

# GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2021

A Special meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held and brought to order at their office, 67-73 South Main Street, Gloversville, NY on June 8, 2021, at 5:00 PM with President Antonucci presiding.

### Roll Call

#### Commissioners-----

Antonucci	PRESENT
Isabella	PRESENT
Mauro	PRESENT
Robinson	PRESENT
Capano	PRESENT

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**Others in Attendance:** Water Superintendent; Anthony Mendetta; Clerk of the Water Board; Christine Linart; Jonathan Velez; Blake Pilas; Tom Erickson from Master Meter/Ferguson WaterWorks & Tom Garrity; Jason Matt; & David Johnson from Ti-Sales/Neptune.

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Anthony explained to the Board that the purpose of this special meeting was to meet with (2) Meter Vendors for the purposes of having them outline their 5G Meters and AMI Systems. The Gloversville Water Works was awarded a Green Infrastructure Grant (GIGP) in the amount of \$850,000 to upgrade all of our meters to new 5G Meters/Heads and to facilitate the installation of a new AMI metering system. Anthony stated that we were one (1) of three (3) municipalities to receive this grant in New York State.

Anthony then had a couple of items to discuss with the Board prior to us inviting our first meter vendor to make their presentation. These items were as follows:

1) We had discussed at the prior meeting the Port Creek Reservoir Dam and our opportunity to apply for more grant funding through the NY State Dept. Environmental Conservation (DEC) for High Hazard Dams. Port Creek Reservoir Dam is the only Dam that qualifies for this Grant at this time. Part of the requirements from DEC is that we have our Engineering Assessments on our 2 High Hazard Dams updated every 10 years. Which includes the Port Creek Dam and the Jackson Summit Dam. Anthony already introduced a proposal from C. T. Male at the last meeting to update the Port Creek Reservoir Dam Engineering Assessment in the amount of \$15,750.00. If we are awarded the above noted DEC Grant, it would be a 65%/35% match and DEC would pay for 65% of the \$15,750.00 in Engineering fees for the EA update. In the meantime, we also received a proposal from C.T. Male for their grant writer Jim Thatcher to prepare the funding application for the DEC High Hazard Dam Rehab Grant. This proposal was in the amount of \$3,800.00. Anthony and Christine outlined the Resolution needed to approve these (2) proposals. During further discussion Anthony told the Board that we are required to update our EA's every 10 years for our (2) High Hazard dams. At least with Port Creek, we will be able to get a portion of the cost covered by DEC. Anthony stated that this is because Port Creek Dam has been labeled as unsound at this time because of the lack of knowledge of whether or not there is a core wall on the earth embankment side of the Port Creek Reservoir. Last year we had C.T. Male perform a subsurface investigation where they took core samples and installed test monitoring wells. For part of our safety inspection this year C. T. Male came in and monitored the seepage in the test wells which was very low. Per our current Engineering Assessment, they could not find any pieces of core wall enough to prove that one exists. However, with the latest sub surface investigation showing a lack of ground water in the test wells, they can now assume that a core wall in fact does exist. These new findings will be part of the updated Engineering Assessment that we are voting on to be sent to DEC. With this update, we are hoping that DEC will recognize that the Port Creek Dam should no longer be classified as un-sound which may result in no future Rehabilitation needed for this Dam at this time. If this occurs, the Port Creek Dam will be classified as deficiency maintained as our Jackson Summit Reservoir Dam currently is. Christine also stated that by updating the Engineering Assessment for Port Creek Dam, we are setting ourselves up for any future funding if the Dam were to require any rehabilitation in the future.

**GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**  
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Water Board President Antonucci presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-9**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FROM C.T. MALE TO UPDATE THE PORT CREEK RESERVOIR DAM SAFETY/ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT AND TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM C.T. MALE ASSOCIATES FOR THEM TO ASSIST THE GLOVERSVILLE WATER WORKS IN APPLYING FOR FUNDING UNDER THE NYS DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION 2021 HIGH HAZARD DAM REHABILITATION GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, the dam at the Port Creek Reservoir may require future rehabilitation and improvements.

