

**MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
APRIL 7, 2026**

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7:06 pm. Present were Chairman Arnold, Commissioners Heiland, Baile, Elksnis, and Rice. Also present were WWTP Superintendent Lank, and Township Manager Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the previous Health & Sanitation Committee meeting were approved as written.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

SHREDDING EVENT/FOOD DRIVE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reminded the Committee that the annual Shredding Event and Food Drive is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. All donated food will benefit New Hope Ministries.

TIMBER LANE UPDATE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the crew is finishing up work on Timber Lane, having replaced 150 feet of main sewer line in that area. Some manhole work remains, along with construction of an access road, after which the area will be dressed up as the crew pulls out. While weather had previously delayed work on Timber Lane, the crew utilized the time to replace 65 feet of sewer main on Beck Mill Road in the area of the 300 block, where the road had been sagging due to the line collapsing. That repair has been completed.

NEW EQUIPMENT INSTALL UPDATE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that a new dissolved oxygen system, which was budgeted and purchased last year, has now been installed. The previous system was no longer supported and parts were unavailable. Installation was recently completed with two days of assistance from MDI, the Township's instrumentation contractor. The new system has been tied into the SCADA system. Township staff found efficiencies by utilizing existing conduit and rerouting wiring, saving significant time. The company representative will be returning to finalize the tuning, but the system is operational. In addition, a new generator transfer switch was installed at the Northview Pump Station, and delivery of the new generator is pending. A new pump was also purchased for Northview after one pump failed and could not be repaired; a second pump is currently at a local shop for assessment, and a spare remains on the shelf.

SEWER LINING, MANHOLE COATINGS, AND I/I INVESTIGATION: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that staff has televised several thousand feet of sewer pipe, both in preparation for paving projects and as part of the Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) investigation. Based on flow metering data collected last year, areas identified as high I/I zones have been prioritized for televising. Staff has found a few small leaks. Loop Drive has been identified as a strong candidate for sewer lining, as roots are entering at the pipe joints but have not yet caused significant structural damage. Several lateral connection points will need to be manually repaired prior to lining. Staff will be obtaining quotes for the lining work, including from a contractor recently used by the Township for storm sewer work. While these services are available through cooperative purchasing contracts and bidding is not required, the Township will comparison shop as standard practice.

CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT: The Committee considered a request from Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc. for a right-of-way agreement for utility work at 108 Northview Drive. WWTP Superintendent Lank explained that Adams Electric is replacing an aging electric line in the neighborhood and, in doing so, wishes to install a loop system that would allow the line to be back-fed in the event of an outage. The project involves trenching and boring a line along the edge of the Township's Northview Pump Station property. Superintendent Lank noted that this will also benefit the pump station by improving electrical reliability, which is particularly timely given the new generator being installed at that location. The right-of-way would be 20 feet wide along the property edge. Adams Electric has already been coordinating right-of-way agreements with neighboring residents. Staff will share GIS maps and as-built drawings with Adams Electric to ensure no existing utilities are disturbed. It was confirmed that the Northview Pump Station

is not anticipated to be decommissioned or relocated. The Committee agreed to place this item on the Board of Commissioners agenda for approval.

RECYCLE CENTER FUTURE: Commissioner Arnold presented data regarding the Penn Township Recycling Center located at 1020 Wilson Avenue. Since the new trash contract went into effect and expanded curbside recycling pickup was introduced, vehicle traffic at the recycling center has decreased by approximately 57% when comparing the first quarter of 2026 to the first quarter of 2025. The recycling center currently operates approximately 48 hours per week (Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:15 pm, and Saturday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm). Based on current usage data, approximately 20 hours per week would be sufficient to serve residents. Commissioner Arnold proposed reducing the recycling center's hours based on the data, with a reevaluation after six months to make any necessary adjustments. It was clarified that a reduction in hours would be a management-level decision and would not require a vote by the Board of Commissioners. The Committee agreed with the proposal in concept. It was emphasized that residents will receive adequate advance notice of any changes to the recycling center hours, and that communication will be distributed through the Township website, the Penn Township of York County Facebook page, and potentially through mailings included with utility bills, which is still being worked toward.

DISCUSS SEWER RATES: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the Committee has been reviewing sewer rate data since February 2025, analyzing the shortfall between income and expenditures. The Committee has reached a consensus to recommend raising the base sewer rate by \$12.00 per quarter, bringing it from \$55.00 to \$67.00, and raising the usage rate by \$1.00 per thousand gallons above the base usage of 7,000 gallons, bringing it from \$6.00 to \$7.00 per thousand gallons. The Committee agreed to place this item on the Board of Commissioners agenda.

OTHER MATTERS: A committee member noted that the Rotary Club will be planting a tree at the Cardinal Drive playground this Saturday at 9:00 am as part of the 250th anniversary celebration of the United States. Public Works will be assisting by digging the hole. The Rotary Club has donated this tree, one of ten being planted throughout the township and borough, and members of the public are welcome to attend.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Michael Schwartz, 5167 Grandview Road, asked about the specific hours being proposed for the reduced recycling center schedule. Commissioner Arnold indicated that the details of the revised hours had not yet been determined, as the traffic data was only received at the end of March and the Committee has just begun its review. Mr. Schwartz noted that he felt the implementation of the new trash contract and coordination with the recycling center could have been handled more effectively, citing that over 1,100 recycling bins were exchanged at a recent bin exchange event, representing approximately 13% of the township population. The Committee acknowledged the communication challenges and noted that the Township has been working to improve outreach through the Penn Township of York County Facebook page, the Township website, newsletters, and informational flyers. The Township Facebook page was clarified as "Penn Township of York County," which displays the official Township logo, distinguishing it from other similarly-named community groups. Mr. Schwartz suggested that the Facebook page is one of the most effective communication tools available. The Committee confirmed that residents will receive sufficient notice before any changes to the recycling center take effect.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Klinefelter
Township Secretary