

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

October 26, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

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

GUESTS: Shirley Gryczuk

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The October 26, 2015, 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. Scott 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 October 12, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2015 Regular Meeting as presented.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Balanced Environmental Solutions – We received a notice from Karen Finlan of Balanced Environmental Solutions informing the Authority that Graymont (PA), Inc. is filing an application to renew the solid waste permit for its Quarry 23 and Potts Quarry Landfill located in Benner Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania. Mr. W. Miller indicated that he is unsure of the exact location of the quarry but believes it will be along our Buffalo Run right-of-way.

Nittany Engineering & Associates, LLC (NEA) – We received a letter from Robert Decker, P.E. of Nittany Engineering & Associates, indicating that the Bellefonte Borough Authority (BBA) has decided to complete an Act 537 study, which should satisfy our Authority's request for additional study. The BBA will be asking for increased BOD and TSS loading limits at the wastewater treatment plant.

BBA Real Time Control System – We received an email from Bob Cook, BBA Treatment Plant Superintendent, in response to our questions pertaining to a capital expenditure for phosphorus control. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that our Authority recently received the 3rd quarter 2015 billings from Bellefonte Borough which included the purchase of a \$40,000.00 control system for adjusting the dosage of aluminum sulfate (Alum) to optimize the phosphorous concentration level in the waste stream to achieve permit compliance. Mr. W. Miller expressed his concern with the controller as other plants have made the same purchase and found this equipment unreliable. Mr. W. Miller believes the plant operators should have been required to take more than one phosphorous sample per shift as stated by Mr. Cook and make the necessary adjustments to the feed pump to achieve compliance. If the new equipment does work properly and Alum was previously overfed, it will take a long time to save \$40,000 in Alum wasted.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Onufrak reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 09/30/2015. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-65 – Mr. Onufrak presented the Board with Revenue Requisition 2012-65. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2012-65. **Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-65 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$44,543.20.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

GUESTS:

Shirley Gryczuk - Mr. T. Miller welcomed Ms. Gryczuk to the meeting and asked if she had anything to share with the Board. Ms. Gryczuk informed the Board that she was able to witness the Authority's video truck in use within her development and indicated the maintenance personnel were very friendly and courteous. Ms. Gryczuk thanked the Authority for their work.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Motorola Radio – The Motorola radios are used among Authority personnel to communicate throughout the day and as a result of the new hire, the Authority is short one radio. Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that he will be purchasing one (1) Motorola radio at an approximate cost of \$1,650.00 - \$1,700.00. Mr. Heny asked if the cost included the programming of the radio and Mr. W. Miller stated yes.

Benner Pike Sewer Extension Project:

Exploratory Digging – Mr. W. Miller stated that some exploratory digging was completed last week, which identified some rocky ledges, but with smaller pipe being installed the Authority personnel should be able to get through without problems.

Notification to Property Owners - The five properties affected by the Benner Pike Sewer Extension project have been notified in writing. Mr. W. Miller reported that one of the residents who previously provided resistance now seems acceptable to the project; however, he expressed his disappointment with Benner Township requiring these homeowners to have their septic tanks pumped this past summer while knowing these homes may be connecting to public sewer.

Financing of Tapping Fees - In the past when this Authority has extended sewer and required a property to connect to the sewer we have allowed the property owners to sign a connection loan with our Authority. The connection loan would permit the property owner to finance their tapping fees over a three year period while making monthly payments, with interest. Our Authority will file a municipal lien against the property for the amount of the tapping fee, which will be satisfied once payment in full is made. Mr. W. Miller asked the Board if they want to continue with this procedure for the Benner Pike Sewer Extension Project. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Heny to make a connection loan available to the five (5) property owners affected by the Benner Pike Sewer Extension Project at the interest rate being paid by this Authority as part of the 2012 bonds.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

Centre Hall Mountain Project (2008) – Mr. W. Miller made the Board aware that our Authority is assisting Potter Township with the completion of a Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) audit in connection with the grant monies that Potter Township received as part of the Centre Hall Mountain Project in 2008. The DCED was to complete this audit several years ago but didn't because of staffing issues. As a result the Commonwealth has hired a firm, KPMG, to complete the audits to ensure compliance with the grant process. KPMG will be at our Authority office Wednesday and Thursday of this week to complete the audit.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. T. Miller recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. to discuss potential Litigation and Personnel. The meeting reconvened at 7:57 p.m.

Modification to Agenda - Mr. T. Miller indicated that Mr. Hoffman needs to vacate the meeting by 8:00 p.m. and would like to provide his report before leaving.

Personnel & Community Relations Committee – Mr. Hoffman reviewed the Personnel Committee's recommendations for employee raises as part of the 2016 budget year with the Board. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the employee's raises for 2016 as discussed and provided to Mr. W. Miller.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.** Mr. T. Miller indicated he would like the employees to know that the Board is very pleased with the organization as a whole and is glad they are part of the team.

Mr. Hoffman left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bellefonte Borough Upgrades – As a result of receiving NEA's letter regarding the BBA completing an Act 537 plan for the upgrades to the BBA's wastewater treatment plant the Board decided to modify the letter to the BBA about our Authority's dissatisfaction with their lack of planning. The Board agreed to send Mr. W. Miller's revised letter.

SBWJA Rate Structure – Due to not knowing the results of the Act 537 Plan and the overall costs of the upgrades to the BBA's Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Board decided not to make any changes to our Authority's rates for the 2016 budget.

Christmas Party – Mr. W. Miller indicated the Christmas Party has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at the Bellefonte Elks at 6:00 p.m. Discussion was held regarding the invitation list for the Christmas party. The Board agreed to include all employees, Board members, SBWJA Professional services and the Township Supervisors.

NEW BUSINESS:

2016 Board Meeting Schedule – The Board reviewed the 2016 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve the 2016 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

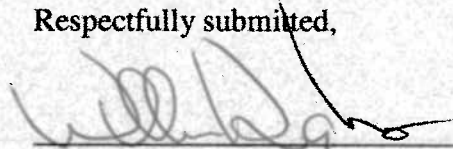
Facilities Committee: Mr. Hughes had nothing to report.

Finance Committee: Mr. Onufrak had nothing to report.

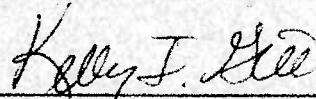
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Onufrak moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



William Hughes, Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____

> 11/10/2015
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