**WHEREAS**, the Gloversville Water Department must update our Engineering Assessment for our Port Creek Reservoir Dam in accordance with the requirements of the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

**WHEREAS**, the Gloversville Water Department is able to apply for funding under the NYS DEC High Hazard Dam Rehabilitation Grant to pay a portion of the cost of the update of the Engineering Assessment for the Port Creek Reservoir Dam; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Water Commissioners wish to approve proposals from C.T. Male Associates to prepare the funding Application for the DEC High Hazard Dam Rehab Grant and to complete and update the Engineering Assessment for our Port Creek Reservoir Dam.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Water Commissioners having reviewed the annexed proposals and approving the same in form.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that Water Superintendent is authorized to move forward with the above referenced proposal from C.T. Male Associates to prepare the Funding Application for the DEC High Hazard Dam Rehab Grant at a cost of \$3,800.00, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution.

**RESOLVED**, that the Water Superintendent is authorized to move forward with the above referenced proposal from C.T. Male Associates to complete the update of the Engineering Assessment for our Port Creek Reservoir Dam at a cost of \$15,750.00, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mauro seconded by Commissioner Robinson that the above resolution be adopted.

Votes Taken:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Commissioner Antonucci	X	
Commissioner Isabella	X	
Commissioner Mauro	X	
Commissioner Robinson	X	
Commissioner Capano	X	

Adopted: June 8, 2021

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Water Board President Antonucci presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A COMMITMENT LETTER SIGNED BY THE SUPERINTENDANT TO THE DAM SAFETY CHIEF OF THE NYS DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION DAM SAFETY DIVISION OUTLINING COMMITMENTS FROM THE BOARD NEEDED TO APPLY FOR FUNDING UNDER THE 2021 HIGH HAZARD DAM REHABILITATION GRANT PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT. WITH THIS LETTER TO INCLUDE A COMMITMENT TO PAY THE WATER DEPARTMENT'S PORTION OF THE COST OF THE UPDATE OF THE ENGINEERING SAFETY ASSESSMENT OF THE PORT CREEK RESERVOIR DAM.**

**WHEREAS**, the dam at the Port Creek Reservoir may require future rehabilitation and improvements.

**WHEREAS**, the Gloversville Water Department has approved the update of the Engineering Assessment for our Port Creek Reservoir Dam and will be retaining C.T. Male Associates to complete the Update.

**WHEREAS**, the Gloversville Water Dept. is able to apply for funding under the NYS DEC High Hazard Dam Rehabilitation Grant.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Water Commissioners wish to approve a Letter outlining Commitments from the Water Department as they relate to funding the update of the Engineering Assessment for our Port Creek Reservoir Dam.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Water Commissioners having reviewed the annexed letter and approving the same in form.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that Water Superintendent is authorized to execute a Commitment Letter, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution.

**RESOLVED**, the Board of Water Commissioners approve the commitment of 35% of the proposed engineering costs for the update above noted Engineering Assessment, using our limited Water Capital Reserves. With said committed funds to be available through our Water System Budget immediately following the High Hazard Dam Grant Award.

A motion was made by Commissioner Isabella seconded by Commissioner Capano that the above resolution be adopted.

Votes Taken:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Commissioner Antonucci	X	
Commissioner Isabella	X	
Commissioner Mauro	X	
Commissioner Robinson	X	
Commissioner Capano	X	

Adopted: June 8, 2021

**GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**  
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Water Board President Antonucci presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-8**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF THE PORT RESERVOIR AERATOR RECONSTRUCTION AND THE PORT CREEK RESERVOIR DAM REHABILITATION PROJECTS TO THE LIST OF PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ALREADY ESTABLISHED CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 10-R.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS, CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE, NEW YORK, THAT:**

**RESOLVED**, that there is hereby established a Capital Projects Fund 10-R which will be utilized by the Board of Water Commissioners in conjunction with said projects; Radio Read Meter Project for the purchase and installation of Radio Read Meters for majority of Water Department customers throughout the City of Gloversville and adjoining permissive use areas; Water Treatment Plant Replacement of Filter Box Equipment and Filter Media; Construction and or Purchase of New Water Department Service Facility; Water Treatment Plant Capital Improvements; Eagle Street Water Tank Replacement; Lead Service Line Replacement Project; Spillway Reconstruction Project at the Jackson Summit Reservoir Dam; Grandview Drive/Eagle Street Pump Station; Water Treatment Plant Conditioner Rehabilitation/Replacement; Water Treatment Plant Lagoon Rehabilitation/Replacement.

**RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of the Water Board is hereby authorized to include in the said established Capital Projects Fund 10-R said projects in conjunction with the Reconstruction of the Aerator at our Port Reservoir and Rehabilitation of our Port Creek Reservoir Dam.

**RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mauro seconded by Commissioner Robinson that the above resolution be adopted.

Votes Taken:

	Yes	No
Commissioner Antonucci	X	
Commissioner Isabella	X	
Commissioner Mauro	X	
Commissioner Robinson	X	
Commissioner Capano	X	

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2) Anthony informed the Board that under the Lagoon Project Lagoon#1 has been completed. The second Lagoon is on hold at this time as CFI is trying to come at us with multiple change orders for the condition of the sludge. CFI has written a letter to us, and we have responded contradicting their claims. If we can not come to some sort of resolution, Anthony has asked for representatives from CFI and from C.T. Male to attend our next meeting to discuss these issues. Anthony has a lot of pictures that he took during the construction of Lagoon #1 that will help us in our defense to challenge the change orders from CFI. CFI is saying the there was more sludge in the lagoon than noted on the plans and that the consistency of the sludge was not solid enough to transport causing them to go over the original 3 days they had allotted in their bid for removal of the material. CFI wants us to pay them for an additional 2 days it took them for the removal. Currently, they are looking for an additional \$30,000.00. C.T. Male feels the same as Anthony, that there is no language in the contract that guaranteed the consistency of the sludge, therefore we are not liable for any additional time as it is not our fault CFI did not allow for enough days for removal in their bid. Anthony also has pictures to show that there was not any more than 24 inches of sludge in Lagoon (1) contrary to CFI's Claim that there was 42 inches that they had to remove. C.T. Male also went to the site and took some elevation measurements and proved that there could not have been 42 inches in Lagoon #1. Furthermore, in the plans C.T. Male called for the contractor to pump the excess water and liquid off of the first lagoon into a geo-textile bag and CFI refused to even try this. CFI just stated that it could not be done. Anthony also had a concern as at the pre-construction meeting CFI told us they were going to use a front-end dump truck for transport of the Sludge which has no tailgate on it. This is the equipment that was used for Lagoon #1. When they first began the job CFI had the same employee operating the track hoe filling the front-end dump truck and then getting out of the track hoe and into the front-end dump to haul the material away. CFI also had a 2 foot instead of a 4-foot bucket on the track hoe. Anthony feels that the lack of the correct equipment and manpower contributed to the extra time needed for sludge removal. There was a couple other minor change orders that were justified that we did encounter. One was that we were unaware that the liner went below the concrete structure, so in order to get a watertight seal there, we had to install a boot with some brackets around that structure so that the water could not get down underneath and wash out any of the filter material. These change orders were between \$3000-\$4000. Anthony will let the Board review all correspondence as it relates to this issue before the next meeting if it can not be resolved.

At this time the Representatives from Master Meter/Ferguson WaterWorks– Jonathan Velez, Tom Erickson, and Blake Pilas were asked to join the meeting and make a presentation on their Metering System and Equipment.

The following pertinent information and features of Master Meter's products were outlined:

- 1) Master Meter and Ferguson have a more improved staff for customer support and have added an integration specialist just for software support.
- 2) Master Meter – came to promote the newer style 5G meter head with a fixed network AMI meter reading system which would automatically send meter readings directly to our office eliminating the need to drive by residences to get readings.
- 3) New AMI System will alert us ahead of time when battery is in danger of dying. This will prevent the batteries dying and us not being able to get the meter out it time having to estimate bills.
- 4) Currently we have Master Meter's 3G Head and 3G meter body. The new proposed allegro 5G meter head can be retrofitted to the current 3G meter bodies that we have. Their proposal also includes complete meter head and body changeouts for all of our old-style ARB meters.
- 5) The proposed Allegro 5G meter heads have a stronger output at 2 watts. Operates on a 450-megahertz FCC License. With licenced frequency with more power, they are able to provide more immediate one on one communication with the tower.
- 6) Master Meter went with a high watt system with less infrastructure for City to manage. Less labor intensive for City to move forward. With more infrastructure you have more chance of failures and issues.

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7) Master Meter holds a proprietary time synchronization to help with frequencies communicating at different times to cut down on interference with each other.

