

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

July 11, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Spring	Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie Dondi Smeltzer
Benner	Dan Hoffman William Hughes Timothy Miller
Walker	Dennis McDowell

GUESTS: Shirley Gryczuk & John Kostas

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The July 11, 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 eight members present. Mr. Onufrak was absent. 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, Employees and Guests 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 June 27, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. T. Miller also asked if there were any questions and/or changes to the corrections made to the June 13, 2016 meeting minutes. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the June 27, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nittany Engineering & Associates, LLC – We received a request for sewer capacity of 4.00 EDUs from Jason Little for the Justin A. R. Witherite subdivision located near Thomas Lane, Pleasant Gap in Spring Township. The project includes the subdivision of one residential property into three lots. Mr. W. Miller stated he reviewed the proposed construction drawings for this project; however, they were not acceptable. They are proposing multiple grinder pumps being installed. The developer will be required to extend the sewer mainline on Thomas Lane and basement service is available for this area as is the policy of this Authority. Mr. W. Miller also commented on the construction drawings not being clearly legible.

It was also noted that the previous owner of this parcel of land had constructed a bi-level home, which was listed as 1.00 EDU on the application for sewer permit; however, the owner constructed this home for 2.00 EDUs without our knowledge. The current owner will be required to pay an additional tap fee for the 1.00 EDU that was not assessed in 2009 due to the falsification of the sewer permit application. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that he will send Nittany Engineering a letter informing them of the required changes that must be completed before an approval of sewer service can be made.

Benner Township Supervisors – The Authority received a letter from David Wise, Chairman of the Benner Township Supervisors, regarding John and Florence Strouse's property located at 528 Seibert Road which is currently listed for sale. In 2001 the previous Board of Supervisors did not require the Strouse's to connect their home to the public sewer due to distance; however, they issued a letter dated July 23, 2001 which indicated upon sale, the property will be required to connect to the public sewer. Benner Township's connection Ordinance #67 requires a property to be connected if it is adjoining or adjacent to the public sewer.

Mr. and Mrs. Strouse recently informed the Supervisors they were not interested in connecting to the public sewer due to financial hardship.

The Benner Township Board of Supervisors decided at their July 7, 2016 meeting that the decision made by the former Board of Supervisors on July 16, 2001 would stand; therefore, the Strouse's are required to connect their property to the public sewer system however, the buyer will have six months from the date of closing to make the required connection. It was noted that the Strouse's had already purchased their sewer permit for this property in July of 2001 as well as an additional vacant lot sewer permit.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) – PA DEP sent an approval letter to the Spring Township Supervisors regarding the Environmental Related Partners Building Expansion at 485 E. College Avenue in Spring Township. The Dog Valley Daycare will conduct business at this property.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-81 – Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2012-81. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-81 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$49,317.18.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

GUESTS:

Shirley Gryczuk – Ms. Gryczuk had nothing to present to the Board at this time.

John Kostas – Mr. Kostas had nothing to present to the Board at this time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Bellefonte Borough AECOM Report – Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that the Bellefonte Borough Authority (BBA) had granted NEA the approval to hire AECOM to provide a technical process review of the various upgrades recommended for the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. W. Miller stated that AECOM's report identified the same weaknesses in NEA's preparation for the decision to use Biomag as was pointed out by Jim Balliet from Gwin Dobson and Foreman and Brian Book of Rettew. AECOM suggested more modeling and flow data be obtained on a daily flow basis instead of a monthly average for this study. Mr. Johnson stated that AECOM did not consider any cost estimates within the scope of their evaluation.

It was also noted that AECOM only reviewed the same alternatives that NEA proposed and did not consider any other alternatives. Mr. Johnson informed the Board that AECOM has worked on other projects with NEA in the past. The technical process review of the upgrade alternatives evaluated by AECOM generally concur with the selection of Biomag conversion for the BBA's Wastewater Treatment Plant; however, this was clearly not a comprehensive evaluation of the Bellefonte Treatment Plant and only considered what alternatives NEA presented to them. Mr. W. Miller stated it is unfortunate the Bellefonte leadership does not recognize these points and clearly made their decision before they had all of the facts presented and paid an outside firm, AECOM, to express the same concerns as our professional engineers.

Act 537 Special Study – Mr. W. Miller indicated he recently spoke with Bill MacMath about Spring Township being approached by NEA to sign the Act 537 Plan for Bellefonte's Treatment Plant upgrade. Mr. W. Miller informed Mr. MacMath that the Authority still objects to the Biomag upgrades; however, we are unable to stop the process and will be responsible for our proportionate share of the project. Mr. W. Miller stated that SBWJA tried to express our concerns to the BBA about their refusal to perform proper planning which they are now being required to do by the PA DEP in their Act 537 Study. Mr. W. Miller stated it is unfortunate, but the BBA has no interest in utilizing any help from our Authority. With the information that was provided to Mr. MacMath, the Spring Township Supervisors signed the Act 537 Special Study at their last meeting. It was noted that NEA will also need to obtain approval from Benner and Walker Townships before the study is submitted to the PA DEP.

