

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

September 27, 2023

OPENING: Mr. Burton, Vice-Chairman opened this regular meeting and announced that the Sunshine laws have been satisfied for the convening of this meeting.

PRESENT: Messrs. Burton, Villa, Heller, Cichone members, Mrs. Plesnarski, Administrator. Dr. Schaible and Mr. Mueller did not attend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 23, 2023 as written, was carried with roll call of ayes all, nays none with Mr. Villa abstaining.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES: Motion to approve the invoices for the month of September in the amount of \$ **91,899.72** and authorization for the administrator to transfer this amount into the Operating Checking account on October 2, 2023 and (1) invoice totaling \$ **21,366.00** to be paid from the General Fund on October 2, 2023 was made by Mr. Heller seconded by Mr. Cichone and carried with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT: Motion to acknowledge the review and approve the September Budget Statement without any exceptions noted as written was made by Mr. Heller seconded by Mr. Cichone and carried, with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

NEW BUSINESS: *Feasibility Study Update* - Mr. Ponte noted that Van Cleef Engineering has not completed the survey. The plant was built in 1982. The influent PS lies within the 50-foot wetlands buffer and there is a manmade gully that also lies within a wetlands buffer. The gully creates a finger that may impede the location of the third oxidation ditch planned for a future date. The Authority may apply for a general permit to eliminate the gully and

not have a need to apply for a letter of interpretation at present. Mr. Ponte is confident that the second oxidation ditch can be rehabilitated for biological phosphorous removal. Mrs. Plesnarski noted that the storm drain near the generator will need to be moved. It is an insurance requirement once construction begins. Also, the influent pump station expansion will require it to be moved out of the wetlands buffer which is where it currently sits.

Stony Brook Regional SA Sludge cake Agreement – Mrs. Plesnarski noted that the present agreement will end on 12/31/23. She is recommending another two-year agreement with an increase of \$1.00/cu yd for sludge cake disposal. Bringing the total cost per cubic yard to \$62.00. Motion to approve a two-year agreement with SBRSA to accept sludge cake for \$62.00/cu yd was made by Mr. Heller seconded by Mr. Villa and carried, with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

Bid Threshold Adjustment – Mrs. Plesnarski stated that Mrs. Weierich holds a valid QPA certificate and the NJ State Treasurer under LPCL has increased the bid threshold from \$40,000.00 to \$44,000.00. Mrs. Plesnarski has recommended that the bid and quotation threshold be increased to the maximum allowed pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-3. Motion to approve raising the bid and quotation thresholds to the maximum allow under NJSA 40A:11-3 was made by Mr. Cichone seconded by Mr. Villa and carried, with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

NJDEP Meeting – Mrs. Plesnarski informed the board of the outcome of the NJDEP meeting on September 5th. NJDEP will revoke and reissue the permit. They are working on a pre-draft permit now so at best there will be a 1/1/24 start date with 59 months to comply. The orthophosphate action levels will be eliminated. Biological treatment to remove total phosphorus will be required. This will lead to lower operational costs but have a more complex operational process with a lower use of chemicals but a higher cost for initial installation. Mr. Ponte noted that the change will affect the design of the plant.

New Employee – Mrs. Plesnarski noted that the recruitment for a licensed operator was unsuccessful. As there were no licensed respondents, she decided to hire someone with

wastewater experience with the requirement that he obtain an S1 license within a year for continued employment. Mr. A. Telleri III will begin the second week of October at \$50,000/year and receive a \$5,000.00 increase after six months of satisfactory work performance.

OLD BUSINESS: *UV Modules* – Mrs. Plesnarski noted that the UV modules are working and we are compliant with E. coli limits.

Oxidation Ditch Rotor – Mrs. Plesnarski informed the board that installation of the rotor shaft has been delayed due to the wet weather we have had.

ADJOURNMENT: As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by motion made by Mr. Burton seconded by Mr. Heller and carried, with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

Respectfully submitted:

Jonathan Heller
Secretary/Treasurer

Virginia Weierich
Recording Secretary

23-17
RESOLUTION
Sludge Cake Disposal Agreement

WHEREAS, the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.2 may by resolution and without advertising for bid, purchase any goods or services from another government entity; and,

WHEREAS, the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority has a need to purchase Sludge Cake Disposal Services; and,

WHEREAS, Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority, is a government entity and has submitted a proposal to accept sludge cake at a rate of \$62.00/cubic yard for a duration of (2) years; and,

WHEREAS, the Administrator certifies that the funding source shall be from the Operating Budget; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that governing body of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority authorizes the Administrator to enter into an agreement with Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above resolution is a true copy of the resolution adopted by the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority at its meeting on September 27, 2023.

September 27, 2023
Date

Signature
Virginia Weierich
Recording Secretary

**RLSA Bid Threshold Adjustment
23-18**

WHEREAS, Virginia Weierich possesses a valid Qualified Purchasing Agent certificate in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. and is therefore, qualified to hold the position of Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority has designated Virginia Weierich as the Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Authority under Resolution 17-11; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40a:11-9 et seq. permits local contracting units that have appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent to avail themselves of the related higher bid threshold pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority that Virginia Weierich is hereby designated the Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of Readington-Lebanon Sewerage Authority increases its bid and quotation threshold to the maximum allowed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Cichone, seconded by Mr. Villa and on a roll call vote the following was recorded:

Recorded Vote

<u>Governing Body Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Vincent Schaible				x
Richard Burton	x			
Craig Villa	x			
Jonathan Heller	x			
Adam Mueller				x
Edward Cichone	x			

September 27, 2023
Date

Signature
Virginia Weierich
Recording Secretary