8) Master Meter will honor a 20-year warranty on the meter heads with a prorated to apply after the first 10 years.

9) Master Meter's AMI system is fully integrable with our current AMR system whereby if a tower is struck by lightning, we can still go out and get meter readings.

10) Master Meter has people monitoring the AMI System on a daily basis with a full team located in Texas to take care of this monitoring. Customers would also be offered a portal to access for leak detection and to monitor their own water use.

11) Under new AMI system Data Logs will not lower the battery life of the meter. We will be able to get 24 hour timed stamped readings and alerts for counterclockwise meters, leak detection etc. Software will be very user friendly, and we will have extensive in-person training by one of Master Meter's technicians.

12) Integration Specialist will be trained to look at our system and monitor it for reporting issues. This specialist will also be available to set up reports based on our individual needs. For example, if we want leak reports to be sent to several individuals all at the same time on a daily basis, the integration specialist can set that up for us.

13) Master Meter also has a couple of options for meters to monitor flows on our main transmission lines with the ability to tie into the AMI System. One option is that we can use their octave meter which has the capability to measure flow rates and pressure within the meter and is compatible with the AMI System.

14) Johnathon had Blake pull up the Prop Study for us to show the coverage area for Master Meter's proposed AMI System. The prop study showed us to receive approximately 99% coverage for all of our meter locations. Master Meter proposes we will need one Base Station at the Eagle Street Water Tank and one repeater at the Landfill Tank to cover our whole entire area.

15) Master Meter assured Anthony that with the shortages lately due to Covid, we will not be affected in getting the meter heads and materials as we would like to complete this project fairly quickly. Tom stated that he feels Ferguson would be in good spot to provide us with the meters we need with minimal lead times. Currently they estimated their lead times at 4 to 6 weeks.

16) Anthony discussed that we requested a quote from Master Meter to have a private company complete the install of the new meters/heads due to issues with the workforce in our area. Tom also mentioned that the labor rate to retrofit their meter heads to our existing meter bottoms will be less than a full meter replacement. Anthony also mentioned that we may be able to handle the full meter replacements in house if we go with master meter.

17) Master Meter then went over their Quotation for their AMI System separated into three sections and discussed each one.  
See Attached Quotation ( Appendix A)

18) Tom Outlined that they could have the infrastructure in place within 8 to 12 weeks including already collecting reads integration done and ready for meter installs. Tom also discussed that they would set up the meter inventory and work with us to mass input the meters into our billing database. Tom mentioned that the outside installation companies they work with already have integration software that tracks every meter being installed at each location to include taking pictures of every meter and meter ID# to obtain better accuracy.

19) Steve wanted to re-iterate to the representatives from Master Meter and Ferguson that price is not going to be our only consideration in choosing a company to complete this project for us. We will be looking at price and quality.



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20) Tom also stated that they want to work with us to devise the scope of work for the project to cut down on the need for Change Orders. Tom also agreed that it would be good to have specifications for integration into our billing software included in the scope of work as well.

21) Anthony told the representatives about our communication's antenna for the Police and Fire Departments that is already installed on the Eagle Street Tank and Johnathan assured us that it will not interfere with their equipment as it would be on another frequency.

22) Tom went through what is involved in installing the base station. We would just have to make sure there is at least 20 amps for power there. Tom explained that they would only need 2 feet of space as the base station is basically a multi-directional antenna/panel. For the repeater there will be a lot less power needed.

With no further questions from the Board the representatives from Master Meter left the meeting.

Anthony first explained to the Board that Ti- Sales is proposing a total meter body/head changeout replacement with AMI System. Ti-Sales/Neptune do not have a meter head that will retro-fit to the current meter bottoms we have now. Ti-Sales does however have a meter box that is installed on the outside of the house. This will prevent us from having to get into people's houses to change out box if battery dies or meter malfunctions.

At this time the Representatives from Ti-Sales/Neptune– Tom Garrity, Jason Matt, and David E. Johnson (Neptune) were asked to join the meeting and make a presentation on their Metering System and Equipment.

The following pertinent information and features of Ti-Sales/Neptune's products were outlined:

1) Tom asked Anthony to briefly explain what our goals are for the Meter Project and what we would like to see accomplished. Anthony explained that we want to capitalize on our current Grant Funding from the GIGP Grant and upgrade to the new technology that is out there. Tom mentioned the goals that most water municipalities have such as reducing non-revenue water consumption, increasing accuracy in billing systems, increasing operational efficiency, and providing a high level of customer service. Christine emphasized our goal of having a system with real time information on water usage so that the customer can access their own information firsthand.

