

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

October 25, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

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

GUESTS: John Kostas

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The October 25, 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 eight members present. It was noted that there is a Board vacancy in Spring Township. 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 October 11, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Houser to approve the Minutes of the October 11, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. McMurtrie reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 09/30/2021. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. **Mr. Book moved, seconded by Mr. McDowell to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-38 – Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-38 in the amount of \$59,375.11. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-38. **Mr. Swanderski moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-38 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$59,375.11. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests wishing to address the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Logan Greene – Mr. Miller informed the Board of a tragedy that occurred earlier today on a job site in Logan Greene development that an Authority employee was present for. A young man lost his life and Mr. Miller was asking for a moment of silence and prayers for the young man's family.

Centre County Grange Fair (Pump Station Rebuild) – During the 2021 Grange Fair our Authority was contacted to assist with a pump issue they were having at the pump station by the barns. The pump station is privately owned by the Centre County Grange Fair and discharges to the Centre Hall/Potter Sewer Authority (CHPSA). Mr. Miller indicated that our Authority was contacted by Chris Maney who handles maintenance for the Centre County Grange Fair requesting our assistance due to the pumps not working. Mr. Maney was the former manager of the Bellefonte PennDOT facility before retiring about a year ago and has had numerous dealings with our Authority over the past twenty years.

While on site, we were able to get the pumps running, but noted the poor condition of the existing pumps and lift system. They have since asked us to replace the pumps and entire lift system (rails and brackets). Mr. Miller indicated we have an employee on staff who is a fabricator and could fabricate the lift system since he's previously completed that work for our Authority's pump station upgrade projects. Discussion was held about concerns with fabricating materials and potential liability that could arise. The Board indicated they see no issues with completing the work for the Centre County Grange Fair as long as the liability concerns are properly addressed. Mr. Miller will contact the Authority's solicitor and insurance agent to discuss liability concerns.

Mr. Miller believes the work can be completed in less than five (5) days and will not cause any disruptions in our Authority's normal operating activities. The Centre County Grange Fair would like to have this work completed early next spring.

Pump Station #12 (Airport) – Mr. Houser inquired about the plans for upgrading Pump Station #12 (Airport). Mr. Miller stated it will be included within the 2022 budget, but it won't be a complete upgrade like Pump Station #10 (Valley View) and #11 (Jenny Gap). Mr. Miller believes the controls and pumps are still in good shape and will not need upgraded. Most of the upgrade work will consist of making the area more accessible for the Vactor truck and epoxying the wet well.

Cyber Coverage – During a recent meeting with our insurance agent for our annual renewal of our commercial insurance (package) policy we were provided with information about the availability of cyber coverage. The cyber coverage provides \$250,000 of coverage for an annual premium of \$250.00. Mr. Miller indicated that this would provide an extra layer of coverage in addition to the steps we have taken to update our firewall and monthly monitoring provided by RBA. Mrs. Gill informed the Board that Mr. Miller authorized the insurance agent to add this coverage for our Authority and the \$250.00 premium was required to be paid in advance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Healthcare Benefits – Following the last meeting Mrs. Gill contacted the Authority's Geisinger representative to inquire about premium reduction if an insurance broker wasn't being retained. Mrs. Gill informed the Board that our Authority's Geisinger representative confirmed that retaining an insurance broker has no effect on insurance premiums. Mrs. Gill highly recommended the Board approve the Geisinger Funding Alternative plan and fully fund the deductible through a health reimbursement agreement (HRA) as was done with the previous year. Discussion was held about how much of the deductible was funded through the HRA to date. **Mr. Dashner moved, seconded by Mr. Book to approve switching to the Geisinger Funding Alternative PPO All Access plan for the December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2022 contract cycle and to fund the employee/family deductible at 100% by establishing a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.**

Departing Board Member – Mr. Swanderski asked if the Authority Board typically recognizes departing Board members with lengthy years of service and suggested that due to the circumstances surrounding Mr. Heny's departure, the Authority may want to consider providing some form of appreciation. Discussion was held about how to properly recognize/thank Mr. Heny for his service. The Board agreed with Mr. Swanderski's recommendation and will recognize Mr. Heny for his services in the form of a plaque.

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Board Meeting Schedule - The Board reviewed the 2022 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. Discussion was held about the second meeting of November typically being moved to a Wednesday to accommodate the first day of buck season, but due to changes in deer season it was suggested that we could go back to holding the meeting on Monday. **Mr. Swanderski moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve the 2022 Board Meeting schedule as amended. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Facilities Committee:

SBWJA New Facility –Mr. Book indicated that he received an email from Larry Walker, KBB, inquiring about the Board’s thoughts on the 11+/- acres for sale along Lutz Lane to the rear of the Robin Hood Brewing Company in the amount of \$750,000. Several Board members indicated that was a rather expensive parcel of land. Mr. Book will let Mr. Walker know that there is no interest in this parcel of land. Mr. Book indicated he was not aware of Mr. Walker having any other suggested properties at this time.

Mrs. Gill stated she wanted to make the Board aware of a couple of properties in Pleasant Gap that may be available if the Board wanted to look into them further. The Authority was recently contacted about a parcel of land owned by the Elsie Witherite Estate along E. College Avenue which borders the Glenn O. Hawbaker quarry that is being subdivided. Mr. Miller spoke with an out of state investment company that indicated they will be purchasing a portion of the property.

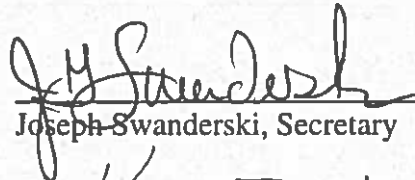
The Elsie Witherite Estate also owns property along Witherite Road that borders the Centre County Fire Training Center that may be worth inquiring about. Mr. Book will contact Larry Walker and provide this information.

Financial Committee: Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

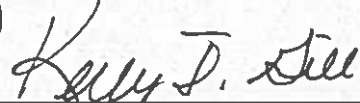
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Dashner moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 vacancy. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Swanderski, Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____