

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

July 12, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Toby Dashner Joseph Galbraith Christie McMurtrie
	Benner	Willis Houser, Jr.
	Walker	Dennis McDowell

GUESTS: None present.

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 July 12, 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:

Christie McMurtrie, Acting Secretary, took Roll Call, recording five members present. Mr. Book, Mr. Heny, Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Swanderski were excused from the meeting. 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 and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the June 28, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-31 – Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-31 in the amount of \$64,258.26. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2020-31. **Mr. Houser moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-31 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$64,258.26. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent. The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

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

In-Home Inspections - There were 26 in-home inspections completed in the month of June. Mr. Barton stated there were four (4) violations noted and all but one (1) have been corrected. The violation that requires correction is an HVAC condensate at 165 N. Main Street in Pleasant Gap, which the seller refuses to repair. The buyer of the property will make the correction to avoid an I & I Surcharge being applied to the account.

Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections - Our maintenance department completed four (4) sewer lateral inspections throughout the system in June. There were no sewer permit applications submitted for the month of June.

System Maintenance – There was a mobile home fire at 1117 Buffalo Run Road on 4/25/2021, which resulted in a total loss and the homeowner asked us to assist in the sewer being disconnected. Mr. Barton indicated Mr. Decker and Mr. Ranio did a great job completing the work at 1117 Buffalo Run Road.

Our maintenance employees completed a confined space training at our facility on 6/22/2021. We raised and repaired several manholes throughout our system. The chlorine feed system at Rockview was repaired and mulch was spread in the flower beds at the office/maintenance buildings.

We met with several homeowners throughout the system to discuss our sewer lateral installation requirements and we also completed video work to a sewer lateral at a property to verify there were no issues prior to their driveway being paved.

The homeowner of 135 Feidler Road contacted us on 6/24/2021 due to the malfunction of their Orenco system. Mr. Barton stated the control circuit breaker tripped, which required resetting the breaker. The homeowner was also instructed to have their tank washed down and pumped out by a septic pumping company. We also met with representatives from Robinson's Septic and Berks Homes to discuss the homeowner's responsibility to maintain their Orenco systems.

Benner Township Water Authority –The monthly analytical testing was performed and the meters were read at all systems. Our staff distributed the Consumer Confidence Reports to the water customers in Hampton Hills, Opequon, Crestview and Grove Park. We completed a site visit to 166 Edward Drive to determine how easily the homeowner could connect to public water. There were sixteen PA One Calls located in June.

Video Truck – Our personnel completed 1,489 feet of video inspection work at Rutter's along the Benner Pike, which will allow us to release their Maintenance Bond.

Sewer Extensions – Our staff reviewed and redlined the construction drawings for Steeplechase Townhomes, Phase II. Mr. Barton indicated the staff had completed sewer mainline inspections at Logan Greene Phase 1A and the Village of Nittany Glen Phase 4. It was noted the footers were poured at Pump Station #18 (Village of Nittany Glen).

Call Outs/ PA One Calls – There were five (5) callouts for the month of June. Mr. Barton noted a few sewer back-ups and grinder/SCADA alarms. We had a pump over temp at Pump Station #9 (Penn Eagle), which resulted in a groundhog being stuck in the suction line. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 201 PA One Calls being located in June.

Mr. Houser asked Mr. Barton when the upgrades to Pump Station #11 (Jenny Gap) will be completed due to the topsoil being washed away from the area surrounding the pump station. Mr. Barton indicated the straw and topsoil will be replaced within the next couple of days and the final upgrades should be completed in approximately three (3) weeks due to other time sensitive repairs being made throughout the system.

Mr. Houser also asked if anyone took a compass reading of the location of the radio antenna at Pump Station #11 (Jenny Gap) before it was removed because he noticed it was pointing in the wrong direction. Mr. Barton stated that there is currently a communication problem with the SCADA radio at Pump Station #11 (Jenny Gap). Mr. Barton stated that he took the SCADA radio from Pump Station #10 (Valley View) and moved it to Pump Station #11 (Jenny Gap) and it worked even with the radio antenna being on the ground, which indicates a new radio is needed at Pump Station #11 (Jenny Gap). Mr. Houser then asked if they tried re-installing the program to the SCADA pack to resolve the problem. Mr. Barton had indicated they did try re-installing the program with no success.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Employee Appreciation Recommendation – At the June 28, 2021 meeting, Mr. Book had asked the personnel to present the Board with alternative ways to show the employees they are appreciated in lieu of the annual Knoebels picnic being cancelled. Mrs. Dutton recommended the Authority rent a pavilion at Tussey Mountain and have food catered to the employees on a Friday afternoon. It was noted that Tussey Mountain provides several catering options and that wristbands could also be purchased for their Fun Center. Mr. Galbraith asked how much this event would cost. Mrs. Dutton stated that it would cost approximately \$994.40 for ten (10) employees, which would include the pavilion rental, catered food and wristbands. Mr. Galbraith asked if this would only be for the employees because families were included in the past. The cost provided to the Board was for ten (10) employees. Mr. Galbraith then asked if it was going to be mandatory for the employees to attend since it was during working hours. Mr. Miller stated that it would be mandatory and if the employees did not want to attend, they would be required to work. Mr. Dashner and Mr. McMurtrie stated the event was a great idea. Mr. Galbraith stated there would not be a problem with the event as long as the employees agree on a date. **Mr. Dashner moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the employee appreciation picnic at Tussey Mountain. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent. The motion carried.**

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix suggested an Executive Session be held to discuss litigation.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension – Mr. Johnson stated they are picking away at the planning for the Shiloh Road area sewer extension. Mr. McDowell asked how far along Gwin Dobson and Foreman were with the planning. Mr. Johnson stated they are 25% - 30% complete and plan to be ready for obtaining permits for the job by the end of this year.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee: Mr. Hoffman was absent from the meeting.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Book was absent from the meeting. Mr. Dashner and Mr. Houser had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny was absent from the meeting. Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

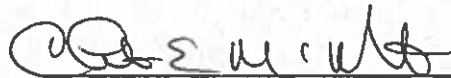
EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. McDowell recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:19 p.m. to discuss litigation. The meeting reconvened at 7:28 p.m.

Musser Hill Subdivision/Orengo Systems – Mr. Houser asked why SBWJA went to 135 Feidler Road to assist with the Orengo system malfunction because he thought we were not performing this type of assistance. Mr. Miller stated the homeowner called us for assistance and we instructed them to contact a septic pumping company. The owner of Robinson Septic then requested we provide them with maintenance information because they were not familiar with the Orengo system. The Authority met with Robinson Septic on-site to discuss general information regarding the Orengo systems. Mr. Houser stated that he does not feel it is our responsibility to teach others how to maintain the new systems. Mr. Miller agreed with Mr. Houser, but reminded everyone that 135 Feidler Road is an Authority customer and that he made the decision to help so Robinson Septic can perform the needed work in the future.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 4 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Christie McMurtrie, Acting Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____