

**Mercersburg Water Authority Meeting
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA 17236
August 21, 2025
MINUTES**

ATTENDING: Chairman Ed Twine, Vice-Chairman Jason Frey, Member Joe Creighton, Member Jacob Morgan, Borough Manager Connie Creighton, Administrative Professional Angela Alleman, Water & Sewer Plant Laborer Donnie Keefer

ABSENT: Michael Pedersen

GUEST(S)/PRESS: Reference Sign in Sheets

Chairman Twine called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened the floor to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Benjamin Dugas – An update was requested on the Authority's meet and greet with state representatives. Chairman Twine explained that available funding is currently unknown, as the state budget has not yet been finalized. The Authority will remain in contact with representatives to secure funding once it becomes available.

John Cole – Has submitted a dispute and asked the status. Patrice Brownell, Billing Clerk, informed John that she is aware of his dispute and is still working on it. He can expect a response next week.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- A. To review and approve the Treasurer's report for the month ending on July 31, 2025 (copy to be provided at the meeting)
- B. To review and approve the Bills Payable report for the month ending on July 31, 2025 (copy to be provided at the meeting)

Copies were not available; these items will be tabled until the next meeting.

MINUTES:

- A. **MOTION:** To approve the June 26, 2025 meeting minutes with a correction to the spelling of Dawn Scheller's name on page 1, was made by Jacob Morgan, seconded by Joe Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.
- B. **MOTION :** To approve the July 17, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Joe Creighton, seconded by Jacob Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Not Present. No report included.

WATER AND SEWER LABORER'S REPORT:

Donnie Keefer present. Written report included.

Donnie provided an update on last month's usage and expressed concern about the lack of rainfall.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Written report included.

SOLICITORS REPORT:

Not Present. No report included.

GMS REPORT:

Not Present.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Connie Creighton presented a Summary Tracking Report, further details under New Business F.

OLD BUSINESS:

- C. Update on 30-day Turbidimeter demonstration.

The test Lovibond turbidimeter was installed. This model requires less time and maintenance than the current Hawk models at half the cost. Two Lovibond turbidimeters were ordered.

- D. To continue the discussion re: allowing public access to the Buck Run Treatment Plant property.

It was decided that no access will be permitted until construction is completed, at which point the matter will be reevaluated.

- E. To discuss and create a priority list of projects, possible funding sources, and future rate increases.

A list of priority projects is currently being developed. Among the most urgent are the water system upgrades, which are necessary due to the current systems not meeting DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) regulations.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was recommended that a follow-up meeting be scheduled with Mercersburg Academy to address funding concerns. Residents are willing to reach out to Mercersburg Academy with their concerns.

- D. To discuss in force Water Conservation Notice (extend or lift).

It was voted to extend the mandatory Water Conservation Notice for an additional 30 days. Authority members were polled and all were in agreement. Chairman Twine requested Borough staff to send out a RAVE notice reminding residents of the extension.

- E. Copy of legislative contacts (copy to be provided at meeting).

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution authorizing the Truist Bank Non-Interest Banking Account to be opened to enable the Water Authority PENNVEST Reimbursements.

MOTION: To authorize the Truist Bank Non-Interest Banking Account to be opened to enable the Water Authority PENNVEST Reimbursements was made by Jacob Morgan, seconded by Jason Frey, all ayes, motion carried.

- B. 13697 Buchanan Trail West-Farm (Dispute Form to be provided at meeting)

It was voted that the resident is responsible for the charges, in accordance with Water Authority rules and regulations, which state that any water passing through the meter is the responsibility of the resident. Authority members were polled and all were in agreement.

- C. Approve Payment – Invoice 180442581-Negley's Water \$385.75 (Event-well pump at Buck Run Plant tripping breaker-report to be provided in Authority Meeting packet)

MOTION: To approve payment – Invoice 180442581-Negley's Water \$385.75 was made by Joe Creighton, seconded by Jacob Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

- D. Approve Payment – Invoice 180824559-Negley's Water \$6,358.32 (Event-Buck Run Emergency Well Pump Repair on 7/28/2025)

MOTION: To approve payment – Invoice 180824559-Negley's Water \$6,358.32 was made by Joe Creighton, seconded by Jason Frey, all ayes, motion carried.

- E. Approve Payment – Invoice 620 - High Tide Environmental. LLC \$1,608.25 - Engineering Services (detail to be provided in Authority Meeting packet)

MOTION: To approve payment – Invoice 620 - High Tide Environmental. LLC \$1,608.25 - Engineering Services was made by Jason Frey, seconded by Joe Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.

- F. Status Results of Meter Testing (May-August). (Copy of summary sheet to be provided at meeting)

The Summary Tracking Report contains details on all open disputes and issues. Documentation of new meter installations will be added to the spreadsheet. This report will be updated and added to the monthly managers' report moving forward.

- G. Discussion – Rural Development Apply (RDAApply) – Application intake system supporting loans and grants for Rural Utilities Services (RUS) programs (copy to be provided at meeting)

RDApply is an additional grant opportunity available to both the Water and Sewer Authority. GMS will be asked to contact the appropriate parties on behalf of the Water Authority.

H. Park Ave. Water Project Funding and Construction Update

The notice to proceed was activated on 8-20-25 and Erosion and Sediment Control work will begin within the next 2 weeks. In the meantime, the Authority will meet with the school district to discuss the construction process. The start date for PSI Construction is TBD. Chairman Twine will apply for the demolition, building, and land use permits.

I. Present and review Draft MWA System PFD sketch. (copy to be provided at the meeting)

MOTION: To approve public posting of the Draft MWA System PFD sketch after edits are made, was made by Jason Frey, seconded by Jacob Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

J. Consider authorizing Lance or others to prepare an alternative WTP development study which would mitigate construction costs and future rate increases.

Additional ideas are being requested to explore options for eliminating one of the proposed water plants. Based on the discussion, a follow-up meeting is recommended with DEP to review the design basis, costs, and applicable regulations.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

MOTION: To adjourn at 9:30 PM was made by Creighton, seconded by Frey, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed from audio recording and Angela Alleman's notes and have been respectfully submitted for approval.

Date Approved: 9-18-25 Motion Made By: Creighton Seconded: Morgan

CFM87
Borough Manager

