

THE POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 22, 2018

A Work Session of the Pocono Township Board of Commissioners and Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors was held on August 22, 2018, at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, located at 112 Township Drive, Tannersville, PA 18372.

Present are Pocono Township Commissioners Gerald Lastowski, Richard Wielebinski, Jerrod Belvin, Solicitor Leo DeVito, Engineer Jon Tresslar, Engineer Mike Gable, and Patrick Briegel. Present are Tobyhanna Township Supervisors Anne Lamberton, John Holahan, III, Heidi A. Pickard, Solicitor Jonathan J. Reiss, Esquire, and Township Manager John Jablowski, Jr. Brendon Carroll and David Carbone are absent. Present are Broadhead Creek Regional Authority representatives Dave Horton and Solicitor John Prevoznik.

1. President Gerald Lastowski calls the meeting to order at 6:06PM. It is determined that a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. Old Business
 - a. Sewer Allocation Discussion. Anne Lamberton states leaving off at the last meeting, Leo DeVito would research the agreements and Pocono Township ("Pocono") needed to review information to determine what excess sewer capacity was available. Leo DeVito states Pocono is dealing with an existing customer, Tobyhanna Township ("Tobyhanna"), so as long as Pocono works within the 2 million gal/day allocation, he sees no issue. Patrick Briegel states that he and Mike Gable researched EDUs for additional phases of development, and there is additional capacity. Gerald Lastowski states Pocono has undeveloped property; did they look at vacant properties, like the lands below Pangea. Mike Gable replies any lot 15 acres or larger was individually assessed for potential sewer needs, and he assigned likely sewage usages to other properties: 2 EDUs per acre for residential properties, and 3-6 EDUs for commercial properties depending on the area. There is reserve beyond these predictions. These projections do not factor a large water user building in the area.

Gerald Lastowski asks if Pocono is opening themselves to difficulty or a lawsuit when they denied sewer access to other parcels. Leo DeVito replies no, that potential user was out of the service area and asking for 500,000 gal/day. Tobyhanna's agreement is already in place and they are an existing user. If a business requiring high water demands wants to establish itself within the service

area, Pocono may not be able to accommodate them. As of now, the current users could max out the 2-million-gallon sewer allotment if they tried.

Anne Lamberton states Tobyhanna is asking for additional, unencumbered EDUs only. Gerald Lastowski asks if the Commission gives Tobyhanna the full 200,000 gal/day they requested, is Pocono's capacity maxed? Mike Gable replies Pocono would have 109,000 gal/day available, plus a contingency flow of 200,000 gallons. Regarding EDUs, 1,251 are available right now, and 441 EDUs would be left if Tobyhanna received everything they asked for.

John Prevoznik states the existing docket only allows for Pocono Manor and Kalahari effluent, and only allows that service area to be served. If this request is outside the established sewer area, this is prohibited. Anne Lamberton states the request is for properties within the existing service area.

Bob McHale presents a map and states the current service area is highlighted in orange. The 150,000-200,000 gal/day is for the existing service area. Tobyhanna was interested in the paper rerate for additional capacity outside the service area: Jim Cahill asked for an additional 200,000 gal/day outside the service area and 40,000 gal/day inside the service area. Dave Horton clarifies the service area was originally given 440,000 gal/day and Tobyhanna is asking for an additional 150,000-200,000 gal/day. Bob McHale states yes, Kalahari is already at their allotted 230,000 gal/day and they are not at full build out.

John Prevoznik states the next issue is water. The docket requires the water be brought up from the wells in order to go back down to the plant. There is a will serve letter that states if Brodhead Creek Regional Authority's (BCRA) can get water to Tobyhanna, they will.