2) David Johnson then verified that we want to go with a new AMI System for this project.

3) Tom gave the Board some history. Ti-Sales has been in business since 1963 and cover all of New England and Upstate New York. Mid 1990's Ti-Sales went from a supplier of Hydrants and piping to expanding in the Meter and Technology field. Ti-Sales then signed on with Neptune as their main distributor. Today 95% of business is focused on meters and metering systems. Ti-Sales currently have 470 systems throughout New England and Upstate New York. Neptune has been manufacturing meters for over 100 years and are the only manufacturer to own their own bronze foundry. All products are American made in Alabama.

4) David then went on to say that all manufacturing of Neptune Meters and parts are made in Alabama. In 2001 Neptune converted to lead free meters. In 2014 legislation was passed that outlawed meters made with lead. Neptune made the decision to move to lead free sooner for the safety of their employees. Tom also stated that because everything is made under one roof the quality control has been amazing.

5) Tom then went on to outline the Meter System that they tailored for our department.

6) With the AMI system we can group specific sections of town together, we will be able to compare source meters to billable meters, and we will be able to analyze and measure our non-revenue water use. The level of information that we will be able to obtain with the AMI System will excel our level of customer service.

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7) Neptune has been working with and installing AMI Systems for approximately 22 years. Designed system to be forward and reverse compatible. For example, they have a Municipality that has 20-year-old meters, these meters are compatible with their new AMI System today so that all they needed to do was install data collectors to have a fully functioning AMI system with no replacement of the meters needed. Tom outlined this because in 20 years from now when we want to go to the next metering system the current assets/meters we have now should not have to be changed out and will be compatible with the new technology.

8) Neptune can analyze where we can get our best value with collectors. Neptune will also fill out the outskirts of the city and anywhere that does not hit the collector area with cellular endpoints.

9) Ti-Sales came up with a system for us that encompasses a gateway-based network and a cellular network. Ti-Sales ran a prop study for Gloversville and highly recommend that we install the radio on the outside of the house for better overall coverage. Benefits for this is that whenever there is an issue it almost always is a battery related issue. We would be able to fix this issue on the outside of the home not needing an appointment or having to notify the customer. Ti-Sales mapped out two locations for their collectors with one to be located at our Eagle Street Water Tank and one at our Landfill Tank. With these 2 collectors, they were picking up roughly 96 % of the coverage area. Ti-Sales will then look to obtain the remainder of the coverage area through cellular endpoints.

10) David Johnson showed the Board the meter box that would be attached to the house and told the Board that with this system there would no longer be a battery located in peoples houses. David also re-iterated that outside of the house is the best location for the radio to transmit data as there would be no concrete, siding, or other structures there to interfere with the signal. The boxes would be installed 3 to 4 feet high to prevent issues with snowfall. David showed us the battery which is fully potted and is not interchangeable. In 2005 or 2006 Neptune made a change in the batteries and went with a capacitor so the battery never gets hit directly for energy. When the meter transmits it strictly goes to the capacitor. Because of the change in the battery, Neptune has gone to a full 20-year warranty on them. Neptune predicts these batteries to last approximately 23 years as shown with accelerated testing.

11) David also mentioned that the outside reader boxes and other components are also warrantied for 20 years.

12) Tom pointed out Neptune meters have continued to perform exceptionally well as they have had many instances where the Neptune T-10 meter has been removed from locations after 20 plus years and are still testing at close to 100% accuracy. We also have had Neptune meters for years and always tested at close to 100%. Neptune now has a high-resolution register head meaning that it now measures flow down to a tenth of a gallon. This will allow the register to provide indicators such as continuous leak, intermittent leak, no flow, and reverse flow.

13) Tom pointed out that Ti-Sales has designed their system to remove the battery or potential failure point outside of the home and reduce the potential failure by half. Tom stated that most manufacturers have 2 batteries one to run the register and one to run the transmitter. Ti-Sales is proposing their system where we would have one battery located outside the home. Therefore, if anything happens on the battery side of the meter, we will still be getting reads and recording water use. David also noted that the T-10 meter is over 40 years old, and they are consistently improving its tolerance levels.

