

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. in the office of the Authority, 3300 Preble Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Those present were Board Members Ms. Sylvia Wilson, Mr. Harry Readshaw, Mr. John Weinstein, Ms. Brenda Smith, and Dr. Shannah Tharp-Gilliam; Mr. Jack Shea participated by telephone; and Mr. Corey O'Connor did not attend the meeting. Also in attendance were Messrs. Chip Babst (Babst Calland), Mike Ryder (Hatch), Mark Wolinsky (3RWW), Ed Kluitenberg (CDM Smith), Ms. Williams, Ms. Oliver, Ms. Clark, Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Buys, Messrs. Inks, Jackson, and Vallarian, Ms. DeMasi, Ms. Croom, Mr. Prevost, Ms. Sanchioli, Ms. Marunczak, Ms. Thomas, and Ms. Slater-Wood (Authority staff).

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Three visitors requested to speak during the public comment period.

- Ms. Aly Shaw is the organizer of the Our Water Our Rivers Campaign. The Campaign is very glad to hear the Consent Decree has been finalized so we can begin the work of fixing our local environment. They are also very glad to hear that ALCOSAN is open to using adaptive management to invest in greener solutions going forward. The Campaign supports green solutions because they help tackle climate change and help address increasingly dangerous flooding and basement backups; and they can revitalize and make more sustainable neighborhoods who have been left out of the development efforts here in Pittsburgh. They urge ALCOSAN to support and fund large scale green projects as soon as possible so they can be built and monitored; and then take advantage of adaptive management and make a case to the EPA that green can work here. Places to start include large-scale green projects at Four Mile Run, Negley Run, and Saw Mill Run. Ms. Shaw also stated they are happy to see improvements to the GROW Program that will, hopefully, be approved on today's agenda.
- Mr. Tom Hoffman, a member of the Sierra Club, commented that it has been quite a week remarking ALCOSAN signed the Consent Decree and summarizing news stories about climate change. He quoted one his favorite lines from one of his favorite bands, "This ain't no party, this ain't no disco, this ain't no fooling around." Mr. Hoffman stated they were very pleased to see ALCOSAN's openness to green. He urges ALCOSAN to take that openness seriously and do it as quickly as possible. In recognition to openness to green, the Sierra Club presented each Board Member with a "down payment" of a tree seedling courtesy of Tree Pittsburgh. Mr. Hoffman was told that planting trees are the best thing we can do for the climate and according to the National Tree Benefit Calculator (an app linked to *i-Tree*, a cooperative effort between the USDA Forest Service and other organizations) when the trees are approximately 10" diameter they will collectively control about 7,000 gallons of storm water and collectively capture about a ton of CO2.

We need to start on the green approach very quickly. Not only is the clock ticking on the adaptive management clause, and the benefits he described when the trees reach 10" diameter; most importantly, the climate chaos clock is ticking.

- Rev. Dr. Vincent Kolb is Pastor of the Sixth Presbyterian Church, located in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. The Sixth Presbyterian Church is a coalition partner of the Our Water Campaign. Rev. Kolb thanked everyone at ALCOSAN for all of the work that went into signing the Consent Decree. His organization continues to remain convinced that fewer underground tunnels and more green above projects will address the perils of climate change in our immediate area which we continue to see with increased basement backups, poor air quality, and flooding. This effort is about so much more; it is about the legacy we are going to leave for generations to come. It is very important for us to imagine a different kind of solution to a problem we have never faced before. There are several examples of creative ways to create greener infrastructure in water and sewer management systems that work and address the real calamities that some communities are facing. Sacred scriptures tell us that we are not owners, we are just temporary caretakers and stewards and that we will be handing off whatever we have done to others. This obligates us to remember that legacy. Rev. Kolb concluded his remarks with a statement of blessing "the leaves of the trees shall be for the healing of the nations." The trees are offered as gifts in hopes that our community will be healed not only soon, but far into the future.

Ms. Wilson thanked the speakers for their comments.

An Executive Session was held this afternoon at approximately 4:00 p.m. to discuss pending legal issues (*Note: votes are never taken during the Executive Session*).

Mr. Chester Babst (Babst Calland) reported on the status of the Modified Consent Decree. ALCOSAN, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), and the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) have agreed to modify the existing 2017 Consent Decree (*this document addresses sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflows*). The Modified Consent Decree was lodged on September 19, 2019 in the Western Pennsylvania Federal District Court. The EPA will issue a public notice in the Federal Register advising of the existence of the Modified Consent Decree and where to visit to obtain it. A 60-day public comment period will be set up for those interested in commenting on the Modified Consent Decree. The EPA will review, consider, and respond to comments filed during the public comment period. After responding to the public comments, a joint motion will be filed in Federal District Court to have the Modified Consent Decree entered by the Court and finalized. ALCOSAN then will be required to move forward and address the wet weather issues in this area. Ms. Wilson commented this has been a lengthy process beginning slightly before the year 2000. She stated the need never dissipated and the desire of the federal government did not wane; Ms. Wilson is delighted all parties have finally reached an agreement.

