$65,000.00**

Motion by Crane, second Bannan to approve Resolution #2157.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**d. Resolution #2158 P2P Lookfirst Technology**

Motion by Fields, second Crane to approve Resolution #2158.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**e. Resolution #2159 Rica Realty Allocation 3066 & 3074 Valley Road**

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve Resolution #2159.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**f. Resolution #2160 Braemar Assisted Living TWA**

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve Resolution #2160.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**g. Resolution #2161 Brian Thorton-Personnel appointment Collection Foreman**

Motion by Fields, second Bannan to approve Resolution #2161.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**h. Resolution #2162 Suburban Consulting Harrison Brook I & I \$51,500.00**

Project consists of checking 10 miles of sewer mains to fix any emergency repairs. It involves putting a camera in the entire main to identify defects in the system that allow I&I. This contract is for preparing bid documents for approximately \$400,000 worth of tv work for the 10 miles of pipe. There is a significant amount of inflow and infiltration work that we will investigate. The ultimate construction project that will come out of this will reduce the amount of drainage getting into the system which burdens the downstream areas. This is all part of the ongoing I & I program, and we have shifted our focus into this neighborhood because of the recent storms. These 10 miles plus the 23 previously checked is one third of the 95 miles of sewer pipe in town. It should be out to bid by late January 2022.

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve Resolution #2162.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**i. Resolution #2163 PSC Auditor Nisivoccia \$16,925.00**

Motion by Crane, second Bannan to approve Resolution #2163.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**j. Resolution #2164 PSC Authority Attorney John Belardo \$25,000.00**

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve Resolution #2164.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**k. Resolution #2165 PSC Authority Labor Attorney Richard Flaum \$10,000.00**

Motion by Crane, second Fields to approve Resolution #2165.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**l. Resolution #2166 PSC Conflict Attorney Stephen Davis \$15,000.00**

Motion by Fields, second Crane to approve Resolution #2166.

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**m. Discussion-check valves**

Timko stated the check valves cost about three to four thousand per valve and five to seven thousand per valve if they are installed in a protective box. There about 12 homes that are affected. Legal fees could add about one thousand dollars per home for the easements. There are 4 homes on Harrison Brook and 8 homes on Newell Drive. We have not done a study on how many more homes have a low elevation and could be affected. Our regulations specifically state that if something like a check valve is needed it is the property owner's responsibility.

Belardo stated we would be paying for improvements on private property and could be setting precedent for other homeowners to request the same. Public entities should not use public funds for private improvements. The pipe from the street to the house is a private pipe and homeowners should pay for it themselves.

Bannan asked about looking into state funds to help homeowners. We are not aware of any state funds available for preventative measures.

**7. OPERATORS REPORT**

**October 2021 Report**

**FLOWS**

Total Flow	50,854,000	Gallons
Average Flow	1,640,000	Gallons
Maximum Flow	7,397,000	Gallons
Minimum Flow	0.884,000	Gallons

## OPERATION

<u>Suspended Solids</u>	<u>Dry Weight</u>		<u>NJDEP Limit</u>
Influent	3723 Kg		
Effluent	147 Kg		280 Kg/Day
Net	670 Kg	95.0 % Removed	85%
Suspended Solids in Effluent VG	1.0 Mg/l		30 Mg/l.

<u>CBOD</u>	<u>Dry Weight</u>		<u>NJDEP Limit</u>
Influent	688 Kg		
Effluent	18.0 Kg		75.7 Kg/Day
Net	1126 Kg	96.0 % Removed	85%
CBOD in Effluent	2.0 Mg/l		8 Mg/l

<u>Phosphorus</u>	<u>Dry Weight</u>		<u>NJDEP Limit</u>
Influent	39 Kg		
Effluent	4.0 Kg		
Phosphorus in Effluent	0.23 Mg/l		0.76 Mg/l

## Remarks

Hypochlorite Used: 665 Gals. Sulfur Dioxide Used: 921 Lbs. Alum Used: 5580 Gals.  
Caustic Used: 0 Gals. Total Precipitation 12.02 Inches. Effluent reuse 7.183mg

## Comments

Routine work and samples completed. Ran gens at pump stations and plant. Checked Pleasant Valley Pump Stations (**requested by DEP enforcement agent**), BRI run, Checked drives, tanks, gens, and vehicles. Checked all syphons, checked Barons, and checked Jamestown Rd., changed carbon E. Oak, Juniper way, Fieldstone and MVR, flushed fieldstone force main, exercised valves at pump stations, exercised sluice gates and valves at plant, cleaned probes at stations, replaced steering piston on belt press (**performed by BTSA staff saving the Authority approx. \$1200**), T-Slack removed underground Gas Tank, Foley serviced gens, Grease trap inspections, painting around plant, pumping services installed cooling fans on aerator VFD, Replaced upper belt on filter press (**performed by BTSA staff saving the Authority approx. \$1200**), installed carbon filter at Rebel Hill, cleaned valve seat at Jamestown Rd.

