September 2, 2026
The Regular Meeting of the Cleona Borough Authority was held via Zoom on September 2, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Chairman Hoffman.

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bryan Hoffman, Ms. Sue Bowman, Ms. Ashlea Good, Mr. Matt Ditzler, and Mr. Les Powell.

AUTHORITY MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Solicitor Amy Leonard, Engineer Scott Rights, and Manager Michael Peiffer.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Powell to approve the August 5, 2026 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ditzler. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report for August 2026 was presented for review. Chairman Hoffman noted that the Authority remains financially solvent and that receipts appear to be coming in well. No questions or concerns were raised. A motion was made by Ms. Bowman to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Good. Motion passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Bills for the month of August 2026 were presented for approval. Chairman Hoffman noted that the bills consisted primarily of the Authority's usual expenditures along with a larger payment to Custer Excavating. No questions were raised. A motion was made by Ms. Good to approve payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bowman. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: No citizens were present.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

STORMWATER

- Mr. Rights reported on the South Christian Street Stormwater Improvement Project following a significant rain event earlier that day. He inspected the project after the rainfall and observed that the Quittapahilla Creek was near the top of its banks. Water moving through the swales on the Schultz and Dodson properties was approximately level with the creek, but very little water was ponding in the riprap area. He stated that the improvements appeared to be functioning as intended and that Custer Excavating had done a good job cleaning and restoring the Schultz and Dodson properties.
- A minor drainage issue remained at the Bower and Brickley properties, where a small lip or berm was holding water at the creek edge. Mr. Rights will have Custer Excavating shave the bank down slightly so the ponded water can drain directly into the creek. Removal of the silt sock had not eliminated the ponding, confirming that additional grading was needed.
- Custer Excavating is scheduled to start work on South Center Street on Sept. 3, beginning with roadway saw cutting. Arrangements are also being made to retrieve the replacement willow tree from Ms. Good for installation at the Schultz property.

- Mr. Rights reported a sinkhole at the trench drain near the intersection of West Walnut Street and Cleona Boulevard. The large corrugated metal stormwater pipe entering the trench drain appears to be rusted through at the top, resulting in the sinkhole. Mr. Powell was asked to inspect the pipe, which extends approximately 250 feet toward the next manhole, to determine whether deterioration exists elsewhere along the run.
- The Board discussed televising the pipe before deciding on a repair method. Mr. Rights explained that, if additional deterioration is identified before a collapse occurs, sliplining may be a practical alternative to excavation. If a section collapses first, a spot excavation and repair would likely be necessary before the pipe could be lined. Because much of the Borough's older stormwater system includes corrugated metal pipe installed approximately sixty years ago, the Board discussed the likelihood that similar deterioration will become an ongoing infrastructure issue and should be considered during future budgeting.
- Mr. Rights indicated the Authority's GIS stormwater database includes pipe sizes and likely includes pipe materials. He will use that information to help identify other corrugated metal pipe runs that may warrant future inspection or rehabilitation planning.
- The Consortium stormwater project remained on hold while DEP develops and finalizes new regulations governing pollutant-load reductions. Discussion indicated that the regulations may not be finalized until fall or winter 2027, which could delay construction of the already-designed project until approximately spring 2028.

WASTEWATER

- No operational concerns were reported regarding the wastewater system in the Engineer's Report.

PUMP STATION REPORT: Mr. Powell reported that the pump station operated well during the month with no problems. He also reported that DEP conducted an MS4 inspection, which went well. The inspection identified only minor items, including vegetation at one outfall and several broken website links. Staff was already working to correct the website links. A fallen hornets' nest near the facility was also discussed; no operational impact was reported.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Manager Peiffer reported an outstanding Authority balance of $7,953.64, noting that additional payments had been received that day. The Board recognized Ms. Vanderveer's continued efforts to follow up on outstanding accounts and work with customers regarding payment.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- Solicitor Leonard updated the Board on the proposed intermunicipal pump station maintenance agreement with Annville Township Authority. She reported that Annville Township Authority had apparently discussed and approved the agreement, but she had not received a signed copy. Annville also has not yet adopted the required resolution under the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, and the 2027 wage-rate exhibit that is to be attached to the agreement has not been provided.
- Solicitor Leonard explained the agreement would not become effective until the required resolutions are adopted by both parties. The 2027 wage rates are particularly relevant to work outside the standard maintenance scope, including One-Call and other additional services. Because the Board has not yet received all components of the agreement, the Authority

agreed to table action on Resolution 2026-02 and the maintenance agreement until the complete document and attachments are received. Chairman Hoffman indicated he would contact Annville Township regarding the missing signed agreement, wage rates, and resolution.

