

June Woodard - Present	Jeremy Freeman - Present
Mike Arnold -Present	Austin Welch - Present
Judith Farman - Present	Lyndsey King - Present
James Farman - Present	

Members of the Public in attendance: Glenda Marzo – Burton, Trina Marzo, Bubba Marzo, Clayton Fuhrer, Ann Crowley, Stephanie Jacobson – English, Paula Kohut, Bradley B. Upson, LaBella Associate

1. Meeting was called to order by Secretary / Treasurer Amanda Fuhrer at 6:01PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Amanda Fuhrer.
3. **Reorganization:** There was a recommendation from the Authority’s Attorney J. Michael Wiley to reorganize the leadership of the Authority. There was an objection from Austin Welch saying that the lawyer did not say that it was needed. The Lawyer’s recommendation was shown to Austin Welch again. More argument ensued. Lyndsey King stated that consensus among the Membership was necessary, we needed to reorganize to move forward.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to Reorganize Seconded by Austin Welch, **Motion Carried.**

Nominations for the position of Chairperson were taken by Amanda Fuhrer

A Motion was made by James Farman to nominate June Woodard as Chairperson, Seconded by Judith Farman.

June Woodard accepted the nomination.

A Motion was made by Austin Welch to nominate Lyndsey King as Chairperson, Seconded by Mike Arnold.

Lyndsey King accepted the nomination.

Nominations were closed.

There was a discussion as to whether a complete Reorganization of the Authority's leadership was necessary. Austin Welch stated that the Authority cannot completely reorganize. There was further argument on the matter.

A Motion was made by Lyndsey King to limit further discussion on the matter to two minutes. Judith Farman Seconded, **Motion Failed.**

A Motion was made by Lyndsey King to move forward with a complete Reorganization, Seconded by Judith Farman, **Motion Carried.**

Nominations for the position of Vice – Chairperson were taken by Amanda Fuhrer

Judith Farman nominated Mike Arnold, Seconded by James Farman

Mike Arnold accepted the nomination.

James Farman nominated Lyndsy King Seconded by June Woodard

Lyndsey King accepted the nomination.

Nominations were closed.

A Roll Call Vote was held for the position of Chairperson:

For June Woodard:

Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: No, Lyndsey King: No, Jeremy Freeman: No, Austin Welch: No. **Motion Failed**

For Lyndsey King:

Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes. **Motion Carried**

A Roll Call Vote was held for the position of Vice – Chairperson

For Mike Arnold:

Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes **Motion Carried**

No Vote was taken for Lyndsey King because the Motion Carried making her the Authority Chairperson.

A Motion was made by Austin Welch for Amanda Fuhrer to remain the Authority Secretary. Seconded by James Farman **Roll Call Vote** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes. **Motion Carried**

A Motion was made by Austin Welch to advertise for a Treasurer

Discussion ensued as to why advertising for a treasurer was needed. Austin Welch stated that both offices were full-time positions. Jeremy Freeman asked what the secretary's duties are. Lyndsey King read the description of the secretary's position and responsibilities from the Authority's Bylaws. More discussion ensued and Mike Arnold stated that the Authority should consider investigating how other boroughs handle the secretary and treasurer positions.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to keep the positions of Secretary and Treasurer together and to retain Amanda Fuhrer in both positions and to table the separating of the positions for now. Motion was Seconded by James Farman. **Roll Call** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes **Motion Carried**

4. **Lyndsey King thanked William Hall for his past service.** This acknowledgement of service was done in a reverse order from how it was stated on the Advertised Agenda.
5. **Executive Session** Acknowledged by Lyndsey King. Meeting between Authority Members and Authority Wiley on July 14, 2025, at Elkland Council Chambers 105 Parkhurst St. Elkland, Pa.
6. **Public Comments/Presentations:**

Mr. Bryan Harlacker presented his proposals for a deal with the Authority concerning back water bill he paid on a property he had bought at a tax sale. The property in question 304 Coats Avenue was purchased at a tax sale from Tioga County. The Title he received when he purchased the property stated that the property was "Free and

Clear of all debts. There was a lien on the property from the Elkland Borough for back Water and Sewer bills in excess of \$1,000. When he paid the new bill with all the accrued late fees the total bill came to over \$3,000. He stated that he never used the property and when he tried to sell the property, he still owed Elkland Borough \$15,410. He maintains that he should not have had to pay these bills and would like to recuperate some of the money back. He presented three options to the Authority on an agreement the Authority might agree to and thanked the Authority for its time and consideration and asked that his name be corrected in the Minutes to his name of Bryan as the agenda stated that his name was "Bill". I apologized to him for my error.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to send the proposals to the Authority's attorney to see what should and can be done about this issue. She also stated that any action taken on this matter would affect all residents going forward. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF-Motion Carried**

Austin Welch stated that even with the connection mortarium EDUs could be moved and that matter should be sent to legal as well. It was stated that for a lot of those currently unused EDUs there is a lot of money owed on the accounts.

