

# SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

## REGULAR MEETING

May 8, 2023

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### ATTENDANCE:

**AUTHORITY MEMBERS:**

<b>Spring</b>	Joseph Galbraith Richard Kuzemchak Rodney Maney Christie McMurtrie
<b>Walker</b>	Dennis Brown Dennis McDowell

**GUESTS:** None present

**CONSULTING ENGINEER:** Andy Johnson, P.E.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** N. Warren Miller

**EMPLOYEES:** Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

### CALL TO ORDER:

The May 8, 2023, 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:

Rodney Maney, Assistant Secretary, took Roll Call, recording six members present. Mr. Book, Mr. Houser and Mr. Hughes 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.

### PLEGE 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 April 24, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the April 23, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented.** 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. **The motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Andrew Conklin/269 E. College Avenue** - We received a letter from Andrew Conklin indicating his property located at 269 E. College Avenue, Pleasant Gap was demolished and as a result he is requesting the Authority grant the reduced user fee for his property until a new home is constructed. Our Authority personnel witnessed the demolition on or around March 17, 2023 and verified the sewer lateral was properly capped at the trap by G&R Excavating and Demolition. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Kuzemchak to grant Andrew Conklin the reduced user fee for his property located at 269 E. College Avenue, Pleasant Gap.** 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. **The motion carried.**

**PennTerra Engineering, Inc.** - We received a letter from C. Anthony Fruchtl, PennTerra Engineering, Inc., requesting a letter of intent to provide sewer service for the proposed Bridleridge Subdivision located along Axemann Road in Spring Township. S&A Homes, Inc. is proposing the installation of 184 single family lots and 59 multi-family units, totaling 243 EDUs. **Mr. Fruchtl was provided with a letter of intent in the amount of 243 EDUs for the proposed project in Spring Township on May 1, 2023.**

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:**

Approval of Requisitions:

**Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-73** – Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-73 in the amount of \$63,006.12. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-73. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Brown to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-73 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$63,006.12.** 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 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 April 2023.

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**In-Home Inspections** - There were 26 in-home inspections completed in the month of April.

**Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections** - Our maintenance department completed 9 sewer lateral inspections. The office staff received 50 new sewer permit applications in the amount of 50.00 EDUs and issued the permits.

**System Maintenance** – The maintenance department witnessed the sewer lateral at 720 W. Water Street being capped off. The home was demolished due to a fire destroying the home on December 30, 2022.

Our staff removed the variable frequency drive (VFD) at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge) and sent it to Cooper Electric for repairs. The maintenance department re-installed the reconditioned VFD; however, it was not communicating properly and was again removed for repairs.

The air conditioning unit within the control cabinet at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge) was repaired. A water leak was also repaired at Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge).

The maintenance department completed video work for two (2) property owners. The first property owner complained they were having problems with internal drainage at 449 Irish Hollow Road; however, there were no deficiencies found. We then assisted in locating a sewer lateral at 675 Pleasant View Boulevard.

All of our wet wells were cleaned due to routine maintenance and our six (6) self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA) were tested and certified.

Mr. Barton indicated the maintenance department spent most of their time making upgrades to Pump Station #1A (Springfield) and the project is now complete.

It was noted there are a few outstanding issues at Pump Station #12 (Airport), which consist of applying topsoil, seeding and some wiring. The upgrades to Pump Station #12 (Airport) are now complete.

**Benner Township Water Authority** – We collected samples for bacteria, nitrite and nitrate testing at Hampton Hills and Grove Park. Our staff also obtained two (2) final water meter readings. A new home was constructed at 1055 W. College Avenue due to a house fire; therefore, a new water meter was installed to the property. We applied topsoil and grass seed around the well head at Hampton Hills well house and an area that was excavated late last year. There were three (3) PA One Calls located in April.

**Sewer Extensions** – Mr. Barton stated that a few minor changes were made to Bellefonte Warehouse’s construction drawings; therefore, we had to review the revisions which were approved. We reviewed and approved the as-built drawings for Harvest Meadows Phase 1, Section 1. The construction drawings for Logan Greene Phase 1B were reviewed and redlined. Mr. Barton stated that all the pipe is installed at Harvest Meadows Phase 1 and that we will begin flushing, videoing and mandrel testing this week.

**Video Truck** – Glenn O. Hawbaker requested our assistance in videoing 280 feet of sewer main for a project of theirs in Belleville. There were 2,693 feet of sewer mainlines videoed in Logan Greene Phase 1A.1 due to the maintenance bond expiring in May. We also videoed 536 feet of problem lines throughout our system. Mr. Barton stated our Authority completed a total of 3,509 feet of video work during the month of April.

