

Mercersburg Sewer Authority
Borough Hall, 113 South Main Street, Mercersburg
June 11, 2026
MINUTES

Attending: Chairman Jim Malone, Member Joe Creighton, Member Ben Dugas, Water/Sewer Plant Laborer Donnie Keefer, Borough Manager Matthew Moxley, and Administrative Professional Angela Alleman

Absent: Member Tim Stanton

Guests/Press: See Sign in Sheet

Josiah Guyer - Stated that he is familiar with the industry, which is why he is interested in filling the vacant seat on the Sewer Authority.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER/PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Jim Malone called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT/BILLS PAYABLE

MOTION: To approve May 2026 Treasure's Report was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve May 2026 Bills Payable Report made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve May 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Not scheduled to be present.

MANAGER'S REPORT

No report given.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Lance Hoover presented an update on the Keefer Pump Station. He reported that a separate permit is required for the station upgrades and that PADEP has agreed to expedite the review process. Based on existing infrastructure and cost considerations, he recommended retaining Gorman-Rupp equipment supplied through Envirep, as changing manufacturers would require replacement of the proprietary control system. Lance advised that the existing pumps are not suited for the application and recommended replacing them with self-priming pumps. Recent testing identified deteriorated flap valves and suction issues, which were repaired to maintain operations during the interim period. He reported the station had operated continuously since the repairs and expressed confidence that the temporary measures would sustain operations while permanent improvements are completed. Equipment selection and pricing are expected within several weeks. He estimated the project cost at approximately \$170,000 and advised that, under the most favorable conditions, completion could occur within six to seven months, with a more realistic timeframe of nine to twelve months. Procurement may be completed through COSTARS, avoiding competitive bidding and reducing the schedule. Members discussed financing, procurement, and project oversight. Lance noted that

bidding and construction administration could be handled either by him or staff, depending on the procurement method and the level of oversight desired. Engineering services would include preparation of plans, construction administration, and inspection to ensure compliance with DEP requirements and project specifications. Lance reported that once pricing information is received, a detailed email package will be prepared and distributed to the Authority for review. Following Authority approval, he will proceed with finalizing the project layout, preparing and submitting the necessary permit applications, and coordinating procurement and scheduling activities. He noted that the goal is to advance the various components of the project in a timely manner to position the Authority for successful completion of the pump station improvements.

Lance reported that the UV disinfection system is fully operational, with startup issues corrected by PSI. One remaining item, continuous transmittance monitoring, was determined to be outside the original contract scope and will require separate acquisition by the Authority. Sherwood Logan will provide drain piping installation and operator training at no cost, as the firm believes the work should have been included in the original project. PSI has completed all general and electrical work and submitted their final payment request for review. He reported that DEP has received the operational permit package and expects to receive the operating permit within the next several weeks.

Lance reported that evaluation of rehabilitation alternatives for the existing tanks has resumed, with proposals being gathered from SBR equipment manufacturers to assess performance and cost. Technical specifications from a recommended supplier will be incorporated into the design documents to establish project standards. Staff recommended rehabilitating the reed beds as a cost-effective alternative to more expensive options, noting that properly restored beds can provide reliable service for more than 30 years. He advised that the proposed DEP schedule targets project completion by the end of 2029, allowing time for planning, permitting, and additional funding opportunities.

Lance also reported that revised proposals for digester repairs have been received, with PSI submitting the lowest-cost proposal and meeting procurement requirements. He recommended proceeding with the work when funding becomes available. Staff advised that operational adjustments are being used to manage leakage issues in Digesters No. 1 and No. 2, with Digester No. 2 limited to approximately half capacity due to significant defects. Rehabilitation costs are estimated at \$180,000 to \$190,000 per digester, with similar work eventually needed for all steel tanks. Members discussed completing the rehabilitation ahead of the larger treatment plant upgrade, and Manager Moxley indicated that additional funding opportunities would be explored.

WATER/SEWER PLANT LABORER'S REPORT

No separate report was provided, as related topics were addressed during the Engineer's Report.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Report was provided for review.

Manager Moxley reported that much of the Public Works Department's equipment is aging and requires frequent repairs and advised that replacement of several pieces of equipment will likely be necessary in the future. Members discussed the possibility of renting equipment from neighboring municipalities in lieu of purchasing new equipment.

OLD BUSINESS

Members briefly discussed grease trap inspections and recommended sending a letter to Food Lion requesting that its grease trap be pumped and serviced every two months, rather than quarterly, due to the high volume of waste generated. Members also suggested recommending regular cleaning of the facility's wet well. Staff advised that, upon completion of all inspections, violation letters will be issued to noncompliant businesses.

A follow-up letter was mailed to Mercersburg Little League on May 27, 2026 requesting an update on their sewer repairs.

Action on Sherwood-Logan Invoice No. 100067 was tabled until the next meeting.

MOTION: To authorize repairs to the digester tank based on PSI's \$21,000 proposal was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

Members reviewed the Mercersburg Academy Central Plant Proposed Water Usage Intent Letter.

Chairman Malone and Member Creighton will attend the Joint Townhall Meeting on June 13, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve the Sewer Authority's support for the Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP), was made by Dugas, seconded by Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve JHA Invoice # 47014 – UV Replacement Project (\$1,264.25) was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

Lance Hoover presented transitioning laboratory services from Franklin Analytical (SPL Laboratories) to LABS of New Oxford due to ongoing reporting and data quality issues that have resulted in operational violations on the water side. Staff reported that LABS currently serves several nearby municipalities and that DEP has identified no quality concerns. Maintaining the same laboratory for both the Water and Sewer Authorities was recommended for efficiency.

Members agreed to follow the Water Authority's decision regarding laboratory services and to retroactively approve any change at the next meeting.

MOTION: To approve High Tide Invoice #732 (\$2,109.86) was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To retroactively approve Control Systems 21 Quote #E26-0722 (\$3,413.84) was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Members agreed to recommend that Council appoint Josiah Guyer to fill the vacant seat on the Sewer Authority.

MOTION: To enter Executive Session at 8:48pm was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To re-enter regular session at 8:51pm was made by Creighton, seconded by Dugas, all ayes, motion carried.

Member Dugas inquired about the status of the flusher repairs. Following discussion, members agreed to recommend that Borough Council and the Property Committee consider selling the flusher.

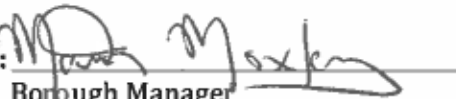
MOTION: To adjourn at 8:54pm was made by Dugas, seconded by Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.

Date approved: 7/9/26

Motion: *Creighton*

Seconded: *Dugas*

Signature:


Borough Manager

SEAL