Mr. Bill Inks (Director of Finance & Administration) reported on the 2019 Operating Costs and Revenues. The Authority is now two-thirds of the way through its budget year and continues to meet the targeted ratio coverages. As of August 31, 2019, approximately 64.3% (*slightly less than*

\$118,000,000) of the budgeted revenue has been collected. Mr. Inks also reported that the Authority exceeds its budgeted expenditures with 62.3% of the annual budget used to date. The Authority continues to operate in a sound financial manner.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the report of actions by the Executive Director in approval of a construction change order less than \$30,000.00 and a cumulative total change order value to date of less than five percent of the original contract amount as follows:

1. No. 1, under Contract 1693, "2019 Sewer Improvements" from Jet Jack, Inc. for the amount of \$23,100.00 to cure in place line 420 LF of sewer from Regulator A-29Z-00 to A-29-00. The original amount of the contract was \$943,572.00. The current value of the contract including this change order is \$966,672.00. Significant deterioration in this sewer line was discovered during cleaning operations; over 400 feet was lined with large quantities of debris, numerous holes were found, and the crown collapsed.

Mr. Vallarian (Director of Communications) thanked everyone for volunteering for the ALCOSAN 2019 Open House on Saturday, September 21, 2019. He reported record attendance at this year's Open House. Despite the heat and humidity 2,193 guests attended the event. This was the first time ever the Authority ran out of buns and cups for popcorn; all good signs a good time was had by everyone. Mr. Vallarian thanked everyone again for coming out and supporting the 2019 Open House.

Ms. Lisa George (the Authority's Internal Events Coordinator) reported on the 2019 Purple Shirt Campaign (ALCOSAN's 5th Annual Shirt Off Your Back/Celebration of Life Fundraiser). She provided a brief history on how the fundraiser came to fruition. Ms. George commented that \$36,000 has been raised since inception. This year's campaign slogan is "50 in 5" correlates with the goal to increase the total amount raised to \$50,000 to commemorate the fifth year of this fundraiser. Proceeds from this year's fundraiser will be donated to Brother's Brother Foundation (BBF), a Pittsburgh-based non-profit organization whose mission is to promote international health and education through the efficient and effective distribution and provision of donated medical, educational, agricultural, and other resources. The fundraiser concludes on Friday, November 1, 2019 with a celebratory walk around the Plant (all are encouraged to wear purple attire; Ms. George joked that Baltimore Ravens' attire is *strongly discouraged*) and enjoy a potluck lunch where there is a great likelihood some of the *delicacies* might be purple in color. All are encouraged to take part in this fun-filled charitable campaign and give back to the community.

Upon motion of Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Weinstein, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 25, 2019.

Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Mr. Readshaw, the Board authorized payment of invoices in excess of \$20,100.00 processed during the period of July 16, 2019 through September 16, 2019 and reviewed the summary report of expenses in excess of \$10,900.00 processed during the same period, a copy of which will be made part of these minutes.

The Board considered bids received on September 11, 2019, under Contract No. 1712A, "Furnish and Deliver Chemicals and Technical Service for Treatment of Boiler Water, Steam and

Condensate.” Bids were received from Rochester Midland and Chemtreat. Upon motion of Dr. Gilliam, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board awarded the contract to Rochester Midland, the lowest responsible bidder meeting the Authority’s specifications at their price of \$15,651.84. Ms. Williams directed everyone’s attention to the lower left corner of Exhibit D where the total estimated price for these chemicals/services was \$22,130.52 in 2016. The price of this contract is significantly lower. She noted that this price is variable and simply an estimate for the year and actual fees have ranged from \$16,000 to \$24,000.

The Board considered bids received on September 13, 2019, under Contract No. 1716-G, “Main Pump Station Flow Meters and Access Platforms - General.” Bids were received from Kokosing Industrial Inc., Simakas Co. Inc., Mele & Mele & Sons Inc., and Lone Pine Construction Inc. Upon motion of Mr. Readshaw, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the contract was awarded to Kokosing Industrial Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting the Authority’s specifications at their price of \$2,483,000.00.

