



*Livia Smith, Chair*  
*Portia West, Vice Chair*  
*Joan Neal, Secretary*  
*William Riley, Treasurer*  
*John Shelton, Board Member*  
*Fred Green, Board Member*  
*Joy Taylor, Board Member*  
*Steven A. Hann, Esquire, Solicitor*  
*Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager*

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors**  
**STORMWATER AUTHORITY**  
**OF THE CITY OF CHESTER**  
**August 8, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester held a Board meeting on Tuesday August 8, 2023, at 10:10 a.m. at the Stormwater office located at 29 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, PA 19013.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Livia Smith stated that there was a quorum, and the meeting can proceed. The Stormwater Authority Board Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chair, Livia Smith. Ms. Smith stated that at the end of the meeting there will be an Executive Session to discuss some personnel matters. Ms. Smith asked Madame Secretary (Vanessa Gosa) to provide verification of the published meeting.

**Verification of Published Meeting**

The Executive Secretary of the Stormwater Authority (Vanessa Gosa) stated that the verification of published meeting was forwarded via email to Solicitor, Steven Hann on Friday, August 4, 2023. Mr. Hahn was not present for the meeting to confirm. Dr. Strand asked that Chair, Livia Smith confirm that the Notice was published in the Delco Times on July 25, 2023.

## **Roll Call of the Board**

The following people were present: Mr. John Shelton, Board Member; Mr. William Riley Treasurer; Ms. Portia West; Vice Chair, Ms. Joan Neil, Secretary; Ms. Joy Taylor, Board Member; Mr. Fred Green, Board Member, and Ms. Livia Smith, Chair.

## **Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance**

Prayer led by Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Secretary. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

## **Public Comments on Agenda Items Only**

None.

## **Approval of Minutes of June 27, 2023**

Ms. Livia Smith asked that a motion be made to approve the June 27, 2023 minutes.

Mr. John Shelton made a motion to approve the June 27, 2023 minutes. Mr. William Riley seconded.

## **Motion for Approval of Minutes of June 27, 2023**

Mr. John Shelton (Yes); Mr. William Riley (Yes); Ms. Portia West (Yes); Ms. Joan Neal (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes; and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion carried.

## **Approval of Report of Current and Most Recent Expenditures**

Ms. Livia Smith asked that a motion be made to approve the Report on Current and Most Recent Expenditures.

Ms. Joan Neal made a motion for approval of the Report on Current and Most Recent Expenditures. Mr. John Shelton seconded.

Ms. Livia Smith asked if there were any questions on the report.

## **Motion for Approval of Report of Current and Most Recent Expenditures**

Mr. John Shelton (Yes); Mr. William Riley (Yes); Ms. Portia West (Yes); Ms. Joan Neal (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes; and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion carried.

## **Solicitor's Report submitted by Steve Hann, Esquire**

The solicitor, Steve Hann was absent. On his behalf, Vanessa Gosa, Executive Secretary of the Stormwater Authority read the report which read as follows:

31 East 5th Street, Chester, PA 19013 • 610-872-1000 Office • 610-872-1003 Fax •  
chesterstormwaterauthority@chesterstormwaterauthority.com

Since the last Board Meeting, the solicitor has been involved in various activities related to the award of the PENNVEST grant, and issues subsequent to the award of the aforementioned grant.

*Submitted by: Steve Hann on August 7, 2023*

**EXECUTIVE MANAGER'S REPORT**  
**August 8, 2023**

Currently we are still waiting to settle issues with the City of Chester in relation to breaking ground for our project in Memorial Park.

Mrs. Sharon Harris-Neal has resigned from her H.R. position to take a job with the State of Delaware. Assistant Executive Manager Bruce Conner has taken responsibility of handling the H.R. Department until a search for a new H.R. Director is found.

The men are busy cleaning inlets and sweeping streets on a daily basis, and we are thankful that there have been no incidents of flooding in the City of Chester during the recent storm period.

*Respectfully submitted.*



**Dr. Horace W. Strand**  
**Executive Manager**

Livia Smith asked if there were any questions on the Executive Manager's report. She asked if Dr. Strand had anything else that he would like to add.

Dr. Strand reiterated that SAC has successfully settled with PENNVEST for the \$10 million dollar grant that has been awarded to the Stormwater Authority to assist the City of Chester and are excited about the opportunity to hold a press conference on Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. down in front of the Martin Luther King statue in Memorial Park. Dr. Strand also stated PENNVEST has granted SAC with \$10 million to assist with meeting some of its current needs as they relate to the Stormwater Authority with flooding in the community. He also stated that he was thankful that throughout the various storms that have taken place for the past two months, the City of Chester has fared very well, and we have not had any major issues with flooding that we had to deal with.

Livia asked Dr. Strand if there had been any staff increase for this period. Dr. Strand replied that there has been one person added to the finance department.

Mr. Shelton asked if there will be any youth training this year. Dr. Strand's response was that the Stormwater Authority did not support an apprenticeship program this year.

Joan Neal had a question if SAC would be doing a search for an H.R. Director. Dr. Strand replied no since it has only been one week. However, if the Board wishes to do that then we can make that call. Livia Smith said that will be discussed in the Executive Session.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

### **Board Matters**

Livia stated that there will be a press conference down at Memorial Park on Thursday, August 10, 2023, and she hopes that everyone will be able to attend. Livia also stated that at the press conference SAC will be telling their own story since everyone wants to tell their version of our story which could be slanted.

### **New Business**

We are going to break ground soon.

### **Public Comments on Other Matters**

Delores Shelton – 138 East 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, PA. Ms. Shelton indicated that she received a bill and when she opened it, she thought it was from SAC. She wanted to know why there a leaflet in her bill pertaining to stormwater. Why is Delcora sending out stormwater information? We don't see to much of our information being sent out.

Dr. Strand responded stating that he had spoken with Mike DiSantis, Director of Operations for Delcora, he told me that Delcora is required to put out information twice a year by the State of Pennsylvania, and that was one of their public informational pamphlets. Keep in mind that was for the entire County of Delaware that they serve. So, it maybe information being put-out to eventually establish something familiar to what we are doing on the City of Chester to be county wide.

People are looking at what we are doing here in Chester, and they realize that our efforts are successful, and they can copy it in other communities, which we have no problem with.

Joan Neil asked "when you say county wide, do you mean stormwater! Chester is doing great and other counties are looking at that.

Mr. Fred Green asked if it was ever brought to the Board's attention that he and Dr. Strand met with a Public Relations candidate. This will be discussed in the Executive Session following the meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Ms. Smith (Livia) asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion adjourned by Joann Neal. Seconded by Mr. John Shelton

**Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.**

**Next Board Meeting will be October 10, 2023**