

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

March 11, 2019

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie Dondi Smeltzer
	Benner	Brian Book Dan Hoffman Timothy Miller
	Walker	Dennis McDowell Joseph Swanderski

GUESTS: Randy Moyer and John Kostas

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill & Tasha Dutton

CALL TO ORDER:

The March 11, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Dennis McDowell, Chairman. Mr. McDowell thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription.

ROLL CALL:

Dondi Smeltzer, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording eight members present. Mr. Book entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Mr. McDowell, 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. McDowell, Chairman, led the Board members, Employees and Guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the February 25, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the February 25, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented.** 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention, 1 absent. Mr. Swanderski abstained from the motion due to not attending the February 25, 2019 meeting. **The motion carried.**

Mr. Book entered the meeting at 7:02 P.M.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-142– Mr. Heny presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2012-142 in the amount of \$1,733,385.05. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-142. **Mr. T. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-142 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$1,733,385.05.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.** Mr. T. Miller explained to the guests that Revenue Requisition #2012-142 was higher than normal due to making a payment of \$1,326,139.34 to Bellefonte Borough for capital improvements to their wastewater treatment plant.

GUESTS:

Shiloh Road Project – Randy Moyer, Benner Township Supervisor, indicated he is concerned with the Shiloh Road Project not progressing. It was noted that the Developer is ready to withdraw their plans to develop along the Shiloh Road corridor if public sewer is not soon secured. Mr. Moyer stated that he is very confused about the proper protocol that should be followed to ensure the project will proceed; therefore, he is looking for guidance from SBWJA.

Mr. McDowell stated that first step would be to complete an Act 537 Special Study covering Shiloh Road, Big Hollow Road, Rock Road and Walnut Grove. Mr. Moyer indicated the Benner Township Supervisors approved this study, which appoints SBWJA as their agent.

Mr. Book stated that SBWJA could follow Benner Township's existing Act 537 Plan or the Board could discuss amending the Act 537 Plan to clarify the projected areas to be served. Mr. Book also mentioned the Developer could complete a Component 3B Planning Module, which amends the Act 537 Plan.

Mr. Book recommended SBWJA consider completing the Act 537 Special Study to clarify any questions the Board may have regarding the sewer extension. Mr. Johnson stated that Gwin Dobson & Foreman provided a proposal to perform the study for a lump sum fee of \$30,000.00. Mr. Book asked the Board if they wanted to proceed with this study now knowing the risks associated with Benner Township voting on the Act 537 Plan but not approving the extension. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. T. Miller to approve the proposal provided by Gwin Dobson & Foreman Engineers in the amount of \$30,000.00 to complete an Act 537 Special Study to evaluate extending sewer service to Shiloh Road, Big Hollow Road, Rock Road and Walnut Grove.** Mr. Swanderski asked what the risk would be to the Authority and Mr. Book explained Benner Township not adopting the Act 537 Plan Special Study would result in the project not being completed. Mr. W. Miller added if the Developer would amend Benner Township's current Act 537 Plan with a Component 3B Planning Module to extend sewer service to Shiloh Road, our Authority could then submit a Component 3M Planning Module to serve the 75 homes in the Walnut Grove, Rock Road, Shiloh Road and Big Hollow areas and an Act 537 Special Study would not be required. Mr. W. Miller asked if any Board members have approached the Developer with the option to complete the Component 3B Planning Module before the Authority spends \$30,000.00 on a study. Mr. Moyer stated that he would approach the Developer with this option because the Township is in favor of economic development and they had received multiple calls from the residents surrounding Shiloh Road area stating they were interested in obtaining sewer service.

Mr. W. Miller informed Mr. Moyer that Benner Township would need to approve public sewer to the 75 homes in Big Hollow Road, Rock Road and Walnut Grove now to avoid a significant increase in cost for the residents and Authority later. Mr. Moyer stated that he is willing to go to the Supervisors to make a motion that would require Benner Township to be financially responsible for the Act 537 Special Study in the amount of \$30,000.00 if the Township would vote against the residents connecting to public sewer.

