

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

January 10, 2022

ATTENDANCE:

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

GUESTS: Larry Walker, Kissinger Bigatel & Brower Realtors

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The January 10, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Robert A. Mix, Temporary Chairman. Mr. Mix 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. Mix, Temporary 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. Mix, Temporary Chairman, led the Board members, Employees and Guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Mr. Mix opened the nominations as follows:

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoffman nominated Mr. Dennis McDowell, as Chairman.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Dennis McDowell as the Chairman.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. McDowell is elected Chairman.

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Book, that nominations for Office of Chairman be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoffman nominated Mr. Joseph Galbraith, as Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Joseph Galbraith as the Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. Galbraith is elected Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Book, that nominations for Office of Vice-Chairman be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY: Mr. Hoffman nominated Mr. Joseph Swanderski, as Secretary.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Joseph Swanderski as the Secretary.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. Joseph Swanderski is elected Secretary.

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Book, that nominations for Office of Secretary be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. McDowell nominated Mr. Christie McMurtrie, as Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Christie McMurtrie as the Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. McMurtrie is elected Assistant Secretary.

Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman, that nominations for Office of Assistant Secretary be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. McDowell rescinded his nomination for Mr. Christie McMurtrie, as Assistant Secretary. Mr. Mix reopened the nomination for Assistant Secretary.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. Swanderski nominated Mr. Dan Hoffman, as Assistant Secretary; however, Mr. Hoffman declined the position. Mr. Swanderski then nominated Mr. Willis Houser, Jr., as Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Willis Houser, Jr. as the Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. Houser is elected Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Swanderski moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell, that nominations for Office of Assistant Secretary be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF TREASURER: Mr. McDowell nominated Mr. Christie McMurtrie, as Treasurer.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Christie McMurtrie as the Treasurer.

Mr. Book – Aye	Mr. Hoffman – Aye	Mr. McDowell - Aye
Mr. Dashner – Aye	Mr. Houser – Aye	Mr. McMurtrie - Aye
Mr. Galbraith – Aye	Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye	Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. McMurtrie is elected Treasurer.

Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Book, that nominations for Office of Treasurer be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT TREASURER: Mr. Galbraith nominated Mr. Toby Dashner, as Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Dashner declined the position. Mr. Hoffman then nominated Mr. Richard Kuzemchak, as Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Mix asked the Board members to raise their hand if they wish to vote for Richard Kuzemchak as the Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Book – Aye

Mr. Hoffman – Aye

Mr. McDowell - Aye

Mr. Dashner – Aye

Mr. Houser – Aye

Mr. McMurtrie - Aye

Mr. Galbraith – Aye

Mr. Kuzemchak – Aye

Mr. Swanderski - Aye

The ayes have it, Mr. Kuzemchak is elected Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell, that nominations for Office of Assistant Treasurer be closed. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Attached is a list of Officers for 2022 that is made a part of these official Minutes.

Mr. Mix turned the meeting over to Mr. McDowell, Chairman.

Retaining Professional Services for 2022 – Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to retain Solicitor – Lee, Green & Reiter, Consulting Engineer – Gwin Dobson & Foreman and Accountant – Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP for 2022. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the December 13, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Wayne & Beth Miller/158 McMullen Road – We received an email from Wayne & Beth Miller indicating they purchased 158 McMullen Road and the home is currently uninhabitable and the water service to this property is currently terminated. Mr. & Mrs. Miller are requesting the Authority grant the reduced user fee for the property. Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to grant Wayne & Beth Miller the reduced user fee for their property located at 158 McMullen Road. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Steckbeck Engineering & Surveying, Inc. - We received a letter from Sheri L. Flowers of Steckbeck Engineering & Surveying, Inc. requesting a letter of intent to provide sewer service for the proposed Dollar General Store. The parcel of property is located on the south west corner of E. College Avenue and Witherite Road in Spring Township. The estimated EDUs requested for this project is 1.16 EDUs. Ms. Flowers was provided with a letter of intent for 1.16 EDUs for the proposed Dollar General Store on December 17, 2021.