- Solicitor Leonard also discussed continuing legal and legislative developments concerning municipal stormwater fees. She reported that a Lycoming County Court of Common Pleas decision had upheld a municipal authority's ability to charge stormwater fees under the Municipality Authorities Act, but that decision has already been appealed to Commonwealth Court. She advised that the legal landscape remains unsettled and additional challenges are likely.
- The Board discussed the potential financial effect if stormwater charges were ultimately determined to be taxes rather than fees, particularly as tax-exempt properties. Chairman Hoffman identified Norfolk Southern, local churches, and the elementary school as significant tax-exempt properties within the Borough. Manager Peiffer was asked to determine how much stormwater revenue is currently collected from those properties so the Board can better understand the potential revenue impacts.
- Solicitor Leonard will continue monitoring court decisions, legislative developments, and updates from municipal associations and will report back as additional guidance becomes available. No change to the Authority's current stormwater fee was authorized at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Manager Peiffer reported the electronic billing and online payment system is technologically ready for implementation. Staff is working to update and validate the customer email list before broader rollout. Chairman Hoffman reported he had tested the system successfully, including credit-card payment and automatic recurring payment options. The Board discussed the administrative time and mailing costs associated with paper billing and noted that electronic billing and online payments should improve convenience and reduce reliance on mailed bills. Staff will continue preparing the email list and implementation process.

- Manager Peiffer reported that sewer-backup coverage had been proposed as an addition to the Authority's insurance policy. The endorsement provides up to $50,000 per claim for certain residential damages associated with sewer backups and costs approximately $252 annually. Solicitor Leonard explained that governmental immunity may not necessarily protect the Authority in every circumstance, particularly where a system failure or negligence causes private-property damage. The Board agreed that the additional coverage provided useful protection at a relatively low annual cost. A motion was made by Ms. Bowman to approve the sewer-backup insurance coverage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powell. Motion passed unanimously.
- Manager Peiffer reviewed the Authority's current interest earnings and potential investment alternatives through PLGIT. He reported that the sanitary sewer account was earning 1.05% and the stormwater and money market fund both earn 2.43%. PLGIT options reviewed included CDs, term investments, and the PLGIT Prime fund. Recent rates discussed ranged from approximately 3.35 percent to 4.25 percent depending on the product and term, while PLGIT Prime was approximately 3.77 percent and provided greater liquidity with no minimum balance or fees and generally allowing up to two online withdrawals per month.

- The Board expressed interest in improving earnings while maintaining safety and liquidity. Members generally favored avoiding long-term commitments at this time and discussed PLGIT Prime as a possible option. Because the Authority maintains more than $1 million at Jonestown Bank & Trust, the Board also requested that Manager Peiffer contact the bank to determine whether it could offer a more competitive rate. Manager Peiffer will prepare written information comparing the PLGIT options and any proposal from Jonestown Bank & Trust for review at the next meeting. No transfer of funds was authorized at this meeting.

- Chairman Hoffman reported on a meeting in Annville concerning a private property owner near the car wash and ACE Hardware who is interested in improving access to the Quittapahilla Creek, potentially for kayak or canoe launching, and performing streambank restoration. Chairman Hoffman advised the property owner that significant stream work would involve permitting and regulatory considerations and that DEP's pending stormwater regulations could affect larger restoration plans.
- The immediate concept was reduced to modest improvements, including wooden steps or ties along an existing asphalt path and removal of dead trees or debris from the creek. The Board also noted that an Authority sewer main runs along the creek in that area at an estimated depth of approximately twelve to fourteen feet and that the line has previously been slip-lined. No Authority action was requested or taken; the discussion was informational.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The proposed intermunicipal pump station maintenance agreement with Annville Township Authority remained tabled pending receipt of the complete agreement, the 2027 wage-rate exhibit, and the required Annville resolution. No other unfinished business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Ms. Good to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powell. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Peiffer
Borough/Authority Manager