



## **Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority**

300 Laird Street, Suite #A-1

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

### **Minutes**

### **October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Session**

#### **Call to Order**

On October 20, 2020 at 1:00 P.M., the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Board convened their regular monthly meeting 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.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting was held through the Blue Jeans online virtual platform and all attendees participated remotely. The remaining regular meetings in 2020 will also be held remotely until further notice is issued.

Mr. Yannuzzi, Chairman, called to order the October 20, 2020 meeting.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

#### **Present**

Mr. Dominic Yannuzzi, P.E., Chairman  
Mr. Richard Adams  
Mr. Kevin O'Brien  
Mr. William Falls  
Mr. William Hardwick

#### **Also Present**

##### **LCFPA**

Christopher Belleman, P.E., Executive Director  
Amy Grevera, CPA, Accountant  
Jeffrey Rockman, Esq., Solicitor  
Laura Holbrook, Mitigation & Outreach Specialist  
Deana Prochaska, Administrative Assistant  
(Recording Secretary)

Borton Lawson Engineers

Mark Boris, P.E.

Tom Lawson, P.E.

Clint Sorber, P.E.

Louis Spaciano, P.E.

Eric Mark, Reporter, Citizens Voice

**Public Input**

None.

**Regular Meeting**

**Motion was made to ratify the minutes of the Authority meeting held on September 15, 2020.**

Motion by: Mr. Hardwick

Second by: Mr. Falls

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0 'AYES' – YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

**Old Business**

Mr. Adams questioned if we received answers from the Luzerne County Solicitor regarding Mr. Falls resignation and subsequent withdrawal. Mr. Yannuzzi stated he reached out to the County Solicitor and we will have an answer shortly.

**Bills and Communications**

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

Motion by: Mr. Adams

Second by: Mr. O'Brien

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, ADAMS, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, FALLS.

**Report of the Treasurer**

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

Motion by: Mr. O'Brien

Second by: Mr. Falls

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" –YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

**New Business**

**2020 Levee Fee Update.**

Mr. Adams stated that he has fielded input from commercial property owners who consider the current CIT annual levee fee rates high. Mr. Belleman reported that the levee fee is based upon improvement assessments on properties located within the historic 1972 Agnes floodplain. There are a total of about 14,190 parcels located within the floodplain and consists of 12,448 (88%) residential and 1,742 (12%) CIT properties. The properties have a total assessed value of about \$1,000,782,100 (52%) for residential; and \$918,862,800 (48%) for the CIT properties.

Currently, the Authority requires \$1.7 million annually from the levee fee to fund our operations and maintenance work. Based on the floodplain database, 52% of these anticipated costs must be funded through the residential side (R1 and R2 categories) and 48% of these anticipated costs must be funded through the CIT side (CIT0, CIT1, CIT2 and CIT3 categories). The current 5-Year Capital Plan (2017 - 2021) runs through 2021. In mid-2021 a new 5-Year Capital Plan will be developed, and the structure of the levee fee will be re-evaluated at that time.

**Motion was made to request approval on the *Regional Stormwater Program Partnership Agreement between the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority and the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA)* for a stormwater BMP project on the upper Abrahams Creek Diversion Channel.**

Motion by: O'Brien

Second by: Falls

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" –YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

**Motion was made to request approval for an *Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the City of Wilkes-Barre and the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority.***

Motion by: Adams

Second by: Hardwick

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" –YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

**Motion was made to request approval for the proposed *Policy on Authority Procurement Thresholds.***

Motion by: Hardwick

Second by: Adams

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" –YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

**Motion was made to adopt the updated *Rules of Decorum and Public Participation at Public Meetings.***

Motion by: Hardwick

Second by: Yannuzzi

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 4-1. "AYES" –YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, FALLS. "NAYS"- ADAMS

**Update on the *Closure Structure Modifications Project* was provided by representatives of Borton Lawson Engineers.**

**Update on the measures to halt and/or minimize unauthorized public use of Authority lands along the Hanover levee was provided by Mr. Falls and Mr. Belleman.**

**Discussion regarding the Authority's administration office and warehouse space needs was led by Mr. Yannuzzi and supported by Mr. Belleman. Updates will be provided when new information becomes available.**

**Adjourn**

**Motion was made to adjourn the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting of the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Board and enter into executive session.**

Motion by: O'Brien

Second by: Hardwick

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0. "AYES" – YANNUZZI, O'BRIEN, HARDWICK, ADAMS, FALLS.

Meeting adjourned at 2:32 P.M.

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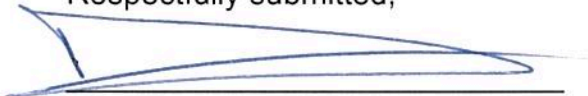
**Next Regular Meeting**

November 17, 2020 at 1:00p.m.

300 Laird St. Suite A-1

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Respectfully submitted,



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Deana Prochaska  
Recording Secretary