14) Christine also asked the gentleman how they solve the problem whereby you have a bigger meter and because of the high flow are getting a leak indication even though it may not be a leak as the customer is just using a high volume of water such as a restaurant, car wash etc...Tom pointed out that in a situation like this, we can do a comparison in the software to see not only that they are using a continuous amount of water, but the software can do an analysis of whether or not they are using outside their normal usage. We will also be able to get reports on that analysis through the software. David also pointed out that in the case of snowbirds that go away for the winter we could do a virtual shut off in the software. This would allow us to get an alert if there is any water usage while they are away.

15) Tom also briefly went through their ultrasonic commercial meters and their capabilities as we have approximately 6 of these in our system



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16) Tom then went over some of the features of their R-900-meter interface unit. Unit has been out since 1999 with forward and reverse compatibility which would allow the new collectors to be installed in Gloversville today to be able to read this meter from 1999. This unit is plug and play requiring just a 3 wire hook up. Also, the unit is always transmitting a mobile signal and storing 96 hours data within the radio. Ti- Sales AMI is not FCC Licensed and operate on an un-licensed frequency. Neptune decided to move away from a Licensed network to allow for future compatibility.

17) Jason then stated that he wanted to re-iterate that the system will transmit both AMR and AMI reading simultaneously. The R-900 is also storing 96 days of data in the radio. Jason wanted to stress that they have history that shows the R-900 doing this for a period of 20 years or more.

18) Tom then went over the Cellular network that will cover our 4% in our coverage area that may not be able to be reached by the AMI System collectors. Tom explained that for the 4% we would be using the First Net Network. Tom explained that the First Net Network is a first responders' network that was contracted by the US government. AT&T took over the contract for First Net Network and they are on year 2 of a 25-year contract. Therefore, Ti- Sales can say that their meters will be guaranteed for 20 years, and they can say that the network is going to be there for at least 23 years. AT&T First Net does not only operate on AT&T's network, but they also contract with all the other networks in the US. David also pointed out that by having the radio on the outside of the house, we will also be able to address customers concerns about radio frequency radiation in their homes as the radio transmitter will be outside.

19) Tom went over the reading equipment. The reading equipment compares somewhat to a cell phone or tablet. The R900 Belt Clip Transceiver connects via Bluetooth to Android or iOS mobile devices for in-field customer support. It also increases Radio Frequency capabilities to increase meter reading efficiency. Some customers use this device to read their entire routes.

20) Tom went over the capabilities in the system of scheduling demand reads in the software. For example, there is a real estate closing, and the attorney wants a final read, instead of sending the guys out to get a read, we could get the read in the office from the collector anytime we want.

21) Jason wanted to go over the ways in which Ti-Sales supports their customers. Ti-Sales has a full-time on staff AMI specialist and they are in charge of monitoring for any upgrades needed to be made to the Gateways and for any technical issues that need to be addressed. David also wanted to go over the maintenance and hardware involved with the Gateways and the network. Tom explained that Ti- Sales Structure their collection/AMI systems in a couple of different ways. The first option is that we purchase the equipment own it and operate it and we can purchase a maintenance program to cover any issues we may have. Another option is for Ti-Sales would operate and maintain the system for us to include any future equipment upgrades would be included in the contract with Ti-Sales.

22) Tom went over the Software. From a distribution standpoint we will be able to see our daily consumption of our entire system every 24 hours. This will allow us to analyze trends and to recognize spikes in usage quickly. We will then be able to take these segments of data and compare them to our water consumption at the plant. This will allow us to better measure our un-accounted for or un-billed water. We can also see our top 10 customers so if someone jumps into this list, we can check into it or if someone drops off, we can make sure that nothing is wrong. We will also be able to see the data from the systems and consumption trends on a map including any properties that may be showing leaks or no flow. We could also possibly identify events such as a water main break as it may show up as a reverse flow on the map which would possibly alert us to the issue quicker. We could also group different groups, such as schools, commercial buildings etc. to analyze consumption for these customers. Now we will be able to go into a customer's account and see how much water is being used on an hourly basis.

23) Tom then went over the customer portal. Which will allow the customer to have access to all their water usage data. Tom recommended that we add this piece after installation is complete to allow for time for the city as a whole to get signed up so we are not paying for a portal that is not being fully utilized.