Edward & Kristine Ranio/140 Railroad Street – We received an email from Edward & Kristine Ranio indicating they purchased 140 Railroad Street and the home will be demolished. Mr. & Mrs. Ranio are requesting the Authority grant the reduced user fee for the property. Mr. Ranio's property is going to be demolished due to a new bridge, going into Sunnyside, being constructed. Mr. Miller stated the water to this property has been terminated. **Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to grant Edward & Kristine Ranio the reduced user fee for their property located at 140 Railroad Street. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-42 – Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2020-42. Mr. Swanderski asked if the PA Municipal Authorities Association payment in the amount of \$2,300.00 was yearly. Mr. Miller indicated the Authority is required to pay the membership fee to PA Municipal Authorities Association once a year. Mr. Swanderski asked if the Authority received quotes for the fence work that was completed at Pump Station #10 (Valley View). Mr. Miller indicated we did obtain quotes; however, it was not required to be bid due to falling below the PA Department of Labor and Industry's bidding threshold. Mr. Book asked if the PASEO 2022 Annual Membership Dues were for the Authority or an employee. Mr. Miller indicated the PASEO membership was for himself. Mr. Book then asked what the GIS Support for GeoDecisions was for. Mr. Miller indicated Geo Decisions uploads newly constructed sewer mainlines to our GIS mapping system and will also make modifications to items that are incorrect. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-42 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$120,965.05. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

GUESTS:

Larry Walker/Kissinger Bigatel & Brower Realtors – Mr. Walker from Kissinger Bigatel & Brower Realtors has been attempting to locate a new property for Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority. It was noted the search for a new facility has been difficult but Mr. Walker did locate two (2) parcels of land off of State Route 26 in Spring Township. There is currently a 32-acre parcel of land along Witherite Road and a 31-acre lot that fronts E. College Avenue. The parcel that fronts E. College Avenue is zoned forest resource, which Mr. Walker indicated is pretty restrictive, and the second parcel along Witherite Road is zoned light industrial. As a result of Mr. Walker speaking to the Witherite family, a Letter of Intent for the Sale of Real Estate was planned to be presented to the Board for consideration at tonight's meeting. Mr. Walker stated that he received a telephone call from the Witherite's attorney, Richard Campbell, prior to the meeting informing him that there are currently negotiations between the Witherite family and a local business for the properties. It was noted that the Witherite family is requiring the local business to purchase both parcels of land. Mr. Walker stated he spoke with a representative from the local business and they had indicated they were not interested in purchasing the lot off of Witherite Road; therefore, they may be interested in subdividing and reselling a piece of this property to the Authority. The potential buyers will have the land appraised prior to making a decision to purchase the properties. The Board discussed different alternatives to access the Witherite Road property and asked that Mr. Miller speak to the Centre County Government regarding the possibility of a right-of-way for a driveway. Mr. McDowell asked that everyone take a moment to look at the property to determine if it would be suitable for a new facility. Mr. Walker will follow-up with the facilities committee.

Larry Walker exited the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

Will Barton, Maintenance Crew Leader, provided an overview of the work completed on the sanitary sewer system for the month of December 2021.

In-Home Inspections - There were 27 in-home inspections completed in the month of December. Mr. Barton stated there were three (3) violations identified during the in-home inspection process and all three (3) have been corrected.

Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections - Our maintenance department completed 12 sewer lateral inspections in December. The office staff received eight (8) new sewer permit applications in the amount of 8.00 EDUs and issued the permits.

System Maintenance – The waste oil furnace in the back shop and the gutters at the office were repaired. There were also repairs made to a push camera. The heater in the chlorine room at Pump Station #16 (Benner Commerce) was replaced and a water heater was installed at Pump Station #6 (Rockview).

We cleaned all the air release valves on our force mains and made repairs to two (2) cleanouts in Pleasant Gap due to issues that were noted during in-home inspections.

Mr. Barton and Mr. Miller attended a site visit with the PUC and PennDOT regarding the upcoming bridge projects in Sunnyside and Coleville. There was also a site visit at the “Y” in Zion to discuss one (1) of our manholes that will need raised approximately four (4) feet. The materials for raising the manhole in Zion were delivered last week; therefore, the work will be completed later this week or the beginning of next week.