The Board considered bids received on September 13, 2019, under Contract No. 1716-E, “Main Pump Station Flow Meters and Access Platforms - Electrical.” Bids were received from Lanco Electric Inc., Frankl Electric Inc., and Bronder Tech Services Inc. Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the contract was awarded to Lanco Electric Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting the Authority’s specifications at their price of \$97,500.00.

The Board considered bids received on September 19, 2019, under Contract No. 1720, “Replacement of Fluid Bed Incinerator No. 1 Manifolds.” Bids were received from Simakas Company, Inc. and J. Poli, Inc. Upon motion of Mr. Readshaw, seconded by Mr. Weinstein, the contract was awarded to Simakas Company, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting the Authority’s specifications at their price of \$679,113.00.

Upon motion of Dr. Gilliam, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board authorized the preparation of specifications and advertisement for bids for the following contracts:

1. Contract No. 1721, “Elevator Maintenance Service”
2. Contract No. 1722, “WA-4 Pre-Engineered Storage Building”
(This contract is to furnish and install a pre-engineered storage building on top of an ALCOSAN aeration tank to protect equipment from exposure to the elements. The Authority currently uses this outdoor area to store equipment.)

The items denoted with an asterisk () were reviewed by the Professional Services Committee at a publicly advertised meeting on September 12, 2019. The Committee unanimously approved and recommended that these items be submitted to the Board.*

*Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Mr. Readshaw, the Board awarded On-Call Category 5 (S-471) Remote Pump Station Improvements (Melanchton, Corliss and Ella Street Pump

Stations) to Prime AE and authorized the Executive Director to negotiate a fee. These three pump stations are owned and operated by ALCOSAN.

*Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the Board awarded On-Call Construction Management/Resident Inspector Services - Interceptors (Contract 1711 Annual Interceptor Cleaning) to DLZ Pennsylvania, LLC and authorized the Executive Director to negotiate a fee. This is a standard contract for construction management oversight for annual cleaning of the interceptors.

*Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the Board approved the modification of Service Authorization No. 332 for JMT, under the agreement for Engineering Consultant Services, for an amount not to exceed \$134,555.60 for the additional Task 2 design item and Task 5 for a total revised contract value of \$323,729.69 for services during Construction Main Pump Station Flow Meters and Access Platforms (Capital Project S-462).

*The item denoted with an asterisk (**) was reviewed by the Green Committee at a publicly advertised meeting on September 18, 2019. The Committee unanimously approved and recommended that this item be submitted to the Board.*

**Upon motion of Ms. Smith, seconded by Dr. Gilliam, the Board approved the modification to the Grant Agreements for the Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) Program by extending the Term of the Contract. Five projects received extensions.

**Upon motion of Mr. Readshaw, seconded by Mr. Weinstein, the Board approved the modification the Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) Program by amending the Grant Agreement between ALCOSAN and its municipal partners in a form approved by the Solicitor. This modification requires municipalities receiving GROW grants to certify they have access to the property and the ability to attest to this by the established deadline.

**Upon motion of Mr. Weinstein, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board approved municipal source control projects for Cycle 4 under the Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) Program and provide successful applicants with a Grant Agreement. The GROW team evaluated 150 projects. Thirty (30) projects received GROW grants (i.e., approximately \$9.8 million was awarded during this funding cycle). Ms. Smith, Chair of the ALCOSAN Green Committee commended Mr. Prevost and the GROW team on a job well-done. Ms. Wilson commented that the GROW team works closely with those municipalities (*upon request*) whose projects did not receive award to identify areas of improvement and/or brainstorm ideas for potential GROW submissions.

**Upon motion of Dr. Gilliam, seconded by Ms. Smith, the Board approved modification of the Program Guidelines for Cycle 5 of the Green Revitalization of our Waterways (GROW) Program. This monumental occasion was reported by the Chair of the Green Committee, Ms. Smith. There is only one modification of the program guidelines at this time, although there might be others before the end of the year. The Committee wanted to ensure this modification was in place before meetings with municipal partners get underway. In order for ALCOSAN to be involved in a more significant way in

larger projects, the Board raised the cap for GROW Program awards from \$2 million to \$10 million per project per cycle.

Ms. Smith mentioned that a few years ago, one of the consultants conducted a study about sustainability and recommended changes that could be implemented at ALCOSAN. Consequently, none of the recommendations were implemented because it did not appear at that time the return on investment was worthwhile. While standing on the concrete platform during Open House for the presentation of the Clean Water Stars and "feeling the heat," Ms. Smith thought about solar and how much the cost has decreased over the years. She believes now might be an appropriate time for the Board to revisit this matter given the Authority's average \$400,000 monthly electric bill. In conclusion, Ms. Smith stated this is a subject she plans to explore with the Green Committee.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on October 24, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:14 p.m.