Bellefonte Borough Authority/AECOM Invoices – Mrs. Gill took a moment to inform the Board that she made contact with Mr. Stewart regarding her concern with a duplicate invoice from AECOM. Mr. Stewart confirmed that Bellefonte Borough hired AECOM to review the JCI project for \$10,000 and the technical process review of NEA's treatment plant upgrade report in the amount of \$11,440; therefore, the invoices were legitimate. Mr. Stewart also informed Mrs. Gill that the BBA will likely hire AECOM to complete the modeling at a cost of \$25,460.

Shiloh Road Sewer Service – At the June 27, 2016 meeting, the Board tabled discussion on Benner Township Supervisor's request to begin negotiations with our Authority and UAJA to determine a solution to public sewer service in the Shiloh Road service area. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that he was under the impression that Dr. Clair's proposed development does not meet Benner Township's current zoning; therefore, this project would not be able to proceed. Dr. Clair's proposed facility is to accommodate 6 employees; therefore, it would be more feasible to install an on-lot system than the costs associated with public sewer. The Board discussed this matter and decided there is nothing to negotiate at this time.

Pump Station #7 Upgrades – The contract documents between SBWJA and HRI, Inc. for the upgrades to Pump Station # 7 have been executed. Mr. Johnson stated the contract starts today and HRI, Inc. will have 180 days until substantial completion. Mr. Fouse informed Mr. Johnson they are ready to schedule a preconstruction meeting so they can begin construction. The foreman for this project will be Kurt Reese.

Pump Station #1 – Mr. W. Miller indicated there were issues with disposable wipes getting hung up in the volutes of the pumps at Pump Station #1 for the past two years; however, this has not been a reoccurring issue lately. It was noted that the customer that was using the flushable wipes may have moved out or stopped using the wipes. Mr. W. Miller proposed waiting on upgrades to the pump station at this time. These pumps are 20 plus years old and the volutes are building up scale which increases pump blockage.

Pump Station #2 & #3 – The Jacksonville Road Pump Station(Pump Station #2) and the Musser Lane Pump Station(Pump Station #3) were constructed in the mid 1990's and were equipped with Flygt pumps that are manufactured in Sweden, which will need upgrades in the future. Mr. W. Miller indicated the last spare Flygt pump has been installed; therefore, he is proposing two individual grinder pumps be installed to Pump Station #2 and Pump Station #3 as a duplex pump station when needed. These are the same pumps used in our individual grinders and would help with having spare parts.

Musser Subdivision – The Board discussed the April 7, 2016 letter from Spring Township regarding sewer service to Fiedler and Weaver Hill Roads. In the letter, the Township had requested that SBWJA not require a resident to connect to public sewer until there is a need or desire to connect. Mr. Mix indicated 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. A letter will be sent to Spring Township informing them of the Board's decision not to extend public sewer.

John Deere Backhoe – Mr. W. Miller indicated every three years our Authority trades our John Deere Backhoe in, which will occur in July. The Authority was given a quote of \$30,919.07 for the 2017 310SL and a quote of \$40,752.36 for the 2017 410L. Mr. W. Miller stated that the 310SL struggles to lift manhole cones and bases; therefore, he would prefer to purchase the 410L. Mr. Gailbraith asked if the Authority has looked into subbing out the backhoe work. Mr. W. Miller stated that we use the backhoe about 300 hours per year and at \$80/Hr. it is far cheaper to own a machine. Mr. W. Miller stated that he had budgeted \$40,000 this year for a new backhoe. The Board agreed to upgrade to the 410L series backhoe.

T-Tag – Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that he is obtaining quotes for the new T-Tag and bed through the CO-STARS program. It was noted that the T-Tag is also in this year's budget.

Biosolids Application – Mr. Kostas and Ms. Gryczuk updated the Board on the current status of the Biosolids Application from the BBA. Both indicated it was a pleasure to discuss issues at our Board meetings.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix had nothing to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Johnson had nothing further to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

SR144 – The maintenance department will be meeting with New Enterprise later this week to discuss the paving project on SR144 and their anticipated start date.

Pleasant Gap Parade – Several employees will be participating in the Pleasant Gap Parade on July 28, 2016. They will be tossing candy to the kids to show our appreciation to be able to serve our community.

Knoebels Picnic – Mrs. Gill indicated a food sign-up sheet will be available at the July 25, 2016 meeting for the annual Knoebels picnic on August 6, 2016.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee – Mr. Hoffman had nothing to report.

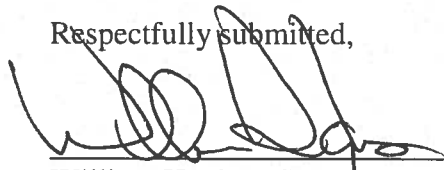
Facilities Committee: Mr. Hughes had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny had nothing to report.

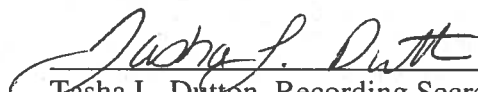
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



William Hughes, Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____