The maintenance staff removed a grinder pump assembly from 140 Railroad Street due to the home being scheduled for demolition.

There were several pumps pulled throughout the system due to a variety of issues and we installed tar around our manholes that were being hit by snow plows.

A roof was constructed over the control panel at Pump Station #10 (Valley View) and restoration to the yard surrounding the pump station will be completed this spring.

The 2”and 4” force mains were located and shortened in the Benner Commerce Industrial Park to accommodate a new facility being constructed. The force main was shortened due to it extending 30 feet past the property line.

Benner Township Water Authority – Our staff rechecked three (3) properties with high water usage to determine if they had an issue; however, there were no problems noted. We performed our quarterly blowoffs at all three (3) systems. The calibration curves were verified on the colorimeters and the water meters were read at Peru. There was a total of two (2) PA One Calls being located in December.

Video Truck – Our personnel completed 2,410 feet of video inspection work for the month of December. Mr. Barton stated that 505 feet of that video work was completed for Bellefonte Borough to help them locate a blockage within their system.

Vactor Truck – We jetted 8,104 feet of sewer main line for the month of December. Mr. Barton stated that all the areas jetted were noted problem areas on our system.

Sewer Extensions – The construction drawings were redlined for the Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension. We completed sewer mainline flushing, video inspection, mandrel testing and vac testing at Steeplechase Townhomes II. Our staff observed Hawbak's vac testing at Deehaven Phase 2B. We also continued sewer mainline inspections at Logan Greene Phase 1A, Section 3. Mr. Barton stated that we completed video inspection, mandrel testing and approved the record drawings for Logan Greene Phase 1A, Section 2.

Call Outs/ PA One Calls – There were seven (7) callouts for the month of December. A wiring problem was noted on one (1) of the pumps at Pump Station #6 (Rockview). We had two (2) emergency PA One Call locates for water leaks in Walker Township. There was a sewer backup on Valley View Road and an issue with the SCADA pack at the water tank on Witherite Road. A pump fail was also noted at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge) and a grinder alarm on Scenic Street. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 63 PA One Calls being located in December.

SR64/SR550 Project/Raise Manhole – Mr. Swanderski asked where the manhole needing raised at the "Y" in Zion is located. Mr. Barton stated that the manhole is located across from the old Michael's Tavern at 226 Nittany Valley Drive. Mr. Swanderski also asked if the Authority was completing the work. Mr. Barton stated the work will be completed by our maintenance department.

Pump Station #6 (Rockview) - Mr. Swanderski asked what happened with the wiring issue at Pump Station #6 (Rockview). Mr. Barton stated he received a pump fail from Pump Station #6 (Rockview) and after troubleshooting the pump, it was noted that some wires had rubbed through where the connection is made inside the motor.

Benner Commerce Industrial Park/Force Main – Mr. Book asked if the Developer for the Benner Commerce Industrial Park installed the excessively long force mains. Mr. Miller stated there are three (3) lots in the Industrial Park that require individual pumps that would pump the flows back to Pump Station #16 (Benner Commerce). At the time the mainline was constructed we required the Developer to install a 2" and 4" force main at the terminus manhole to serve these three (3) lots because we were unsure of the future sewer needs. Mr. Miller indicated Silcotek has connected to the 4" line due to high water usage; therefore, we determined the two (2) remaining lots will also be required to connect to the 4" line as well. Mr. Miller stated the force mains were extended 30 feet into the lots by the Developer. With Happy Valley Blended being a minimal water user,

it was in the best interest to shorten the force main to assist with pumping minimal flows. The 4" force main was shortened; therefore, the connection will now be located at the property line instead of 30 feet into the lot. Mr. Book asked if we absorbed the cost to shorten the force mains. Mr. Miller stated that we did but he feels it was for the best interest of the system. Mr. Barton indicated the portion of the pipe not being utilized was removed from the ground.