24) Ti- Sales has a software specialist that will come and spend as much time training us on the software as needed. Neptune also has a 1-800 number that we can call anytime.

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25) Ti-sales will have a more basic Customer portal system coming out in approximately 6 to 8 months which we can choose this as an alternative if we wish to do so.

26) Tom went over 2 delivery options. Network as a Service or Metering as a Service. With the Network as a service option, Ti-Sales would take on the Installation, operation, and maintenance with no Hardware cost up front and an annual payment each year. This makes Ti-sales responsible for the network. With Metering as a Service Ti-Sales will take the Network as a service and add in installation and the possibility of financing. Ti-Sales worked with several contractors for installation and came up with a range of pricing. The range was from \$700,000 to \$900,000 depending on what our specific needs would be for this. Ti-Sales have examples of specifications from past projects that they will share with us so that we make sure we have accurate installation guidelines in our bid specs.

27) Tom stated that their inventory is made to delivery product the next day. Ti-Sales is carrying 3 to 4 million dollars' worth of Neptune product right now. Ti-Sales has un-matched support that has been around for years. Jason wanted to stress the local references that Ti-Sales has and for us to get a hold of them and see how their systems have been working. Jason stated that they just put new systems in Northville/Northampton, Fultonville, Fonda, Speculator etc....

28) Jason then went over the quote for meters, AMI System and System Set-up fee. (See Appendix "B" ) . David also mentioned that if we are having trouble getting into a house, we can install the outside radio reader to a 20-year-old Neptune Meter. We can unhook the current ARB Box and install the new radio reader and it will work with their forward/reverse compatibility. Tom also mentioned that the Customer Portal was not included in the quote.

With no further questions from the Board the representatives from Ti-Sales/Neptune left the meeting.

Anthony just wanted to address the Board while the information was fresh in their minds as to the (2) vendor's presentations. Anthony stated that we knew there would be a significant cost difference between Ti-Sales and Master Meter due to the fact that if we go with Master Meter, we are mostly replacing just meter heads instead of entire meters as we have all of the 3G meter bottoms being given to us per our agreement with them due to the recall of our old NRH's where their batteries are defective. Anthony stated that the outside reader boxes from Ti-Sales are nice, but he had some reservations because of how much we already have invested with the new 3G meter bottoms that Master Meter has agreed to give us for free due to the NRH recall. Anthony was just concerned that the customer service stays at the level it has been lately. We did have trouble for awhile with getting meters, but now that they have some new staff and Ferguson joined with Master Meter everything has been significantly better. Anthony explained that Master Meters owes us approximately 2,000-meter bottoms. By our estimates we have approximately 1,800 meters left to install with the 3G multi-jet meters. Anthony thought because of this, it may be manageable for a company to come in and replace all the existing 3G meter heads with the new 5G Allegro AMI heads with us finish up the 1,800 that are still left in house. Christine then asked if we hired our own employees at a competitive wage, wouldn't it still be cheaper that having an outside company do the installations? Anthony agreed but also felt that we would be under extreme pressure with us having to take on the scheduling of appointment etc.... Commissioner Mauro also felt that with a company we would have an advantage of them having the experience with this kind of project and these installations. Commissioner Isabella also suggested that we can put the installation by a company out to bid and if it comes in too expensive, we can then go another route. It was also discussed to bid the installation separate from the purchase of the meters. We need to get an idea from the Board what route we want to go so that Anthony can discuss it with EFC. Commissioner Mauro worries that we have had problems with Master Meter. Anthony also re-iterated the fact that no other meter manufacturer can retrofit a radio head to the existing 3MG multi-jet meter bottoms we have at this time. The Board and Anthony then discussed potential future bonding, revenue and expense issues and how they may be affected depending on the scope and cost of the new meter project. We could also work in house in conjunction with the company to change out these meters. We could also do the complete meter change outs while the company is handling retrofitting the meters that already have 3MJ multi-jet meters. Commissioner Mauro stated that we have had such issues doing these meters and trying to get them done while trying to get our other work done that it may be better just letting a company come in and do the whole thing to get them done all at once.

Anthony then told the Board that they have finally issued the Chief Water Plant Operator exam which will be given on August 7, 2021.

**GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Mauro to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Isabella .

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Mauro	X			
Robinson	X			
Capano	X			

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021