

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

April 26, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Toby Dashner Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie
	Benner	Brian Book Dan Hoffman Willis Houser, Jr.
	Walker	Dennis McDowell Joseph Swanderski

GUESTS: John Kostas

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton and Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The April 26, 2021, 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 purposes.

ROLL CALL:

Joseph Swanderski, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording nine members present. 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 April 12, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Jason Bickle/Right-to-Know Request – We received a Right-to-Know Request form from Jason Bickle on April 12, 2021. Mr. Bickle requested a copy of all communications between the Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority office staff, Christina Bickle and himself. The documented communications were pertaining to the billing information for their property located at 1021 Halfmoon Street, Bellefonte.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Heny reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 03/31/2021. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-26 – Mr. Heny presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-26 in the amount of \$59,333.92. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-26. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-26 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$59,333.92. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

GUESTS:

John Kostas – Mr. Kostas inquired about Bellefonte Borough's Industrial Pretreatment Program and wanted to know if the Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority had any responsibility in determining which industries need to have pretreatment before discharging to Bellefonte Borough's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Miller stated that our Authority approves Bellefonte Borough's Pretreatment ordinance by resolution which allows Bellefonte Borough to enter businesses connected to our sewer system and monitor those users. Mr. Kostas referenced the PFAS contamination at State of the Art located within the Airport Industrial Park and wanted to know who would've required State of the Art to establish pretreatment once they were connected to the sanitary sewer system. Mr. Miller stated Bellefonte Borough Treatment Plant would've established those guidelines and stated he wasn't sure what is being tested at that facility. Mr. Miller stated those industrial customers are listed within Bellefonte Borough's Annual Chapter 94 Report. Mr. Kostas thanked Mr. Miller for his explanation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Act 537 Plan Special Study – Mr. Miller indicated the PA DEP's Northcentral Regional Office approved the Act 537 Plan Special Study for the proposed sewer extension to the Shiloh Road area and a copy of the letter issued to the Benner Township Supervisors was included within the board packet. The next step would be to discuss the final design of the project and the timing for moving forward with the project. Mr. Miller indicated there is a 30-day appeal period. Once the Board is ready to proceed with final design, a motion will need approved. Discussion was held about the timeline associated with the design phase, bidding phase and construction period. The Board decided to postpone making a decision about the final design of the project until the May board meetings.

Executive Session for Personnel – Mr. Miller stated he would like to request an executive session be held at some point in the meeting to discuss personnel. Mr. McDowell suggested waiting until the committee reports to have the executive session.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge) Blower – During the last meeting the Board was provided with a packet of information regarding the new aeration system proposed for Pump Station #7. Mr. Barton asked if there were any questions regarding the information provided or if we could move forward with purchasing the blower. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions. The Board authorized proceeding with the blower purchase for Pump Station #7. Mr. McDowell asked if a motion needed made for the purchase of the blower and Mrs. Gill stated no, the blower purchase was included within the 2021 budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Mr. Book mentioned the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 that was signed into law in March of 2021 which includes \$936 million being distributed to townships, boroughs and small cities in Pennsylvania. He stated that Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) has a good power point presentation on the funding; however, all of the rules associated with spending the monies haven't completely been released yet. The Townships may use the funds for expenses in four categories:

- Responding to the COVID-19 emergency or addressing its negative economic impacts.
- Providing premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work or grants eligible to employers that have eligible workers.
- Lost revenue replacement for the provision of government services due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- Making necessary investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.

Mr. Book stated our Authority's incorporating municipalities are set to receive the following amount of funding:

Benner Township	\$919,967
Spring Township	\$796,480
Walker Township	\$470,216

Mr. Book indicated the monies will be available May 10, 2021 and are going directly to the municipalities. Mr. Book stated that the monies can't be used for roads or bridges and suggested that we may want to contact our incorporating municipalities to ask for funding associated with our capital projects since one of the categories are for investments in sewer infrastructure.

Mr. Miller stated that he believes it would be timelier if the Board members contacted their incorporating municipality directly instead of him sending a letter. Perhaps attendance at a Township Supervisor's meeting would be even more personable. The Board asked Mr. Miller to email a list of those capital projects including costs that could be presented to each Township.

Former Hartle Farm Along SR 550 – Mr. Hoffman asked if there were any development plans for the former Tom Hartle farm along Buffalo Run Road that was recently sold. Mr. Miller stated that Ed Dunkelberger purchased the property and he believes it will be used for farming, not development.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee: Mr. Hoffman indicated he would like to discuss Personnel in an Executive Session.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Book stated he would like to discuss Real Estate in an Executive Session.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny had nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. McDowell recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. to discuss Personnel and Real Estate. The meeting reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

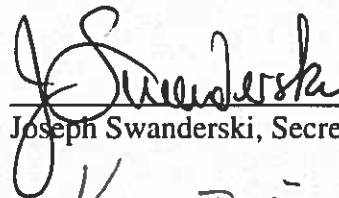
New SBWJA Facility – Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell to authorize the Facilities Committee to move forward with hiring a realtor to assist with locating property for the new SBWJA facility. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Board Discussion: Mr. McDowell stated he would like to adjourn the meeting and then hold a discussion with only Board members present.

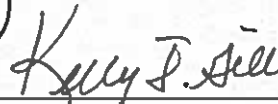
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Heny moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Swanderski, Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____