

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

October 10, 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: John Kostas

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill & Tasha Dutton

CALL TO ORDER:

The October 10, 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 entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m. 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 Guest 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 September 26, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve the Minutes of the September 26, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

Mr. Onufrak entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

University Area Joint Authority – We received a response from University Area Joint Authority’s Executive Director, Cory Miller, regarding our letter dated August 12, 2016 which discussed providing sewer service to Shiloh Road. The letter listed conditions that UAJA would require before they would provide sewer service to customers in Benner Township. This letter also lists the current sewer rentals and tapping fees within UAJA’s sewer system. Mr. W. Miller stated that UAJA is currently experiencing organic issues; therefore, they have stopped new taps and considerations of new developments within their sewer system. It was noted that UAJA will only allow new connections if an individual requesting sewer service agrees to provide nutrient offsets to UAJA due to the Nitrogen and phosphorus levels.

Bellefonte Borough Billing - Mrs. Gill informed the Board that she spoke with Mr. Stewart regarding the Borough’s pension plan to help assist with calculation of the retirement expenses being billed to our Authority; however, Mrs. Gill feels it would be more beneficial to review the actual pension plan and acquire a list of their employees and their wages. It was noted that Mr. Stewart and Ms. Walker had also offered to meet with Mrs. Gill and Mr. W. Miller to discuss the pension plan.

Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science & Technology (CPI) – Mr. T. Miller took a moment to read a thank you card from the Adult and Post-Secondary Program Manager, Marianne Hazel, of CPI. Ms. Hazel thanked Mr. W. Miller for being an important part of CPI’s accreditation process, which took place last month. The CPI school has offered a sewer and water program for approximately 5 to 7 years. This is a 900 to 1,100 hour course that will prepare an individual for DEP’s exam and all the skill sets needed for the industry. CPI is currently in the process of getting accredited through a Federal accreditation commission, which means that if a young person takes that course they will be able to apply for a Federal student loan to pay for it. Mr. W. Miller was asked to assist CPI with completing paperwork for the accreditation commission.

Walker Township – The Walker Township secretary, Donna Reese, sent the Authority a copy of the letter they sent to PA Department of Environmental Protection regarding Bellefonte Borough Wastewater Treatment's Act 537 Special Study. Mr. Thompson from Nittany Engineering & Associates, LLC provided the Walker Township Board of Supervisors with information regarding the Borough's Act 537 Special Study. The Walker Township Supervisors had no comments on this presentation.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-87 – Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2012-87. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-87 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$174,209.59.** 9 ayes, 0 nays. **The motion carried.** It was noted that an updated Revenue Fund Requisition was provided to the Board due to HRI's Payment Application #2 in the amount of \$132,930.00 being added for payment.

GUESTS:

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Pump Station #7 Upgrades - The walls have been poured for the wet well at pump station #7 and will be water tested once the concrete has met its required strength. HRI will then backfill the wet well after the water test has passed. Mr. Johnson stated that the upgrades have been going really well.

A resident that lives near the pump station had contacted HRI, Inc. with a damage complaint. The resident is claiming the construction work at the pump station has caused a small crack to appear in their foundation wall. HRI, Inc. has submitted this information to their insurance company for processing. Mr. Onufrak suggested that we inform our insurance company and Walker Township of this incident. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that there was no blasting involved with this project.

The Glen at Paradise Hills – West – Maintenance Bond – The maintenance bond for the Glen at Paradise Hills-West will be expiring on October 14, 2016. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that there are some outstanding issues that must be corrected before the funds from the CD are returned to the developer. There are two manholes that are completely buried and must be raised and the “doghouse” installed on the inverts of each manhole, in and out, are deteriorating and need corrected. Once the work is completed and re-inspected by our maintenance department, the funds can be returned. Mr. W. Miller suggested the paperwork to close out this project be executed now and the funds be held until the work is completed.

Towing Costs – Mr. Smeltzer had questioned the bill for the towing of trucks to State College Ford at the September 26, 2016 meeting and he suggested contacting our automobile insurance carrier to see if our policy may cover this service. Mr. W. Miller stated he contacted our insurance carrier and they indicated we could be reimbursed for the towing; however, Mr. W. Miller stated claims will affect our loss claim history negatively which helps keep our rates down.

Fuel Testing – Mr. Onufrak asked if the Authority’s fuel was tested for high sulfur due to the current problems with our service trucks. Mr. W. Miller stated that a sample has been obtained and sent to Giles Ransome, Inc. for testing.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: Mr. Mix had nothing to discuss.

ENGINEER’S REPORT: Mr. Johnson had nothing more to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS:

Christmas Party – The 2016 Christmas party has been scheduled for December 8, 2016 at the Bellefonte Elks. Appetizers will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the buffet will proceed at 6:00 p.m. The Board asked that the Supervisors of each Township be invited to the event.

Finance Committee Meeting – The Finance committee will meet with ICMA at the Authority office on October 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the employee’s retirement plan.

Centre County Fire Training Center – Mr. Heny asked if there was additional information regarding the Centre County Fire Training Center’s proposal to construct a pole shed at the Fire Training Facility along North Harrison Road. Mr. W. Miller stated that he was unable to meet Jeff Wharran, EMA Director, at the property to discuss the location of the building. Several Board members stated that they do not agree with constructing a building over our sewer mainline. Mr. W. Miller will meet with Mr. Wharran on October 20, 2016 and discuss the County’s plan at the LEPC meeting.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee –

2017 Budget - Mr. Hoffman indicated the personnel committee will discuss a date and time to meet after tonight’s adjournment. The meeting will be scheduled prior to the October 24, 2016 Board meeting to discuss raises and retirement in preparation of the 2017 Budget.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Hughes had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Onufrak had nothing more to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. T. Miller recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. The meeting reconvened at 8:19 p.m.

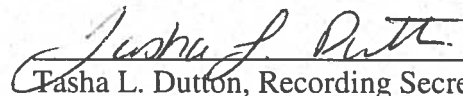
ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,



William Hughes, Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____