Mr. T. Miller asked if it would be faster to proceed with the project if the Authority did not complete the special study. It was noted that a Component 3B Planning Module completed by the Developer would not require a public comment period; therefore, this may be a faster approach. Mr. Hoffman expressed his concerns with Benner Township's decision to serve only the Shiloh Road corridor at this time. Mr. W. Miller wanted everyone to keep in mind the special study would include the several hundred acres of developable ground in the Shiloh Road area that is not part of the current Act 537 Plan.

Mr. Johnson broke down the cost of the project, which consisted of \$30,000.00 for the Act 537 Special Study, \$355,000.00 in engineering/administrative fees and \$3,250,000.00 in construction costs. Mr. Book then indicated the study would be roughly 1% of the total project. Mr. Swanderski asked if it would be appropriate to meet with the Developer to discuss their intentions.

Mr. Smeltzer expressed he was against the Shiloh Road extension if it did not include the residential homes in Walnut Grove, Rock Road and Big Hollow because he is not interested in making a developer rich. Mr. W. Miller indicated this Authority does not extend public sewer to accommodate developers. Mr. Smeltzer was under the impression that there were some failing on-lot systems in this area and the residents were in need of public sewer.

Mr. Book questioned what would happen if one (1) of the Supervisors would vote for connecting all homes to the sewer and the other two (2) Supervisors would vote against. Mr. W. Miller indicated the project would not proceed. Mr. Book wondered what type of weight the winning vote would have because the Supervisors would be in conflict with their current Act 537 Plan if they do not connect the existing homes. Mr. Book suggested that Mr. W. Miller speak with PA DEP regarding this matter.

Mr. Moyer and Mr. W. Miller will meet with the Developer and his engineer before our March 25, 2019 meeting to discuss the possibility of a Component 3B Planning Module being executed to avoid further delays. Mr. Moyer asked when the Developer would be permitted to start the Component 3B Planning Module if they decided to go with this option. Mr. Book stated the planning module could be started immediately. Mr. Moyer then asked the time frame in which SBWJA would start planning. Mr. Book stated the Board could move forward once they approve Gwin Dobson & Foreman's contract. Mr. Moyer also stated that he would attempt scheduling a meeting with the other Supervisors regarding this matter. It was noted that Mr. Capriani has been out of town; therefore, scheduling may be difficult.

Mr. Kostas asked if the Authority could recoup money from the developer that was spent on the study. Mr. W. Miller indicated a Special Purpose Tap Fee would be implemented by the Authority for new connections within this drainage area.

Mr. Swanderski asked what the Board should do about the motion that was made earlier in the discussion regarding the special study being completed due to the Board waiting for a decision being made by Benner Township Supervisors or the Developer on how they want to proceed. **At this time, Mr. Book and Mr. T. Miller withdrew their motion and second to proceed with the Act 537 Special Study for the Shiloh Road, Big Hollow Road, Rock Road and Walnut Grove areas.**

Mr. Moyer exited the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

February 2019 System Overview – Mr. W. Miller reviewed the February 2019 System Overview with the Board.

Mr. W. Miller stated there were 24 in-home inspections completed in the month of February. The maintenance department identified one (1) HVAC that was connected to the sanitary sewer, which has been disconnected. The maintenance department completed nine (9) new sewer lateral inspections and our office staff received 13 sewer permit applications in the amount of 13 EDUs and issued the permits.

The maintenance department completed minor lighting and electrical repairs at Pump Station #9. There were also repairs made to a chlorine exhaust fan at Pump Station #5 and a chlorine ejector nozzle was replaced at Pump Station #14. We replaced a pressure reducing valve on a waterline that feeds our Rockview Pump Station due to being without water service for a period of time. The maintenance staff at Rockview requested we assist with the repair due to the delays in ordering materials through the Commonwealth. The parts and labor will be included on Rockview's next quarterly invoice. A run light indicator module was also replaced at Pump Station #1A.

Our personnel completed 45,553 feet of video work and 34,666 feet of jetting and cleaning work for the month of February.

