

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

April 25, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie Dondi Smeltzer
	Benner	Dan Hoffman William Hughes Timothy Miller
	Walker	Dennis McDowell Ted Onufrak

GUESTS: None present

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The April 25, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Timothy Miller, Chairman. Mr. T. Miller thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription.

ROLL CALL:

William Hughes, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording nine members present. Mr. T. Miller, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. T. Miller, Chairman, led the Board members and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. T. Miller asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the April 11, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the April 11, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Lee, Green & Reiter, Inc. – The Authority received an email from Robert Mix indicating that he has reviewed Spring Township's Connection Ordinance as it pertains to the Musser Hill Subdivision. Mr. Mix stated that constructing a sewer main line and not enforcing the mandatory connection would establish a precedent of which he does not recommend. Mr. Mix indicated that in his legal opinion our Authority should notify Spring Township that we cannot agree to construct a sewer main along Weaver Hill Road if our Authority is not permitted to enforce connection to the public sewer.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Onufrak reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 03/31/2016. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report or any comments by the Authority staff. Mr. Smeltzer noted the electricity costs for both the pump stations and office building being at 33%+ of the budgeted amount through March 31, 2016 and suggested the Authority staff may want to consider increasing the budgeted amount for 2017. Mrs. Gill stated that it is normal for the first quarter of each year's electricity costs to be higher due to having the heat on in the pump stations and within the office building. The electricity costs should start to level out as the weather improves. **Mr. Heny moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-76 – Mr. Onufrak presented the Board with Revenue Requisition 2012-76. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2012-76. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-76 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$47,639.22.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Bellefonte Borough Act 537 Special Study – Mr. W. Miller, Mr. McDowell, Brian Book and Jim Balliet accepted the Bellefonte Borough Council's invitation to attend their meeting on April 18, 2016 in which Robert Decker and Chuck Thompson of Nittany Engineering & Associates (NEA) were present to provide an overview of the Act 537 Plan NEA completed on behalf of the Bellefonte Borough Authority (BBA).

During the Borough Council meeting, Mr. W. Miller was provided with the opportunity to present our Authority's concerns with the proposed upgrades, which was further supported by both Mr. Book and Mr. Balliet's presentation to the Borough Council. Mr. McDowell expressed his aversion with Mr. Halderman, who was a member of the audience that evening, and the disruption he instituted throughout our Authority's presentation, which was very disrespectful as a BBA Board member.

Mr. T. Miller presented the Board with a draft letter that he prepared in reference to some inaccurate comments made by Mr. Beigle during the Borough Council meeting. The Authority Board discussed the letter and suggested inviting the Bellefonte Borough Council members to attend our Authority's May 9, 2016 meeting so that further discussion can be held regarding the upgrades to the WWTP without interruption by audience members. The letter will again be mailed to each individual Borough Council member at their home address along with a copy distributed to Mr. Stewart. Mr. T. Miller will work with the Authority staff to finalize the letter of which will be mailed later this week.

Bio-Solids Application – Mr. W. Miller provided the Board with an update regarding the application of Bio-Solids within Benner Township. The resident of Benner Township that filed an injunction against the Spicer Farm to halt the application of Bio-Solids to their farm also attended the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting on April 18, 2016. This particular Benner Township resident presented Borough Council with a copy of the BBA's Source Water Protection (SWP) Plan for the Big Spring which clearly identifies that BBA is spreading Bio-Solids within Zone 2 of its own SWP plan. The BBA's SWP plan also identifies Bio-solids applications as being a Potential Source of Contamination with a susceptibility ranking of A.

Mr. W. Miller stated that he has been informed that Milesburg Borough Water Authority and Danone Waters of North America (Coca-Cola) receive their water from the Big Spring and have recently become aware of the issues surrounding the application of bio-solids within Zone 2 of BBA's SWP plan. Mr. W. Miller stated he hopes this is merely an oversight and that Bellefonte would reconsider the continued application within the Grove Park well and Big Spring protection areas.

Musser Hill Subdivision – Last week Tom Bowes contacted Mr. W. Miller to inquire about the discussions held during our last meeting pertaining to the possibility of our Authority extending a gravity sewer main along Weaver Hill Road. Mr. W. Miller reiterated our Authority's reluctance to extend a gravity sewer main along Weaver Hill Road when Spring Township does not want our Authority instituting a mandatory connection to the line. It would not be a cost effective approach for our Authority.

Pump Station #7 Upgrade – The bid for the Pump Station #7 upgrades have been advertised with bids being due by Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. The bids will be opened at that time and then our engineering firm will take the bids with them for further review. The bid tabulation will be presented to the Authority Board at the May 23, 2016 meeting. To date, three to four interested contractors have already picked up the specifications.

Mr. W. Miller indicated that Bellefonte Borough Authority is currently reviewing the planning module for the project of which they will need to sign for the treatment of the flow. There will not be an increase in flow as a result of the project, just equalization which would benefit the treatment plant. Mr. W. Miller noted Bellefonte is the only thing currently holding up the project and the flows will not change entering their wastewater treatment plant.

Buffalo Run Right-of-Way Bridge – The maintenance personnel have been working on the bridge along our Buffalo Run Right-of-Way, which is now complete. Mr. W. Miller provided the Board members with pictures of the bridge work and indicated that our Authority now has complete access to our right-of-way from Coleville to Continental Courts. Mr. W. Miller commended the maintenance staff for their work associated with the fabrication of the bridge and indicated that our Authority has very talented individuals that work well together. Over the past nine months our Authority personnel have video inspected and jetted the entire Buffalo Run Interceptor to Capperella Drive, just outside of Coleville.

OLD BUSINESS:

Benner Pike Sewer Extension Project – Mr. McDowell inquired about the status of the Benner Pike Sewer Extension Project. Mr. W. Miller stated that our Authority is still waiting for the last right-of-way associated with the lot surrounding the Penn State Federal Credit Union. The remaining easement is still awaiting review by the landowner's attorney.

Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that the landowner contacted him last week apologizing for the delay and indicated she has contacted her attorney several times inquiring about the easement. The landowner indicated that if the attorney doesn't complete the review of the easement within the next couple of weeks, she will sign the easement agreement regardless.

Mr. W. Miller explained to the landowner that currently there is no sewer access to this particular lot without obtaining an easement from an adjoining property owner; therefore, this easement agreement assures access to sewer service.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business presented for discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee – Mr. Hoffman stated that he is continuing to research retirement plans offered by municipalities and businesses. Many employers want to assist their employees with having an adequate retirement plan, but are faced with the financial burden. Several employers have begun instituting a mathematical calculation for contributions above the fixed percentage, which in our Authority's situation would be anything above 8%. For instance, if an employee wanted to contribute an additional 3% of their pay, on top of the 8% already being contributed, an employer may agree to contribute .5% in addition to the 8% already being contributed. Mr. Hoffman wanted to update the Board on his findings to date.

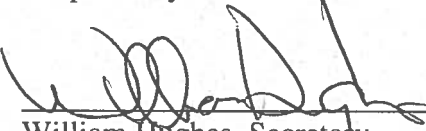
Facilities Committee: Mr. Hughes had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Onufrak had nothing to report.

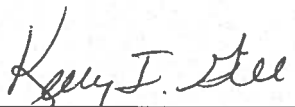
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hughes moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



William Hughes, Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____