

ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 3 (ECSO No. 3)  
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026  
SOUTHTOWNS AWTF CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Cozza, Camie Jarrell, David Kaczor, Michael Kasprzyk,  
Jason Keding, David Millar, David Rood, Vincent Vacco, and  
Emery Wittmeyer

MEMBERS ABSENT/  
EXCUSED: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph Fiegl, David Hojnacki, Carl Horne, Kevin Kaminski,  
Thomas Wurster

ITEM NO. 1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kaczor called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2026 MEETINGS MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Wittmeyer, seconded by Mr. Keding, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2026 meeting. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

ITEM NO. 3 – ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Thomas Wurster (arrived at 8:06 a.m.) of 4773 Rogers Road was present to report ongoing sewer issues at his property including backups, slow drainage during rain events, and basement odors. Mr. Wurster stated he had installed a backflow preventer to address the issues involving his lateral connection but was later informed that the problems were related to the main sanitary sewer line. He expressed concern that the sewer issues continue despite repairs performed by the Town of Hamburg. Mr. Wurster also reported he paid significantly higher sewer charges than neighboring property owners but has never received an explanation for the discrepancy.

Mr. Fiegl explained that Mr. Wurster's property is located within the Mt. Vernon Sewer District which is owned by the Town of Hamburg, but Erie County provides treatment and maintenance services. He noted that sanitary sewer billings in the Mt. Vernon Sewer District involve multiple elements including treatment, operations and maintenance, and Town related costs including debt, bonds, and capital expenses. Mr. Fiegl offered to review Mr. Wurster's billing details and maintenance history and arrange a meeting to review his findings. Mr. Wurster left the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

ITEM NO. 4 – OLD/CURRENT BUSINESS

a. Southtowns AWTF Expansion Project

Mr. Fiegl discussed the recent progress of the Southtowns Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility (AWTF) Phase 1 and Phase 2 Expansion Project. Phase 1 of the project is approximately 94% complete. Onsite work for Phase 1 has ramped up once again, with the remaining activities including installation of the remainder of the ORF influent piping, addressing the punch list, and final restoration. The main remaining issue to resolve at this point is the problem with the new flow meter and the location of its access hatch; options have gone through one round of comments from the Division of Sewerage Management (DSM) and those comments are being vetted by Arcadis. Contract No. 81 – the Southtowns AWTF Pre-Phase 2 Electrical project – is approximately 6% complete, with the ordering of key equipment with long lead times the main item advanced. Contract No. 82 – the Southtowns AWTF Landfill Reclamation project is complete, and final payment is being processed (see Item 5.c). Later this month Arcadis will be finalizing the required landfill closure report for Contract No. 82; the report will be submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) this spring after confirmatory groundwater monitoring sample results have been collected and analyzed.

Phase 2 construction continues to be on hold until the new State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit is in place. The draft permit was received in December 2025, and the DSM issued comments to the NYSDEC in January 2026. The NYSDEC stated it would respond in March 2026, however, there were delays. In their latest update, the NYSDEC stated they would like to “meet to discuss the proposed edits prior to public notice”. The DSM awaits scheduling of this meeting. The Board requested a status update from the NYSDEC for the new SPDES permit.

i. Additional Engineering Services (Handout)

Mr. Fiegl discussed the issuance of Amendment 3A for the agreement with Arcadis. Because of the delays with moving Phase 2 ahead, this amendment reallocated funding in the existing agreement for these services completed by Arcadis.

b. Steuben Food / Moog

A Request for Proposals was issued in March 2026 for engineering work associated with the Elma Pumping Station and Force Main Upgrades project. Proposals are due on April 16, 2026 and Moog and Steuben Foods will be participating in proposal review.

ITEM NO. 5 – NEW BUSINESS

a. Payments (Handout)

The Board reviewed a copy of the payments on a handout for the month of April 2026. Mr. Kasprzyk raised a general question concerning fraud prevention, noting recent news coverage highlighting poor billing oversight, and asked how the Board can be assured payments presented for approval are accurate and safeguards exist to prevent fraudulent billings. Mr. Fiegl responded with an overview of the DSM's general payment procedure process for both contractor and consultant payment requests. Mr. Fiegl offered to provide a memorandum to the Board summarizing the payment procedure process.