There were multiple tasks performed for Benner Township Water Authority, which included completing the final steps of a fracture trace study in the Buffalo Run Valley to determine the possibility of looking for an alternate water source and an LMI pump was replaced at the Grove Park Well House.

A windstorm took place a few weeks ago that caused issues at the Rockview Pump Station, which resulted in a call out and we also addressed a grinder alarm at 137 Bergamot Way. Our Authority assisted, Centre Hall-Potter Sewer Authority, in completing video work of a mainline. Mr. W. Miller ended the report with a total of 42 PA One Calls being located in February.

ENGINEER' S REPORT:

Annual Chapter 94 Report – Mr. Johnson presented the Board with the annual Chapter 94 Report for 2018 and referenced some key points. In 2018, the peak three-month hydraulic loading to the system was 903,166 gpd, which did not include Rockview. The Authority's ratio of peak three-month flow to annual average flow for 2018 was 1.08, which is an indication of a tight system with very little inflow and/or infiltration.

The number of EDUs billed by the Authority increased from 6,908 in 2017 to 6,918 in 2018. In 2019, the Authority is projecting the addition of 63 EDUs through developer and/or individual connections to the system.

In 2018, over 144,000 linear feet (27.27 miles) of gravity sewer was inspected and recorded and 72,000 linear feet (13.64 miles) was jetted and cleaned. It was also noted that 3,300 linear feet (0.63 miles) of newly constructed sewer line was mandreled and pressure tested. In 2018, the Authority contracted to have twenty-seven (27) manholes in the Zion Road Interceptor re-lined and interiors epoxy coated.

In 2018, the Authority completed an in-home sewer inspection of 379 properties and approximately 11% of the inspections resulted in problems that were identified and corrected. As of this date, approximately 98% of all connections to the system have been inspected.

In 2018, the Authority re-lined and epoxy coated the wet wells at Pump Station No. 2 (Jacksonville Road) and Pump Station No. 3 (Musser Lane). During this project, the maintenance department also re-plumbed the pump station's force main piping and replaced the existing submersible grinder pumps with new 2 HP submersible grinder pumps.

Mr. Johnson reviewed Table 5 within the Chapter 94 Report, which outlined the average and peak flows not including Rockview. The annual average not including Rockview was 835,131. The annual average including Rockview was 1,552,484 with a 3-month average peak of 1,630,096 and a 3-month peak average to average daily flow (ADF) ratio of 1.05.

Mr. Swanderski referenced the meter pit flow section of the document and asked if there was an issue with obtaining the Treatment Plant readings in July and August of 2018. Mr. W. Miller indicated these flows are obtained at Bellefonte Borough's Treatment Plant and used strictly for informational purposes only. When our staff obtained the readings last summer there appeared to be a possible meter exchange.

Mr. Book asked if the Authority received a copy of Bellefonte Borough's Chapter 94 Report to assist in identifying the capacity that may be available to purchase in the future. Mr. W. Miller indicated Bellefonte's current hydraulic capacity is 3.2 mgd and their average flow is 2.1 to 2.2 mgd; therefore, he does not anticipate a problem with available capacity in the future.

Mr. McDowell asked if there were any additional questions regarding the presentation of the Annual Chapter 94 Report for 2018. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Smeltzer to approve the Annual Chapter 94 Report for the 2018 calendar year as presented and to authorize Mr. W. Miller to execute the signature page of the report.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-142 – Mr. Smeltzer questioned the payment made to the Centre County Prothonotary in the amount of \$28.00. Mrs. Dutton indicated a Municipal Lien was filed against 1219 Buffalo Run to ensure payment on this delinquent account that is scheduled for Sheriff Sale on March 14, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS:

PMAA Board Member Training – Mr. McDowell announced that PMAA will be holding a Board Member Training Seminar on March 26, 2019 in Camp Hill and asked if anyone would be interested in attending. It was noted that anyone interested in attending may see Mrs. Dutton to complete the registration so the Authority could remit a check for the registration fee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Facilities Committee: Mr. Galbraith had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Heny moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Dondi Smeltzer, Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____