7. Previous Minutes

May:

Discussion about the minutes from May being incomplete and inaccurate. Austin Welch maintains that the Minutes have been manipulated and that is a felony. Mike Arnold questioned Austin Welch about what parts of the Minutes are inaccurate.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to accept May's Minutes. Seconded by James Farman. **Roll Call:** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold No. Lyndsey King: No, Jeremy Freeman: No, Austin Welch: No. **Motion Failed**

Austin Welch maintained that the current Authority could not vote on the minutes from May. Minutes were tabled for further review.

June:

Austin Welch had same issues for June's Minutes that he had for May's Minutes. Lyndsey King called for a motion.

A Motion was made by Austin Welch to table the Minutes for review. Seconded by Jeremy Freeman, **AIF- Motion Carried.**

July:

Austin Welch stated that the July meeting was cancelled and there should be no minutes from July to approve. It stated that the lawyer recommend not having the meeting because he had to meet with the Council's attorney to discuss the question of Austin Welch as Chairperson of the Authority. The lawyer only had 24 hours to read the documents.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to accept July Minutes. Seconded, by James Farman. **Roll Call** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: No. **Motioned Carried**

A Motion was made by June Woodard to review and amend the actionable items and motions from the May and June Minutes. Seconded, by James Farman. **Roll Call** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes. **Motion Carried**

Lyndsey King stated that the Minutes will stand as written and Austin Welch will bring in his recordings to be listened to by Amanda Fuhrer and Lyndsey King to see if there are any motions that need to be added.

Items in question: Roll Call Votes, Actionable Items. Austin Welch states that Patrica Kunz took May 1 Minutes and her name should be the name on Minutes. Patrica Kunz and Brianna Simons worked on the June Minutes. Only Brianna Simons is listed on the Minutes, she was the Authority's Secretary in May.

8: Unfinished Business

Course Vector – Website Company.

Austin Welch stated that we should not use Course Vector.

A Motion was made by June Woodard for a committee assigned by the Chairperson to design and maintain a Borough Authority website using Course Vector. Seconded by Judy Farman, **AIF- Motion Carried**

Lease Agreement – Borough Council’s Attorney Casey and the Authority’s Attorney Wiley are working on the details.

Austin Welch stated that he has an email stating that the lease between the Authority and the Council is broken. He sent a letter last year to the Council stating so. We are waiting for the Attorney Service agreement. He maintains that the Authority is no longer leased to the Council, and the Authority should have control of all monies.

Lyndsey King responded to Austin Welch by reading a portion of the most recent email from Attorney Wiley that was sent to all members of the Authority as well as the Secretary earlier in the day on the 7th. The email states that the two lawyers are, “working on the separation”

Austin Welch then asked why the documents he asked for on the agenda were not included. Amanda Fuhrer stated that there was some confusion on her part as to what they were and that she had asked Mike Arnold for some reports and he was at a loss as to what was being asked for exactly.

Lyndsey King asked Austin Welch to prepare a PDF Document of all the documents he was requesting. Then the Board can coordinate an informal meeting to gather the information.

Austin Welch continued to argue the point.

A Motion was made by Lyndsey King to end the discussion. Seconded by June Woodard, **AIF- Motion Carried**

9. New Business

Appointment of Right to Know Officer

A Motion was made by June Woodard to appoint Amanda Fuhrer as the Authority’s Right to Know Officer. Seconded by Judith Farman, **AIF- Motion Carried**

Correspondence

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

1. Notice of Violation:

There was no Teir One Public Notice within 24 hours of a problem. The Authority was supposed to consult with the Department of Environmental Protection by July 31, 2025.

Lyndsey King asked if this was completed, Austin Welch stated that James Farman should have done it. James Farman said Austin Welch did it. It is unknown who if anyone is in contact with the DEP.

We need to respond to the DEP in writing.

Ann Crowley requested that the Authority go through her and her husband Pat, to Communicate with the DEP. They are the operators of the water filtration system.

Brad Upson from LaBella stated that many DEP letters have been lost in the Borough office. He suggested that the letters be forwarded to the Crowleys and to him and they can let us know what needs to be done.