On a motion by Mr. Kasprzyk, seconded by Mr. Wittmeyer, the Board voted to approve the April 2026 payments. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

b. Contract No. 73A Closeout – Southtowns Influent Screening Replacement (Handout)

The Board considered approval of a resolution to closeout Contract No. 73A with Hohl Industrial Services, Inc. for the Southtowns AWTF Influent Screening Replacement Project. The final change order for Contract No. 73A is a decrease of \$43,921.40, resulting in a final contract amount of \$2,849,078.60.

On a motion by Mr. Rood, seconded by Mr. Keding, the Board voted to approve the closeout of Contract No. 73A. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

c. Confirmation of Email Poll – Closeout – Southtowns Landfill Reclamation (Handout)

The Board considered confirmation of the February 13, 2026 email poll approving a resolution to closeout Contract No. 82 for the Southtowns AWTF Ash Landfill Reclamation Project. The final change order for Contract No. 82 is a decrease of \$303,724.45, resulting in a final contract amount of \$1,715,992.05.

On a motion by Mr. Kasprzyk, seconded by Mr. Rood, the Board voted to confirm the February 13, 2026 poll approving the closeout of Contract No. 82. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

ITEM NO. 6 – MISCELLANEOUS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Operational Report

Mr. Horne presented the following operational report:

- *Southtowns AWTF Scum Tank*: Continued fabrication of scum separator chute.
- *Southtowns AWTF Incinerators*: Replaced the venturi, scrubber, and elbows for both the X and Y incinerators.
- *Southtowns AWTF Filter Press*: Replaced the filter press feed pump.

- *Southtowns AWTF Boiler*: An inspection of the facility's boiler was conducted for our insurance carrier.
- *Southtowns AWTF Ash Drying Facility*: Repaired the ash line for the ash drying facility.

Mr. Hojnacki presented the following collection systems report:

- Staff identified multiple sewer lines on East Eden Road partially backed up due to grease buildup. Three (3) lines were flushed and two (2) manholes were vacuored out. A Fat, Oil, and Grease report was completed.
- Inspection of manholes upstream of Hampton Brook Pump Station was completed due to excessive flows which resulted in the installation of five (5) inflow protectors and the reset/reseal of one (1) manhole frame and cover.
- Conducted collection system investigations in the vicinity of a complaint received from a resident on Sowles Road in the Town of Hamburg. One substantial root mass was identified and removed. Evaluation of this area will continue this summer.
- Completed an emergency repair of the South Park Pump Station force main after it was damaged by the Erie County Water Authority.

Mr. Fiegl informed the Board the District received 7.6" of rain during the month of March 2026 prompting extra efforts by staff and operators in response.

b. Construction Status Report

Contract No. 73 (Southtowns AWTF Influent Screening Replacement) – Hohl Industrial Services has completed all work for this project. Closeout was requested at this meeting.

Contract No. 74-C (Southtowns AWTF Expansion Phase 1) – On-site work for the original contract is complete, other than some springtime restoration items. Change Order No. 2, which added large diameter piping is expected to be completed in the next month. A time extension was processed to move the completion date of March 6, 2026 to July 12, 2026 (128 days). All process and electrical systems have been operating as expected with minor items from completed construction still being addressed through the punch list.

Contract No. 75 (Southtowns AWTF Expansion Phase 2) – This project is expected to bid in 2026, pending NYSDEC approvals and a new SPDES permit.

Contract No. 81 (Southtowns AWTF Expansion Pre-Phase 2 Electrical Upgrades) – This project is in the shop drawing submittal and approval stage which will be followed by an anticipated lengthy equipment procurement timeframe. Onsite work on this project is expected to start in the fall or next winter. The scheduled Contract completion date is July 19, 2028.