## TV inspection:

Flood Prone manholes, Newell Drive, storm drains at Dryden Rd, Pond Hill Rd for engineering,

## Jetted:

Easement behind Winding Ln, Storm drains for engineering,

## Manhole inspections:

Checked Flood Prone Manholes,

## Customer Service:

Jetted easement behind #35 Winding Ln and cleared blockage.

## **PROJECTS**

**Security communication upgrade:** Albert has installed NVR equipment all stations.

**East Oak St. force main Rehab Phase 3:** Meeting held on 10/6/21. SCE to finalize plans based on discussion. Mike M. emailed summary of action items from the meeting.

**O2D High Flow Bypass:** Meeting held on 10/6/21. SCE will update cost estimate and finalize plans based on discussion. Mike M. emailed summary of action items from the meeting.

**Fieldstone Force Main:** Meeting held on 10/6/21. SCE will finalize plans based on discussion. Mike M. emailed summary of action items from the meeting.

**Smoke Testing/CCTV/Cleaning/I&I Repairs:** Insituform Tec. Lowest bidder. Awaiting signed contracts and pre-con meeting.

**Raw Sewerage wet well piping:** Improvement scope submitted by MM.

**Crown Ct Force Main:** Emailed Chris W For Punch list update. Contractor is still working on punch list.

**Tie Breaker MCC4 – MCC5:** Sal Electric Co. is evaluating drawings and will be out again on 10/21/21 to re-inspect panel in septage building.

**CAT Generator:** Foley scheduled to come out 10/18/21 to service and inspect CAT Gen. for water damage from Ida.

**Cell Tower:** Verizon installation work complete. No word from Dish.

**Zoom hook up:** Mike M. is waiting for the camera that was ordered.

**Solar software update:** Vanguard submitted updated proposal from Also Energy for review on 10/5/21.

## **October 2021 Monthly Safety Report**

Monthly safety inspections were completed.

Conducted weekly and monthly stormwater inspections.

Completed all weekly emergency shower/ eye wash inspections.

Completed all monthly checks on fire extinguishers, lights, emergency lighting, and exit signs.

Replaced light bulbs where needed.

Continued updating task hazard assessments.

Continued with scheduled safety trainings.

Exercised plant gens, gates, and valves.

Attended October safety committee meeting.

Lost time no accidents 103 days (Plus October 31 days).

November 1, 2021

Mr. Doug Speeney,  
Northern Bureau of Regional Enforcement  
NJDEP  
7 Ridgedale Avenue  
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927

CERTIFIED MAIL - RRR

Re: NJDEP Hotline Case No. 21-10-26-0947-18 Operator #59

Dear Mr. Speeney:

On October 25-26, 2021, a Nor'easter dropped 5 inches of rain in less than 24 hrs. The Harrison Brook and the Dead River overflowed their banks. The intensity and quantity of rain increased flows at the treatment plant and surrounding pumpstations. The aerators to the oxidation ditches were shut down. The oxidation ditches started to overflow at 0926 hours October 26, 2021. The NJDEP Hotline was notified at 0947 hours on October 26, 2021 and was logged in by operator #59 case #21-10-26-0947-18. The overflow ceased at 1645 hours on October 26, 2021. The DEP Hotline was notified at 0634 hours on October 27, 2021, and case # 21-10-26-0947-18 was updated by operator #60.

Due to the rising flow the oxidation ditch aerators turned off. This allowed for fast settling in our clarifiers which eliminates the discharge of activated sludge into the Dead River. With no mixing, the activated sludge quickly settles in the ditches. The overflow was therefore relatively clear, extremely dilute sewage. The amount of the overflow could not be measured.

Operators were kept on duty through the night to monitor plant operations and flow. Oxidation aerators were cycled on and off as flow would allow throughout the event. The level in our oxidation ditches dropped sufficiently that normal aeration was resumed at 1303 hours on October 27, 2021. Normal plant operations have been completely restored as of that date and time. Residues clean up from the overflow has been completed.

Please advise immediately if you require any additional information regarding this overflow as the Authority wishes to maintain all available defenses with respect to this event.

Sincerely,

Bob Raymond

Plant Superintendent

Cc: Tom Timko, Administrator

John Belardo, BTSA Attorney

Nancy Wohlleb, MM Consulting Engineer

**8. RESOLUTION #2167 – Approval of Bill List Dated: November 23,2021-\$300,974.90**

Motion by Fields, second Crane to approve Resolution #2167 Bill List Dated November 23, 2021  
- \$300,974.90

**ROLL CALL**

**Aye:** Bannan, Crane, Esposito, Fields, Orr

**Nay:**

**Motion Carried**

**9. MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS**

Timko thanked members for their support during the process of hiring a new engineering consultant. They are looking forward to working with them.

Members wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked Timko for taking the time to discuss all the issues related to the storm.

Orr stated to the public that the board is very sensitive to what happened at Harrison Brook. Your comments and concerns are not falling on deaf ears. The Authority took immediate action very progressively. Looking forward to what the results of the I & I investigation are. We realize 60 days seems like a long time and we are going to aggressively pursue this and it's not the last you're going to be hearing about it.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Fields, second Bannan, to adjourn at 7:25 pm.

**All in flavor; motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Long