

LEHIGH TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

June 5, 2025

The regular meeting of Lehigh Township Municipal Authority was held on Thursday, June 5, 2025. Board members Steve Arnold, Duane Deppe and Phil Gogel were present as were Angelika Forndran, Audrey Wood, Ed Andres, Ken Fulford, Owen Baker and Dave Getz. Board members Carl Sharpe and Matt Motsko were absent. Chairman Arnold called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The minutes of the May 1, 2025 meeting were presented for approval. Phil Gogel made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Duane Deppe seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dave Getz presented the financial report as follows:

Sewer Operating Account:

Balance May 1, 2025		\$ 891,026.21
User Fees, Penalties, etc.	\$74,253.47	
Operating Expenses	\$50,188.15	
Balance June 5, 2025		\$ 915,091.53
Assets: Truist Money Market	\$150,021.68	
Total Available		\$1,065,113.21
Truist CDS	\$506,233.12	
Sewer Operating Balance		\$1,571,346.33

The balance of our delinquent sewer system customers as of June 5, 2025 is \$245,671.78.

Sewer Escrow Account:

Balance May 1, 2025		\$ 22,757.03
Receipts	\$ 3,500.67	
Expenses	\$ 5,260.95	
Balance June 5, 2025		\$ 20,996.75
Total Sewer Accounts June 5, 2025		\$1,592,343.08

Water Operating Account:

Balance May 1, 2025		\$ 23,030.18
User Fees, Penalties, etc.	\$8,052.70	
Operating Expenses	\$3,300.00	
Truist Loan Payment	\$5,142.65	
Total Expenses	\$8,442.07	
Balance June 5, 2025		\$ 22,640.81

The balance of our delinquent water system customers as of June 5, 2025 is \$4,773.09.

Water Escrow Account:

Balance May 1 & June 5, 2025 \$ 114.90

Total Water Accounts June 5, 2025 \$22,755.71

Fred Ebert of Ebert Engineering and Nicole Galio of Jaindl were present to discuss the status of the received grants for the Hilltop Center. Mr. Ebert provided an update on the Land Development for the LVRSA and Pennsville WWTP, the grants received and timing, work performed under the grant, review overall plan, schedule for grant work, agreement review, Township approvals and the next steps and follow up.

There are three grants totaling \$4,193,201.00 that need to be completed. The work performed include the E&S controls for stormwater controls and facilities, WWTP tankage, influent wet well, Kola Road sewer line, landscaping, lake side screen, yard piping and paving.

The schedule for the grant work are:

Design plans, specs bid documents	June 2025 – by EE, Inc.
Rock Boring	June-July 2025
Authority approval of bid documents	July 2025 – by Cowan
Public bidding	August 2025 – by EE
Receive bids	September 2025
Award contract	October 2025
Shop drawings	Nov.-Dec. 2025
Material order and Fabrication	Dec. 2025-March 2026
Start construction	March 2026
Complete construction	August 2026
Final payment	September 2026

Mr. Ebert added that Lehigh Township approvals and action items needed are recording of land development plans, transfer of land to LTMA from Township, access for boring rig and testing, construction easement for the Kola Road phase out and coordination on the baseball field use.

Fred asked the Board to set up a committee to meet with the Hilltop Center, slated for Wednesday, June 17 to go over the next steps. Steve Arnold and Phil Gogel will be on the committee for LTMA.

Angelika Forndran said letters will be sent to LTMA concerning the review plans on the Hilltop Center design plans on the water distribution and sanitary sewage collections systems and the Pennsville WWTP expansion with Kola Road interceptor. She said she or Wayne Doyle will be at the meeting with the Township on June 10.

Angelika said that PPL easement has now installed brand new towers that Hilltop should make sure that will not be in the way for construction. She added the Kola Road work must maintain the old force main during construction.

On the Operations Report, Ken Fulford said the new actuator on the SBR has been installed today. Dave Getz said the second actuator is on the way and will be installed when received. Ken Fulford would like the Board to order two new actuators to keep on the shelf to ensure we do not have blower problems in the future. Ken said he wants to have new pumps and winches with swing arms to be installed on the chlorine contact tank at the Danielsville WWTP. Dave will obtain the cost and delivery on these items.

On the Engineering Report, Angelika Forndran said Midco will be ready to inspect and clean out the water storage tank in Cherryville in July 2025. A date will be set up once Bellview Pump is able to clean out the area, get the gates open, check the cage and ladder and access to the top of the tank. Dave will ask Bellview to start this as soon as possible.

On the Danielsville WWTP expansion of the reed beds, Angelika said that more land would be needed to proceed with added more reed beds. Phil Gogel said a current resident which is next to the township property may be willing to sell some land for either new reed beds or installing a belt press in lieu of the beds. Steve Arnold asked Angelika to have Cowan provide a feasibility study for this project.

On the System I&I, Angelika said we had 21 rain events totaling 10.63 inches at the Danielsville plant. Even with all that rain, there were no surcharges on the two mobile home parks.

On the Northwoods Development, the metering manholes have been installed. Confirmation is needed by Lehigh Engineering of the manhole grade adjustment to provide OSHA complaint entry, locking handle and permanent power from PPL. She added that the CCTV data is currently under review.

Steve Arnold said there is an item to discuss concerning the water service rate increase. Dave Getz said we are barely able to break even on the Water Operating system. He said the water tank inspection and cleaning and the mandatory installation of a generator at the water plant will become a serious problem. Dave has requested a 20% increase on all user fees starting with the third quarter of 2025. After a brief discussion, Phil Gogel made a motion to have the Solicitor prepare a Resolution for the water rate increase of 20% of all water use starting with the 3rd Quarter of 2025. Steve Arnold seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Dave Getz will send a letter to the water customers of the rate increase with the 2nd Quarter invoices.

On the Chairman's Report, Steve Arnold announced that the Authority has changed the insurance company coverage from Brown & Brown/Selective Insurance to Grundy Insurance, who provided a package that was superior to the others.

On the Solicitor's Report, Ed Andres received a check for \$300.00 for a correction from the Sheriff's Office for a sale in 2019.

Atty. Andres also received a letter from Frey and Co. concerning the 2024 financial audit. Ed will review the letter.

There being no further business to conduct, Duane Deppe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Phil Gogel seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.