CAMDEN-WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 405, CAMDEN-WYOMING, DELAWARE 19934

Minutes of the Camden-Wyoming
Sewer and Water Authority
Regular Session - Authority Meeting
Held on July 9, 2013

Authority Members present:	Mrs. Barbara Blomquist Mr. Jeffrey Connor Mr. Michael Quinn Ms. Tracy Torres Mr. James Winchell Mr. James Wood
Also in attendance representing the CWS&WA:	Mr. Harold Scott, Authority Superintendent Mr. Soheil Gharebaghi, P.E., Authority Engineer
Public in Attendance:	Meeting Attendance/Sign-in Sheet; available at the CWS&WA Office

The Camden-Wyoming Sewer and Water Authority (CWS&WA) met at the CWS&WA Office on July 9, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairperson, Mr. Winchell. Mr. Winchell advised that Mr. Quinn might be a few minutes late for the meeting, and, Mr. Quinn joined the meeting in progress at 7:05 p.m.

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Motion: Ms. Torres made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Wood. Motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance & Operations Status (Superintendent Report):

Mr. Scott distributed the period's Operation and Maintenance Report and discussed the same. Mr. Scott reported that the Authority's 300,000 Gallon elevated water storage tank would be repainted by Corrosion Control Corporation, with whom the Authority had a 10-year maintenance contract, in the very near future. Mr. Scott explained that emptying the tank for this purpose had caused hydraulic pressure differentials (water hammer) in the water distribution system. When disturbed, the rust accumulated in pipes and other system surfaces, such as inside of the water tank, can be dislodged and become suspended in water causing discoloration, Mr. Scott continued. Mr. Scott indicated that the Authority had received several calls from customers about the brown water problem. Mr. Scott reassured the Authority's customers that the Authority's water was safe for human consumption, albeit, discolored due to the temporary rust suspension in some parts of the water distribution system. Mr. Scott noted that the Office of Drinking Water would perform laboratory tests on the water, to confirm its safety for human consumption, before the 300,000 Gallon elevated water storage tank was brought back on line.

Maintenance & Operations Status (Superintendent Report, cont.):

Mr. Scott indicated that maintenance activities in connection with the Authority's sanitary sewer system pump stations had continued to demand more of the Authority crews' attention. For instance, check valves in the Lowe's pump station continued to be clogged up with material that should not have been discharged into the sewer system, such as rags, adult wipes, and grease, Mr. Scott explained.

Mr. Scott noted that the Authority's construction crews had installed services for a newly built house on Center Street. A fire hydrant had also been removed from the corner of Old North Road and Harrison Avenue so that it could be reinstalled outside of the road work zone on Old North Road by DelDOT contractors, Mr. Scott added. Mr. Scott also noted that, in response to a request by the Town of Wyoming, the Authority's crews had repaired a storm sewer catch basin at Southern Boulevard.

Mr. Scott indicated that the Authority's fiscal year budget review process would commence in the month of July and a Draft Budget for FY 2013-2014 would be presented to the Board by Mr. Luff, Authority Accountant, at the August 13, 2013, Regular Meeting. A Budget Workshop could be scheduled for August 27, 2013, at the Board's discretion, for the purpose of discussion surrounding the Draft Budget, Mr. Scott added. The Authority's FY 2013-2014 Budget could then be placed on the September 10, 2013, Regular Meeting Agenda for consideration and approval of the Board, Mr. Scott noted.

Mr. Scott discussed the Authority's finances for the period. The current system balance was approximately $414,000, and, of the $371,500 billed for the period, $78,400 had already been collected, Mr. Scott explained. Mr. Scott also advised that the Authority's Worker's Compensation Insurance premium had increased to approximately $15,000 annually.

Engineering Report:

For the Board's information, Gharebaghi indicated that the Authority's 2013 Annual Water Quality / Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) for the period of January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012, had been posted on the Authority's web site at www.cwswa.com/2013CCR.pdf. Notices had been printed on the period's sewer and water bills, referring to the url link which directly connected customers to the 2013 CCR, Gharebaghi said.

Gharebaghi reported that he had completed a Water Audit which was required by the Delaware River Basin Commission and submitted the same to the Commission for the Authority's water distribution system.

Gharebaghi reported that the work of Abel Recon for pipe lining and manhole rehabilitation within the flood plain of Isaac's Branch had been substantially completed. It was noted that the Authority would apply the learning experienced during this project to future sewer system rehabilitation work.

In response to a request by the Town of Wyoming for confirmation of the availability of sewer and water services for a property proposed to be annexed into the incorporated limits of the Town of Wyoming, a letter had been sent to the Town Clerk addressing the matter, Gharebaghi said.

Legal Report:

There was no legal report.

New Business:

Mrs. Blomquist discussed a piece of legislation which had recently passed the 147th General Assembly of the State, known as Senate Bill #111, under which the Authority Board Members could be summarily removed from their appointed positions, at any time and for any reason, by the Mayors and Councils of the Towns that had appointed them, even without just cause. Mrs. Blomquist was joined by other Board Members when she expressed dismay with the manner of SB #111 passage and its content, particularly, when the Board had not been consulted or advised regarding the Bill. Ms. Torres indicated that she had just received a telephone call from the Honorable Senator Bushweller regarding the matter, but, she had not been advised that Board members could be dismissed without just cause. The Board asked for a review of SB #111 by Ms. Sherlock, Authority Attorney, and a legal opinion as to the legality of the Bill.

On a separate topic, Ms. Torres indicated that she would be reviewing the Towns of Camden and Wyoming policies regarding employee annual salary increases and benefits. The information could be helpful when the Board reviewed the Authority's Draft Budget the following month, Ms. Torres added.

Visitors' Comments:

Mr. McFann indicated that the Towns of Camden and Wyoming had always believed that " ... they were over the Authority ...," and the new law would confirm their supposition.

Adjournment:

Motion: Ms. Torres made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Mr. Quinn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on August 13, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
CAMDEN-WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

Harold L. Scott, Sr.
CWS&WA Superintendent