CC DEP Emails to Mike Arnold, Brad Upson and Patrick Crowley.

A Motion was made by June Woodard stating that Patrick and Ann Crowley should be the Authority's contact for the DEP during emergencies. Seconded by Judith Farman **Roll Call** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman:, June Woodward: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: No. **Motion Carried**

2 Water Supply Inspection Report

The report states, "As of 5/29/25, Elkland has had four treated water (Entry Point) sample results equal to, but not exceeding, the HAL of 0.3 mg/L. Therefore, Elkland has not been required by DEP to issue public notification to customers regarding manganese in excess of a HAL. DEP strongly encourages the Authority to continue work on design and permitting of filtration treatment for manganese removal from the Wells 24 and 17, before a manganese HAL exceedance would occur in the treated water."

During the discussion about this report it was stated by Brad Upson from LaBella that this has been talked about but not done as the cost is too expensive. Mr. Upson stated that the grants were needed to supply the money for the project, but because Elkland is not in violation of the EPA's Primary and Secondary levels there was no justifiable need for the project so grants are hard to get.

Mr. Upson also stated that Elkland has done more than is needed to reduce the manganese in the water, Mike Arnold and Patrick Crowley test the water every two weeks. The decision has not been made as to what the best treatment is. Green Sand Filters have been considered but, the question is what level do we need? If the Authority is serious about this issue a proposal is needed. Before anything can be done about the issue the Authority

needs to control the land the water plant and Well 17 are on. The lease for the property expired five years ago. Overall, the trend on manganese levels in the water is going down.

Mike Arnold then questioned why the report was not on the agenda for the June meeting as the date of the report was May 30, 2025.

Austin Welch stated that the report was sent in an email to all Authority members.

Mike Arnold responded that Austin Welch had known about the report previously then it should have been on the agenda for the meeting in June.

Citizens and Northern Bank Statement

The statement shows the Municipal Free Checking Pennvest 3 – Grant account has a balance of \$1.00 in it. June Woodard stated that this account was for the \$1.8 Billion grant the Authority is set to receive and the \$1.00 balance is what she used to open the account.

RAFA Invoice

This invoice is for \$1,000.00 for the annual renewal of the RAFA system. There was a vote to upgrade the system in July.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to pay the invoice. Seconded, by Mike Arnold. **AIF - Motion Carried**

Lease Offer from Seneca Resources

Lease offer for land around the East River Street Pump House for \$1,250.00. June Woodard stated that if the Authority decided to lease the land the Authority should try to negotiate for more money. That was the Authority's due diligence to the residents of Elkland. She also stated that the lawyer should review the lease.

A Motion was made by Austin Welch to form a committee to handle the lease. The motion was saved for the New Committees section of the meeting.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to make a counteroffer for more money. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF – Motion Carried.**

PACE Invoice

There is an invoice from PACE for water testing done by Austin Welch on June 19, 2025. In the amount of \$90.80. There is a question as to whether the Authority will pay for the testing.

Mike Arnold wanted to know why he did not know about the test.

Austin Welch stated that a Whistleblower came to him and stated that Mike Arnold was doing his job incorrectly. The test that was done showed that everything was fine. Austin Welch stated that DEP and Pace were there for the testing and guided him through the sampling process. Glenda Marzo – Burton, VP of Borough Council, who was sitting in the audience asked why Austin Welch did not go to the Personal Committee as Mike Arnold is a Borough employee. Austin Welch just stated that a Whistleblower came to him.

The question was asked if it was legal for Austin Welch to have performed testing as he is not an authorized Operator of the System.

Austin Welch stated that he would reimburse the Water Authority for the cost of the testing.

A Motion was made by June Woodard that Austin Welch should reimburse the Authority for the expense. Seconded by James Farman **Roll Call Vote** was taken Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: No: Austin Welch: Yes. **Motion Carried**

Mike Arnold stated that as a legal standpoint tampering with process control should be investigated.

Austin Welch maintains that other members of the Authority knew he was going to do the testing. June Woodard, Judith Farman and James Farman stated that they did not know about the testing.

The question remained who accused Mike Arnold.

A Motion was made by Mike Arnold that if an employee is accused of malfeasance that accusation should go to an executive committee for review. No one Seconded.

The question was raised again as to whether it was legal for Austin Welch to have done the testing.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to send the matter to the lawyer for review. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF -Motion Carried**

Sewer - Quotes to Update

Before he presented the quotes Mike Arnold explained that the Pump House had previously broken down and had been replaced. Now we have no spare pumps; the Authority should buy two new ones so there is a replacement if one breaks again.

