

LEWES BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Special Board Meeting  
October 8, 2021

1. **WELCOME, CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

President Lee called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Board Members**

*D. Preston Lee, P.E.*

*A. Thomas Owen*

*Earl Webb*

*Richard Nichols*

**Ex-Officio Members**

*Theodore Becker, Mayor*

*Austin Calaman, General Manager*

*Pete Yingst, Legal Counsel*

**Others**

*Sharon Sexton, Executive Assistant*

*Robert Kennedy, Ratepayer*

3. **Open forum/general discussion on the proposal from GHD for a condition assessment of lift stations, pump stations, and the WWTP headworks.**

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION (Austin Calaman and D. Preston Lee P.E.)**

President Lee stated that the BPW has received a proposal from GHD, dated for September 28, 2021, that includes the scope of work and fees. President Lee stated that the proposal is detailed and is something that needs to be done. Biggest issue right now is with wipes and assorted items that should not be flushed down the sewer. President Lee stated that he has never worked with GHD but has a good reputation and are involved with Rehoboth. Initial meetings are very positive and very professional. The proposal includes looking at what is proposed by GMB and Inframark for the headworks and evaluate that.

Mr. Webb questioned phase one scope. Mr. Calaman stated that there are two phases. One is the critical phase and BPW wants to put headworks out to bid ASAP. BPW will compare what GHD and GMB scope out to make sure on the same page. The second part is to look at four, eight, five, and three pump houses. The regionals and pump station three are designed similar with a wet well, dry well combo and very similar in that aspect.

The budget meeting is next week on the 18<sup>th</sup> if capital needs to be added. Having GHD look at these items will work in tangent with GMB and capital projects. Mayor Becker questioned where pumps three and four are located. Mr. Calaman stated that four is located at the drawbridge and three is located by the marina. Pump station eight is on American Legion Road.

Mr. Owen questioned if phase one is concentrating on the lift stations and pump stations. Mr. Calaman stated that the headworks and major pump stations are phase one. President Lee stated that there are 32 pump stations. Evaluating the remainder will be in phase two. Mr. Calaman stated that the regional pump stations receive everything. The plan is to present an encompassing project that includes the pump stations. Mr. Calaman stated that he has spoken with Greg Pope about financing in case it is the board's will. Mr. Calaman is looking to see if bar screens need to be added or aeration added to wet wells. May add some of that into the list for Mr. Pope, which is why Mr. Calaman would like to expedite those.

President Lee questioned Mayor Becker if prior approval is needed for federal funds and if money is available. Mayor Becker stated that prior approval should not be needed.

Mr. Webb questioned why not look at phase one and two combined? Mr. Calaman stated it was timing. Mr. Calaman stated that the E1s needed to be acted on fast. President Lee stated that since the pumps are similar, they would have similar problems. Mr. Nichols stated that these are the highest priority.

Mayor Becker questioned if the BPW has an inventory of all the pump stations. Mr. Calaman stated that they are seasoned and as equipment needed maintenance then it has been upgraded or replaced. Mr. Calaman stated that there is new technology we may benefit from. Currently in the age of flushable wipes that everyone is battling and the BPW is teaming up with other municipalities. President Lee stated that DNREC and the county is interested in working with the BPW to fight wipes in the pipes. Mr. Medlarz will contact other counties to get them on board. President Lee stated that he has a meeting with Dr. Tam in two weeks.

Mayor Becker questioned if there was a pump station at the hospital. Mr. Calaman stated that it is gravity to pump station four. Mayor Becker stated that Harbor health other big client and their flow goes to lift station three. Mr. Calaman stated that there is a muffin monster (grinder) at this location. The pandemic has played a role and there is an education piece that goes into this.

Mayor Becker stated that Harbor Health is now owned by someone else and has three or four facilities across state. They also own several facilities in New Jersey. Mayor Becker suggested the BPW finds out what are they are doing in house. President Lee suggested speaking to the Moorings and new assistant living facility on Kings Highway may bring concerns.

**ACTION:** Mr. Owen made a motion to accept the GHD assessment proposal dated September 28, 2021. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** Mr. Owen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

President Lee adjourned the meeting at 11:12 am.

Respectfully Submitted  
Sharon Sexton  
Executive Assistant