Contract 84 – Elma Force Main Air Release Valve Replacement – STC Construction commenced work under this project in November 2025. The new doghouse manhole was installed on Jamison Road east of Bowen Road. Due to manufacturer delays, the work to

replace the two (2) deteriorated air release valves is anticipated to be delayed until Spring 2026.

Contract 88 – Milestrip Road to Lake Avenue Cured in Place Pipe Lining Project – Bids were received on March 24, 2026 for this project to install fiberglass cured-in-place pipe liners on 21-inch and 30-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe sewerlines in the backlot between Milestrip Road and Lake Avenue in the Town of Hamburg. Due to a technical error in the bid process regarding project advertisement, the project could not be awarded. The project will be re-bid with bids due on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. An email poll for the Board is anticipated in early May 2026.

Contract 95 (CIPPL Term Contract) (USI/Kenyon Pipeline) -- United Survey continued cured-in-place pipe lining (CIPPL) work under Work Order (WO) 8U which includes 11,420 linear feet of 8-inch, 10-inch and 12-inch Vitrified Clay Tile Pipe (VTP) and Asbestos Cement Pipe (ACP) sewerlines on various streets in the Town of Hamburg (including Amsdell Road, Orchard Avenue, Lyndale Avenue, Hawthorne Avenue, Greenfield Avenue, Ferndale Avenue, Southcrest Avenue, Oakwood Avenue, Lakewood Avenue, Riverton Avenue, Woodlawn Avenue, and Glendale Avenue). Kenyon Pipeline continued work on WO 15K which includes 13,394 linear feet of 8-inch diameter VTP sewers on Amsdell Road and Crestridge in the Town of Hamburg; various VTP sewerlines in the Village of Hamburg (Evans Street, Central Avenue, Long Avenue, S Buffalo Street, Center Street, Woodview Avenue, Highland Avenue). The work order also includes one pipe patch on an easement along Abbott Road near the Hamburg/Orchard Park boundary.

Contract 96 (Multi-District) - Sanitary Sewer Open Cut Repair Term Contract (Visone Construction) – In the spring, restoration work will be completed for a sewer replacement work order located on Pleasant Avenue at Church Street in the Village of Hamburg. Remaining work includes sidewalk replacement, lawn restoration, and tree replacement.

Contract 101(Multi-District) – On-Call Sewer Repair Contract (2026-2028) – A pre-construction meeting was held in February with Visone Construction for this two-year multi-district on-call/emergency repair contract. Sewer repair work orders may be assigned under this contract on an as needed basis.

Upcoming Design/Evaluations –

- The 90% Design Plans prepared by LaBella Associates for the Milestrip Road Sewer Replacement were sent to NYSDEC and other stakeholders for review and approval.
- c. Southtowns Collection System & Sanitary Sewer Overflow Annual Report (Handout)

The DSM submitted its annual Collection System Program report to the NYSDEC in accordance with Southtowns AWTF SPDES permit. The annual SSO report for District 3 was also submitted. The submission satisfies the required progress reporting for the I&I Analysis and SSES compliance schedule item required under the SPDES permit.

d. Southtowns Title V Air Permit Notice of Complete Application (Handout)

This is an informational item to make the Board aware that the NYSDEC has drafted a Title V Air Permit for the Southtowns facility and issued a notice for public comment. Southtowns is required to obtain a Title V air permit under 40CFR 60, subpart MMMM as the facility incinerates sewage sludge. Southtowns is currently operating the incinerators under an Air State Facility permit.

On a motion by Mr. Millar, seconded by Mr. Vacco, the Board voted to receive and file the informational items on the agenda. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

ITEM NO. 7 – ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Vacco, seconded by Ms. Jarrell, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 a.m. The motion carried, 9 – 0.

**The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2026.**

Respectfully submitted,



David C. Millar, Secretary  
ECSD No. 3 Board of Managers

Motion to Approve the April 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

App./Disapp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
David C. Millar, Secretary  
ECSD No. 3 Board of Managers