Dave Horton states at the first meeting with only Pocono, he presented a status of the BCRA's current water and sewer capabilities. BCRA has water allocated to keep in Stroudsburg, but the ability to get water through the Pocono corridor is the problem. The pump station in Bartonsville is peaking at 1.3 million gal/day, and its capacity is 1.4 million/day. The BCRA just settled on a major capital loan for \$10 million, which is designed to provide for three projects, one of which is a pump station and tank system in Tannersville. This will break the system pressure and allow more capacity, which will raise capacity from 1.4 to 2 million gal/day. This increase will satisfy BCRA's existing commitments, and will not create additional capacity.

Dave Horton states Kalahari's water demand does not equal the sewer demand; Kalahari is using 70,000-80,000 gal/day of water that is not returned to the sewer system. Anne Lamberton asks if Sanofi needed more water, would the BCRA be able to supply it. Dave Horton states the improved 2 million gal/day capacity will

satisfy current commitments. Anne Lamberton asks if a water supply from the top of mountain could send water down to the plant. John Prevoznik replies there is a host of problems with pursuing that route.

Heidi Pickard asks what needs to be done. Dave Horton states the BCRA is considering a second pipe system that parallels the current one. The system needs resiliency, so redundancy is necessary. He sees a need for a second pipe in 5-15 years. This will cost \$10-\$15 million to install. He has not calculated flow rates that could be gained by this. Bob McHale states Kalahari may still build hotel rooms, a third convention center, and a third waterpark.

Dave Horton states the BCRA is pursuing the major capital loan to satisfy the 440,000 gal/day commitment. John Prevoznik states under the will serve, the commitment is valid if the BCRA can get water to the area.

John Jablowski asks if Pocono Springs opens in 2021, can the system handle 125,000 gal/day? Dave Horton states BCRA is scrambling to provide water under the premise that Pocono Springs was opening in 3 years. The additional 600,000 gal/day from the project upgrade will satisfy the already promised demands from Sanofi and Pocono Springs. Patrick Brigel asks if the 2 million gal/day can be expanded. Dave Horton states his engineer's mission was to maximize capacity, not reach 2 million gal/day. Design work has yet to begin. Anne Lamberton asks if the potential agreement with Pocono for extra capacity can run simultaneously; no development will occur immediately. Leo DeVito states if Pocono agrees to give Tobyhanna all of the requested additional capacity, it's of no import, because there is no water. Jonathan Reiss states that the BCRA hasn't designed the project yet, why not incorporate the additional 200,000 gal/day request right now. Dave Horton replies the capacity of 2 million gal/day was limited to what BRCA thought they could achieve with the additional pump station. The parallel line is the next step to increase capacity, and is a significant project.

Anne Lamberton asks if BCRA found an additional water source, where would be acceptable geographically? Since it is all in the Broadhead Watershed, what if Tobyhanna installed a well at the top of the mountain. Tobyhanna is testing wells now, and there is a lot of water. John Prevoznik states BCRA wants this, and has been exploring this possibility for the last six months, but meetings with DEP have been unsuccessful. Anne Lamberton suggests everyone meet with DEP. John Prevoznik replies BCRA is willing to do that. Dave Horton states BCRA must know what the permitting process is up front, and they came back from meetings without answers. John Prevoznik states if Tobyhanna thinks a meeting with BCRA, DEP, Pocono, and Tobyhanna would work, the well at the top of the mountain would be helpful. The county is trying to promote regional aspects. If this meeting happens, it would benefit all owner municipalities to attend. Having

a water source at the mountain would be better than building another source at the Brodhead Creek.

John Holahan states the townships could also argue the environmental impact of installing a second line. Dave Horton replies the second line will have to be installed eventually. DEP said they don't want to see sensitive streams impacted by a withdraw and that typical hydrogeological studies aren't good enough so the BCRA must take the next step, but DEP won't tell BCRA what the next step is. Bob McHale states if there is a joint meeting, Tobyhanna should dovetail our extra needs within the rerate. We can talk and find out what's realistic. If this rerate isn't possible, Tobyhanna must pursue other options.

Dave Horton states that concerning sewage, a paper rerate is not on the table. Mass loading in the plant is cause for concern, and BCRA has had wintertime operational difficulty with infiltration/inflow (I/I), which caused a permit exceedance for ammonia. Also, they must operate SBR systems with flexibility, because one SBR system must be able to be shut down to be inspected/repaired.

