



Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority

300 Laird Street, Suite #A-1

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Minutes

March 16, 2021 Regular Session

Call to Order

On March 16, 2021 at 1:08 P.M., the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Board convened their regular monthly meetings at the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Administrative Offices, 300 Laird Street Suite A-1 Wilkes-Barre. It was noted that all meetings are electronically recorded.

Mr. Yannuzzi, Chairman, called to order the March 16, 2021 meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Present

Mr. Dominic Yannuzzi, P.E., Chairman

Mr. William Hardwick

Mr. Richard Adams

Mr. Gordon Dussinger

Mr. Falls - Absent

Also Present

Christopher Belleman, P.E., Executive Director

Christopher Slusser, Esq., LCFPA Solicitor

Amy Grevera, CPA, LCFPA Accountant

Laura Holbrook, Mitigation & Outreach Specialist

Peter Bacumpas, Levee Operations Supervisor

Deana Prochaska, Administrative Assistant (Recording Secretary)

Jen Andes, Reporter

Public Input

None.

Regular Meeting

Motion was made to ratify the minutes of the Authority meeting held on February 16, 2021.

Motion by: Mr. Hardwick

Second by: Mr. Adams

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Old Business

None.

Bills and Communications

Motion was made to approve the payment of the bills as presented.

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. Yannuzzi

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Report of the Treasurer

Motion was made to submit the report of the Treasurer into the record as stated.

Motion by: Mr. Hardwick

Second by: Mr. Adams

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

New Business

2020 Levee Fee Collections Update.

Portnoff Law Associates Levee Fee Collections Update.

Duryea Levee Rehabilitation – Duryea Borough Resolution.

Motion was made to formally engage with Duryea Borough to assist the municipality with the initial phase towards the rehabilitation of their levee system. This initial phase will be paid through the Mitigation Program of the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project. The Authority authorized the Executive Director to advertise for professional engineering services, as previously approved by both the USACE and the WVLRP Mitigation Advisory Board, with the understanding that the successful respondent could not start until there is a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and/or agreement between LCFPA and Duryea Borough.

The MOU will provide the preliminary framework on how the Duryea levee system will be maintained and operated post-rehabilitation. This action has the long-term potential for the Duryea levee system to be brought under the umbrella of the Wyoming Valley flood protection system with the LCFPA as the new non-Federal Sponsor. In addition, the LCFPA will need to further discuss this action with Luzerne County Council, their solicitor and potentially other agencies.

Motion by: Mr. Yannuzzi

Second by: Mr. Hardwick

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 4-0. "AYES"- YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Motion was made to request permission from the proper officials to approve distribution of 2020 end of year deferred compensation as follows:

- Peter Becampus; \$2,500.00
- Laura Holbrook; \$2,000.00
- Deana Prochaska; \$500.00
- Levee maintenance technicians; additional one (1) personal day.

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. Dussinger

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. 'AYES' – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER

Motion was made to request permission from the proper officials to hire Micheala Fehn for the vacant Project Engineer position at a starting salary of \$52,000 annually.

Motion by: Mr. Hardwick

Second by: Mr. Dussinger

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Motion was made to request permission from the proper officials to approve the 'Preliminary Engineering Reimbursement Agreement' with Norfolk Southern Railway Company at an estimated not to exceed amount of \$11,652.00.

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. Hardwick

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Motion was made to request permission from the proper officials to approve the 2021 levee landscape maintenance contract to Green Valley Landscaping Inc., 52 Reese Street, Plains, PA, in the amount of \$23,150.00. The work was publicly advertised and Green Valley's submission was the lowest, responsible bid.

Motion by: Mr. Hardwick

Second by: Mr. Dussinger

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Motion was made to permit research collaboration between LCFPA and Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Surveying Engineering Department "*Monitoring Levees with Point Cloud Technology*".

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. Yannuzzi

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

The Board approved the donation of a \$1,500.00 gift to Penn State Wilkes-Barre in support of this research effort.

Motion was made to accept resignation as LCFPA Board Member by William Falls.

Motion by: Mr. Yannuzzi

Second by: Mr. Adams

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

The Board met in an executive session before the March Board Meeting regarding property negotiations and personnel.

Next Regular Meeting

April 20, 2021 at 1:00p.m.

300 Laird St. Suite A-1

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn the March 16, 2021 meeting of the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Board.

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. Dussinger

Motion passed by a vote of 4-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, HARDWICK, ADAMS, DUSSINGER.

Meeting adjourned at 1:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Deana Prochaska
Recording Secretary