

**WEST BRANCH AREA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AUTHORITY**

A reschedule regular meeting of the West Branch Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Authority was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at the West Branch City Hall.

Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

Present: Heather Grace (arrived at 3:47), City of West Branch; Denis Stephens, Ogemaw Township; Dan Weiler, City of West Branch and Jim Morris, West Branch Township.

Absent: None

Others in attendance: John Dantzer, Secretary/Treasurer and Mike Killackey, City DPW Superintendent

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Jamie Carruthers of Stephenson & Company presented the 2017- 2018 audit findings and answered questions. She noted they received an unmodified opinion which is the highest opinion available.

**Motion by Morris, Second by Weiler, to name Denis Stephens Chairman for 2018.**

**Yes – Morris, Stephens, Weiler                      No – None                      Absent – Grace**

**Motion carried**

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**Motion by Stephens, Second by Morris, to name Dan Weiler as Vice Chairman for 2018.**

**Yes – Morris, Stephens, Weiler                      No – None                      Absent – Grace**

**Motion carried**

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**Motion by Stephens, Second by Weiler, to name John Dantzer as secretary/treasurer for 2018.**

**Yes – Morris, Stephens, Weiler                      No – None                      Absent – Grace**

**Motion carried**

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**Motion by Morris, Second by Weiler, to accept the audit findings as presented.**

**Yes – Morris, Stephens, Weiler                      No – None                      Absent – Grace**

**Motion carried**

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DPW Superintendent discussed an issue they had at the treatment plant due to a large volume of dye being put into the sewer system by Michigan Bark Products. It was the consensus not to charge Michigan Bark for the extra work required to treat the large amount of dye.

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The Authority discussed the letter received that the pending lawsuit from the waste water backup in West Branch Township had been dismissed.

**Motion by Weiler, Second by Morris, to approve the minutes from the meetings held September 18, 2018.**

**Yes – Grace, Morris, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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It was noted that all three parties will continue to work on an indemnification agreement.

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**Motion by Stephens, Second by Grace, to approve the Diebold Invoice in the amount of \$4,184.00 with \$3,199.00 being for the quarterly insurance package, \$981.00 being for the bond policy renewal, and \$4.00 for underpayment of last quarter’s insurance.**

**Yes – Delahanty, Grace, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**Motion by Grace, Second by Morris, to approve the Stephenson & Company audit invoice in the amount of \$3,640.00**

**Yes – Delahanty, Grace, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**Motion by Grace, Second by Weiler, to approve the Bond payment for Bond 92-01 in the amount of \$91,300.00 and Bond 92-02 in the amount of \$42,304.46**

**Yes – Delahanty, Grace, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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DPW Superintendent gave a treatment plant update.

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The Treasurers Report was submitted to the Board.

**Motion by Morris, Second by Grace, to accept the Treasurer’s report as submitted.**

**Yes – Delahanty, Grace, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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The Board discussed the option of having mutual covenants for inspection and repair on inflow into the sewer collection system. The Board discussed the possibility of installing sewer meters in order to record the amount of sewer entering the treatment plant from each municipality.

The Board also discussed the status of new meters and noted the City and Ogemaw Township have approved the switch to new meters and encouraged West Branch Township to do the same. Member Morris noted he would take that back to his Board for further discussion. Secretary/Dantzer and DPW Superintendent noted some new updates coming to the resident “Eye on Water” program.

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A sewer forgiveness letter was shared noting McDonalds was asking for a refund due to a large reading that they say was unaccounted for. It was noted that in the past these types of forgiveness’s were presented to City Council but it may be better to submit these types of requests to the WWTPA Board due to the fact that each municipality has a stake in the treatment plant and therefore the refunds would affect everyone. It was the consensus to have these types of reviews come to the Board and not to City Council.

**Motion by Grace, Second by Stephens, to approve the sewer forgiveness to McDonalds in the amount of \$1,396.62 contingent upon West Branch Township agreeing to participate in the meter replacement program.**

**Yes – Delahanty, Grace, Stephens, Weiler      No – None      Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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Chairman Stephens adjourned the meeting at 4:33 pm.