Anne Lamberton states that it seems like BCRA must upgrade their system to service the gal/day they've already promised. Dave Horton states the plant is rated for 4.5 million gal/day. Anne Lamberton states for existing customers, BCRA needs to figure out how to get water up the mountain if full build out occurs. Dave Horton states upgrades must be completed in 3 years. Bob McHale states Tobyhanna still needs a ballpark number for what it will take to get additional water to the area. Richard Wielebinski asks if Pocono started using 2 million gal/day tomorrow, could the plant handle it? Dave Horton states yes for sewage, but the issue is water. John Prevoznik states one issue is that there's only one pipe. A second pipe would bring resiliency, and BCRA is looking for funding. Anne Lamberton states the next conversation must be with DEP to see if they will allow an additional water source on top of the mountain. Bob McHale asks when will Tobyhanna know how much it's costing. Dave Horton states BCRA believes it has peaked at the projected 2 million gal/day, and doesn't think they can do more. If a water source on top of the mountain is not viable, the solution is the parallel pipe. The existing pipe is under corrosion faster than normal because of soil conditions, so the extra pipe must occur. Getting to 2 million gal/day is a 5-10 year time frame. The additional pipe will not be on PA 611; it will be on back roads from the Bartonsville pump station to Kalahari.

Donna Asure states if a meeting is set with DEP, the first discussion must be if BCRA is agreeable to work with the option of an additional water source on top of the mountain. Dave Horton states BCRA would prefer a water source up top. For resiliency, that makes the most sense. If they could receive 1 million gal/day from a water source at the top of the hill, that's a great option. John Jablowski

asks what DEP's issue was. Dave Horton states they were concerned with crossing sub-watersheds.

Donna Asure suggests taking a contingent of elected officials to the meeting. Gerald Lastowski suggests getting Mario Scavello and Jack Rader involved. Anne Lamberton also suggests the BCRA, Pocono, Tobyhanna, and John or Charlie from the county. John Prevoznik states member municipalities should be told what's going on.

Donna Asure asks what are the conditions of a real rerate? Mike Gable asks if an interim, pretreatment system to reduce organic loading in Pocono would help. Dave Horton states at times, the plant is already taking in clean water because of I/I, and would have to look at that as well as other options. Engineering would have to be invested. Dave Horton states the engineering for a paper rerate was \$150,000, an actual rerate would be more expensive. Donna Asure states an involved engineering study would require capital investments. Dave Horton states the concept of everyone coming together is important.

Anne Lamberton states while water is an issue, Pocono must decide what they want to offer Tobyhanna, and then both townships will go to DEP and explain a regional thought process to have a well on top of the mountain, and how it would help eliminate existing hazards. Dave Horton states BCRA had an assessment from Homeland Security, and they are getting ready to issue a report. Donna Asure asks who was present. John Prevoznik states the BCRA went with their environmental council and one of BCRA's biggest and most powerful customers. Bob McHale asks for an updated number for evaluation of estimate for the rerate. Anne Lamberton states Tobyhanna wants to be proactive.

Anne Lamberton will organize the upcoming meeting with State Rep. Jack Rader, State Senator Mario Scavello, BCRA, DEP, and Pocono. Anne Lamberton suggests avoiding quorums, and is considering a meeting mid-September. Bob McHale asks if Tobyhanna can work out water, do we have a favorable sewer capacity? Gerald Lastowski states Pocono needs to discuss allocation amounts as a board.

Bob McHale states Tobyhanna cannot use the well on Pocono Mountain School District's property, and would drill another well on the east side of I-380. Tobyhanna will need to update Act 537 and the water supply. We need to consider the placement of another well, and Pocono Manor has a lot of property.

4. Tobyhanna departs at 7:04PM, Pocono continues their work session.

Respectfully submitted:

Julia An Heilakka
Julia Heilakka, Township Secretary