Then the discussion moved to the Blower Room Blower. Brad Upson from LaBella stated that three blowers need to be replaced, he recommend that the Authority just get the new ones for \$1,000.00 apiece.

The Blower Room can operate on one blower, currently there are two bad blowers and one working blower.

LB Water Quote for new fire hydrants, we need four rebuild kits. Total for these kits is \$2,537.20

Moved to talking about the West Highland Pump Station. The space is too small and is unsafe to work in. A new manhole is needed.

The quote is \$6,511.77 for one unit.

There was a discussion about the pumps that are already at the Pump House There are three pumps, but the shoes for them do not fit. The manhole needs to be enlarged to six feet, if the pump in the manhole fails it will overflow across the road.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to change the 2024 Sewer Rehabilitation money for \$7,000.00 to include the manhole on West Highland Street. If the change over is unavailable the Authority should continue with the \$6,511.77 quote. Seconded by Mike Arnold, **AIF- Motion Carried**

A Motion was made by June Woodard to purchase one booster pump for the chlorine in the drinking water in the Pump House for up to \$1,900.00. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF- Motion Carried**

A Motion was made by June Woodard to purchase four hydrant repair kits from LB Water for \$2,537.20. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF- Motion Carried**

LaBella

Wastewater Treatment Operations Report

Elkland has six new EDUs in 2026, six new EDUs in 2027, two new EDUs in 2028 and two new EDUs in 2029. Mr. Upson recommended the Authority add all six EDUs in 2026. During the discussion on this topic, it was stated that the Council issues the Building Permits and the Code Enforcement Officer and Building inspectors need to be consulted when permits are issued after the transfer of operation is completed.

A Motion was made by Junne Woodard that when a Building Permit that results in a water hookup is issued; the Water Authority must consult with the Borough Council, Borough Zoning Officer and Building Inspector. Seconded by James Farman, **AIF- Motion Carried**

James Farman asked if it is possible to move EDUs to other properties. Brad Upson said, yes. Then it was stated that a lot of those existing EDUs have money owed on them. June Woodard then stated that the DEP has said that they cannot be moved. The Authority will need a letter from the DEP stating that the Authority is allowed to move them.

Mr. Upson recommended instituting construction standards for new connections to the water system. Ann Crowley stated that the Operator should inspect all the new connections as well. June Woodard stated that there should be Inspection and Construction standards to meet.

Brad Upson Water and Sewer

A Motion was made by Lyndsey King to send a Preclose Letter to Citizens and Northern Bank for the PennVest Grant. Seconded by Jermy Freeman, **AIF - Motion Carried**

A Motion was made by June Woodard that June Woodard, Lyndsey King and Amanda Fuhrer have authority to submit the letter to Citizens and Northern Bank. Seconded by James Farman **AIF Motion Carried**

A Motion was made by June Woodard stating that Chairperson Lyndsey King and Secretary Amanda Fuhrer sign the documents for the Resolution for the \$1,863,730.00 Grant. Seconded by James Farman **Roll Call** Judith Farman: Yes, James Farman: Yes, June

Woodard: Yes, Mike Arnold: Yes, Lyndsey King: Yes, Jeremy Freeman: Yes, Austin Welch: Yes. **Motion Carried**

Interim Loan

Austin Welch stated that there was \$900,000.00 added to a loan with a 2022 Consent Order and no vote was taken to add that money to the loan. Brad Upson said the amount was \$1.8667 million and Austin Welch approved it. June Woodard said the funds were approved around November 2023. Brad Upson stated that Austin Welch has misrepresented what had happened and that Austin Welch should have read the details. Lyndsey King read a portion of the Minutes from the October 29, 2024 Authority Meeting into the Public Record.

“A Motion was made by Larry Kroeck to execute a resolution to borrow \$1,863,730.00 through Penn Vest for the Sewer Plant Improvements, seconded by Jeremy Freeman. A roll call was called – Jeremy Freeman – yes, Larry Kroeck – yes, Matt Sherman – yes, Austin Welch – yes, June Woodard – yes, Bill Hall – yes. Roll Call carried unanimously.”

Austin Welch says that Citizens and Northern Bank wants minutes showing that the \$900,000.00 loan was approved by the Authority.

Lyndsey King suggested that because the meeting had been going on for three hours that the rest of the agenda be tabled for a Special Meeting to be announced at a later date.

A Motion was made by June Woodard to Adjourn the meeting, James Farman Seconded **AIF - Motion Carried**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Fuhrer
Secretary/Treasurer
Elkland Borough Authority