Benner Township Water Authority's New Well - Mr. Book stated that he had noticed a new stake in the Szeyller field for Benner Township Water Authority's new well and he was wondering if the test well would be drilled soon. Mr. Miller indicated the drilling of the test well is planned for the end of January. Mr. Houser asked who will be constructing the access road to the new well site. Mr. Miller stated that they are hoping the ground will freeze and then a new road would not be necessary at this time. If a road is required, the SBWJA maintenance department will construct it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension -- Mr. Miller and Mr. Johnson have been discussing the final design of the Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension and have noted a few items they may want to alter.

The first change may be to eliminate one (1) of the minor duplex pump stations on Rock Road, the side closest to the College Township line, that would serve three (3) homes. Mr. Miller stated the three (3) homes could be served by individual grinders and would be a savings to the Authority.

Mr. Miller stated that our current specifications require SDR21 gasketed pipe for pressure lines be installed for mainline; however, we may want to consider using HDPE pipe due to the cost savings. The contractor could also bore the HDPE pipe installation, which would significantly save in restoration costs.

There were pump calculations made for the two (2) main pump stations and it was noted that we will need to have the ability to pump 300 to 350 gallons per minute, which will result in significantly large submersible pumps. It was noted that the new sewer system may require chlorine feed to prevent hydrogen sulfide issues, which would require a water source and building to house the equipment to feed the chlorine. The current design requires 40 hp submersible pumps that can be very cumbersome to pull for maintenance; therefore, we may want to consider suction lift pumps. It was noted that the cost to construct two (2) pump stations similar to Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen) would increase the cost of the project by 25%.

The Board discussed the recommended alterations to the final design and will consider the modifications that may affect the current status of the Act 537 Plan Special Study.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. McDowell recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss litigation. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Johnson stated that he is currently working on our Chapter 94 Report and will continue reviewing the final design of the Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension.

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Improvements – Mr. Swanderski asked if there will be upgrades to the front parking lot of the SBWJA office. Mr. Miller stated that this improvement is not in the budget for this year but will consider different alternatives to make the upgrades in the future.

Benner Township Water Authority – Mr. Houser met with two (2) representatives from Benner Township Water Authority and they expressed how they were very satisfied and grateful for the services we provide to them. Mr. Houser informed the Benner Township Water Authority representatives that we are currently reviewing the financial impact they have on our Authority and we will reach out to them at a later date to discuss the findings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Toby Dashner Resignation – Mr. Dashner provided the Board with a letter of resignation effective immediately. Mr. Dashner indicated he had made Spring Township Supervisors aware of his decision a few weeks ago so they may try to locate a replacement but he is uncertain of the current status of finding a replacement. Mr. Book asked if Mr. Dashner would be interested in serving on the Board until a replacement is made and Mr. Dashner stated he would think about it. Mr. Dashner thanked the Board for the experience of serving on the Board.

QUESTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Income Accounts - Mr. Swanderski asked for an explanation of what accounts are used when depositing monies from projects we've invoiced and been paid for. Mr. Miller and Mrs. Gill explained the different income accounts and how they are tracked. Mrs. Gill also informed the Board that she will provide them with a quarterly breakdown, in April, for the services provided to the Benner Township Water Authority from January to March of 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

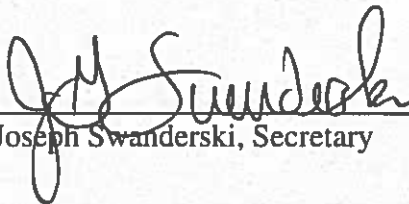
Facilities Committee: Mr. McDowell stated that the current Chairman, Mr. Book, has asked that Mr. Houser be given the Chairman position of the Facilities Committee. Mr. Houser accepted the position as Chairman.

Financial Committee: Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Swanderski, Secretary



Tasha L. Duffon, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____

Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority

2022 OFFICERS & MEMBERS

OFFICERS:

Dennis McDowell –Chairman
Joseph Galbraith – Vice Chairman
Joseph Swanderski –Secretary
Willis Houser, Jr. – Assistant Secretary
Christie McMurtrie – Treasurer
Richard Kuzemchak - Assistant Treasurer

MEMBERS:

Brian Book
Dan Hoffman
Spring Township Vacancy