MUHLENBERG TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

A regular meeting of the Board of Muhlenberg Township Authority, Water and Sewer Projects, was held on Thursday, June 11, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, 19605, pursuant to notice both advertised and posted according to law.

The following members of the Board were present:

Jim Kelly
Walt LaSota
Mike Merkel
Steve Wolfinger

In attendance were Authority Director of Operations, Nathan Roush; Timothy Feltenberger, Facility & Project Manager; Jamie Lorah, PE, of Spotts, Stevens and McCoy (SSM), consulting engineer to the Authority; Thomas A. Rothermel, Solicitor, of Bingaman, Hess, Coblentz & Bell, P.C.; Scott Boehret, Transcend Business Advisors, Authority controller consultant; Jeff Krick, Assistant Distribution Superintendent; and Jessica Hernandez, Office Manager of the Authority. Also present were Stacey Feltenberger, and Diane Jones, a member of the public and member of the MTA Residential Customer Advisory Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Kelly. Mr. Kelly announced that the Board met in an executive session immediately prior to this meeting to discuss matters involving personnel and litigation.

Mr. Wolfinger made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Board held on May 14, 2026. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Merkel and passed unanimously; Mr. LaSota abstained.

Engineering bills for the preceding month were reviewed. Mr. Merkel made a Motion to approve the engineering bills for payment. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously adopted.

The accounts payable for both the water and sewer departments for the preceding month were distributed prior to the meeting, a full listing of which has been appended to these Minutes. Mr. Merkel made a Motion to approve payment of the accounts payable for both the water and sewer departments, as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Wolfinger and unanimously adopted.

There was no comment under the first public portion.

Mr. Feltenberger presented the Operations Report for the preceding month, a full copy of which has been appended to these Minutes. One (1) 8" water main leak was identified and repaired, and one (1) ¾" water service leak was repaired. The crew performed miscellaneous services including equipment maintenance, leak detection, hydrant flushing, sewer trunk line maintenance, and repair of a booster leak at the Frush Valley pump station. The report further confirms that sewer laterals were cleaned and checked, including six (6) customer owned lines, five (5) traps, and one (1) Authority owned line. Mr. Feltenberger reported on updated tank level data that was included as part of the Operations Report. The data will be further refined once tank dimensions are inputted, and conversions are made to account for gallons. Mr. Feltenberger further advised that overall, tank levels are higher than average, which was a positive sign considering a few pumps are currently off-line due to service repairs. The Operations Report then concluded.

Under the Engineer's Report, Ms. Lorah of SSM provided a formal report of the Authority's consulting engineer for work completed from May 15, 2026 through June 11, 2026. Ms. Lorah referenced a twelve (12) page report that SSM circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting. The report provides a narrative of the status of each of the projects of the Authority on which SSM is currently engaged.

Discussion regarding water and sewer tapping fees was deferred pending completion of a rate study.

With regard to the Laureldale main replacement project, Ms. Lorah reported that a pre-construction meeting was held this past month with the contractor, Doli Construction. The meeting went well. Work is scheduled to commence on July 27, 2026, with an anticipated completion date in November 2026. Due to the timing of completion, final paving may be slated for the spring. Change Order No. 1 was submitted, which included a deduction totaling $116,050 for change of scope and removal of street opening permit fees. Mr. Rothermel confirmed that with respect to the street opening permit, the Laureldale Borough agreed to waive the $109,000 fee. Mr. LaSota inquired as to notice to affected Borough residents regarding the project and potential service interruptions. Mr. Feltenberger confirmed that notice was previously sent to area residents, and that he continues to handle that aspect of the project.

Ms. Lorah reported that other miscellaneous projects are moving forward on schedule. With respect to the Laurel Run pump station project, Ms. Lorah noted that permits were submitted to DEP, and that the project is otherwise in the design phase. SSM continues to await permit approval for a pump replacement at Well No. 2.