**Vector Truck** –The maintenance department jetted 180 feet of pipe for Murmac Farms and cleaned a tank for Porter Township due to their mandate from PA DEP. We also cleaned the decant tank at Rockview’s filtration plant.

**Call Outs/ PA One Calls** – There were five (5) callouts for the month of April. Our personnel responded to two (2) emergency PA One Calls and a pump fail at Pump Station #6 (Rockview). We also responded to a high-water alarm at Pump Station #18 (Nittany Glen) and a plugged sewer mainline at Beaver Farm Apartments. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 118 PA One Calls being located in April.

**Workplace Recognition** – Mr. Barton took a moment to commend the maintenance department on their exceptional work while upgrading several of our pump stations.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Discontinuance of SCADA Pack** – Mr. Miller informed the Board that no additional SCADAPack 334's will be purchased for future use because he feels that it would be more feasible to integrate the new SCADAPack 474's. This decision was based on the information our radio telemetry engineer, Paul Lacon, provided to Mr. Miller and Mr. Johnson. Mr. Lacon had indicated it would be easier than previously discussed to integrate the newly upgraded version of the PLCs in conjunction with the version we are currently utilizing. Mr. Miller stated that the first SCADAPack 474 that is purchased will need to be programmed by our radio telemetry engineer and subsequent upgrades to the SCADAPack 474 will also require the new programs to be installed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mr. Miller requested an Executive Session be held to discuss legal matters. Mr. McDowell recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Mix was excused from the meeting.

**ENGINEER' S REPORT:**

**Shiloh Road Sewer Extension Project** – Mr. Johnson stated the design is complete and all easements were provided to Mr. Miller for review. It was noted that Mr. Miller is requiring temporary easements be 10 feet on each side of the 20 feet permanent easement for a total of 40 feet. Mr. Johnson stated it should not take long to make the revisions to the easements.

**Walker Township Act 537 Plan Update** – Ms. Weitzel is currently working on the task activity report (TAR) for Walker Township's Act 537 Plan Update. The TAR is scheduled to be completed later this week and then be submitted to PA DEP for approval.

**Rockview Pump Station Upgrades** – There were multiple discussions held regarding Rockview’s need for upgrades to their Forestry Pump Station because the pumps are not large enough to keep up with the additional flow created at the time the water softener regenerates; therefore, Mr. Johnson was asked to draft a proposal to design a new wastewater pumping station for the Forestry Pump Station at Rockview. Mr. Johnson stated that he provided Mr. Miller with a draft proposal for his review and will discuss the proposal at a future meeting.

Mr. McDowell asked if this would be paid 100% by Rockview. Mr. Miller stated that Rockview would be financially responsible for the project and that he would ask Mr. Mix to create an agreement outlining Rockview’s financial responsibilities. Mr. Miller anticipates the State requesting some type of payment plan be established for this project.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Geisinger Bellefonte Medical Clinic** – Mr. Galbraith asked how long the developer has to break ground for the new Geisinger Clinic on Buckaroo Lane. Mr. Miller stated he believes they are still in the planning process. Mr. Galbraith thought they only had a certain amount of time to connect to the sewer. Mr. Miller stated the developer has not purchased a sewer permit; therefore, they do not have a deadline. Mr. Galbraith was curious if the project was on hold due to Geisinger being bought out by Kaiser Permanente.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Harvest Meadows Phase 1, Section 2 (36.00 EDUs)** – Mr. Miller indicated Harvest Meadows Phase 1, Section 2 in the amount of 36.00 EDUs has met all of our requirements and is ready for approval. **Mr. Kuzemchak moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith to approve the Agreement of Dedication for Harvest Meadows Phase 1, Section 2 in the amount of 36.00 EDUs.** 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. **The motion carried.**

**Workplace Recognition** – Mr. McDowell stated he was approached by a woman indicating she was very pleased with the Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority maintenance department and office staff. The woman indicated the employees were very kind and helpful.

**QUESTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** There were no additional questions asked of the Executive Director.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

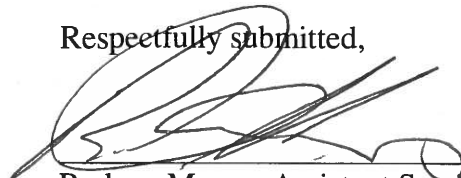
**Facilities Committee:** Mr. Houser was absent.

**Financial Committee:** Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Rodney Maney, Assistant Secretary



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Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township  
Spring Township  
Walker Township

*7/05/23/2023*