Ms. Lorah further reported that PFAS data for Well Nos. 13 and 14, processed through MTA's vendor, Sentinel, has been coordinated with DEP for purposes of determining and further refining pilot test protocols. Mr. Kelly inquired whether a cost analysis has been prepared for remediation. Ms. Lorah indicated that a cost projection was premature at this point pending completion of the pilot study. Costs of the pilot study are expected to be offset by class action funds the Authority has received to date.

Mr. Wolfinger inquired as to the status of any grant submissions. Ms. Lorah advised that certain applications are pending with the DCED. She further indicated that potential grant opportunities would be explored once the bond process has been completed.

There being no further active projects on which to report, and no additional questions posed by the Board, Ms. Lorah's report to the Board concluded. Mr. LaSota made a Motion to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Wolfinger and unanimously approved.

Under the Solicitor's Report, Mr. Rothermel advised that a check totaling $10,160,172 was delivered to the City of Reading on June 1, 2026. That sum represents the aggregate sum due per the Intermunicipal Agreement, as amended, for payments assessed and reconciled through Quarter 4 of 2024. No further questions were posed to the Solicitor. The Solicitor's report was unanimously accepted, on Motion of Mr. Merkel, seconded by Mr. Wolfinger.

Under the Treasurer's Report, Mr. Boehret did not recommend any PLGIT transfers this month.

With regard to the trustee selection for the bond indenture, Mr. Boehret reported that proposals were received from four (4) financial institutions. Mr. Boehret, in consultation with management and PFM, recommended M&T Bank serve as trustee of the bond indenture at a total cost of $16,000. Mr. Merkel made a Motion to approve M&T Bank as bond trustee. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Wolfinger and unanimously approved.

Regarding MTA's financials, Mr. Boehret reviewed the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes. The water division realized a net increase of $556,115 in May, for a total operating account balance of $2,970,599. Total interest earned over the past month, across both operating and certificates of deposit in the water division, was $25,832. The sewer division realized a net increase compared to the prior month in the amount of $8,546,668, for a total account balance of $14,249,922. In May, interest earned in the sewer division operating and certificate of deposit accounts totaled $112,170. Total interest earned in the sewer escrow account this past month yielded $45,680.

Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Merkel and unanimously adopted.

Under New Business:

Mr. Merkel made a Motion to approve non-union salaries, effective July 1, 2026. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Wolfinger and unanimously approved.

Mr. Roush reported that the MTA staff forming a Safety Committee. The Committee will consist of a five (5) member team, in consultation with a representatives of Tompkins Insurance and Paragon. The Committee will plan to meet on a monthly basis.

Mr. Roush advised that he would be circulating dates in early July for purposes of scheduling a workshop meeting to review rate study data.

With regard to the upcoming Muhlenberg Township RiverFest event, Mr. Roush reported that the MTA will man a hydration station. He will consider possible Customer Advisory Committee involvement for purposes of extending further community outreach.

Under the second public portion, Ms. Jones inquired as to formation of the Safety Committee. Mr. Roush responded that while such committee was not required, it would be a benefit to operations, with the added benefit of potentially reducing insurance costs. Mr. Roush further noted that there were no recent safety incidents to report. Mr. Kelly recommended implementation of site meetings to further enhance safety protocols. Mr. LaSota commented that safety recommendations tend to evolve over time to include outside-work activities, the goal of which is to promote overall wellbeing and safety of crewmembers.

Under Member and Staff Comments, Mr. Roush introduced Ms. Hernandez to the Board, who currently serves as Authority Office Manager. Ms. Hernandez was commended for her work thus far.

At 7:33 p.m., on Motion of Mr. Merkel, seconded by Mr. Wolfinger and unanimously approved, the Board recessed into an Executive Session to discuss matters involving litigation. Chairman Kelly returned the meeting to open session at 8:03 p.m.

There being no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. on Motion of Mr. Wolfinger, seconded by Mr. Merkel, and unanimously approved.

The next regular meeting of the Board of the Muhlenberg Township Authority will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Title: